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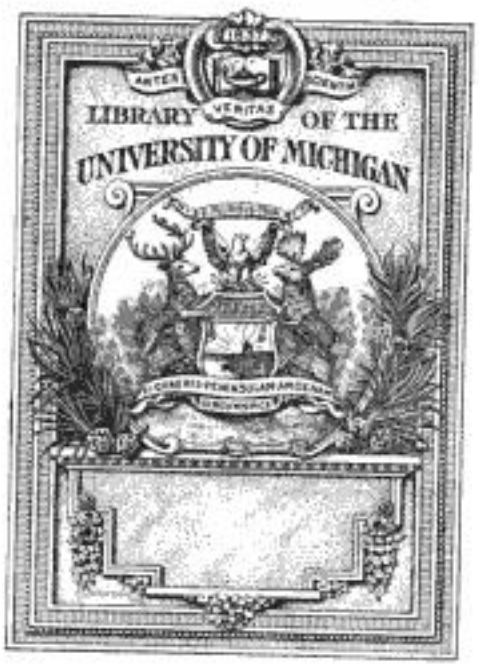

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE DOCTOR'S DAUGHTERS.

BY MARY ABBOTT RAND.

CHAPTER I.

A rhombroid of gold in applique work lay on Dr. Drexell's back entry floor. The house was handsomely furnished, but through it all there was nothing quite so æsthetic just now as this bright, varying figure the sun had flung in as a parting largess. One being alone appreciated it and that was a big white cat who, spying it through the open door, came in furtively and lay down in the royal glow. Then she sprang up with a look of quick intelligence.

How should she know that Maria Drexell was dead?

Animals find out more than we suppose, sometimes. It may be necessary to "tell the bees," but cats, dogs and horses, don't need to be informed. Else, why should this cat, who had not ventured for years into the house where she was not allowed to come by her mistress, dare enter now, unless she had found out that her mistress could no longer forbid her?

So, on the velvet-pawed creature crept, across the golden figure, then upon the colder boards from which she shrank delicately, then, noiselessly pushing open the door which stood ajar, she sprang like a spirit into Dr. Drexell's lap.

He was entirely alone in the house. His wife's funeral had been at noon. The relatives had gone from the burial services directly to their homes.

The maid-of-all-work had leave to go out for the rest of the day, as Dr. Drexell's three daughters were going to their grandmother's with him to take tea. He had sent them along before him that he might have this quiet hour for meditation. To try, poor man, to get his bearings—to realize this shocking thing that had come upon him, and decide what he should do.

He had sat thus sorrowfully alone for some time when his revery was interrupted by this soft companion who now lay softly purring and rubbing her head against his arm.

"Poor kitty!" he said tenderly; then, remembering his wife's antipathy to cats, he cried out: "Shoo! shoo! kitty! Scat! What on earth are we thinking about, kitty?"

As the remorseful widower rose and drove the cat back to her proper place in the shed, he noticed that the hands of the clock were on the stroke of five.

"Why, we are late, Maria!" he exclaimed. "Maria—oh, lack-a-day, Maria is dead!"

It was a sudden blow that had stricken down this bright, useful wife and mother. Very few women are so well balanced as Maria Drexell. She was like a master musician that can touch many keys at once and produce harmony every time.

She was queen in the kitchen as well as the parlor. She was dignified and capable, and at the same time had a bright, appreciative side for all that was young and mirthful. Her husband would often say: "Maria will never grow old if she lives to be a hundred."

And now she had gone in the full bloom of maturity. No one, not even her doctor-husband, had suspected the latent heart disease that took her life without a moment's warning or a chance of one farewell word.

Dr. Drexell was an odd, warm-hearted man of fifty,—the sort of man that is sometimes spoken of as a "character." His wife had supplemented his failing and forgettings; and his reputation and his home were well cared for. He was skilful in his profession, fond of his family and friends, but a man who had little shrewdness, took things for granted, and knew little of the requirements in shielding and guiding a family of daughters. Now, these three young, uninformed creatures were left quite to themselves.

Fanny, the eldest, a girl of seventeen was the most popular person in the family, or indeed, in the town; one of those bright, happy girls it is a pleasure to meet. She had a kind word for everybody. In fact, whoever happened to meet Fanny left her with the conviction that he or she—especially he—was Fanny's special admiration and confidential friend. That was the secret of her early popularity.

Then, she was by no means a bad looking young lady.

THE DOCTOR'S DAUGHTER.—"ENTERING THE DREADED SHADES OF THE WOODS, MAC PUT HIS ARM AROUND HER."

She had a cozy little figure, not so tall and stylish as some, but most pleasing and always becomingly dressed.

Her bright, brown hair could curl or crimp or make up in rich braids, or was charming just flying over her shoulders. No matter if her nose was not Grecian, and did not look well in profile. You could forgive that and the full hazel eyes which would glance and sparkle, but never would meet yours soberly; for the sake of the sweet mouth and the exquisite complexion. Then she had such a winning way that, like Mrs. Browning's "Kate," "her good day would make each day good."

Yes; everybody liked Fanny Drexell, and no one more than young Fred Garrett, the minister's son. Fred was now in the senior year at Yale and was just that earnest, reliable young fellow that one who has the ministry in view should be expected to be.

Fanny tormented him within an inch of his life. Not when she was with him, however. She was incapable of being anything but lovely before the person she was with. But, let the dear friend turn his back and it was very easy for Fan to make fun of him. She was so bright and comical too in all she said, that the sympathetic listener would be carried away unawares and betrayed into saying something that he would very much regret.

So much for Fanny.

The next daughter, Beatrice, was a quiet girl of fifteen, who, from a child gave nobody any trouble so long as she had a book to read. It did not matter much whether it was a dime novel or devotional reading, so long as it was something to read. She was always gentle and obedient, yet she seemed more like a marble image than a live girl. She moved about the house like one in a dream, doing what she was bid, but never offering to do more nor taking the smallest interest in sublunary things; then retreating to some quiet nook with her reading.

"You'd be a beauty, dear," Fanny would say to her sometimes, "if you'd only make up."

Dr. Drexell was fond of Beatrice's intellectual tendencies. He would often fondly stroke her dark hair and say: "We shall hear from this head sometime."

The youngest girl, Ella, was, as yet, an unwritten page. She was a graceful girl, though rather too willowy. She had lovely golden hair and marvellously white hands, notwithstanding the amount of gardening and all sorts of domestic work they were fond of doing.

Nobody thought of calling Ella Drexell pretty, but there was something exceedingly pleasing about her, and those that knew her best were beginning to appreciate the fact that Ella was a desirable member of the family.

It was a grief to the Drexell's just now in their bereavement, that their good pastor, Mr. Garrett, was abroad with his wife. He had, many times, declined the opportunity of a foreign tour because it was impossible for his wife to leave home also. He would have been glad to take his son Fred, too but it seemed undesirable for him to leave his studies at Yale.

So, the young man was dividing his vacation among two or three college friends—all the time wishing that he were home in Uplands, where he might see Fanny Drexell's bright eyes.

He had written her one of his own honest little letters on hearing of her great affliction, and Fanny had cried over and exhibited it to half a dozen friends as a proof of Fred's devotion.

Fanny grieved for her good mother and yet the sad event of her death was not without its compensations she thought.

Already she enjoyed the distinction of being the lady of the house. She was conscious of a greater freedom. It had been so tiresome to hear her mother's oft repeated warnings: "Oh, Fanny, be careful what you say!" or "Fanny dear, never say of a friend what you wouldn't to a friend." Or if she was writing she did not relish her mother's admonition: "Remember the old saying, Fanny, that 'what is writ is writ.'"

Oh, if this gentle monitor could have been spared to Fanny how different her life would have been! As yet, she did not mean to be malicious. She was simply unthinking, vain and happy.

Beatrice stole about like a moonbeam. She, too, grieved for her mother and, at times, burst into stormy fits of weeping, yet this first experience of death in the house was not without its poetic charm for her.

"Little Ella," as the youngest girl of thirteen was generally called, realized to the full measure all that was lost to the dear home.

She swallowed her sobs and kept back her tears however, many times that she might be better able to minister to others, especially to her father who had been so dependent on the practical help of his wife.

When they returned from the dreary tea-drinking at Grandmother Brown's, it was Ella that kindled the wood fire in her father's office where he always liked to sit of an evening.

"Thank you, dear little woman," he said fondly, and thought how very slight and small she looked in her mourning, and how soft and golden her hair was tied simply back with black ribbon. Fortunately, a good cook reigned in the kitchen, so the meals were well served.

Fanny was in such demand by friends outside that home saw little of her. Beatrice read and dreamed and wrote no end of odes on her mother's death.

It was Ella that mended her father's socks, kept the rooms nicely dusted and the vases filled with fresh flowers.

In short, it was she that knew how to make home of a house.

When Fred came back the next vacation in response to an invitation of a friendly neighbor, he was shocked to find that Fanny, though still in the deepest of crape, was gayly present at all the merry makings of the village.

He wrote a gentle note of remonstrance. Were they not engaged? Yet she danced and flirted with Dr. Drexell's young assistant, Mac Bennett, whose reputation was none of the best.

There was nobody giddy Fanny loved better than Fred but she was thoroughly indignant now, and, with her usual indiscretion, she showed Fred's note to young Bennett.

"The idea!" she exclaimed, stamping her pretty foot. "Just because I haven't any mother, old Snoozleback must needs think it is his duty to order me about. I guess if papa does not find fault, he needn't."

Young Bennett thought Miss Fanny never looked prettier than when she threw her lover overboard and was very ready to apply for the vacancy.

She was willing enough to show the minister's son that she could get on very well without him. To all appearances she could, but, in her heart, she despised Mac Bennett and thought how good and noble Fred had always been.

While affairs were in this state, Fred cast off and moodily dragging out the remaining days of his vacation at his friends, the Woods', and Fanny flirting with the wine-flushed young doctor news of the most serious nature was cabled to Dr Drexell. It was to the effect that, while in company with other Alpine travelers, an avalanche had swept away the most of the party, including Mr. and Mrs. Garrett.

The good doctor was overwhelmed with the news. What would come next!

"Fanny;" he cried, "Somebody's got to tell this to poor Fred. He would take anything from you better than anybody in this world."

Fanny lost sight for the instant of the slight circumstance that she had broken her engagement with Fred and was allowing Mac Bennett to be her escort and most devoted attendant on all occasions. She only thought how she loved the young fellow left homeless and alone by this double bereavement.

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When she did realize how sadly wrong matters had gone she could not explain to her father. Then really for the first time she longed for her mother's advice.

All this unhappy state of affairs with her and Will and Mac Bennett might never have been,—undoubtedly would never have been. Fanny knew that very well. Her mother would go up to the Woods this very evening, if she were only, only here! She would tell Fred the hard news in her own sweet, motherly way and bring him home with her.

And then, Miss Fanny flattered herself that Will would have been comforted.

But she would go to him, anyhow.

Mac Bennett was smoking on the front stoop. She could not get out that way.

"I will go, of course, papa," said Fanny calmly,—all the while planning how she could escape Mac. She hurried to her room—not too shocked, nor sorrowful nor confused to forget to tie her gypsey hat with its soft ties of white mull under her dainty chin.

She stole softly down the kitchen stairway and so out the garden door, hastily plucking a white rose bud to stick in her bunton bole.

Then she sped like a spirit across a neighbor's garden, then to a side street, and finally approached the house where Fred was visiting.

A boy in the uniform of a telegraph company was running down the drive-way.

A quick thought flashed in Fanny's mind,—'Fred has got the news already,—so much the better. How could I have told him,—poor boy! poor boy!'

She drew nearer the house, dreading to meet him, yet eager to be forgiven, to pity him, to love him, to bless him.

But what sort of tableau was this! The lamps had just been lighted and the damask draperies were looped back from the windows of the elegant library. Dollie Wood,—Fannie's detestation,—a pleasant-enough young lady of twenty ("old as the hills" Fan declared) was sitting on the sofa, and, beside her, his head leaning on her shoulder and sobbing in a dreadful way was Fred.

There wasn't a more wretched heart in Uplands than poor Fanny's as she stole back to her home. She was roughly roused from her misery when she was about entering the garden.

Mac Bennett accosted her with unwelcome familiarity. "Well, Popsy! So it has been creeping around, peeping in at windows to see how her old sweetheart took it, has it! Better come back to where you belong."

Fanny could not say a harsh word to anybody, but Mac could see that she shrank from him, that he was the last person in the world she wanted to see and it offended him. Besides, he was in a condition of ill nature, caused by the "drop too much."

He persisted in following Fanny and annoying her. In fact she was really afraid of him before they had threaded the garden paths and found the back door and the front door also locked and everybody in the house evidently away.

"Oh, what shall I do!" prayed poor Fanny.

"Now for a nice walk!" exclaimed Mac with savage delight. "I must go somewhere!" cried poor Fanny. "I am going to Grandma Brown's."

"Not without me, though," said Mac with unpleasant assurance.

They started on the up-hill road toward Grandma Brown's.

Fanny dreaded the long walk up the hill, through a lonely bit of woods and across a covered bridge. She could only silently pray for deliverance. "I will beg the first person I see to take care of me," thought she.

Up the hill they went and then, entering the dreadful shade of the woods, Mac put his arm around her.

Just then a red moustached angel appeared with lantern in his hand and Fanny startled him you may be sure by crying, "Oh, Captain Alf. Please take me home!"

"Young Cap'n Alf," as he was generally called in Uplands in distinction from his father, old Captain Alfred Marston, was a fine, manly young fellow of twenty-two, or thereabout, who had climbed sturdily up from cabin boy to master of a ship and was much respected in his native place.

Fanny had no acquaintance with him and he only knew her by sight as "that pretty Drexell girl,—a neat little crait."

He appreciated that it must be a desperate case that would wring such an appeal as that from a comparative stranger.

He had only meet to come near enough to notice Mac's breath and unsteady feet to suspect the difficulty and would have knocked him down in a minute had not Fanny interposed.

"You know Mac," she said timidly, "you are not yourself to-night."

"I know I ain't," was the gruff reply, "but I can't be Fred Garrett to please you."

"You can leave, sir! We have no use for you," said the young captain with a slight push that sent Mac staggering against a tree to collect his senses.

Then, respectfully offering his arm, "Cap'n Alf" walked back with Miss Fanny toward Dr. Drexell's.

She was so agitated that she was softly crying, but he said not a word,—walking steadily along, carefully picking out the best places in the rough country road by the aid of his lantern, taking care of her, Fanny felt, in the most acceptable way.

Thus they walked on, in silence till they reached Fanny's home and the faint, welcome light of the doctor's shaded lamp showed that somebody was at home.

Not a word did the young captain speak till he had pulled the bell and the sound of Peggy's footsteps along the hall warned him that he had but a minute more.

"I'll knock that fellow down whenever you say so, Miss Drexell," said he earnestly, "and if I can ever serve you in any way I shall be only too happy."

"I don't know how to thank you, Captain Alf," replied Fanny, looking like a little white rose-bud in the dim light. "I am a very wretched girl tonight and you are the only person in the world that has been the least comfort or help."

Peggy swung open the door and there were no more words spoken.

Captain Alf touched his hat and soon disappeared under the arch trees, but he had left his heart at the doctor's.

(TO BE CONTINUED).

It will pay, as well as interest you, to look over the various announcements in our advertising columns. You are invited to send for anything advertised therein, with the utmost confidence that you will be squarely dealt with, as the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL will not admit swindling or even doubtful advertisements under any consideration.

(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

MILDRED'S CLASS—SECOND MEETING.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

THE "Conversation Reform Club" as they had dubbed themselves, met the following week, they were still undecided as to the book to be read. Miss Wilson's letter had given them so much food for conversation through the week, that they had hardly thought much about it. But Georgie Garrett, a rather timid girl, hesitatingly produced a "Brown's Grammar" rather the worse for wear, remarking deprecatingly, "I then hi maybe it would be nice to have for reference."

A little giggle went round the room when Mildred produced another, but when the four other girls produced books, precisely similar (except for varying grades of dilapidation) and laid them solemnly on the table in a row—"like a row of graves of departed school days" as Phillippa said—there was a general shout.

"It reminds me of a squib I saw once in a newspaper," said Phillippa as soon as she had recovered breath, her eyes filled with tears of merriment—"about the City Council in New Orleans. It said that the conduct of six of the Council had so impressed the citizens that they had determined to give them a ball—and to make it a fair thing they would give them each a ball, and to make it a sure thing, the ball was to be fastened to their legs with a chain. We certainly only need the chain to make our grammar a "sure thing."

"I'm sure Miss Wilson ought to be impressed with our alacrity in accepting her suggestion," remarked Edith Stocker, in her quiet slow way that amounted almost to a drawl, "what I want to know is, has anybody any other book for I think we did fair to die of a fit of mental indigestion. I should think too much grammar would be as bad as too much ice cream or another good thing, and the literary larder don't seem to be stocked with anything else at present. I really think girls we have enough to go round. Don't let's bring any more."

No book was forthcoming however.

"Then let's proceed to business and read Miss Wilson's letter, and after we have discussed that we can talk over the book question."

"My dear girls," read Ida Gleason, to whom the letter was addressed, you cannot know what gratification you have given me by your cordial reception of a letter and a proposition that I could but feel at the time was a little severe, but if you continue in the good work you have begun, in the same spirit in which you have begun it, I can predict with safety I think, an insured success.

"I was glad to be introduced to Miss Gleason, as it were, and I hope for such an introduction to all of you until such time as I may come to know you personally.

"I am glad that you have stipulated among yourselves that each letter shall be unseen by all of you except the writer. Each letter is thus impressed with the personality of the writer and it will give me a better opportunity of judging of each girls' individual mistakes. You say 'there has been a discussion between some of the girls and I in regard to the word "got"—some say it is not a nice word to use.'

"I must take exception to the expression, 'between the girls and I.'"

"Well, I thought that was right if everything else in my letter was wrong!" exclaimed Ida. "Don't you remember girls how long I was learning that when I was about twelve years old and how mad I was one day because the Committee laughed when Miss Norton asked me who had done something and I said 'Helen and me.' I never forgot it. I was just hopping mad!"

"Well now wait; it don't sound wrong, but then I guess Miss Wilson knows," replied Mildred hesitatingly.

"I presume," proceeded Ida, again reading from the letter "If I were to ask any of you the uses of prepositions you could tell me instantly that they showed the relation between words and sentences and always govern in the objective case. But, that being so, having used the preposition 'between' to show the relation existing between yourself and the 'other girls' have you followed it by the objective case? 'I' is governed by 'between'. Would you say 'between I and the sun' and yet the case is precisely similar if you will examine carefully. I have heard people say 'between you and I and the post' (and to add to the incorrectness of it some people say 'gate-post' not knowing that 'post' means letter transportation). I heard a girl the other day say 'Mother gave some to Mary and I,' and in almost the same breath she said 'Father took Lizzie and I to a concert.' Just think of the preposterousness of giving a thing 'to I' or taking 'I' anywhere. It bears absurdity on the face of it and yet I do not suppose there is one 'genteel error' more erroneous than this especial one.

"Now for the word 'got.' There is nothing specially the matter with the word, except that in nine cases out of ten it is used when there is no necessity for it. There are certain words that mean so many things from a dictionary point of view. Of this class are 'fix,' 'nice,' 'got,' 'things,' and several others. It is far better to avoid using words that have so many meanings—it is much better to use a word of which the meaning is absolutely distinctive—and it is generally better to use a word of two syllables instead of a word of one. (It is a good rule never to use more than four words of one syllable consecutively). 'Fix' may mean to fasten, to arrange, to do many another thing expressed by a two syllabled word. 'Nice' may mean pleasant, good, neat, or almost anything according to common use. 'Nice' really means but one thing—'neat or clean.' I heard some one say once 'She's a real nice woman but not one bit neat.' Now, that she could not be, I presume the person meant 'pleasant.' A 'pleasant' woman is not necessarily neat but she cannot be 'nice' unless she is neat.

"'Got' comes in the same category. You should 'receive' (not 'get') a letter. You should 'rise' (not 'get up') in the morning. You should 'arrive' (not get at) some place. Do I make it plain?

"It is the same with many other words that it would take too much time to mention. I will give you however one more example—'hard.' Hard is susceptible of several interpretations. In speaking of a task therefore, 'difficult' is a better word to use. It is perhaps no more absolutely correct but it is certainly more elegant to say 'It is a difficult matter to arrange,' than to say 'It is a hard thing to fix.' In the latter sentence there are in succession seven words of one syllable, and the former sentence does not sound stilted either. I should have said, in speaking of the word 'got,' that it is most often used when entirely unnecessary as 'I have got a book, etc.,' instead of 'I have a book.' If you wish to intimate that you have bought or borrowed the book, say so.

"Lest I should try your patience by my long letter I will finish now—but some day, I shall enquire a little into your pronunciation of certain everyday words.

"Believe me sincerely yours,

"AMANDA WILSON."

"I should like to inquire," remarked Sara Tasker in an appealing tone "if I'm never to 'fix' my hair again."

"My dear, my dear, I sadly fear," sang Phillippa, "that hereafter you will be compelled to 'arrange' it or comb it, or put it up or do something to it, I haven't quite settled in my mind just what yet—but 'fix' it—never!!!

"And I," groaned Edith Stocker—am I never to do—perform—excuse me, ladies, any 'hard' thing—task, again! Must all I do, be 'difficult.' Life is growing a burden ——"

"Bear up," laughed Mildred, "it will soon be over," as they tell you at the dentist's when they are apparently running a red hot iron up into your eye by way of your teeth. Miss Wilson tells us we have the spirit and I'm sure we have the perseverance. Now listen to me," and she said slowly as if repeating a lesson, "I would like very much to have you girls to supper some day next week, if I can arrange matters to suit me—no! to my satisfaction—there! isn't that a triumph? I did not say either 'fix' or 'things.' Girls, joking apart we can see by the newness of it all, how far off from correct we have all been, and yet it was more thoughtlessness than want of knowledge I believe. If we think while we learn, I believe we'll sure get on—oh dear! quick! quick! what word do I want instead of 'get on?'"

"Proceed," suggested Edith.

Mildred shook her head.

"Progress, progress," cried Phillippa.

"But I mean more than that. I mean 'get to,' 'arrive.' But the question is where shall we arrive?"

"I have it. I have it!" called out Sara excitedly, a very unusual state of mind for her—"we shall soon arrive at something like perfection."

"That's it! that's it!" came in a chorus from the others and the meeting broke up, each girl feeling that what had been begun in a spirit rather dubious as to results, was already yielding a crop of amusement, pleasure and instruction.

(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

A MERRY CHRISTMAS.

BY ETHEL ALLEN

As Christmas comes but once a year, surely it should be the endeavor of all parents to make the day a merry one for the children as well as for every other member of the household.

Even the poor [illegible] may be simple but expensive but let no one be forgotten.

Ingenious young ladies with skillful fingers may fashion a variety of pretty presents at a very moderate cost. The field is wide for those who paint or embroider, but the unfortunate many who cannot handle the brush and are not over skillful with the needle, and, to crown all possess slender purses, find the selection of their Christmas gifts requires much patient thought and study if they would be satisfied with the result.

The designs for whisk holders are almost endless, but, as every gentleman needs one and as it is so hard to think of a suitable present for one's brother, or some other girl's brother, it may be well to give still another pattern.

First, you need a piece of pasteboard cut diamond shape. Let it be about eight inches from point to point. Cover with plush, velvet, satin, or silk. The pocket for the whisk is made by cutting a second piece of pasteboard the shape of half a diamond and after covering it laying it on the first piece so that the points come together. Edge with chenille cord or pleated satin ribbon and suspend from a banner stand. A spray of flowers in tinsel would be an addition, or the tinsel could be sewed on in some simple design. Two materials might be used for this holder, a bow of satin ribbon of several tints, say blue, orange and cardinal, or more delicate shades, being a pretty finish for the top. Of course the stand can be dispensed with, and the holder hung by a loop of ribbon.

The decorated boards with hooks on which to hang keys, shoe buttoner, etc., are no longer novelties, but they are so pretty and convenient that many will be chosen by the searchers for inexpensive Christmas gifts. An easy way to ornament one is to cover it with bright satin laid on smoothly, then add three gay little tassels, or chenille balls, across the bottom and let two more balls drop from the bow of ribbon that is fastened in each of the upper corners. For twenty cents you can buy a gilt butterfly, and let it alight on the top of the board. The above present will not cost over a dollar at the most.

A bag of silk, satin, or velvet makes a most acceptable present for a young or old lady. One way to make these bags is to first cut two round pieces of pasteboard about the size of the top of a goblet. These are covered by taking long stitches across the back and are then sewed together. The bag, which consists of a straight piece of silk, the ends being joined, is gathered and overcasted to the pasteboard circles. A frill is left at the top and cord or narrow ribbon run in a casing. These bags made of velvet and lined with satin a contrasting color are very showy and convenient to use instead of a work basket, or they may hold one's handkerchiefs. The latest style of bags consists of four strips of ribbon, two of them twice as wide as the remaining two. For instance, two strips of pale blue satin ribbon about five inches wide and twelve long are joined to two strips orange ottoman ribbon the same length but not more than three inches in width. They are sewed in a seam at the bottom and a narrow frill is left at the top. Falling over the frill and fastened inside the bag are four short bows of ribbon, two of the orange ottoman and two of pale blue. Often the broad strip of ribbon is painted or embroidered, but a piece of handsome brocade or plush could take its place and would make a rich looking bag. Orange is a favorite color in fancy work this year. If you happen to have a small basket, perhaps a round one without a handle, stain it with walnut stain or paint it brown, then fasten on one side a great bow of orange ribbon, adding a cluster of yellow flowers if you wish still more in the way of ornament. You might sew a strip of orange silk around the edge of the basket and gather it by running in a narrow ribbon.

A small thermometer may be fastened in the centre of a fan made of pasteboard and covered with satin and velvet, rows of tinsel imitating the sticks. This fan should be so small that it will stand on one of the five cent easels.

A very novel pen wiper may be made by those who are willing to take some time and trouble upon so simple an article. Cut two or more pieces of blotting paper say four inches square. You will need three pieces of chamois the same size. Lay them together in the following order: First, one square of chamois skin, then the leaves of blotting paper, then the two remaining pieces of chamois. Tie the whole together with a narrow ribbon drawn through two holes that can easily be made with a penknife. You are now ready for the ornamental part. Take a small piece of egg shell, perhaps it would be best to use the end of the egg, and with a fine brush and paint outline the nose, mouth, and eyebrows of a child. Paint the eyes blue and give the cheeks a touch of pink. Steal a little hair from your best beau—blonde hair is prettiest—and fasten on with mucilage. Procure a pink or red artificial rose and in the centre lay the face you have made, hiding the edges of the egg by a petal or two skillfully gummed in position. A few green leaves may be added to the rose, then turn back one corner of the first of the two leaves of chamois skin that form the cover of the book and with a stitch or so fasten on the flower. With ink and in large fancy letters write on the second chamois skin leaf, "Extracts from the pen of ——."

When the presents are all prepared, (they should be finished if possible a day or so before hand,) it is time to turn one's attention to the Christmas dinner and the arrangement of the decorations. If there are no small children in the house you will probably dispense with a tree, but a few flowers and a few yards of evergreen tastefully arranged will give your parlor quite a holiday appearance. A few potted plants in blossom may be grouped in the centre of the dinner-table, the pots concealed by evergreen or holly. Take your wooden chopping bowl and place it on a small table or stand, fill with evergreen—ground pine is preferable—add holly berries here and there, or pressed autumn leaves and ferns, and let the evergreen creep over the edges of the bowl concealing it entirely. Small gilt baskets filled with flowers or bright leaves may be suspended from the bands that hold back your lace curtains. A basket like the above might be hung from the ceiling just over the centre of the dining-table. You might substitute for your handsome mantle lambrequin a plain one of canton flannel, olive or old gold, and almost conceal the latter by bands of evergreen and bright leaves or berries. Would not ferns and bright leaves show well upon a lambrequin of pale grey?

Wood brackets entirely covered with evergreen and holding a small plant blossom or a slender vase with a few choice flowers, serve to brighten the corners of a plainly furnished room. Should you chance to have a large dish of yellow glass, fill it with green and pink or scarlet blossoms and set it in the centre of the dinner-table upon a square of [illegible] glass on [illegible] dinner table; if your best dish is of white glass let it rest upon something red, and if red, you will need pale blue or amber to bring out its beauty.

The dinner over, how to spend the rest of the day is the next question. The grown up people will be quite contented to rest and talk, but children are always restless and by evening they will want something besides their new toys to amuse them.

In England, instead of a Christmas tree a bran pie is often used. First a large bowl or tin dish is covered with white cloth and a wreath of evergreens laid around the edge. In the dish are placed bonbons, toys, or any article that can be tied up in a small bundle, the whole covered with bran. A large spoon is laid on top. After the Christmas dinner or supper the pie is brought in the servant announcing that a present from Santa Claus has arrived. Everybody is invited to partake. Each in turn takes a spoonful and whatever bundle the spoon touches is theirs. A Christmas bag always affords much amusement to the children. Fill with sugar plums a large bag of white or silver paper and suspend it from the ceiling or from a large door frame. Provide a long light stick. Each child is blindfolded in turn and after being led in reach of the bag is told to strike it with the stick. Three trials are allowed. When a hole is finally torn in the bag and the sugar plums scattered the little ones greatly enjoy scrambling for them.

A rather noisy game but one that old and young can play if the former are not too aged to move around briskly, is called "The Penny Post." There should be two rows of chairs facing each other down the room. You want as many chairs as there are players, omitting the postman who goes down the line each one giving him the name of a place which he writes on a sheet of paper. The names should be in two columns upon the paper. Then the postman consults his list and calls, for example, "The post is going between Boston and Chicago!" Those who have given these names change places the postman trying to secure one of the vacant seats in which case the one left out would take his place and call off the names. When the postman says, "The general post is going!" all the players change places.

Christmas is coming, and the Polyopticon is one of the very nicest holiday gifts that could be given to the children. The magical changes, and the clear distinct representations of this improved magic lantern delights everybody, and is a source of endless amusement for the old as well as young folks. Sent to any address on receipt of See advertisement on another page of JOURNAL, and send for a descriptive circular.

What shall I buy for Christmas? is the question our readers will soon be asking. Our advice is to send to the old reliable firm of G. H. W. Bates & Co., Boston, Mass., for one of the Organettes advertised in this issue. They make a very acceptable present for Christmas.

ANGLO-SWISS CONDENSED MILK.
MILKMAID BRAND.
Economical and convenient for all kitchen purposes. Better for babies than uncondensed milk. Sold everywhere.

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FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

PUTTING CHILDREN TO BED.

BY ADA E. H.

Mothers, do you actually dread the coming of the children's bed-time, or is it, of all the hours in the day, the sweetest?

Is it your precious, self-imposed task to lead the way to slumber land, or do you delegate the privilege to hirelings?

To take the beloved form in our arms, and amid hugs and kisses, and softly murmured, loving words, which shall engage the little one's attention, and rob the coming darkness of its terrors; to deftly unrobe and prepare for night the darling one, then to fold the tiny hands in prayer, if old enough;—what a joy unspeakable to the true mother, who is never too weary to attend to this final, sweetest duty of the day.

The hurry of the busy worker is over. There is nothing on hand so important as that of putting the tired child peacefully to sleep. If you have no servant, let the tea-table stand, if need be; dishes are not so imperative as the health of the children, which can only be promoted by a long, sound, undisturbed night's rest.

Are you in the habit of rocking your baby? Although far easier for the mother not to do so, yet we would not disparage the custom if she be of a quiet temperament. But if worn out, excitable, each nerve seemingly instinct with life, would you deem it advisable, or right, to infuse naught of this mental unrest into the innocent victim?

Who does not know that even very young babes are affected by the moods of those who have them in charge? Can you afford then, to hold your infant, unless you are well poised?

Rocking in the cradle or crib should never be permitted, although if the child is fretful, mamma may sit beside, and even hold the tiny hand. When sleep comes it is much easier to loose the clinging fingers, than to lay down a child without disturbing it.

Stay with the dear little one, rather than let it cry itself to sleep, for slumber so obtained is far from restful, and the unconscious sobs which agitate the child long after forgetfulness has come, will bring tears to the tender parent's eyes.

Make every effort, however, to teach the child to go to sleep alone, for the habit is of incalculable value. Persevere, even though there be rebellion at first. Mildness and firmness, will conquer in the end. Do not, I beg of you, be harsh with the little one. Slinkings, threats, and "slap sunshine," as Margaret Arnold, I believe, calls it, are cruel.

Some children are constitutionally timid. Watch carefully lest they be unintentionally frightened by a chance word. Their active brains are quick to catch the idea conveyed. Do not incidentally allude to the dark, the possibility of a storm, or anything calculated to arouse fear. Many are afraid of shadows, before they are old enough to express their terror. Crying is their only language. Bear with it patiently.

I knew a sweet little girl of three, who was as nearly an angel as a child could be, during the daytime, never exhibiting any of the tantrums so common to childhood, and easily yielding to her mamma's will, yet, who, when dusk fell, became a perfect tyrant. As soon as tea-time came, she would begin, plaintively, with tears in her big, dark eyes, "Baby don' wan' go bed, 't all."

Ten thousand devices familiar to parents only diverted her for the time being, and hardly was she laid in the crib, than she would begin to cry, and to tease mamma to "come bed."

It was a comparatively new habit, because, for a year past, the child had been in the habit of going to bed alone, singing herself to sleep.

Her mother was at her wit's end to break it up, until it seemed to her that Pansy must be afraid of the dark. As it was summer time, she began by putting the little girl to bed early enough to do away with the necessity for lights, and while it was still light enough out of doors for the baby to see all there was in the room, distinctly.

You know that, if there has been artificial light in the room, and it is taken away, the darkness is more intense, by contrast.

Having laid Pansy in her crib, her mamma would perhaps sit down by the window, or move softly about the room, going in and out at gradually lengthening intervals. Sometimes she would say, as she kissed her darling good night, "Mamma must go into the next room just a minute," or, "If baby is a good girl, and doesn't cry, mamma will buy dolly a pretty red sash ribbon to-morrow," a promise invariably kept.

If all was quiet, she would not go back, and Pansy, while watching, would drop off. By patience and unwavering firmness, that mother finally succeeded, and Pansy now goes quietly to bed, without any disturbance.

Some children might not be sleepy enough for this, if an afternoon nap had been permitted, therefore it is better to break up this habit, if the mother wishes the comfort of having her evenings to herself.

Dear as the children are, their merry, constant prattle is wearisome, and a few hours of quiet are greatly needed to tone up the mother's nerves, and prepare her to sleep restfully. The recreation of social converse, an entertaining book, fancy work, etc., cannot be indulged in, unless the little ones are put "early to bed."

The custom of keeping children up late is very reprehensible, and even those of a dozen or more years, should retire as early as 8, or ½ past.

"Can't I sit up just a few minutes longer?"

"Well, five or ten," replies the indulgent parent.

These lengthen into fifteen or twenty, and when they have elapsed, the child is just as unwilling to go, although so sleepy it can hardly hold its eyes open.

The permission has been granted at the expense of the habit of punctuality, so important all through life, and which, if not acquired early, never will be.

Parents are not sufficiently mindful of the fact that the years of childhood are given to fit the child for the future, and that he should be kept a child just as long as possible. Late hours hinder both mental and physical growth. Nerves overstrained by indulgence in regard to studying, eating, or sleeping, during this important epoch, may never regain their tone.

Americans frequently show, by their nervous manner, the false training they have received in early life.

A volume could be written upon this alone.

Thankful should be that person whose parents, (especially the mother) had common sense enough to bring up the child lent them by the Lord, wisely, and therefore, well.

EDITRESS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—In the August number of the JOURNAL I read a letter from which I quote the following item: "One thing more, dear sisters. You who have young babies this summer, and wonder how you can get through the warm weather, with added cares, preserving, etc., drink half a glass of porter with your dinner, making it more palatable by water, sugar, and nutmeg, and you will find your strength increasing daily." I was, at the time of reading said letter, surprised, and pained, that any woman, or mother, should give such advice. Surely, thought I, this will bring forth an avalanche of protesting letters from mothers all over the nation. Mothers who are working with might and main, for "God, and home and native land." Aye, they are fighting with almost superhuman strength, this gigantic evil that is alluring so many of our loved ones to ruin. Intemperance is the only theme that a writer, with the most vivid imagination, cannot overdraw. And to think, in the face of what is being done, at the present time, to mitigate this curse, that a writer should deliberately advise (through the columns of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, a paper of such wide circulation) mothers of little nursing babes, to put "porter upon their tables and drink it every day." When my eldest child was a babe, I learned that drinking strong tea made him very wakeful; this being the case, would not a drink of porter every day have caused a drunken baby? Is not the milk of the mother very materially affected by her diet, and drink? And again, if we place it upon our tables, and drink it, can we expect our sons, of mature years, to let it alone? I find, in consulting Webster, that porter is an intoxicating beverage. Now has it not been proven, scientifically, that intoxicants will not give an atom of strength; but to the contrary, they leave one weaker, and more debilitated, after the stimulating, or forcing process is past? I now recall to mind a lady who manufactured her own wines, using them freely in her cooking. Rich wine pudding sauces ever graced the board, and mark the result: Five sons grew to manhood, no, only two of them did that. The remaining three, grew to beasthood. One married, alas! before his intemperate habits were well known; thus dragging down to degredation a poor girl, who might have been your daughter, or mine. Who had not rather bury a daughter, than to see her the wife of a drunkard? The baby boy of this wine making mother, was often borne home beastly drunk ere he was out of his teens. Could she expect much sympathy over the ruin she herself had wrought? A prominent physician, having made this matter a subject of careful study, says: "Of 622 moderate, and immoderate drinkers, with whom I have conversed, 357 tell me that they acquired the desire for wine, and other alcoholic poisons, by their use in articles of diet, and in the family, and social circle; dealt out to them by their wives, sisters, and female friends. Of this number 189 cases were from the use of liquors in articles of diet. Think of this mothers! and make your mince pies without brandy. Of the whole number referred to, more than half of them filled drunkards graves. 117 dying of delirium tremens, and a third of that number from suicide." Oh, if women could be enlightened on this one point and cease to be tempters!

FANNY FANSHAW.

EDITRESS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Many thanks for advice to L. H. J. of October. Am trying "M. H. W's." "century old" recipe for my girlie, and shall apply the porous plaster, and will report if I find the remedies effectual.

How old should a boy be when he is let loose from mother's "apron strings?"

Never let him loose, dear mother; and if, by any sad perchance he breaks loose, keep near his heart and he will not wander far away. I like the idea expressed in your letter, of remembering our own childhood, when disciplining our children.

Will "Helper" please omit the rubber diapers from her list of articles for an infant's wardrobe. They are convenient when taking baby on a journey, but they keep the little one too warm and should not be used constantly. I am using cotton flannel diapers, but would not buy that material again if it were possible to obtain linen. The latter is cooler and baby is not so liable to chafe as he sometimes will with the best of care, dear "Thoeny Poopy" notwithstanding. For instance, I had to deny myself of fruit of all kinds last winter—the least indulgence—even a quarter of an apple, causing my baby to scald, and it would be several days before I could get him nicely healed.

The best remedy I used was a wash made of strong tea, prepared as for the table, in an earthen cup, in which I put equal quantities of loaf sugar and burnt alum—as much as would readily dissolve. This same wash is excellent for sore nipples. For caked breast I always find relief in pouring on melted lard as hot as can be borne, and laying on a warm flannel. Then a gentle rubbing (which I prefer to perform myself) will soften the breast so that the milk will flow freely. If it has been caked so long as to render the milk unfit for the child, I draw it with a common clay pipe, and find it less painful than a breast pump. I use the pipe, too, when weaning my babies.

Have all or any of you seen the "stockinet" or stockings by the yard? I bought some a few days ago, and have one stocking "toed out" as I would a knitted stocking. Being ribbed, it fits to the foot nicely, and has an advantage over stockings with heels, in that the heels and knees will not always come in the same place.

MRS. M. MCO.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

A WORD TO MOTHERS.

Mothers! I say, make practical housekeepers of your daughters, whatever else you make of them. What is a woman if she cannot keep house practically? Is she any comfort to her husband? I would say she is not. It is the duty of every mother to train her children so that they will be a comfort and a blessing to those around them. The wealthy mother may say, she keeps a servant or housekeeper and it is not necessary for her daughter to work. That is all very well. Does she forget that "riches have wings" and, too, that her daughter will sooner or later be married and will then want to keep house herself? How many young women are there, that know how to manage a house when they are first married? And how often do we hear them say, "Why did not my mother teach me how to keep house," or otherwise they will be ugly and disagreeable to their husbands, which brings a separation of what might have been a happy couple. Now, if mothers would put a daughter at little things, like dusting or clearing up her own room, or putting her clothes in order, (and there are a number of other things which she might be put at when quite young, as may seem proper to the mother, all of which will train her). As she grows older increase her responsibilities and cares. In this way little by little, a knowledge of cooking, baking, washing, ironing, cleaning, sewing, and managing a house in general is gradually yet easily acquired. If all mothers would do this, there would be more happy families and more well managed households in this world than we have now. I do not mean to say that art and music should be neglected, for, cannot a woman know how to keep house, and still be an artist or a musician? I was born in wealth, never wanted for anything. My mother kept servants but still we had to work. She used to say, "we have all we want now, but will it be so forever?" And a good thing it was that we learned while yet young for, time changes, one year goes, another comes, each brings its sorrows and its joys. Each day has its tale to tell of some one who has lost a fortune or some other who has found one. And the day came to us too, when our fortune went, and happy we were that we knew how to go ahead and do the work. What a comfort it is to a mother is she is sick and knows she has a daughter who can look after the household duties. Often is the time I have heard it said by women in trouble, "Would that my mother had taught me to work when I was a child, now I am married and must find out everything and worry where there is no necessity of it." Girls grow up, knowing nothing of the worriment and troubles their mothers have. They go to school, to parties, concerts and so on and are as merry as larks, while their mothers are at home overburdened with care. Now, why not let them help and share the cares of their mothers and comfort them? It would give both mother and daughter pleasure. Have you ever noticed a mother and daughter working and planning together and sharing the sorrows, as well as the joys of this life? If you have, you will know what a great help that daughter was to the mother. Take a girl that knows nothing about housekeeping or the care of children, what is she when she is married? Then take one that knows about it, and see the contrast of the two new homes. Let sickness come in the house of the former, and she will be completely upset. Let it come to the latter and she will know just what to do. Only the other day I heard of a woman knowing nothing about housework left by her girl with a sick husband and a baby to care for. How should she do the housework, how should she take care of her sick husband, what should she cook and how, was the burden of her thoughts. Then they were to move, the day having been set and other parties waiting to move in the house. She ordered the express for the next morning, but not one thing was ready, nor did she know how to get it ready. So the neighbors came in and packed her things and took the carpets up for her. Now suppose she had not had those kind neighbors, what would have become of her then? I never saw the woman yet, who was sorry that she had learned practical housekeeping, and a queer woman she must be if she were sorry for it. I think every woman ought to be proud of being a good housekeeper. And I know that men in general are very proud if they have a wife who is a good housekeeper. I will not say any more this time, but would love to hear someone else's opinion on this subject. Yours, A. E. H.

Nestle's Milk Food is the best substitute for mother's milk that has ever been found. As it requires only water in preparation, it is reliable at all seasons of the year, when milk cannot be depended upon, is easily prepared, and is much more economical than any other. Nestle's food has been successfully used by many eminent physicians in Europe and America, and has been pronounced by them to be the best food for the artificial feeding of infants. It is very nourishing, and agrees with a larger proportion of children than any other food, producing firm flesh, hard bone, and tough muscle. Before giving your babe any other preparation consult your physician about Nestle's food. Send ten cents to Thomas Leeming, of New York, and receive sample package, with pamphlet giving analysis of food, and full description of its use. Sold by all druggists at fifty cents per pound can.

AMBOY, ILL., May 20, 1885.

LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—My little girl Edna has just secured a club of thirteen subscribers, for your JOURNAL. She is only seven years old. I told her to try and get twelve subscribers and then she would get that nice little set of dishes you offer as a premium, so she started out and got nine names in a short time, and four afterward WITHOUT THE LEAST TROUBLE.

The above is a sample of hundreds of letters that come to this office every day. Any one can easily secure a hundred subscribers in any small town by simply showing a copy of the paper and explaining the low price,—every woman wants it and can afford it.

Tell Mrs. Clarissa Potter that the symptoms she has enumerated in her article "Worms" are true worm symptoms. Tell her to give Santonine; take 10 grains of santonine and 90 grains of sugar of milk, rub them thoroughly together in a mortar half an hour. Dose, four grains, an hour before meals, and at bed-time, and all worms will disappear in a week; it is tasteless and perfectly harmless. Truly, C. A. BELDIN, M. D.

Stories heard at mother's knee are never wholly forgotten. They form a little spring that never quite dries up in our journey through scorching years.

NESTLE'S MILK FOOD

Is the best substitute known for mothers' milk. It is more economical than any infants' food in the market, as it requires only water in preparation—thus saving at least 50 cents a week for milk. Its chemical analysis is almost indentical with that of human milk. It agrees with a larger proportion of children than any other food. It is very nourishing, and produces firm flesh, hard bone and tough muscle.

Before giving your babe any artificial food, consult your physician about

NESTLE'S MILK FOOD.

On receipt of this we will send you sample, also pamphlet giving full analysis of Nestle's Food. Sold by all druggists at 50c. per pound can.

THOMAS LEEMING & CO., Sole Agents, 18 College Place, New York.

CROSBY'S

Vitalized Phosphites,

For 15 years has been a standard preparation with all Physicians treating nervous or mental diseases. It aids in the bodily, and wonderfully in the mental growth of children. It cures nervousness, restlessness, and imperfect digestion. It feeds the brain and gives a retentive memory. It cures nervous disorders in young and old. For her own comfort as well as her children's, no mother should be without this special Brain and Nerve Food.

F. CROSBY CO., 56 W. 25th St., N. Y. For Sale by Druggists, or by mail, $1.

TO MOTHERS!

Every babe should have a bottle of DR. FAHRNEY'S TEETHING SYRUP. Perfectly safe. No Opium or Morphia mixture. Will relieve Colic, Griping in the bowels and Promote Infant Teething. Prepared by DRS. D. FAHRNEY & SON, Hagerstown, Md. Druggists sell it; 25 cents.

INFANT'S WARDROBE.

For fifty cents I will send, to any one wishing them, ten patterns for a baby's new style Health Wardrobe, or patterns first short clothes, Health Garments, at same price. Full directions for each pattern. MRS. F. E. PHILLIPS, (FAYE), Brattleboro, Vermont.

YOUR BABY, and delight than anything else in the world, respectfully requests you to subscribe, for his benefit, to the only periodical in the world devoted to considering his health, comfort, and well being generally. It is edited by **Dr. Leroy M. Yale** and **Marion Harland**, and may be had for a year by sending $1.50 to **BABYHOOD**, 18 Spruce St., New York. Single numbers, 15 cents. Examine a copy at any newsdealer's.

CROUP REMEDY The only medicine known that will cure **Membranous Croup.** The proprietor of this medicine has used it in his private practice for the past twenty years, and in **every case of any kind of Croup it has never failed to cure.** The remedy is tasteless and perfectly harmless, containing no poison or deleterious drugs. **Sample with directions sent free by mail.** Price, 50 cts. per box. Four dollars per doz. **C. A. BELDIN, M. D., Jamaica, N. Y.**

INFANT'S OUTFIT 10 latest patterns, 50c.; first short clothes, 10 patterns, 50c. **LATEST PATTERNS FOR BOYS** from 2 to 9 years. Underwaist, 10c.; shirt waist, laced blouse, and knee pants, 15c. each. For 30c., patterns coat and kilt skirt, 4 to 8 yrs. Full directions for each. Address: LILLA BROWN, Box 78, Brattleboro, Vt.

FACIAL DEVELOPMENT. Will mail you rules to develop roundness of cheeks and neck, making them plump and rosy; also rules for using dumbbells, to develop every muscle of the arms and body—all for 20 cts. **Prof. L. Dowd**, Home School for Physical Culture, 37 E. 14th St., N. Y.

MUSIC Prof. Rice's "Stitchless Piano and Organ Attachment," teaching 88 chords; 1,000 chord variations; 1,000 tunes; 4,000 accompaniments; all notes; thoroughbass laws, etc., 100 times faster than any teacher. $2.00. Sent on test. 10 music lessons, 50 cents. Circulars free. **G. S. RICE, 243 State St., Chicago, Ill.**

TOKOLOGY A Book for every woman. Alice B. Stockham, M. D.

A COMPLETE LADIES' GUIDE.

50,000 Sold in Little Over a Year. Agents find it the most popular Work on the market. "The very best book to put into the hands of a girl or woman."—E. B. HALE, M. D. Cloth, postpaid $1.00; Morocco, $2.00. Circulars Free. **Sanitary Pub. Co., 159 La Salle St., Chicago, Ill.** **AGENTS**

WORK FOR ALL! $5 to $8 per day easily made. Costly outfit FREE. Address P. O. VICKERY, Augusta, Maine.

WEDDING NOTES & CARDS, Elegant Styles, Shortest Notice, Least Money. Stationery and Fine Engraving. **S. D. Childs & Co.,** Chicago, Ill.

TEACH Any one can become so thoroughly versed in three weeks, reviewing with The Common School Question Book as to successfully pass the most difficult and technical legal examinations for teachers' certificates. By its aid thousands of young people have won an honorable and remunerative livelihood. 2,000 sold last year. Full descriptive circulars and specimen pages sent for 2 stamp. Agents Wanted.

A. H. CRAIG, PUBLISHER, Caldwell, Barbe Co., Wisconsin. **SCHOOL**

LADIES' SEWING ASSISTANT

The most useful article made. Every Lady wants one. Can be attached to any table. It has a good Holder for sewing and basting thread, Emery Cushion for pins and needles, a Work Holder, and a steel Thread Cutter. This is the best selling article you ever saw. A little girl nine years old sold 56 in two days. One agent has sold over 4000 in 8 weeks. Never was an article introduced that sells equal to this. Everybody buys it. The ladies all admire it. It receives much heed, as it is the most useful and convenient article ever invented. Sample, with best terms to agents, sent free for 25 cts. in stamps. Address, G. H. W. BATES, 106 Sudbury St., Boston, Mass.

AGENTS WANTED

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

Pretty Home-Made Articles for Christmas Presents.

Something entirely new and easily made is the pyramid pincushion. It is of paper only, is clean, neat, light and handy, there being no bran or other stuffing in it. The form is round, and somewhat larger than a five shilling piece, or a half dollar. Card board is wound round and round, and into this roll pins are inserted, so that they stand upright, and the centre being higher than the sides, there is no difficulty in getting the pins out. The outer band is covered with a neat glazed paper, printed in imitation of colored Berlin wool work. For offices, studies, or the toilette table, the pyramid pincushions are useful and pretty. Some are filled with white pins, others with black ones; while some specimens show white pins, as a border to black centre ones.

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Most acceptable aids and accessories to artistic home decoration, are the ornamental nails, with solid leather heads, in various shapes and sizes, and in all the colors and combinations of upholstering materials, and in metal tones, with the now fashionable illuminations. These nails can be put to a hundred different uses in creating and securing fancy articles and hanglugs in position, and for chains, buttons of solid leather come in the shapes and shades of the nail heads which fasten the fabrics on to the frame. These nails like brass headed tacks are sold by the dozen, the hundred, or by the box, in the best upholstery stores.

***

Almost every industrious little girl can make mamma or aunty a useful Christmas present of canvas cloth in ecru, cut in apron shape, and trimmed with red or blue braid. Cut the apron on the fold of goods at the centre, and round the outline at the sides and slope off towards the top, curve out the upper edge so that the apron will fit the figure smoothly. Crossing centre of the apron place two large pockets, one, the deeper, place at the lower part, the other above. Two small pockets, cut in same shape, that is, round on lower portion and sides, and flat or straight on top, are arranged diagonally upon each side, between the ends of the larger pockets, and these four pockets afford all the space needed for sewing or embroidery materials, and scraps. Border all the edges of the pockets, and the edges of the apron proper with braid, and a little inside of the margin of the side and lower edges apply a row of braid flatly and beneath its outer edge, sew short braid loops to form a sort of fringe effect all round, then sew ties of ribbon to the corners to fasten the apron about the waist. Very dressy little affairs are made of these aprons by using any desired material, and cutting in the desired shape, and decorating the parts with outline embroidery, or appliques, and finishing the apron with lace. Price of apron pattern is only 15 cents.

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Of course papa must have a present, and brother or sister can make him one by taking a cigar box, and neatly covering it with cloth, bordering with gimp, and securing the cover with ornamental leather headed nails in a contrasting color from the cloth. Make the top plain, or you can finish it with Kursheedt's floral initials, or one of the standard flowers, of colored silks.

***

Two or three correspondents ask about shopping bags. Work bags and visiting bags are pretty made of plush, and brocade, but for shopping the bought leather bags are in better taste, and they are very cheap now, and handy.

This shopping bag will make a neat and useful Christmas present, it is of imitation alligator skin, with nickle finishings, and costs only 85 cents. We give a very nice bag as a premium for 20 subscribers. See our premium supplement.

Some ladies are buying their bags and are making them ornamental by decorating them with Kursheedt's autumn leaves, in silk appliques, or appliques of leather in leaves, or in animals, which are now in favor.

***

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Miss Fannie Hale."—You should be able to buy Kursheedt's standard appliques in Baltimore, but if you cannot, write to H. O'Neill & Co., N. Y. City, and save time.

"Mrs. Sarah Bennet, Georgia."—In reply to your request we have given cut of shopping bag. Send 85 cents for one to Strawbridge & Clothier, Market and Eighth streets, Philadelphia, Pa. If bag is sent by mail the house will pay postage for that amount.

"Dora Page."—Yes, your $5.00 will buy all the fancy work materials you mention. Have given your order to Sharpless Brothers, Chestnut and Eighth Sts., Philadelphia, Pa., and feel sure that it will be carefully and promptly executed.

"Mrs. Medlock."—Certainly, we will buy anything you wish to order in decorative fancies, but would rather you sent your orders direct to the houses mentioned in this article. Address all letters for this department to M. E. L., Editor.

"Lena Corson" will find explanations of terms in Oct. No. of L. H. J.

If Mrs. Orth, of Phila., will send her address and a two cent stamp to M. F. K., 20 Linden St., South Boston, Mass., I will send her correct directions for Rose Leaf Insertion.

PANORA, IOWA, Aug. 6th, 1885.

Can any of the L. H. J. readers send a hood pattern, either the shell or star stitch; also how to make plumes on hoods; also send a pretty pattern for lamp mat, and oblige,

ZONA DIEHL.

NORTH AMHERST, Aug. 3d, 1885.

EDITRESS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Will some of the kind sisters please send through the columns of your interesting paper the correct directions for the Double Oak Leaf lace, and oblige MRS. S. G. BOWMAN.

Will "A Seeker After Knowledge" please say how her grandma in making the rugs of little bits of woolen cloth an inch square puts them on the foundation? Are they sewed close by the end of each, and lap over a little, or how? The rest of the directions seem plain enough to

ONE INTERESTED.

EDITRESS FANCY WORK DEPARTMENT:—A friend and neighbor makes an exceedingly pretty lamp mat of small pieces of Germantown wool as follows: Center piece, either round or square, desired size, in close d. c. Border.—Fasten piece of wool of any color to edge of center piece, chain 20, fasten in same stitch by s. c., make three loops of one color, then tie on another color, make three loops of this and so on, using all your colors. Be careful to use colors that contrast well. Commence to fasten a loop in each stitch of edge around the mat. Make a second row of loops like first, only chain 15 instead of 20. Fasten inside of first row one row of stitches back. Fasten a piece of Shetland wool (white) to top of first loop, or in 10th stitch of loop, ch. 5, fasten to next loop, ch. 5, fasten, and so on, connecting the loops together with the white second row same as first. Shaded red makes a handsome mat. Toilet mats are pretty made in this way. Shetland floss would I think be preferable to the wool. MRS. W. S. P.

CROCHET SQUARE FOR QUILT

Chain 6 and join together with a slip stitch.

1st row. Chain 3, d c 2 in ch of 6, * ch 3, d c 3 in same loop, repeat from * 4 times, join tog. with slip stitch in 3d stitch of chain 3 at beginning of row.

2d row. Chain 3, d c 2 in loop just made by joining, * d c 4 in next loop made by ch 2 of last row, ch 2, d c 4 in same loop; repeat from * 4 times, d c 4 in first loop, ch 2, join with slip stitch in ch 3 at beginning of row.

3d row. Chain 3, d c 3 in loop made by joining *, d c 4 in loop made by ch 2, ch 2, d c 4 in same loop; repeat from * 4 times, d c 4 in first loop, ch 2 and join.

4th row. Chain 3, d c 3 in loop made by joining *, ch 2, d c 1 in space between first and second shells, ch 2, 4 d c in loops ch 2, 4 d c in same loop; repeat from * 4 times, ch 2, d c 1 between shells, ch 2, 4 d c in loop, and join.

5th row. Chain 3, d c 3 in loop made by joining,* ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, d c 1 in next loop, ch 2, d c 4 in loop, ch 2, d c 4 in same loop; repeat from * 4 times; ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, d c 1 in next loop, ch 2, 4 d c in loop; join.

6th row. Chain 3, d c 3 in loop made by joining,* ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, d c 6 in second loop, draw out the hook, and put it through the top of the first of the 6 d c, take up the stitch dropped from the hook, and draw it through the one on the hook. This makes a nub; ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, d c 4 in next loop, ch 2, 4 d c in same; repeat from * 4 times. ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, make a nub, ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, 4 d c in loop, ch 2; join.

7th row. Chain 3, d c 3 in loop made by joining,* ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, make a nub in loop, ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, d c 4 in loop, ch 2, d c 4 in same; repeat from * 4 times, ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, make a nub, ch 2, make a nub, ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, d c 4 in loop, ch 2, join.

8th row. Chain 3, d c 3 in loop made by joining,* ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, make a nub, ch 2, d c 3 in next loop, ch 2, make a nub, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, d c 4 in loop, ch 2, d c 4 in same loop, repeat from * 4 times, ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, make a nub, ch 2, d c 3 in loop, ch 2, make a nub, ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, d c 4 in loop, ch 2, join.

9th row. Chain 3, d c 3 in loop made by joining, * ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, make a nub, ch 2, d c 2 in loop, d c 1 in top of each of next 3 stitches, d c 2 in loop, ch 2, make a nub, ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, d c 4 in loop, ch 2, d c 4 in same loop; repeat from * 4 times, ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, make a nub, ch 2, d c 2 in loop, d c 1 in next 3 stitches, d c 2 in loop, ch 2, make a nub, ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2 d c 4 in loop, ch 2, join.

10th row. Chain 3, d c 3 in loop made by joining, ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, make a nub, ch 2, d c 2 in loop, d c 1 in each of next 5 stitches, d c 2 in loop, ch 2, make a nub, ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, d c 4 in loop, ch 2, d c 4 in same, repeat from * 4 times, ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, make a nub, ch 2, d c 2 in loop, d c 7, d c 2 in loop, ch 2, make a nub, ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, d c 4 in loop, ch 2, join.

11th row. Chain 3, d c 3 in loop made by joining, ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, make a nub, d c 2 in loop, d c 11, d c 2 in loop, ch 2, make a nub, ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, d c 4 in loop, ch 2, d c 4 in same, repeat from * four times, ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, make a nub, ch 2, d c 2 in loop, d c 11, d c 2 in loop, ch 2, make a nub, ch 2, d c 1 in loop, ch 2, d c 4 in loop, ch 2, join. The piece is hexagonal shape, six sided, and put together by sewing one of the sides from shell to shell.

Slip stitch.—Put the needle through the work, draw the thread through the stitch on needle. D. C.—Thread over needle, put it through the work, thread over, draw through two, thread over, draw through two. Ch.—Chain.

Use a bone hook, and No 12, 4 threaded knitting cotton. MARY.

CROCHET EDGE.

Make a chain of 10 stitches.

1st row. D. c. 3 in 5th chain st., ch. 1, d. c. 3 in 7th ch., ch. 1, d. c. 3 in 9th ch. Turn.

2d row. Ch. 4, s. c. in ch. bet., d. c., ch. 4, s. c. in ch. bet d. c., ch. 4, s. c. in last d. c. Turn.

3d row. Ch. 4, s. c. in ch. 4 of last row, ch. 4, s. c. in ch. 4 of last row, ch. 4, s. c. in ch. of 4 of last row, ch. 5, s. c. in same ch. of 4. Turn.

4th row. S. c. 10 in ch. of 5 of last row, ch. 4, d. c. 3 in ch. 4 of last row, ch. 1, d. c. 3 in ch. 4, ch. 1, d. c. 3 in last ch. of 4. Turn.

5th row. Ch. 4, s. c. in ch. 1 of last row, ch. 4, s. c. in next ch. 1, ch. 4, s. c. in ch. 4 of last row, ch. 5, s. c. in same ch. of 4. Turn.

6th row. S. c. 5 in ch. 5 of last row, ch. 5, s c in centre of s c of 10. Turn.

7th row. S. c. 10 in last ch of 5, s c 5 more in 3d ch of 5, ch 4, s c in ch 4, ch 4, s c in next ch 4, ch 4, s c in last ch 4. Turn.

8th row. Ch 3, d c 3 in ch 4, ch 1, d c 3 in next ch 4, ch 1, d c 3 in ch 4, ch 5, s c 1 in same ch of 4. Turn and repeat from 4th row. M.

HANDSOME CROCHET EDGE.

Make a chain of 30 stitches.

1st row. Put 1 single crochet in 10th stitch of foundation chain, chain 5, 1 single crochet in 15th stitch of chain, ch 5, 1 single crochet in 20th stitch of chain, ch 5, 1 single crochet in 25th stitch of chain, ch 5, 1 single crochet in last stitch of chain. Turn.

2d row. Put 10 l t c in the last place you fastened the thread, skip ch 5, and fasten in single crochet of last row, ch 5, fasten in next single crochet, ch 5, fasten in next single crochet, ch 10, 1 double crochet in last stitch of row. Turn.

3d row. Chain 5, single crochet in 5th stitch of ch 10, ch 5, fasten in single crochet of last row, ch 5, fasten in single crochet, ch 5, fasten in single crochet, ch 5, fasten in top of 5th stitch of shell, ch 5, single crochet in top of last stitch of shell. Turn.

4th row. Chain 4, 10 l t c in last place you fastened the thread, 1 single crochet in centre of top of first shell, 10 l t c in next single crochet of last row, 1 single crochet in next single crochet of last row, ch 5, 1 single crochet in next single crochet of last row, ch 5, fasten at end of row. Turn.

5th row. Chain 5, fasten in single crochet, ch 5, fasten in single crochet, ch 5, fasten in single crochet, ch 5, fasten in 5th stitch of shell, ch 5, fasten in single crochet, ch 5, single crochet in 5th stitch of next shell, ch 5, single crochet in last stitch of shell. Turn.

6th row. Chain 4, 10 l t c in last place you fastened thread, 1 single crochet in centre of top of first shell, ch 10, fasten in centre of top of next shell, 10 l t c in single crochet, 1 single crochet in next single crochet, ch 10, 1 double crochet in end of row. Turn.

7th row. Like 5th row.

8th row. Chain 4, 10 l t c in last place you fastened thread, 1 single crochet in centre of top of first shell, ch 10, fasten in second single crochet, ch 10, fasten in centre of top of shell, 10 l t c in next single crochet, fasten in next single crochet, ch 5, 1 single crochet in end of work. Turn.

9th row. Chain 5, fasten in 5th stitch ahead through the row to centre of shell. Turn.

10th row. 10 l t c in 5th stitch ahead, fasten in single crochet, ch 10, fasten in 10th stitch ahead, 10 l t c in next 5th stitch, being at point of shell, fasten in centre of top of shell, ch 10, double crochet in end of work. Turn.

11th row. Like the 9th row.

12th row. 10 l t c in 5th stitch ahead, being at point of shell, fasten in 5th stitch ahead, 10 l t c in next 5th stitch at point of shell, fasten in centre of top of shell, ch 5, fasten in next 5th stitch, ch 5, fasten in next 5th stitch, ch 5, single crochet in end of work. Turn.

13th row. Like the 11th.

14th row. 10 l t c in 5th stitch ahead, being between two last shells, fasten in 5th stitch ahead in centre of top of shell, ch 10, fasten in 10th stitch ahead, ch 10, double crochet in end of work. Turn.

15th row. Chain 5, fasten in 5th stitch ahead, through the row, to last point of shell. Repeat from the 4th row.

Alice, this makes a pretty collar for a child, with a bright ribbon run through the top.

L. T. C. means Long Treble Crochet—which is made by putting the thread over needle twice, then through the work, thread over, draw through two, over, draw through two, over, draw through two. D. C.—Double Crochet—thread over, through the work, over, draw through two, over, draw through two.

TAM O'SHANTER CAP.

Use Germantown wool and bone crochet hook No. 8 to 10. The cap is worked throughout in double crochet into the stitch, not into the loop of the chain. When the 9th round has been reached it is a good plan to tie a piece of white thread into a stitch; it will be of great use in marking the beginning of each round. Make a chain of 6 and join. 1st round, work 10 stitches into this ring. 2d round, work round, increase by making 2 stitches in each stitch. 3d round, work round 2 stitches in every 3d stitch. 4th to 7th round, work round, 2 stitches in every 4th stitch. 8th to 12th round, work round, 2 stitches in every 12th stitch. 13th to 23d round, work round, 2 stitches in every 16th stitch. 24th to 29th round, work round, 2 stitches in every 28th stitch. 30th round, work round without increasing. 31st to 36th round, work round, decrease by omitting every 28th stitch. 37th to 47th round, work round, decrease by omitting every 16th stitch. 48th round, work round, increase by working 2 in every 6th stitch. 49th to 56th round, work round without increasing or decreasing. These last seven rows should be worked tighter than the rest of the cap. To make the tuft for a boy's cap, wind a sufficient quantity of wool on a piece of pasteboard about 2 inches wide, withdraw the pasteboard, and wind 5 or 6 turns of carpet thread tightly round the centre of wool, tie it, then cut the ends of each loop, and trim the tuft to shape. Hope this will be plain to Carrie. MARY.

CROCHET SHAWL—CRAZY STITCH.

Make a chain the desired length.

1st row. 3 double crochet in 4th stitch of chain, 3 chain, 1 single crochet in same stitch,* miss 2 stitches of chain, make 3 double crochet in next stitch of chain, 3 chain, 1 single crochet in same stitch. Repeat from star to end of row. Turn.

2d row. Make 2 chain, * make 3 double crochet in chain of 3, 3 chain, 1 single crochet in same chain of 3. Repeat from * to end of row.

At the commencement of each row, make a chain of 2. A chain one yard and a half long will be plenty large for centre of shawl. A shell border is pretty finished with a scallop, and can be as deep as one likes. Use Shetland wool and a bone crochet hook. MARY.

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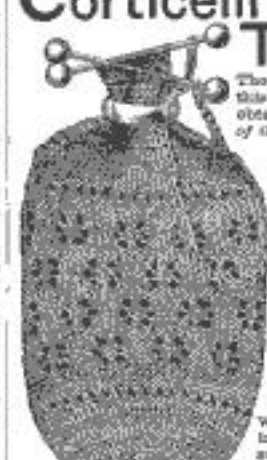

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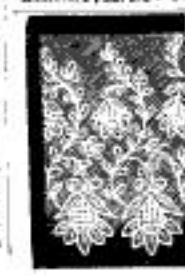

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

BRUSH STUDIES.

NO. XVIII.

Suggestions for the Holidays—Pretty Trifles for Home Decoration—Modeling in Relief, etc., etc.

BY LIDA CLARKSON.

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Those so fortunate as to be able to use the brush in their expression of Christmas cheer, will gladly welcome the numerous pretty articles for home decoration, which ingenuity has devised this season.

As a number of my readers expressed their approval of the departure last year from the regular painting lesson, to a description of holiday gifts, and fancy work, I think best to adopt the same plan now, and to offer some suggestions, which I trust will be both timely, and helpful.

A catch-all, or scrap pocket for the library, is a very suitable gift for a gentleman friend. It is to hang near the table or desk, and is "useful as well as ornamental," a fact which will commend it to the recipient, for men generally look with scorn upon the purely ornamental in art decoration, and that, which we women value in the way of home embellishment, they consider worthless unless of some real practical value.

Never until of late have fans been put to other than their original use, and thus made to do duty in the ornamentation of home. The fan wall pocket, panel, and screen decoration, in every conceivable variety of design has lost none of its popularity as novelties generally do after a season or two. A very pretty scrap pocket, or catch-all may be constructed from two ordinary palm leaf fans, covered with velvet or plush, and lined with satin, or silesia. Plaited fans of satin are inserted at the sides which form the pocket, and the handles are gilded and decorated with bows of ribbon. A silk cord borders the edges, and is also sewed at the back to suspend the pocket. The front is decorated with Kensington painting. A very pretty combination is had, by using golden olive plush, or velvet, lined with salmon pink and finished with bows of the same. The decoration may be a design of roses in the same salmon pink tint, with leaves in varied olive shades.

A more simple library bag may be made of a 10 inch square of satin, edged by a band of plush. A plain square of silk the same size of the front piece, forms the back of the bag, which may be lined with silk or satin. It is slightly gathered at the top upon whalebones, and hung by ribbon, or cord, like a wall panel, or banner. A row of fringe, or ornaments at the lower edge, is a pretty finish. The square for front is of old gold satin, and the plush border a turquoise, or porcelain blue. On the satin is painted forget-me-nots, (described in No. 10 of Brush Studies) and if the recipient is a confirmed bachelor, that significant blossom known as bachelor's button, may be added with good effect.

BANNER LETTER CASE.

I give above a simple illustration of another gift suited to the wants of a literary friend. It will not be necessary to describe it, as any one who has ever made a toilet case, or needle book will know how to put it together. This receptacle for cards, letters, etc., with scrap pocket at the back, is prettiest made of peacock blue velvet, or plush, decorated with some simple design in Kensington painting, or embroidery. Wild roses, apple blossoms, or daises and grasses, as shown in illustration.

In painting upon plush, that with a close nap, should be chosen for the work, and care should be taken not to mat down the nap. The paint is not laid on so heavily as upon the velvet, and is worked lightly, and more upon the surface. The grasses may be of varied shades of green, with touches of yellow ochre, and burnt sienna. (Kensington painting was described in No. 9 of Brush Studies). "Ramah" inquires how Diamond Dyes are prepared for this work. I would advise her not to waste time, or money by using other than the regular tube paints, which are so reasonable in price, that there is really no object in substituting the dyes. Poor material is always the poorest kind of economy. The chair bolster, or head-rest, which now threatens to supplant the much abused tidy, is another very acceptable Christmas gift. It is not only a very handsome addition to an already comfortable chair, but when used with the rattan furniture so much in vogue, is conducive of comfort, as well as beauty. Hung to the chair with ribbon, or cord, its own weight keeps it in place without the use of troublesome pins, or other torturing devices to secure it. A very handsome one is shown in our illustration. It is of rich blue satin sheeting, that with lustrous surface, and soft raw silk back, a beautiful, and durable fabric for decorative purposes. The decoration is a half wreath, or spray of the English Christmas rose, better known as hellebore blossom, a large white flower with pinkish tinge, somewhat similar in shape, to our native wild rose. The palette for apple blossoms given in Brush Study No. 10 will be correct for this design.

Embroidery, is preferable perhaps to painting for this purpose, although the painting will stand greater "wear and tear" than is generally supposed. It is a pretty conceit to decorate the bows, or loops of ribbon, with which the corners of cushion are finished, with what is known as brocade, or crystalline painting. In fact this is a most charming decoration for various purposes of home ornamentation.

It is very similar to the iridescent coloring described in last paper, only that the flakes, or crystals are much finer, which give a somewhat different effect. It is a happy mean between the Lustra, and iridescent, and in some cases to be preferred to either. The brocade crystals come in the following colors:—blue, chrome, green, fire, crimson, green gold, lemon, orange, pale gold, rich gold, silver, and mixed, and is sold either by the vial or oz.

These colors are applied in the same manner as the iridescent and are brilliant and durable.

DECORATED HEAD REST.

This pretty head rest is hung to the chair back by means of two heavy bands of satin ribbon. Gold, and blue combined for the looping, and bows, makes a tasty finish.

Amongst other pretty Christmas gifts this year are many new articles in Terraline ware, or Art pottery, in the shape of vases, plaques, jars, money jugs, umbrella stands, picture frames, etc., etc. Of late, ways have been devised of imitating these rather expensive articles, and at the same time of giving scope for ingenuity, and deft workmanship at home. If one has ample means to buy these pretty things and paint them, they may be satisfied to do so, but even in this case there is with many, a keen pleasure in originating, and modeling their own designs. Some ladies ornament the plain pottery very handsomely by using nothing more than ordinary glaziers' putty. Out of this the flowers are modeled, and afterwards painted in their natural colors.

A better and easier method is that known as gutta percha modeling, which requires none of the sculptor's, or artist's genius; all that is needed being patience and some taste for the work, with a little knowledge of coloring. The gutta percha can be procured in sheets, at a very moderate price. This, with a pair of sharp scissors, some leaf molds, such as are used for wax flower work, a few camel hair brushes, the ordinary sables different sizes, with fine, and coarse copper wire, a small pair of pliars, and a bottle of glaze, or enamel.

The gutta percha is softened by dipping quickly in boiling water, and then stretched or molded by the fingers, until sufficiently thin and smooth. While thus soft and pliable, it is applied to the vase, or other article to be decorated.

The leaves are made by pressing the molds upon the surface of the soft rubber, and immediately cutting them out, then shaping them with the fingers. Those familiar with wax flower making will experience no difficulty in molding in relief. Each petal is cut and molded in the same way, and the stems, stamens and tendrils formed of the wire, smoothly covered with the gutta percha.

After applying the flowers, they are to be painted with white oil paint, mixed with the glaze, and when this is thoroughly dry, the work is continued very much as it would be in ordinary painting, only that little, if any shading is necessary; for the flowers being raised, and in relief, catch the light as do natural objects.

The gutta percha should be allowed to get perfectly dry before any paint is applied. When it regains its shiny appearance you may know it is so. To apply the decoration, it is necessary to heat it, until sticky enough to adhere firmly to the surface of the article to be decorated. This is done by placing it near a gas jet, or the flame of a lamp, then put quickly into position. If preferred the work can be bronzed to represent metal, or colored in imitation of wood carving,

PLAQUE WITH MODELING IN RELIEF.

but the painting will doubtless prove most satisfactory to the majority of my readers. Directions given in previous "Studies" as to roses, or other flowers, can be followed to advantage in this work.

I give illustrations of a plaque ornamented in this manner. The plain ware can be purchased ready for ornamentation, or can be bought already decorated, to be colored at home to suit the fancy. It comes in a variety of shapes and designs, and will be hailed with delight by the seeker after Christmas gifts, who looks for something useful and pretty. From the tiniest vase, to a large umbrella stand, there is a wide range of prices and patterns, either plain or beautifully decorated.

Among other pretty trifles are mats made of felt with borders painted in Kensington. Daisies, golden rod, poppies and grasses are amongst the favorite designs. A very pretty one is of blue felt, with a conventional border either worked in crewels or painted in Kensington.

A very handsome yet inexpensive table scarf is made of green felt a dark shade, about five-eights of a yard in width, simply pinked on the edges, with a border of silk patchwork, about a quarter of a yard deep, at each end. The felt is cut up for a fringe.

A convenient letter rack is made by covering a square of pasteboard with either plush, satin or cretonne. Embroidered, or painted straps to resemble a pair of suspenders are fastened firmly to the top of the board, then passed through the slits made for the purpose near its lower edge. These ends of the straps are nicely finished and left hanging, and the rack suspended by a loop at the back.

A novel thermometer holder is shaped like a dustpan, covered with velvet, or plush, and decorated with Kensington and iridescent, or brocades. A bow finishes the handle.

***

ANSWERS TO INQUIRERS.

S. L. H. did not give me her full address so that I could not reply to her queries by mail, as she requested. To paint a peach its natural color, white, yellow ochre, cadmium, or chrome yellow, is needed, with a trifle ivory black, for the general tone, and for the shading raw umber, and burnt sienna. The rich red of the cheek is obtained by using madder lake, and cadmium, or chrome yellow, toned with ivory black and raw umber.

T. J. T., Kansas.—Soehnee's Retouching Varnish is the best finish for an oil painting. It should be renewed once in a while. It does not crack, or grow yellow with age, as do other varnishes.

Poppy oil is used as a medium, or what is sometimes called a vehicle for oil paints. A mixture of boiled, and raw linseed oil will do when this cannot be obtained. Is preferred by some artist's, and is less expensive than the poppy oil.

"Bertha."—Your mantle would be pretty draped with myrtle green velvet, or plush which will harmonize well with the other furniture of your room. A very pretty lambrequin may be made straight across, divided into panels, or sections with a different design in each. Gold, or green and gold fringe is a handsome finish.

L. N. L., Pa.—The principal rule to be observed in decorative work of all sorts, is the harmony of color. Colors that clash, are sure to destroy each other's value. For instance if your background is a bright scarlet, yellow would not harmonize with it, because it would give the effect of orange, just as the blending of red and yellow on your palette would produce orange. On the contrary place these same colors together on some other ground, a warm grey for instance, and they brighten and intensify one another. To illustrate still plainer. There is something painful to the eye in a design of golden rod upon cardinal satin, but put the golden rod side by side with the brilliant cardinal flower upon a ground of grey, or neutral tint, and the effect is most pleasing.

Hereafter all queries as to home furnishings, or decorative work will be answered in this column, if of interest to readers generally. To insure a prompt answer they should be sent in at an early date.

During the past six weeks I have had to answer a great many troublesome, and unnecessary queries by mail, which I would like in future to avoid, by stating plainly that the studies I offer to rent subscribers to the JOURNAL, are finished oil paintings upon canvas, and not miniature sketches, chromos, or cards. A list with names, sizes, and price of rental will be furnished if stamp is enclosed to my address.

The Purple Clematis, Water Lilies, Dogwood, etc., have all been fully described in these columns, but any further information will be cheerfully given.

I still continue my offer for subscribers. For one full subscription a decorated piece of velvet, in brocade and iridescent coloring. Five names at club rates, the same premium. For eight names club rates Kensington and brocade combined. These pieces can be used for a variety of purposes for home decoration and are novel and pretty.

☞ Money Order office, Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Post Office, Pleasant Valley, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

Lustra painting is a most attractive branch of decorative art, and, as an advantage which it possesses over needle work one can but cite the speed with which it may be accomplished, and if the worker has no talent for drawing, designs may be stamped on the fabric in the same way as for the needle. It is applicable to plush, velveteen, ribbed silk, linen and many other materials, and is used for friezes, dadoes, bracket and mantle hangings, table covers, and a great variety of smaller objects. The effect is like that of the richest applique of cloth of gold. As a method of painting it is infinitely more beautiful on plushes than oil colors, and is quicker of execution and far less expensive in material. Lustra painting is the invention of Mr. Rufus H. Bragdon, of 1155 Broadway, New York, (whose advertisement appears in this issue of the JOURNAL) which he has copyrighted and registered. To do this work it is positively necessary that only Mr. Bragdon's colors be used. There are fraudulent imitations sold by dealers which are only common bronze powders, and will surely disappoint all who try to use them. For the genuine work,—"lustra" not "luster,"—done with Bragdon's genuine colors, which are mineral and inveterably lasting, the effect is perfectly satisfactory in every sense, and will delight the student and artist.

There is no more charming employment for ladies, or more lucrative for those desiring to earn money than the learning of this new art in its perfection. Objects well decorated in Lustra find a ready sale.

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Receipts.—The fact that you receive the paper is a proof that we have received your remittance correctly. If you do not receive the paper promptly, write us that we may see that your address is correct.

Errors.—We make them; so does every one, and we will cheerfully correct them if you will write to us. Try to write us good-naturedly, but if you cannot, then write to us any way. Do not complain to any one else or let it pass. We want an early opportunity to make right any injustice that we may do.

Philadelphia, December, 1885.

CURRENT NOTES.

The best mind cure is to make up one's mind to.

If you have built air castles, put foundations under them.

This number is enlarged to 16 pages to accommodate our premium list.

A Boston woman who invented a corset has made $50,000 in three years.

Promises made in the time of affliction, require a better memory than people commonly possess.

Colds are more frequently the results of overeating and a disordered digestion than of exposure.

A man who, sometime ago, married "an angel" says it is about as complete a faith cure as anything he has heard of.

In walking, the weaker of two persons takes the arm of the stronger. This is why dudes always take ladies' arms.

Men of genius are often dull and inert in society; as the blazing meteor, when it descends to the earth, is only a stone.

Chicago Socialists drank 300 kegs of beer at a public picnic where a conspicuous motto was "Our Children Cry for Bread."

The JOURNAL for 1886 will contain not less than 12 pages, same as last month, cut, pasted, and trimmed, and the price kept at 25 cents per year in clubs of four or more.

The antiquated cups and saucers are no longer in the demand which constitutes a "craze," but old silver to decorate the five o'clock tea-table has become the object of search by the fashionable public.

Miss Cleveland writes to a friend in Washington that she has been paid $7,250 thus far as her share of the profits upon her book. The sale keeps up fairly well, and her profits will aggregate not less than $35,000.

A well-known English clergyman, who had preached, one morning, in a magnificent New York church, watched the congregation defiling out of the aisles.

"Do American ladies, then, go to some place of amusement after church?" he asked. "They are dressed for the theater."

☞ If you cannot raise a club yourself, have you not a son, daughter, niece, nephew, or grandchild, who would be glad to earn for themselves some of the premiums we offer? Boys and girls make the best of club raisers, and easily secure large clubs with but little effort, at the extremely low price for the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL—only 25 cents per year.

If you are so situated that you cannot secure a small club, we suggest that you send us fifty cents extra with your own renewal, thus sending us an even dollar bill, which as per club rates will entitle you to four yearly subscriptions, and a premium. You make a present of a yearly subscription to three of your friends, and thus get a premium worth $1.00 and your subscription for only fifty cents more than your own single subscription would cost.

☞ 100,000 SUBSCRIBERS.

One year ago, we closed our first year, with 25,000 actual paid subscribers, and six months later, last July, we had 50,000. Just doubled in six months. In our August number we said "Can we double it again in six months? We can with your help,—not without it."

Our friends have given us a generous and hearty support and enabled us to close our second year with a full hundred thousand paid subscribers. Now, dear readers, can you accomplish for us the object of our present desire—A CIRCULATION OF 200,000 COPIES.

With such a constituency how important and responsible are the duties laid upon us! We desire to discharge these duties honestly, honorably and conscientiously, and we shall be glad at any time to receive aid from any of our subscribers to this end.

We enclose a club blank with the request that you kindly send it back well filled with new subscribers. There need be no trouble in filling it if you will, but tell your neighbors what a helpful little gem the JOURNAL is, for only twenty-five cents a year.

SCRIBBLER'S LETTERS TO GUSTAVUS.

NO. V.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

The day I received your last letter, Gustavus, I also received one from Julia.

That poor woman must have been pretty hard pushed before she wrote to me, for women are much less apt to talk of their husband's faults than men of their wives. It may be a species of pride and vanity; I'll deny that; it may arise from the feeling that they would rather nobody should know that they had not been wise enough to see all this before they were married, and thus save themselves from having to put up with it. Whatever the cause, the effect is the same. To answer your letter I shall quote to you Julia's letter to me, or some of it:

"Oh, cousin Scribbler," she writes, I wish you'd give me some advice. Gustavus just thinks I'm awful, I know he does. But just let me explain. The baby is teething now, you know, and I do get so tired holding him, and so hot and hoarse singing to him; and if I'm up half the night with him and walking half the next day I'm just good for nothing by the time the next night comes. So, for the last few days, I've just felt I didn't care how I looked, and when Gustavus came in at night I must confess I hadn't even had my dress changed; but, indeed, I hardly have time to comb my hair and clean my teeth, though I do struggle religiously every day. Well, Gustavus didn't say anything, he only looked, but I pretended not to see, I don't suppose I even cared so much as I ought to have done, but I was so dead tired, Cousin Scribbler, I have felt for three days as if there was but one thing in the world I wanted—to go to sleep and never wake up.

But this afternoon things came to a climax. Last night baby was just awful, and, as Gustavus says he can't afford to lose his sleep because he has to be at the store the next day, and that I can make mine up through the day, he went up into the third story and slept, away from the noise. Well, breakfast time came, and oh, Cousin Scribbler, I did want to sleep, for baby was real quiet then.

You don't know anything about it, but this tired feeling is dreadful. (She's wrong there, Gustavus, for once upon a time, when you were a cantankerous teething infant of six months, I was wild enough to offer to keep you all night when your mother went home to see her sick father. I think I slept for pretty nearly a week after that experience). Gustavus don't like it though, if I don't come down and pour out his coffee, so I come. I don't presume I looked very fresh. Then, after he was gone, Mary burned her hand, and, as it was ironing day, and Gustavus would want a clean pair of white pantaloons, I had to iron them. (The other two pairs in wash I left for another day). When five o'clock came I had the baby just nicely asleep again, in for a good long nap, I thought, and I was just going to take a little nap myself, when who should come in but Gustavus, an hour earlier than I expected him. I do love Gustavus, indeed I do, but I did wish he hadn't come so soon. So he took off his coat, put on his wrapper and slippers, and then what do you think he did? Waked baby up to have a romp with her! Cousin Scribbler it was very foolish, I know, but I cried. I just couldn't help it, my nerves were all unstrung, and I knew in fifteen minutes she'd fret again, poor little soul, and I'd have it all to go over again. Gustavus didn't say much, except, 'Julia, my dear (in the most cutting way), if you only knew how exceedingly unbecoming it is to you to cry, you'd stop it. It might have been comparatively becoming to you when you were younger and fresher,' and then he added, in an injured tone, 'what you're crying for, I can't see. I think it a great pity a man can't enjoy his child's society a little while, (that was the trouble, he would enjoy it such a little while) without causing a rumpus in the family. I'm sure, goodness knows, I see little enough of her, away at business as I am all day (if he only could keep awake at night he'd see plenty of her) and, besides this is the time of day for her to be out, when it is nice and cool.' So I didn't say anything, I found it wasn't any use. But thoroughly disheartened, I got ready for dinner. My crowning iniquity was in the evening.

Gustavus has been called upon to make a speech on the Fourth of July, and, while he was reading it to me I actually went to sleep. Indeed I couldn't help it. He was so angry, and talked about a man staying at home and trying to make himself agreeable, and finding very poor encouragement, etc., and so on, till I was utterly wretched. What shall I do?"

There now, Gustavus, that's all I'm going to quote. I shall write to her and tell her one thing though, I think, and that is when things go wrong not to cry (there were several big tear splashes on the paper when I received it) but to whistle and swear a little and see if that is any relief.

Men seem to extract an immense amount of comfort out of it. Now see here, Gustavus, what you do the first thing when you come home! Put on your wrapper and slippers (don't you!) nicely adjust your balance on the two hind legs of your chair, seize the newspaper and place your feet on the mantelpiece. You're very tired, no doubt, and all this rests you. But when Julia is tired at the end of the day what do you expect her to do—assume a fatigue suit like you and place her small slippers beside your small ones upon the mantelpiece? Not much. You expect her to starch herself up in her good clothes and sit beside you decorously on a chair. I don't deny that Julia has grown a little careless in her personal appearance, more than is exactly warrantable under the circumstances, and I shall tell her so; but a baby crawling from arm to arm and pulling at one's hair and stuffing one's ribbon in its mouth, does dislocate one's habits of neatness dreadfully, to say nothing of spoiling one's good clothes. I must say I quite agree with Julia in her liking for print dresses, there is nothing more suitable to take care of a baby in—and as you won't let her wear a large white apron ("too much like a nurse," you say, and pray isn't she your nurse? Provide another one for her and I dare say she will willingly hand over the aprons to the substitute) her nice clothes would soon be one perfect mess. Why, I saw that baby of yours pick up a corner of her mother's green silk overdress one day and stuff a whole handful of it in her mouth, to the ruination of the dress and the imminent danger of poisoning herself. She might have chewed calico until she was black in the face and it would not have permanently injured her or the dress either. And remember this, that though your mother brought up three or four little children without any nurse, she had an old maid sister or two to help; beside, your father, who always shared the care of the children, because he maintained that a woman had to work just as hard as a man, and needed just as much sleep. You see he'd been at home a good deal and saw just how things work; for your grandfather, Gustavus, was a good deal such a man as you are, and he not only "allowed it was woman's place to take care of the children" but allowed them to do so, and your father was a great help to your grandmother—he was an older son and felt and knew all his mother had to contend with. I think when you take your month's vacation, Gustavus, if you'll keep your eyes open to see what Julia really has to accomplish, and your ears open to hear how often that baby cries for its mother, and your hand open to pay for such outside service as Julia needs, and you can afford, and your heart and mouth open to feed and say pleasant words whenever you can, you will have spent the best month of your life.

Remember that there is a kindness which speaks in words that pour a blessed balm on many a bruise given by contact with the hard world. There is a kindness not expressed in bread and butter and shoes. Any man, if he be anything of a man, provides food and raiment for his household, but they don't all provide loving words, the tender smiles of conversation absolutely necessary to a hungry heart, and when a heart dies of hunger, Gustavus, it does it so quietly that no one but its owner knows it is dead. But it is dead, all the same, and like any other dead thing, it can never be revived by offering the food which was withheld till too late.

SCRIBBLER.

P. S. I forgot to give you a piece of information. It takes nearly an hour to iron one pair of nice white pantaloons, can you calculate what time it takes to iron three? and after you have calculated so much, can you imagine how much time there is left in the morning to iron the baby's clothes and the rest of the general wash, and can you not form some idea as to why Julia gave up wearing white dresses, much to your displeasure. Don't you see that by the time your three pairs of pantaloons are ironed and Julia's two dresses (for she can't get along with less than two with the baby crawling all over her) ironing day is pretty well filled. I think if I were you I'd send my white pants to the laundry to be done up, and, if I wanted to be particularly generous, I'd insist on Julia's doing the same thing with her dresses.

THE FAULT-FINDER.

Why should an old woman say she is too old to learn. That is a ridiculous statement. No woman can ever "know it all."

What in the world do you want to live in the kitchen for? Fix up your sitting-room and get away from the stove awhile.

Why do you always figure on a money basis in speaking of improvement or other farm interests? There is something besides money in it. You can get more good for yourself out of a better looking home and farm than most people ever can get out of a mile of "art gallery."

You ought to be ashamed of yourself to sell that faithful old horse that has been like a member of the family so long. They will probably wear his life out on the stage. Of course, he hasn't got much speed, but he has been a good friend. Do you want people to get rid of you when your usefulness goes?

The ordinary house-cleaning is an era of bad meals, ill temper and general inconvenience. It puts the whole family out of joint for a week. Can't you have the cleanings more frequent and less violent?

Don't expect too much of that boy. "An old head on young shoulders," is an abnormal development of brain. You don't want any monstrosities in your family.

I read in a paper recently that bloody milk is due to a disorganized condition of liver. Don't be too sure of that. A kick from a hired man's boot will produce it, too.

Don't try to kill rats with "Rough on Rats," or any other poison; these mixtures all contain arsenic. Get a good cat and let it earn its own living.

THE DANGERS OF FLIRTING.

Whatever idea the young girls who practice street flirting may entertain of their seemingly innocent pastime, it may be set down as a certainty that when a respectable young man desires the acquaintance of one who may some day become his wife, he does not go out on the street and seek her acquaintance through a flirtation. But, on the other hand, the flirt of the street, no matter how innocent and fair her intentions may be, is the last person he would seek as his life's companion. The young lady who engages in this kind of pastime should bear in mind that she not only endangers her reputation and leaves a stain upon her good name, but that her name is a byword among those with whom she flirts, to be bandied about on the street corners, fastening on her otherwise fair name a stigma or stain that will follow her years after she sees her folly and attempts to mend her ways.

CIRCUMSTANCES ALTER CASES.

Not long ago as an elderly couple were out walking, a lady on the opposite side of the street tripped and fell down. The old gentleman rushed across the street, raised his hat and offered to assist her in any possible way. His wife followed him across at a slow pace, and witnessing his devotion to the stranger, she got mad, and shook her fist at him.

"It's all right—it's all right," he whispered.

"Yes, I know it is," she hotly exclaimed: "here an unknown woman hurts her toe, and you plow across the street to eat her up with kindness. The other day when I fell down stairs, you stood and laughed and wanted to know if I was practising for a circus."

MARRIAGES—OLD FOOLS.

"If marriage is good for the young," says the Chicago Herald, "it is good for the old."

Accordingly, that journal protests against the prevailing disposition of people who make fun of old men who marry, and bespeaks for them admiration instead of ridicule arguing that the capacity for affection grows rather than diminishes with advancing years.

If old men would only be content to marry women of middle age, there would not be so much criticism of their conduct. The world, however, has never been satisfied to see December wedded to May. People always have talked and always will talk when a man chooses a bride young enough to be his daughter.

The more you say, the less people remember.

CORRESPONDENCE.

M. H. P.—We have not the space to devote to exchanges.—[ED.

VERY MANY READERS:—We do not recommend the Hudson Manufacturing Co.

Mrs. John Cleverley can use the sulphur without any fear of injuring the furniture.

Nellie Lincoln Rossiter, New Lisbon, N. J., will be pleased to answer all questions on silk culture.

"Brownie."—Next Feb. 14 hang a healthy female bird in room for a few days with male, then put them together, rest depends upon mutual fancy.

BUFFALO.

"Jessie Farrar, Carthage" asks for back numbers of L. H. J. from August 1884 through August 1885. If she will tell the sisters what State she resides in some one may be able to grant her request.

For bee stings Mrs. Nettie Hays recommends the following: Take a cabbage leaf and bind the under side of it on the wound. As it gets heated apply a cool fresh leaf, and the cure is effected in a few minutes.

DEAR EDITRESS:—If any of the readers chickens are troubled with lice, grease them. Close the hen house, set a pail of live coals in, and sprinkle sulphur over them. Give a good smoking.

GRANGER, IND. MRS. J. T. L.

"Blue Eyes" wants a remedy for a troublesome corn—something to permanently remove it. Also something to take off the tan from her face.

The editress would advise her to let the healthy brown look wear off, and never trouble any of the many advertised cosmetics that only injure the complexion.

Bessie Wood:—If your friend has ability he must succeed in time—but until he is sufficiently established to earn a comfortable living—do not marry. Remember love alone is not very filling—though it may help digest the nourishing food his active brain and your willing hands may provide. Are you willing to deny yourself the many things his present scanty means cannot supply? After all you must answer your own question.

DEAR EDITRESS:—In the September number I offered to send a sample of feather-edge braid collar on receipt of stamp, meaning those who had tried my directions in the March number without success. I have received numerous letters requesting samples, and most of them have not even seen the original directions. I shall be obliged to withdraw that offer now, as I have commenced my school duties and have not time to make any more samples.

Yours respectfully, ANNIE BELLE.

BUFFALO, Sept 15, 1885.

"Pearl, of Silverton, Col."—If your wheezing canary has not sung since moulting, such has been produced by taking cold hanging in a draft. Birds condition at such time similar to a person having measles, pores open. Give your bird flaxseed pounded if he will not crack such, and a drop of linseed oil every day, also a lump of sugar with a few drops of wine, plenty of sun but not too warm a room from fire. Hope he bathes every day. The wheezing (asthma) is a bad sympton.

EDITRESS HOME JOURNAL:—Tell "Louie" who asks in the Oct. JOURNAL about removing black heads to get ten cents worth of gum benzoin from a druggist, put it in a pint of alcohol, and when it is dissolved add about a tablespoonful to the water she washes her face in, rub with towel quite hard, and at night put cold cream on her face, and her black heads will all disappear. But never under any circumstances try to squeeze them out, it ruins the skin. The above remedy was given to a friend by a noted physician, and can not injure the skin in any way. A great many ladies use it as a toilet wash on general principles, it preserves and freshens the skin.

SUBSCRIBER.

FREEHOLD, N. J., Oct., 19th, '85.

EDITRESS OF LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Dear Madam.—When making formal calls and some of the family receive you at the door, is it etiquette when leaving to leave your visiting card, or does custom differ? Please answer, and oblige an old subscriber. E.

[Etiquette is but polite custom, and as this varies in different places, we can give you no general rule. Many people when leaving do quietly lay their card in a conspicuous place where you will not fail to see it if admitted to your house by a member of the family with whom they were acquainted.—ED.]

ART P. O., IND.

DEAR JOURNAL:—You have been visiting me now for nearly a year, and really I do not know how I could possibly get along without you, and now I come to you for the first time for a little information.

Will some of the good JOURNAL sisters tell me how to prevent ferns and autumn leaves from curling up when pressed and made into bouquets? I have tried several times but they always curl up and do not look pretty.

I have some ribbons and silk ties which would do for patchwork but are soiled by my hair. How can I cleanse them without injury to the fabric? M. H. P.

[Silk ribbons can be satisfactorily cleansed by washing if care is taken to lay a clean cloth over the ribbon while ironing.—EDITRESS.]

MARYVILLE, MO., Oct., 15, '85.

EDITRESS HOME JOURNAL:—I would like to ask some of the sisters to tell me where I can obtain the full size designs for stamping so I can copy them, and can they give directions so I can enlarge the small ones to the proper size; there must be some way; a pantograph is not satisfactory. I would like the instructions for landscape painting and also painting on china. Has it been given in the back numbers, and, if so, how can I obtain them? I just commenced to take the JOURNAL. Have any of the sisters with little children ever tried knitting the foot part of the stocking the usual way up to the shoe top and then making the top of it star stitch (though I make it different from description in last number, it makes a closer stitch). I find them prettier, quicker done, takes less material, and when worn over the knee can be ravelled down, and knit over in less time than darned, and I think looks better. I am sure you will like it.

MRS. M. B. COOPER.

[Any enquiry you may wish to make concerning painting, should be addressed to Miss Lida Clarkson, Pleasant Valley, Dutchess Co., N. Y.—ED. JOURNAL.]

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THE PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER

DOMESTIC JOURNALISMS.

HINTS FOR HOUSEKEEPERS, CONTRIBUTED BY JOURNAL SISTERS.

Sprinkle every day places infested by ants with powdered boxax and you will soon be rid of them.
Respectfully, LAUREL.

ED. LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.—Will some of the ladies please send recipes for making lemon pie without cooking the custard first, and how to make a clear icing that looks like ice more than frosting, and oblige a SUBSCRIBER.

M. S. finds the following an excellent method for washing flannels and blankets. Soak the pieces to be washed in a pail of water containing one tablespoonful of household ammonia and one-fourth the usual amount of soap. Rub as little as possible, and the flannels will have a very white look and will not have suffered any shrinking.

Cistern water may be purified by charcoal put in a bag and hung in water.

Coffee cake should be wrapped, while warm, in a napkin, and there remain till cut.

Whiting or ammonia in the water is preferable to soap for cleaning windows or paint.

Powdered rice, sprinkled upon lint and applied to fresh wounds, will stop bleeding.

In paring fruit for canning, use a silver knife, so that the fruit may not turn dark colored.

Buy bar soap by the quantity. Keep it where it will dry, and it will go much farther in using.

Prick potatoes before baking, so that the air may escape; otherwise they may burst in the oven.

Hot, dry flannels applied to the face and neck, is a very effective remedy for a "jumping toothache."

Brass utensils are often ruined because the salt and vinegar, necessary to their perfect cleansing, are forgotten.

Fruit or rust stains on table linen or other white cloths may be removed by soaking in a weak solution of oxalic acid.

Very nice jelly can be made from rhubarb, used the same as crab-apples; one jelly can hardly be distinguished from the other.

That the most effectual remedy for slimy and greasy drain pipes is copperas dissolved and left to work gradually through the pipe.

No kitchen should be without scales to test the integrity of things purchased by weight, and to measure the quantities of various recipes.

Lamp chimneys are easily cleaned by holding them over the steam from a teakettle, then rubbing with a soft cloth and finally polishing with paper.

Plaster of Paris ornaments may be cleaned by covering them with a thick layer of starch, letting it dry throughly and then brushing with a stiff brush.

It is a good plan to wrap cans of fruit in newspapers and put them away in a dark, cool place. The wrapping in paper and keeping dark is said to prevent the bleaching of the fruit.

Tin vessels rust and are often worthless, in a few weeks, because, after washing, they are not set on the stove for a moment, or in the sun, to dry thoroughly before they are put away.

A useful present for a wakeful invalid is a soft silken bag filled with pine cones or pine needles, the latter however needs replenishing occasionally. They can be embroidered with appropriate mottoes.

Old garments that may be utilized in a hundred ways, for rugs, linings, cushions and the like, are sometimes rendered worthless because, when no longer fit for wear, they are not ripped to pieces, brushed and put away.

Tender feet may be hardened, it is said, by rubbing common hard soap on the inside of the socks, once or twice a week. Perfect cleanliness and frequent changing of the stockings will improve the condition of the feet in every respect.

A dark and gloomy room may be brightened by placing ebonized shelves over the doors and windows, grouping scarlet, yellow or gilded fans upon the walls, and placing pretty bric-a-brac and vases in positions where they will be brought into relief by the cheerful back-ground.

WALL POCKET.

This is a design for a wall pocket, in which to keep the board on which shirt bosoms are ironed. On the outside are pockets for holders, ironing-stands, etc., so you will always know where to find them, and not have to unroll the ironing blanket every time you want them. The flap at the top will keep the dust out, and it can be hung against the wall, or inside a closet door. It will be rather ornamental if made, say, of gray drilling, and bound with scarlet worsted braid. The pockets can have fulness by laying a pleat at the bottom, and by a casing near the top through which the braid is run, and tied on the outside.

(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

AROUND THE HOUSE.

Faded and worn ingrain carpets can be utilized in a variety of ways, as the needs of the economical housewife shall suggest.

Two long, faded breadths that had lain for years, folded and thrown over the barrel of dried apples in our garret, was recently brought down, well dusted, and then cut into lengths as long as the frayed portions of the old carpet would allow, affording a number of short rugs, very much faded but still firm in texture.

These we washed and then dyed green, using two packages of diamond dyes. When dried and pressed, the pretty green rugs covered with rich looking scrolls and flowers in black and shades of green would not have been recognized as once belonging to that dusty heap of rags that had lain so long under the attic's eaves.

But these little rugs were so flimsy they would easily be displaced by tripping feet, so they were lined with rag carpeting cut from breadths of an old carpet that repeated washings had fulled into a lining almost as heavy and firm as a braided mat—lining and ingrain rug being tacked together, as one tacks a comforter, with bright colored yarns.

We find these little rugs nearly as serviceable as those that are braided or drawn, and very convenient to use as door mats and to spread over the floor where sunlight and wear threatens to damage our carpets.

A roll of black, heavy, fulled cloth that had lain for ten years in a corner of the camphor chest, because it was so full of shoddy it was worthless for patches, and only given house room because of the hope it might "sometime be good for something," found its niche of usefulness, at last, in being converted into strips of fringe, two and a-half inches wide and sewed around three edges of the longest of the remnants, for a serviceable and pretty hearth rug.

When picking over rice, we have twice planted the tiny little black seeds found in it, which closely resemble and we have called pink seed. But those planted—unless I am very much deceived—have produced, in each instance, bona fide sensitive plants. Who can tell us more about it?

Each of us has our own way of doing work, whether that be turning a seam or turning a fritter. But to have one's beans come from the oven tender, plump, whole,—not mashed or split—I know of but one way, and that is to swell the beans over night in cold water; in the morning, parboil until their skins split under a strong breath, then drain and plunge them into a generous quantity of cold water which makes them tender, mealy and whole, even when baked steadily ten hours, as they should be, before serving.

The past few summers we have been pestered with little red ants, little black ants, big black ants and an army of meal bugs, pests that are indigenous to old houses. In spite of care, close fitting covers, chalk marks and papers tightly drawn over the tops of stone jars, maple syrup cans and the sugar bucket, each visit to the same would discover and startle a colony of ants, big or little, that would pretend to be in frantic haste to quit possession.

This season, I have foiled them all, bug and ant and beetle, and "hoist" tells how it has been accomplished.

The syrup can swings from a big beam in the cellar, as easy of access as though it rested on terra firma; the sweet pickle jar—ditto, the sugar bucket—ditto, the cake box—ditto. And the meal bug? Well, the meal bug, up stairs, has to be tolerated to some extent, though a shallow, bottomless box or screen made of mosquito wire netting, just a bit narrower than the shelves on which it is to rest, and long enough to cover a goodly row of pies, is a capital invention with which to protect them from marauders, excepting from those big ones that can open and shut the pantry door themselves.

How fast the arms of little people lengthen! Very few of their tires and dresses but that the sleeves must be changed before the garment is outgrown or outworn.

It is well to make allowance for growth when making sleeves, either by a tuck whose edge is concealed under or at edge of trimming, or by turning in at arm pit. But, in either case, the goods when faded, plainly show where the thrifty seamstress has "let down" the sleeve.

For gingham dresses that will wear but fade, try turning a deep hem at wrist, edging it with pretty colored braid. Now turn back this hem like a curving cuff—a stitch or two will hold it in place—till the little arm needs the additional length of sleeve.

If one's stove and ironing holders are alike, they are likely to get mixed by careless help, and smooches on freshly ironed clothes is the natural consequence.

Somewhere, I read, "Utilize the tops of your old leather boots in making ironing holders," and we find them worth saving for this purpose. The squares of leather are non-conductors of heat and by covering them with several thicknesses of white cloth, you can have a fresh, clean holder as often as you care to wash this outside covering.

North, or south, or east, or west of most farm houses, and of some village homes where there is room,—may be seen four or six tall, weather-beaten posts leaning toward or from each other like gaunt, sleepy sentinels. Clothes-line posts, of course, between which the family wash is stretched each week on hempen cords which the careful housewife will see are taken indoors with each wash to prevent decay of ropes and mildew stains on clothes.

But nearer the house, perhaps stretching from corner of ell to the towering post of the well sweep, is a shorter line on which dish towels, cheese cloths and milk strainers are hung each day to dry and grow sweet if they can; a line that stays out in all weathers, through frost and heat and snow, and sometimes it snaps with the tautness of long rains and the weight of small boys, and sometimes it hangs so loosely that bed clothing hung thereon to air, switches back and forth over the mud and grass beneath, long, dingy streaks marking where they have met, and another where the blankets have worn on the dirty line. How much better every way to use wire lines that will not rust with dampness, or snap with frost and heavy weight, or stain clothing though it remains outdoors as does ours from year to year. This line is made of many twisted wires, where and by whom I cannot tell. Manufacturers of such a wire would do well to advertise in our JOURNAL.

Once I called with a friend upon a sick person whose nerves had become so painfully acute through suffering that noise tortured her.

A screen door opened from her room into the hall, and as callers or members of the family passed in and out, a quick, sharp slam of this door followed close on their egress or ingress. The torture of the noise sent a spasm of pain across the sick woman's face, but she bore it uncomplainingly, thinking it more endurable than flies and mosquitoes, and no one had noticed or thought to lessen this annoyance, until my friend's kind heart and quick eye prompted and planned a remedy. She called for tacks and cotton batting, and making firm, little cushions of the batting, she tacked them up and down the casing where the door would strike, and the sharp slam-bang was instantly softened as the door swung to. The grateful language and glance of the sick woman made me wish that I, too, had eyes that could see ways to be helpful toward others. JOHN'S WIFE.

(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

BRIGHT IDEAS.

Original with me? Bless you, no, my talent lies in the way of being a good listener and in carefully weighing ideas presented by others and then rejecting them or adopting them, according to their weight with me.

"Why do you not use these luscious sweet apples in place of raisins or currants in your cake?" was a friend's suggestion that put me on the track of filling batter for gingerbread and cake with pared sweet apples, cut in long, thin sections. Fruit so prepared, resembles candied citron in cake, and loaves disappear only too fast.

This is the recipe I use for old-fashioned, everyday gingerbread:

1 pint molasses,
1 " rich buttermilk,
½ cup shortening,
2 eggs,
1 quart cut apple,
2 large teaspoonfuls of soda,
½ teaspoonful of ginger, same of cassia,
Flour to make a smooth batter,
Bake in three loaves.

A short time ago I read in a woman's magazine a chapter on bags. Several columns devoted to shoe bags, bundle bags, scrap bags, string bags, and herb and lint bags, but nary a word did she say about cabbage and bean, meat and fish bags, without which I should be loth to keep house.

Our cabbage net I crocheted from stout linen thread. Salt bags of strong pure linen that come to us from across the ocean, when emptied, make convenient and serviceable bags in which to cook cranberry beans, fresh fish and meats. They are not transferable, for beans discolor and a fishy odor is hard to eradicate. I have seen cooks drop a chunk of halibut with no swathe about it into the boiling dinner pot from which it could be dished only in an unappetizing bony mush. How much better to keep the fish compact and firm by pinning it in a bag before boiling or steaming. When done carefully drain, and then dexterously slip the fish, a flaky, unmushed, delicious block upon its waiting platter.

Sometimes one has flank and thin pieces of meat that can be rolled, tied firmly and dropped into the meat bag to insure its keeping in place when cooking. These solid rolls of meat, when cold, furnish tempting, circular slices for the tea table.

How is it with your wire screens for doors and windows when they are stored for the winter? Are they put away dusty and fly specked, or have you learned with me to put such screens out in a smart shower till they are thoroughly cleansed, then carefully dried before storing to prevent rust gathering.

LAUNDRY LESSONS.

Before beginning to wash, all the bed linen and underclothing should be placed by themselves, the table linen and tea towels put in another pile, the flannels treated similarly, while colored clothes should be laid aside until last. Stains of all kinds on clothes should be washed out before they are laid aside for the regular wash. Spots on table linen usually yield readily to soap and warm water; wine stains should be covered with salt, wet, and rinsed out; fruit stains may be removed by pouring boiling water over them before they are wet; coal oil and common baking soda mixed in equal parts will have the same effect. To remove ink stains dip the part in hot tallow, or wash in new milk. If clothes are iron molded, use oxalic acid, which will also remove mildew. Paint can be washed from any article by rubbing with lard and then washing.

As to the time clothes should be boiled a great difference of opinion exists. Some very excellent authorities on the subject condemn the practice, and advise scalding instead; if boiled, it should only be for ten or fifteen minutes, as long boiling is sure to discolor clothes; after they are scalded or boiled add blue water and wash clean through the suds, then rinse through plenty of clear cold water, before taking through the process of bluing, then wring as dry as possible; and this is one of the most important operations of the work, as clothes with the water left in them will be streaked and yellow. There are now so many excellent wringers that every family should be supplied with one; but if clothes are wrung by hand, they should be gathered in a twist evenly, and then wrung with a gentle squeezing motion until the water is all extracted. As soon as wrung, all garments should be at once shaken from their folds and hung out to dry.

Colored prints and muslins require very careful washing in two soapy waters (no soap being rubbed on them), and rinsing in clear cold water. In washing colored articles there are a great number of ways by which the color may be preserved in such as are liable to fade. For buffs, grays, or any delicate colors, a tablespoonful of black pepper to a bucket of water will set the color. If boiled in vinegar, black cotton goods will never lose their freshness. Ox gall is also excellent to preserve colors, and is particularly useful in washing delicate tinted stockings. All colored goods should be hung in the shade to dry.

Merino, woolen, and silk underclothes and stockings are very easily spoiled in washing. None but the best soap should be used, and it should be dissolved in hot water. Do not rub the woolen clothes, but cleanse them by drawing them through the hands in and out of the suds. Rubbing shrinks and injures them. When clean, wring from the suds and rinse in warm, soapy, blue water, stretch into shape and hang out immediately. Woolen and silk goods should never be washed on a stormy or cloudy day.—Good Housekeeping.

A fresh coat of paint in a room will do more towards making it clean and tidy than all the scrubbing and cleaning that a woman's hands can give it.

If your fruit pies boil over, roll up a small tube of white paper and insert it in the hole in the upper crust. The juice will boil up in this, and not run over into the oven.

The Cheapest and the Best.

WHEAT BAKING POWDER.

TRADE MARK

PURE and WHOLESOME.

It contains no injurious ingredients.
It leaves no deleterious substances in the bread as all pure grape Cream of Tartar and Alum powders do.
It restores to the flour the highly important constituents rejected in the bran of the wheat.
It makes a better and lighter biscuit than any other baking powder.

MARTIN KALBFLEISCH'S SONS,
NEW YORK.

BRIDGE'S FOOD FOR INFANTS AND INVALIDS

Not only to the sufferer wasted by disease does Bridge's Food supplement the proper medicine and bring back strength and comfort, but the delicate mother will find in its daily use just what is needed to check and supplement the drain made on nature's forces. Try it mothers, and be convinced. Recipes to suit different tastes accompany each can. It does not tax the digestive organs, but is strengthening to both invalids and children. Sold by Druggists. Sic. up. WOOLRICH & CO., on label

CLUB ORDERS

Since September, 1877, we have made a specialty of offering Premiums to those who get up Clubs for our goods, or order in large quantities.

After a careful estimate, we find that during 1884 we have received from our advertisement in the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, over 500 replies asking for our circulars, and have sent to the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL readers over $11,000 worth of Tea and Coffee; more than one-half coming from those who have repeated their order two and three times.

We import and buy directly from the manufacturers all the goods we handle, and have abundant capital to do with, and do the largest Tea and Coffee business in Boston.

We keep in stock every variety of Tea known, and at all prices.

We have a very large list of premiums, a very few of which we quote below.

With a $5.00 order we send a Silver-plated Castor, or silver-plated Sauce Dish.

With a $10.00 order, English China Tea Set of 15 pieces, or Chamber Toilette Set of 10 pieces.

With a $20.00 order, French China Gold Band Tea Set, or Moss Rose Gold Band China Tea Set of 44 pieces or an English China Dinner Set of 336 pieces.

With a $25.00 order, Gold-Band Tea Set of 56 pieces or a Waltham watch, Solid Silver cases, or an English China Decorated Dinner Set of 124 pieces.

We have a great many unsolicited testimonials like the following.

DALLAS, TEX.

GREAT LONDON TEA CO., Boston, Mass.

Gentlemen:—My wife desires me to write you acknowledging the receipt of the Tea ordered from you, and the handsome Tea Set (Moss rose) and Engraved Goblets, all of which give the best of satisfaction; in fact she says she was agreeably surprised to find them so nice.

The tea is said to be the best by all the ladies who ordered. Not one thing was broken, and everything was as represented in your circulars. Thanking you for your prompt attention in filling the order, and for the premiums, I am, very respectfully,
ALBERT N. MANN.

BATTLE CREEK, MICH.

Gentlemen:—My tea and dishes arrived safely the 29th. Many thanks. My customers are delighted with the tea. Hoping to have large orders soon. Very respectfully,
MISS NELLIE SANDFORD.

NORTH NEWRY, ME.

GREAT LONDON TEA CO.,

Sirs:—My barrel and decorated dinner set came in fine time, not a dish was broken. Tea proved good as far as I can learn. Accept thanks for premium with which I am well pleased.
MRS. J. B. LITTLEHALE.

LONDON TEA CO.,

Gentlemen:—Enclosed I send a Twenty-eight dollar order for tea and coffee, which entitles me to a $25.00 premium. Please send me the English Porcelain Stone China dinner set of 130 pieces. Since I got up my first club over a year ago, there has been over twenty-two clubs sent from this place, mine being the first; that will show you how well your tea and coffee is liked in this neighborhood. Gratefully yours,
MRS. F. A. WARNER.
Mt. Carmel, Conn.

GREAT LONDON TEA CO.,

Gentlemen:—I received my tea and tea set safely some time since. I would have acknowledged sooner had I been at home. The tea has given perfect satisfaction and I am delighted with the handsome gold band Tea Set sent as a premium. I feel amply repaid for my trouble in getting up the club. Accept my thanks for premium and prompt attention. I will assure you of my recommendation to friends, and will get up another club soon. With my best wishes for your continued success, I remain very respectfully,
LILLIE PHILLIPS.
COLUMBUS, MISS.

LONDON TEA CO.,

Sirs:—Please accept my thanks for the beautiful and useful premium which I received with my $30.00 order yesterday. The set is just what I wanted. I hope soon to send an order for one of your beautiful hanging lamps, or a parlor lamp. The teas are delightful. I shall recommend them to all my friends. Respectfully,
MRS. E. B. WARDELL.
MANCHESTER, N. H.

Dear Sirs:—The barrel containing tea, coffee and dishes is here. Everything all right and in good condition. The decorated set is very much better than I expected. I am more than pleased, I am delighted. Many, many thanks for the good and useful premium.
Respectfully, MRS. WM. PURDY.
BELMONT, N. H.

LONDON TEA CO.,

I received your tea and dinner set all right. Nothing cracked or broken. Am very much pleased with both tea and dinner set. Yours, truly,
MRS. MYRTIE BICKFORD.

It would please us to increase our acquaintance with the readers of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL during the next year, and to all who will send us their address upon a postal, plainly written, we will send our full Illustrated Price and Premium List. As to our reliability we are pleased to refer to Publishers of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

GREAT LONDON TEA CO.,
801 Washington St., Boston.

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HOME COOKING.

ORIGINAL RECIPES CONTRIBUTED BY THE JOURNAL SISTERS.

MRS. OLMSTEAD:—To make mint sauce, strip the leaves from fresh or dried spearmint, and chop or cut them up fine. Add a little salt, a large teaspoonful powdered sugar, and a teacupful of vinegar. When the sugar and salt are dissolved pour them over the mint some time before it is wanted, in order to draw out the strength. If the vinegar is strong, dilute it with water. Serve upon the lamb.

CONSTANT READER asks for recipes for tomato catsup, and pickled peaches. She will find the following excellent. For tomato catsup, wash and slice fully ripe tomatoes, cook until soft, rub through a colander or sieve. To four quarts of tomatoes add one pint of vinegar, one tablespoonful of salt, red pepper, mustard, and cinnamon to taste; boil down over slow fire until thick enough to bottle. It will be thicker when cold.

To pickle peaches stick 3 or 4 cloves in each peach, steam until tender, lay in jar and cover with hot syrup made with one quart of sugar and one pint of vinegar to one gallon of fruit. Put in small bag of cinnamon and boil hard for thirty minutes, skimming until clear. Seal in glass jars while hot, and keep like other fruit.

MRS. M. MCO.

ANNA MAY'S RECIPE FOR BOILED ICING:—Take 1 cup of sugar, (white) 2 tablespoonfuls of water, put in a pan and set on the stove and boil it till it will spin a thread, or by dropping a little in cold water, if it hardens it is done; do not stir while boiling. Have the white of one egg beaten to a stiff froth, pour the boiling syrup on it, slowly at first and faster at last till it is all used up; don't stop beating from the time you commence until it is almost cool—the harder the better, add 1 teaspoonful of flavoring just after the syrup is all poured on. A delicate cake is a white cake baked in layers and the layers spread with this icing, and the top and sides iced with it, the cake and icing both flavored with vanilla. I call this ice cream cake as it tastes very much like it. This amount will ice a large cake and is most delicious. I tried some of those poetical ginger snaps and they are splendid.

Yours respectfully, ANNA MAY.

EDITRESS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I send a recipe for sweet tomato pickle which is considered very nice and it improves with age. I wish I could send you a jar of it to test its qualities.

Scald and peel 7 lbs. of ripe tomatoes, add 3 lbs. of brown sugar, 1 ounce of whole cloves—put them in a jar or deep dish. Scald one-half pint of vinegar and pour on hot, let this stand for twenty-four hours, then pour off the syrup and scald it and when hot pour back into the jar; repeat this twice after in the same way. On the fourth morning put the whole into a vessel and cook them till the tomatoes are done. Skim them out and boil the syrup down till it is as thick as honey. MRS. A. A. F.

EPICUREAN PIE CRUST:—1 small pint of flour, 1 egg, ½ cup (scant) of water, 2 heaping tablespoonfuls of butter. Cut one tablespoonful of the butter into little lumps and mix with the flour. Break the egg in a bowl, beat it very light and add the scant ½ cup of water, mix the flour into a stiff dough with this. Roll out on the moulding board, baste ⅓ of it with ⅓ of the remaining tablespoonful of butter, fold the other half over the basted side, roll it out again and so on until the butter is used up.

MINCE MEAT:—To 5 pounds of beef after it is boiled and chopped add 10 pounds of chopped apples, 2 pounds of chopped suet, 2 pounds of raisins, 1 pound each of currants and sugar, ½ pound each of citron and butter, 1 pint each of molasses and brandy. Spice it to suit the taste.

CHOICE RECIPES FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

LADY CAKE:—2 small cups of sugar, 1 cup of milk, ½ cup of butter, ½ cup of flour, whites of 4 eggs, beaten lightly, 1 small teaspoonful of essence of almond, 1 tablespoonful Royal Baking powder. Bake one hour in a moderate oven. Cream butter and sugar together, then add milk, slowly, and the flavoring, and beat well, next add flour, putting the baking powder into the last cup of flour; add the whites of eggs last.

FRUIT CAKE:—4 eggs, 1 cup of sugar, 2 cups of molasses, 1½ cups of butter, ½ cup of milk, 1 teaspoonful soda, 1 lb. of raisins, 1 lb. of currants, ½ lb. of citron, 1 heaping teaspoonful of cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves, 5 cups of flour. Bake 2½ hours in a slow oven.

WATERMELON CAKE:—White Part—2 cups of white sugar, 1 cup of butter, 1 cup of sweet milk, 3½ cups of flour, whites of 8 eggs, 2 teaspoonfuls of baking powder.

Red Part—1 cup of red sugar, ½ cup of butter, ½ cup of sweet milk, 2 cups of flour, whites of 4 eggs, 1 teaspoonful of baking powder, 1 cup of stoned raisins, ½ cup of blanched almonds. Blanch the almonds by pouring boiling water on them, when the skins will easily slip off. Cut the almonds in two and put them in the white part. Have a pan with a tube in the centre, put the red part next the tube and the white around the outside. The red sugar can be obtained from a confectioner. This makes a very pretty and attractive cake for the holidays.

WALNUT CAKE:—4 eggs, 4 cups of flour, 3 cups of sugar, ½ cup of butter, 1 cup of sweet milk, 1 teaspoonful of baking powder, 1 cup of stoned raisins, ' cup of walnut meats. Will keep for weeks.

ANGEL'S CAKE:—Find a tumbler which holds exactly 2¼ gills or 18 tablespoonfuls, (8 tablespoonfuls liquid measure is an accurate enough measure of a gill) 1½ tumblers of granulated sugar, sifted several times before measuring, 1 teaspoonful of cream of tartar sifted in 1 tumbler of flour, no soda, whites of 11 eggs well beaten, and 1½ teaspoonfuls of vanilla. The cake must be mixed in a large flat dish. Beat the eggs very thoroughly, add easily the sugar, then as lightly as possible, the flour, and lastly, the extract. Bake in a new tin—without greasing. When done, invert the pan on two or three goblets. Let it cool, then with the assistance of a knife it is easily removed. Be sure to ice it.

CHRISTMAS FRUIT CAKE:—One pound each of flour, butter and sugar, three pounds each of raisins and currants, one pound of citron, nine eggs, one pint of brandy, half an ounce each of ground cloves, cinnamon, nutmeg and mace. Bake slowly or send it to your baker, who will bake it just right and only charge 25 cents for doing it.

CORNUCOPIAS:—3 eggs, 1 cup sugar, 1 cup flour, 2 tablespoonfuls cold water. Put 1 tablespoonful of the mixture in a round tin 6 inches in diameter, and about 1 inch deep; bake in a moderate oven. While hot lap edges together to form a cornucopia and hold in shape until cool. This recipe will make 12.

Cream:—1 cup cream, ½ cup sugar, white of 1 egg, and flavoring.

BUTTER SCOTCH:—1 cup of molasses, 1 cup of sugar, ½ cup of butter. Boil until done—trying as for molasses candy.

CHOCOLATE CARAMELS:—1 cup each of grated chocolate, milk, molasses and sugar, a piece of butter size of an egg; boil together until the mixture hardens when dropped into cold water; add vanilla, pour in buttered tins, and mark in squares when nearly cold.

SUGAR KISSES:—Whites of 2 eggs, and ¾ lb. of pulverized sugar stirred together until very light. Drop on buttered paper in teaspoonfuls, and bake in quick oven.

POPPED CORN BALLS:—For 4 qts. popped corn take 1 cup molasses, ½ cup sugar, ½ teaspoonful cream of tartar. Boil until brittle, then add ¼ teaspoonful of soda and a large tablespoonful of butter. After popping corn sort out all hard kernels. Pour the boiling mixture over the corn, stir well, and boil immediately.

SAUCES FOR THE CHRISTMAS PUDDING.

1½ cups of sugar, ¾ cup of butter, (light brown sugar is best) rubbed together until they are of a very light foam, then stir in 3 teaspoonfuls of flour and a little vinegar; stir into a pint of boiling water and let it just come to a boil, then grate on nutmeg and serve hot.

GRANDMA.

1 cup sugar, 1 tablespoonful butter, 1 tablespoonful of flour, 1 coffee cup boiling water. Stir sugar, butter and flour together, then pour on the boiling water and let it cook until it thickens, stirring to keep from burning. Flavor after removing from fire. More butter added will make a richer sauce.

MRS. W. R. WAITE

¼ cup sugar, ¼ cup butter or less, 1 egg. Flavoring, lemon or vanilla; tablespoonful of flour; beat all together. Pour on boiling water just before serving the pudding, and stir thoroughly. Excellent, almost equal to a custard.

HARD SAUCE:—¼ lb. of sugar, ¼ lb. of butter, ¼ of a nutmeg grated, white of 1 egg. Beat sugar and butter to a cream in a cool place, so that the butter will not oil. Whip whites of eggs to a stiff froth, and mix lightly into the creamed sugar and butter. When done put the sauce into a crystal dish for serving and grate the nutmeg over it.

DESSERTS.

ENGLISH CHRISTMAS PLUM PUDDING:—1 pound each of baker's bread, brown sugar, suet chopped fine, seeded raisins and currants, 1½ pounds of flour, ¼ pound each of candied citron and lemon peel chopped, and 1 ounce of bitter almonds powdered, 1 gill of brandy, 4 eggs, 1 tablespoonful each of ground cloves, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Soak the bread until soft in milk, work the other ingredients into it, add the flour last. Put into a well buttered mold and boil steadily for 5 hours. Water should be boiling when the pudding is put in. When the pudding is done, put on a pretty flat dish, garnish with smilax, pour alcohol on top of the pudding and light it bringing the pudding on to the table in a flame. Serve the pudding with plain brandy sauce.

SPANISH CREAM:—½ box of gelatine dissolved in 1½ pints of milk, boil, then stir in the yolks of 3 eggs, add 3 tablespoonfuls of sugar, boil again. Beat the whites to a stiff froth and stir in after taking the cream from the fire. Flavor with orange and cool slowly.

CREAM PUFFS:—1 cup of hot water, ½ cup of butter, boil together and, while boiling, stir in 1 cup of sifted flour, dry. Take from the stove and stir to a smooth paste, and after this cools stir in 3 eggs (not beaten). Stir it 5 minutes. Drop in tablespoonfuls on a buttered tin and bake in a quick oven 25 minutes, being careful not to open oven door oftener than is absolutely necessary. Makes 12 puffs. Don't let them touch each other in the pan.

For the cream:—1 cup of milk, ½ cup of sugar, 1 egg, 3 tablespoonfuls of flour, flavor with vanilla. When both this and the puffs are cool open the puffs a little way with a sharp knife and fill them with the cream. These never fail to puff.

SQUASH PIE:—Steam a Hubbard squash, and when it is done mash it in the colander. To every quart of strained squash add 5 well beaten eggs, 2 quarts of milk, 1 tablespoonful of ground ginger and 1 of cinnamon, salt and sweeten to suit the taste.

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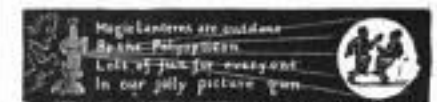

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

AUNT CAROLINE ON OVERWORK.

BY CHARITY SNOW.

"Do I believe in wimmen workin' themselves to death? No, of course I don't, and yit, there's ninety-nine wimmen out of every hundred who do it, and folks say they've got the consumption, or a fever, or newraligy; and the minister calls it a dispensation of Providence, and all the time 'twas jest overwork and nothin' else ailed 'em. Their folks make a great funeral for 'em, and spend more money to berry 'em than they ever spent on 'em livin', so to speak. They call it payin' 'the last tribute of respect.' Why, Charity, child, if they'd paid 'em the first tribute of respect, and treated 'em halt as well livin' as dead, the last tribute might have been put off for years. I think the Lord calkerlated for people to live a good deal longer than they do; but what with eatin' and drinkin' out of season, workin' too hard and sleepin' too little, our lives git pretty well shortened up. There ought to be a law passed against overworkin', but I don't know then how they'd git at it, for folks have such diffrunt constitutions that what would kill one person would be only healthy exercise for somebody else.

"Now I had a master constitution, and thought when I was young I could do most everything—and I've been through some terrible hard times"—and Aunt C. sighed reflectively. "Yes, I've been through scenes and on scenes, and it's a wonder that I ain't more rheumatacky than what I be, but then there never seemed to be no help for it. I was put into jest sich places, and no way out of 'em except by hard work, and la, there's thousands of women sitivated jest so now, poor creeters, I pity 'em, and they hain't got my constitution, neither."

"Who do you think is to blame for this state of affairs, Aunt Caroline?"

"Well, of I was to say jest what I think, I sh'd say the men and women were both to blame equally, especially the men. Most young couples start out kinder poor. They feel economical and ambitious, and they git in the habit of doin' everything alone in the house and out, and well they can when the family's small. But after a few years their children are comin' along, and perhaps they take the old folks to take care of, but the pretty little wife has got in the way of doin' all the work, and so she keeps tryin' year after year, and she grows to be a fretful, worried old woman before she's been a young one, and bimeby she drops off and leaves a little helpless family, and a big helpless husband, and that's the end of her as far as this world is concerned. I'm allers thankful for sech poor, worn-out creeters that there's rest in Heaven," and Aunt Caroline sang with her quavering old voice:

"On the other side of Jordan,
In the sweet fields of Eden,
Where the tree of life is blooming,
There is rest for you."

There was silence for awhile, and then I said, "But Aunt Caroline, there must be a remedy for every evil. Where's the remedy for this?"

"I don't know, child. I ain't wise enough to tell. But I do know that if I had my life to live over again, I'd do different, but my experience won't do nobody else much good. They've all got to learn for themselves. Curus thing, ain't it? By the time you git learnt jestly how to live, you up and die. Seems as if there ought to be some way to save up the experience of a lifetime, and will it to them who foller, jest as you do property, and it's my opinion 'twould do a plaguey sight more good than money does. But I was agoin' to say that the heaviest end of the yoke comes generly on the woman's shoulders. The care of the famerly falls mostly to her. Then there's all the housework, and ten to one she takes some of the outdoor chores onto herself to help him, that she'd no business to, or ought to bring the children up to do, like feedin' pigs and beas, milkin' and huggin' in wood and water, and any amount of sech kind of work.

"Men folks git a lot of merchines to help themselves. There's a merchine to do most everything, to plant, and mow, and rake, and pitch and thrash, one to husk corn, and another to shell it, and so on and so forth. But if a woman can git a washboard and a clothes wringer, and an apple parer, she thinks herself well off. Then very likely he keeps one or two hired hands all the time summers, and a boy to work his board and go to school winters, and when there's a special rush, in plantin', or haytin', or apple pickin', or hog killin', why, he gits a lot of extry hands for a week or two to a time.

"And she's jest as rushed as he is. In the spring it's house cleanin', and soap makin', and paintin', and paperin,' and gittin all the famerly's summer clothes ready but her own (she never touches them till the last one). In summer there's butter and cheese to make, and extry help to cook for and clean up after, and putty likely company, for I've allers noticed that company comes mostly when you're the busiest, and the weather's the hottest. In the fall there's preserves and jellies and pickles to make, and punkins and apples and sweet corn to dry, cider apple sass to do, and biled dinners to git, winter things to make and mend, house cleanin' agen, lard to try, tripe to clean, sassidge and mincemeat to make, spinnin' and knittin' to do, till she declares she never had to work so hard in her life. All times of year, there's washin' and ironin', sweepin', bed-makin', cookin', and the like. If she has girls, and they're big enough to be of any use to her, they're either goin' to school, or off to sumthin' else. The boys help their father of course, and she waits on the whole on 'em up to the r eyes. Perhaps once or twice a year, she'll git a girl for a few days, but she's luckier than the average if she does.

"I was readin' only the other day that the heft of wimmen in the insane horsepitals was farmer's wives, and I don't doubt it. Now there ain't a healthier, happier kind of work in the world than farmin', if it's managed right, and if farmer's wives had any kind of a fair chance, there's no need of their bein' crazy no more han other folks's wives. They have more blessdns, take it all round, than most folks, but blessdns that is abused, turn to the wust kind of cusses, I've allers noticed that."

"Did you ever know any insane people among farmers, Aunt Caroline?"

"La, yes, child. There was Squire Comstock's famerly. He had six girls and no boys. He was a curus kind of man, and as fast as them girls come up to bigness, he took every other one to help him, and his wife had the other three to help her. They give 'em all a little schoolin', but work was what they were after mostly. They was a dredful snug, worldly couple. All they thought of was makin' money, seems as ef. How they worked, and made them girls work! They had a big farm, and lots of hired help out doors, but none in. They never went nowheres, not even to meetin' Sundays, and no wonder they warn't prospered. Not goin' anywhere they didn't have nice close. The Squire sald calico and drillin' was good enough for summer for folks that lived on a farm, and they spun and wove linsey-woolsey and Wales cloth for winter wear. They never had books, nor took papers, nor had any readin'. Well, every one of them three girls that staid in the house was took crazy one after the other. One of 'em went and drowded herself, another fell down in a fit and died, and the last one, putty little Ruthy, she was so ravin', they had to send her to the horsepitale, though the Squire grumbled awful about the expense. But she warn't no expense long, she come out dead and safe in a year after she went in."

"How did the three fare who worked with their father?"

"I was jest goin' to tell yer. They didn't go crazy exactly. I s'pose workin' out doors saved 'em from that. People couldn't very easy go crazy out in God's pure air and sunshine, but I don't believe in puttin' too much work with it. Sometimes there's too much of a good thing. Workin' out in the field for all the world exactly like a boy ain't the right thing for a girl. It ain't natural. Sally, she riz up against it, but she didn't know enough to better herself. Ef she'd been brung up to read any good readin', and have time give her to read it, she wouldn't a made out so poor. When she was sixteen, she run off to the city with a worthless feller, and didn't live but a few years.

"Mary, she half broke her back liftin' and luggin' beyant her strength, and it brung on a spine complaint, and she's all doubled up cuamest like a jack knife. She has the use of her hands, but she don't use 'em much, for she don't know any woman's work like sewin' or knittin' or braidin', and she says she's too old to learn now. She don't seem to have no faculty nor courage, and I declare she's a sight to behold. I sh'd think the Squire'd have something to reflect on.

"Marthy, she's all the well one left, and she's jest stood by her father and mother like an angel. She's boy for father, and girl for mother, and a patienter, better creeter never lived. When she growed up, she kinder got round the Squire, and they begun to pick up a little, and dress a little better, and now she has a horse and carriage, and every pleasant day, she gets her mother away from her work an hour to take a ride. The old lady has long ago given up expectin' anything in this world, and she takes everything jest alike, good or bad. She never scolds and she never smiles. Marthy says the doctor says it's softenin' of the brain, but she knows her mother is dyin' of hard work and lack of change. They've got a barn that cost thousands of dollars, and it's full of the nicest stock, and the Squire has got every new-fangled notion to help him, except common sense. But the house is the same they've allers lived in, and dretful little in it. Marthy did want a new house a spell ago, but the Squire was dead set against it, and she says nothin' can make much difference to her mother now, and she was the one she wanted the house for most. Ef ever there was a saint on earth it's Marthy Comstock."

"That's a pretty hard story, auntie, and would seem to rather discourage farmer's wives."

"You don't say so. Well, now I don't mean it so. There ain't no more good nor honorable bizness than farmin', nor healthier for men, and their ain't no more call for their wives and darters to kill themselves workin' than other folks, if they'll both, men and women, practice a little common sense. They've got to learn that their lives and health is worth more'n money, but if anybody makes a God of money and property, they must take to live on jest what their god gives 'em, and they'll find it dretful onsatisfyin' food. It ain't filin' nor nourishin'."

"Now everybody ain't like Squire Comstock, thank the Lord! You remember two years ago, when cousin Henry Mason sent for me to come and spend Chris'mas with him. He was a cousin to your mother'n and I on our father's side. He lived to our house a spell when he was a little feller. One of the fust ones 'Than and I brought up. He was as bright as a dollar. He's been a farmer and done fustrate. I'd kinder lost sight of him late years, havin' so many folks nearer of kin to think of—but he sed he never had of me, and he wanted his old cousin Calline to make him a visit. He come after me himself with a nice horse and sleigh, so I fixed up and went and staid a week. He had jest the nicest kind of a famerly that you ever see. They was of all ages from eight to twenty. The oldest boy was in college, and the oldest girl was goin' to a girls' school. Of course they was all to home at Chris'mas, and they was all gentlemen and ladies, and treated me as well as though I was dressed in silk and satin, and wasn't an old-fashioned, plain spoken old woman. Henry he says farmers are the true nobility, and there ain's no work degradin' unless you make it so yourself.

"Their house was jest pretty and comfortable. There warnt no room in it too good for Henry and the childern, Maria sed—she is Henry's wife—and I said there warnt none but what was good enough for company, even to the kitchen. I wish you could have seen that kitchen and buttry. There was things there to work with that I never heard tell of before. Maria sed anybody must be ongrateful to grumble about their work that had as many conveniences as she had, and I thought so to. The girls took right holt handy and knew how to do all kinds of work from makin' sponge cake to pickin' geese, and they could do fancy work too; and could hold the lines over the back of the four year old colt, as well as the boys.

"But what I was comin' at partickarly was their Chris'mas doins. Every one had a present specially suited to 'em. The oldest ones had money to help 'em on at school, and books. One of the girls, who done most of the famerly sewin', had a bran new sewin' machine, and Jennie, the eight year old, who was crazy to learn to play, had a baby organ, and her pa sed when she learnt how to play on that right well, she should have a bigger one. Sammy had a yearling heifer and a milkin' stool, and I declare ef he wasn't as proud of that milkin' stool as Jennie was of her organ. The girl that liked to cook, had a new bread tray, cake board and rollin' pin. 'Nothin' could have suited me better,' sed she, and the next day she was up by daylight makin' pies. Will was fifteen, and was terribly carried away with hosses, and his present was a beauty of a two-year-old colt. 'This is for my farmer boy,' sed Henry, takin' a paper out of the drawer, and givin' it to Frank; and you! 'twas a deed of five acres of the best land on the farm. 'Now, my boy,' ses he, 'let's see you try farmin' it on your own hook.' Maria, she had a woman's paper gi'n to her, the very fust number that ever come out, and I never thought of it till this minit, but I believe to my soul 'twas that paper you write for, Charity, Lowizy's paper, you know. It looked jest like it, and Henry had a nice fur cap, that cost five dollars if it cost one, I'll be bound to say. Then there was no end to the mittens and tippets and sich, and pictures and games and books.

"To cap the whole Henry went and took his pocket book down off of the cupboard, and distributed a hundred dollars between 'em. I'd held in as long as I could, but I had to speak out then. 'For the land's sake, Henry, I never saw sich carryins on before. Pears to me you'll be pretty nigh strapped by the time Chris'mas is over.' He laughed, and sed, 'Not at all, cousin Calline. They've airnt it, every cent of it. What's my wife's and childern's is mine, and what's mine is theirn, and it's all the Lord's, and we calkerlate to give him back His part. Jint ownership, you see. The property's only changin' hands, that's all.' I thought of Squire Comstock, and wondered that two such different folks could belong to the same human race of beins."

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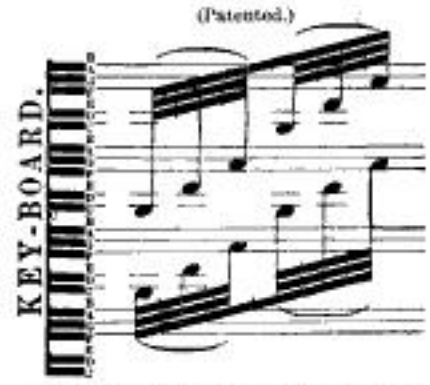

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FESTIVAL FASHIONS.

Stylish Toilettes—Silks and Woolen Goods for Winter Wear—Handsome Dress Patterns Suitable for Christmas Presents—Woolen Laces and Silk Handkerchiefs—Odds and Ends of Holiday Fancies.

BY MRS. JAS. H. LAMBERT.

It is very easy to write an article on style for the enlightenment of the fashionable lady, who lives in the great city, and can see for herself the constant changes in dress, but it is quite another matter to reach the needs of the good sisters, who are far distant, and depend often upon our judgment when selecting the comfortable garments, which they do not want to be in extreme fashion, nor yet out of style, nor can such friends afford to buy the costly novelties in fabrics, and still they really require something neat, in good taste, that will wear well at reasonable cost. This season the large stores here are filled with just such goods, and ready-made articles.

In wraps there are jackets, coats, cloaks, dolmans and mantles, in all manner of material, and at such prices as will bring them within the means of every one. While in ready-made costumes the supply is equally extensive, however, many ladies prefer to make their dresses at home, and now the patterns are so correct it is not difficult to create a really more stylish costume for one's self, than can be bought for the money put aside for the purpose, that is to buy the toilette ready to put on.

One of the most simple and yet elegant costumes seen this season is of Arcadia velveteen in bois brown. It is tailor made, with perfect fitting basque, and skirt plain in front, and plaited in back, the basque being finished with revers, which also outline the plain front width of skirt. Wooden buttons secure front of corsage, and the revers on waist and skirt, standing collar and cuffs are edged with medium size rosary beads, smooth and plain, but showing in mottles the two tones of the velveteen pile, as it appears in light and shadow. Another velveteen dress is finished with buttons and clasps of oxidized silver, which shows splendidly, on navy blue, and an evening toilette in garnet is trimmed with old gold.

Numbers of lady correspondents are going to give useful presents, in the coming season of gifts, to members of the family, as well as to friends who are not in a condition to buy needed articles for winter, and they, together with some worthy husbands who read the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, ask us to mention some of the fabrics and other notions, that will be acceptable and appropriate to bestow upon loved ones.

One gentleman writes, "will $20 get enough good black silk to make mother a dress? She has never had a silk in her life, that good, patient, wife of mine, and I want to surprise her with one this Christmas." $20 will buy sixteen yards of handsome Guinet or high life black silk, which will make an elegant dress, and only yesterday, Sharpless Brothers, by special contract, gave us permission to offer to lady readers of the HOME JOURNAL, three of their exclusive brands of black silks, in most acceptable grades at $1.00 a yard each, which cost $1.25 to import.

These most desirable Guinet black silks, High Life black silks, and the rich Satin Duchesse, can be bought in patterns of fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, and twenty yards, at corresponding prices, or less quantity will be sent if desired.

A lady asks "what kind of a material for a tailor-made suit will $15 buy—something I can make up without trimming, or can finish with fur." $15 will pay for twelve yards of Arcadia velveteen, in navy blue, brown, dark green, stone color or black, and such a suit will give great satisfaction, as it appears richer than the price would indicate, and wears splendidly.

For $12 twelve yards of a cheaper grade of Arcadia velveteen can be bought, or one can get eight yards of the wide, handsome, splendid wearing Khayyam serge, which costs $1.50 a yard. It comes in all the dark, rich colors, and can be made up with or without trimming, as may be most desirable. The same amount of money will get for a handsome black costume, in jet, or blue black, Priestley's Henrietta, or Melrose weave. Desirable grades of the Henriettas and Melrose weave fabrics cost $1, $1.25, and $1.50 a yard, but there are cheaper qualities of these goods, and in the art grades with superior finish and antique satin lustre, they cost as high as $3.00 and $4.50 a yard.

$10 certainly is not much to pay out for a stylish dress, or for the material to form one. Richmond serge, with a pronounced twill, costs $1.25 a yard, and these serges are taking the place of the goods with boucle effects—still boucles are fashionable and can be bought in desirable shades for $1.25 a yard.

Afghan homespuns are also new, and cost $1.25 a yard, eight yards being quite sufficient for a full suit. In box dress patterns for Christmas presents, are cloths in acceptable colors, with corduroy to trim at $5.00 a box, also cloths with astrakan for trimming at $6.00 a box, also cut dress patterns containing ten yards of serge or cashmere, in any desired color, and good quality at $3.75 a pattern, and still cheaper are the patterns at $3.00 $2.50 and even as low as $1.50 for a serge with cable twill, which makes up, and wears much better than its low price would indicate.

Wool laces are used largely as trimmings, and are specially attractive upon cashmeres and serges. Edgings cost 25c., 30c., 40c., 50c. to 75c., and up to $1.00, flouncings from $1.00 to $3.00, and panel widths from $1.00 to $5.00. They come in all colors.

Among other articles intended for Christmas presents, are handkerchiefs in silk, in various sizes, costing 25c., 50c., 75c. and $1.00 each. For children and young ladies neat linen handkerchiefs cost 12½ cents each, or 75 cents a half dozen, better are 15 and 25 cents each.

Stockings in the new cloth colors for misses, children, and ladies are 25c., 37½c., and 50c. a pair, very handsome ones costing 75 and 90 cents a pair.

For gentlemen, a half-dozen shirts for $6.00 or $9.00 will prove most acceptable as a present from some member of the family circle, or a tie or cravat at 50c., 75c., up to $1.50, or a pair of socks for 25c., 50c., or 75c.

Cuff buttons and fancy pins may also be given, and these come at $1.00, $1.50, up to $2.50 for very stylish well wearing pins, or pair of buttons.

***

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Mrs. F. C. B."—Why not? There is surely no impropriety in giving your friend a pair of corsets for a Christmas present. Ball's corsets will suit her better than any other make, on account of the spiral springs at each side. These corsets fit perfectly, are entirely comfortable, and wear splendidly. A desirable grade of Ball's corsets cost $1.25 a pair.

"Pretty Girl with faded bangs."—You have doubtless used too much borax or soda in washing your hair. The novelty is Mrs. C. Thompson's English bang, a front piece of soft hair, in natural curls, tastefully arranged, so that if the correct color is selected the bang appears as if a part of the wearers own hair. These bangs cost according to difficulty in procuring the color of hair from $6, $7, and $8 up to $10.

"Good Housewife."—It is very easy to get up a lunch or supper now at short notice, if you keep on hand a supply of "Prepared Food." Soups, fish, meat, vegetables, and fruit in every form are so put up as to keep an indifferent length of time in all climates. Write direct to E. Bradford Clarke & Co., Chestnut and Broad Sts., Philadelphia, Pa., for catalogue and price list of tasty food.

"Rose M."—Make your skirt of plain Arcadia velveteen, and use broche velveteen for the over and upper garments. Strawbridge & Clothier, Market and Eighth streets, Philadelphia, Pa., have full lines of these Arcadia velveteens, in plain colors and broche effects, and will send samples to those who write for them. A splendid present for you to give your friend will be to subscribe, in her name, for Strawbridge & Clothier's Quarterly, which costs only 50 cents a year, and is worth the money a dozen of times over. To see just what it is send 15 cents for specimen copy of the autumn number.

"Mother."—The Young Ladies Journal, a European publication, is nearer to your requirements than any other magazine. The superb Christmas double part of the Young Ladies Journal is just out. It contains much interesting and valuable reading matter, needle work hints, and fashion illustrations. The two parts with six supplements, including a rich colored plate, entitled "Little Mother Hubbard" costs 60 cents. "The Complete Guide to the Work Table" is a valuable hand-book of fancy work, price 50 cents. For either publication send money to International News Co., 31 Beekman St., N. Y. City.

"Constant Buyer."—Evidently you and Mrs. L. M. P. misunderstood the letter of advice from Sharpless Bros. You say they advertise to send goods free of cost for transportation, but when you ordered articles sent C. O. D. they wrote and said you must send the money for goods in registered letter, before they could be sent.

That is all right. To look at your letter in a clear practical light, you are something like Shylock, who wanted the blood with the pound of flesh. Shall we explain more clearly? You ordered from Sharpless Brothers ten yards of mixed homespun at $5.00, requesting the package to be sent C. O. D. Now, Sharpless Brothers were perfectly willing to oblige, and to pay the 75 cents expressage on the package to you, but they naturally did not feel inclined to pay another 75 cents to the express agents for collecting $4.25 and delivering $3.50 of the original price of the dress to the house. All other houses in this city require purchasers to pay the cost of transportation for goods bought through the mail order department, and also require money sent when goods are ordered, or the customer must pay for return transportation of price of articles.

"Mourner."—In Priestley's black dress goods, you will find various grades of veilings, cloths, Henriettas, and a specialty, the Melrose weave, at such prices as will bring them within the means of people with modest income, or the wealthy, ranging as they do from 50 cents a yard up to 65c., 75c., $1.00 and on up to $4.50 a yard. If you will state about what you can afford to pay for your black dress, it will be easy to send you samples of dress goods. Write to Cooper & Conard, Ninth and Market Sts., Philadelphia, Pa., for such samples of Priestley's dress goods in jet, or blue black, as you may desire.

The Ipswich Jersey still continues to hold a preeminent place among those of other manufacture. Made from cloth both strong and elastic, yet so closely knit that the white undergarments will not show through, made in positively fast colors, and warranted not to smut or rub off. The peculiar finish given to these convenient little garments, gives them all the appearance of a silk Jersey. Perfect fitting and made in the latest styles, yet sold by all dry goods dealers at such a price as to be within the reach of all who may need them.

Our numerous lady readers and all who are weary of the trouble and inconvenience of being refitted whenever securing a new garment, would confer a benefit on themselves by directing the attention of their dressmakers to the advertisement found in our columns of the McDowell Garment Drafting Machine. This wonderful invention is creating a revolution in dressmaking and is a revelation to dressmakers and their customers. It prevents the worry and annoyance incidental to dress cutting and fitting, increases a dressmaker's skill, and enables her to save four-fifths of her time and rapidly acquire patronage by the superiority of her work. Every dressmaker must sooner or later adopt this labor-saving invention, and every lady will insist upon her dressmaker using it when realizing that it cuts all known garments with perfect grace and absolute accuracy in a few moments, and obviates entirely the necessity of refitting.

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With this number of the L. H. J. we give to our readers some choice recipes for the holiday season. To be successful with them it is very essential how ever that the ingredients used should be of the best quality—butter sweet, sugar the purest, and eggs as fresh as can be bought. Amongst other things do not forget to procure the finest flavoring extracts. Some of the so-called extracts are not fit for use but those manufactured by J. W. Colton are to be depended upon. A little higher priced than some others, they will prove in the end to be less expensive to you, as they are the purest, strongest extracts made, and a less quantity is needed for flavoring. Do not waste your time, money and strength on inferior articles.

The attention of our readers is called to a new system of music advertised on another page of this paper. By this system music is made very simple. It will pay any one musically inclined to send for full descriptive circulars.

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Box Dress Patterns in Cloth, all Colors, with Corduroy to trim Costume,	5.00
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10 Yard lengths Homespun mixtures,	5.00
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Woolen Trimming Lace:

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Panel woolen laces, 50c., 75c., $1.00, $1.25, $1.50 up to $5.00 and $10.00 a yard, to match embroidered edgings.

Corduroy and Velveteen for suits, combinations and trimmings, 75c., $1.00, $1.25, $1.50 a yard.

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FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

HINTS ON ETIQUETTE—INTRODUCTION AND CALLS.

One of two things, money or birth, seem to be necessary to maintain a position in fashionable society. In older cities perhaps birth is more essential, but as a rule, money is the golden key that opens all doors. In small towns society cannot be too exclusive and the wealthiest lady in the place may meet her dressmaker or milliner at evening parties. After all there is but one standard by which to judge whether or not a person is worthy to become a member of good society. Is he a gentleman? is she a lady? should be the only question asked. Not that they are well dressed, or handsome, or rich, but do they possess certain qualities, such as kindheartedness, good feeling towards the world in general, repose of manner, dignity, refinement, sincerity, and a character above reproach. Who could say that a man or a woman with the above characteristics was not worthy to mingle in the best society? But a lady who is in all respects a real lady may chance to be ignorant of certain rules of etiquette and thus be too timid to accept invitations to parties and receptions that she would otherwise enjoy. Of course as a rule society does not trouble those who live in small houses on a modest income. They cannot give parties or entertain largely and the latest style in menu cards or German favors is to them of little interest. But although she may never be seen at large gatherings every lady will occasionally be placed where certain rules of etiquette must be observed, and she does not wish to be ignorant of the proper thing to do under any circumstances that may arise. It is an established decree that a lady receiving calls in her own house, must not introduce two ladies who are residents of the same town. This rule holds good in exclusive society, but will doubtless surprise those who live in country towns, and to many hostesses would seem the height of impoliteness, the visitors, also, feeling that they were treated with discourtesy if not positive rudeness. Circumstances alter cases, and what would be considered proper in strictly fashionable society would perhaps give offense in less formal circles. But there is one important point upon which Americans and English differ. The latter never hesitate to speak to any visitors they may chance to meet at the house of a mutual friend, while Americans maintain their stiffest manner until properly introduced. How embarassing this formality is to a hostess who does not dare introduce her callers. If they would but exchange a remark or two all would be easy. There is certainly much to be said against promiscuous introductions. How do you know that your friends desire to become acquainted? Certainly no gentleman should be introduced to a lady until her permission has been granted. In making an introduction the gentleman is presented to the lady, as for instance, "Mrs. B. allow me to introduce (or present) Mr. C."

Another rule is that a gentleman who has been introduced to a lady with her consent is at liberty to call upon her or leave his card at her door. Generally people bow formally upon being introduced, but in certain places, perhaps especially in the South, it is the custom to shake hands. In her own house a hostess should certainly shake hands with a person introduced to her.

At a dinner party, a few minutes before dinner, the hostess introduces to a lady the gentleman who is to take her down to dinner, but it is not customary to give further introductions, the guests being at liberty to converse with each other.

A mother is always at liberty to introduce her son or daughter, a husband may introduce his wife, and a wife her husband.

At informal gatherings it is proper to introduce guests, in fact one's own tact and judgement must frequently be the guide.

After a gentleman has been introduced to a lady, should he meet her again, he must wait for her to bow first before claiming her as an acquaintance.

In almost all places it is considered the lady's place to bow first when passing a gentleman friend on the street. On the Continent the gentleman bows first, and this is said to be the custom in some Southern cities. Should the ladies who accompany a gentleman, recognize an acquaintance the gentleman should raise his hat.

A naturally shy person may be years in acquiring the ease of manner that is natural to many, and nothing but experience will overcome this shyness. Some people are nervous over even so simple a matter as introducing two of their friends to each other, when all that is necessary is to say, "Mrs. Jones, Mr. Smith," the names being pronounced distinctly. There is no use telling bashful persons that this is a very simple proceeding since it will not seem simple to them, but they should strive to overcome such unnecessary nervousness and after making say fifty introductions, they will be ready to laugh at their former bashfulness.

When a gentleman is introduced to a lady it is the gentleman's place to open conversation. The one who is introduced should make the first remark.

A gentleman must not shake hands with a lady until she has made the first movement. A married lady should always offer her hand to a stranger brought to her house by a mutual friend.

Where the introduction is for dancing there is no hand shaking.

In introducing two women present the younger to the elder.

A first call should be returned within a week. In England the lady highest in rank makes the first call. Here, the oldest resident calls first. If there is no distinction one lady may wait for the other until both are ashamed to take the initiative. As a rule, however, it is well to be slow about calling upon strangers, say one's new neighbors, for it is sometimes difficult to become rid of undesirable acquaintances, and a lady does not wish to slight anyone. There is a manner that no one can take offense at and yet repels intimacy, still, if you would be on the safe side, be careful who you are introduced to and whom you call upon.

A call upon persons in mourning should be returned with mourning cards which too family begin to make their appearance in public.

After a death a call should be made within ten days unless you are only acquaintances, when a call within a month will answer.

Calls should be made within three days after a dinner, or an entertainment of any kind if it is a first invitation, and within a week after a party or ball, whether you accept the invitation or not.

Between two and six in the afternoon are the hours preferred for making formal calls.

A gentleman when making a call may leave his overcoat or umbrella in the hall but he must take his hat and cane with him into the parlor. If he does not wish to retain these articles in his hands he may place them on the floor near his chair but should not deposit them on any article of furniture in the room.

In Europe, if a gentleman has had himself introduced to a lady, he calls the following day and the call is returned by the gentleman of the house if there is a desire to continue the acquaintance. If, after an introduction, the gentleman does not call not even a bowing acquaintance is continued.

The usual custom here is for the young lady or her mother to invite the gentleman to call, and it would be thought strange for him to do so without an invitation. If a gentleman should bring a friend to call on you it would be polite to invite the stranger to repeat his visit.

There is one more rule that we fear will never meet with much favor in America, and this is that a young lady's mother should always sit with her when she is receiving a call from a gentleman.

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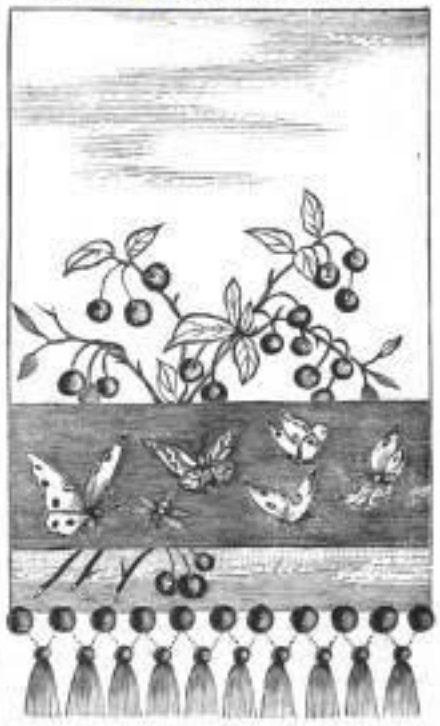
Given as a Premium for a Club of Only 8 Subscribers at 25 Cents Each per Year.



Special offers in table covers, scarfs, and square covers made of felt and embroidered on each end or in each corner, to be thrown over tables, work-stands, &c.; are now among the most popular pieces of fancy work. They are very ornamental and easy to finish. These table covers are sold at the stores at from $1 to $2 each, but by a special arrangement we can make the following great offer: We will send a table scarf 18 inches wide and 50 inches long, made of any color felt desired, stamped on each end ready to be worked, with designs of your own choosing, either for Kensington embroidery, Ribbon work, Tinsil or Outline embroidery. Given for only 8 subscribers, or 60 cts. For 15 cents extra we will send 25 skeins of silk, assorted colors, with which to work the designs.

Square Table Covers

Given for only 12 Subscribers at 25 Cents per Year Each.

Two great offers.

No. 1.—We will send a square stand cover 36 inches each way, and stamped as you may desire, with boquets in each corner, for only 12 subscribers or $1.00.

No. 1.—We will send a large square table cover, 1½ yards each way, stamped in the corners according to directions, for twenty subscribers, or $1.75.

Kensington Embroidery

And The Colors of Flowers.

Given as a Premium for a Club of Only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cents Each per Year.

A new book just publish'd It contains illustrations and clear descriptions of the stitches used in Kensington embroidery; also the Plush stitch, Bird's-eye stitch, Ribbon embroidery, etc. Tells how to work Golden Rod, Coxcomb, Snow Ball, Pussie Willow, Clover, Sumac, and sixty-three other flowers. Gives the proper colors to use in working the Petals, Stamens, Leaves, Stems, etc., of each flower; contains also a chapter on finishing fancy work, with numerous illustrations; tells what colors look best together, how to press embroidery, how to wash silk, etc.

It is the best book ever published on embroidery.

A color card containing 168 samples of silks showing the exact shades indicated in the book and card by numbers, is sent with each copy when desired.

We send the book for 4 subscribers, or 35 cents; and book and card for six subscribers, or 50 cents.

Stamped Pieces of Satin, Silk,

Ribbons, etc., for Crazy Patchwork.

Stamped ready to be worked, with quaint designs, sprigs, etc. Each package contains 10 pieces, worth, singly, 8 to 10 cents each. Given for 6 new subscribers, or 50 cents.

Drawn Work.

This branch of fancy work is growing in favor very fast. This book gives the most explicit directions for doing the work, and a large number of beautiful illustrations and patterns. Sent for 4 new subscribers, or 25 cents.

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Bracket Lamberquin.

GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBERS, AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.

These Lamberquins are made of Felt, the same as the Tidies, on any color you may choose; they are 12x20 inches in size, and are exceedingly ornamental when finished.

We will send one of these Lamberquins and the book of stitches, for only four new subscribers, or 35 cents.

Mantle Lamberquin.

GIVEN AS A PREMIUM FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 12 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.

For the past year or two it has been the fashion to cover the mantlepiece with an embroidery a foot or more in width in front. These draperies usually cost from $1.50 to $2.00, but we will send a lamberquin made of the best quality of felt, 13½ inches wide and 2 yards long, of any color, and stamped as desired, for a club of only 12 subscribers, or $1.25.

LINEN SPLASHERS.

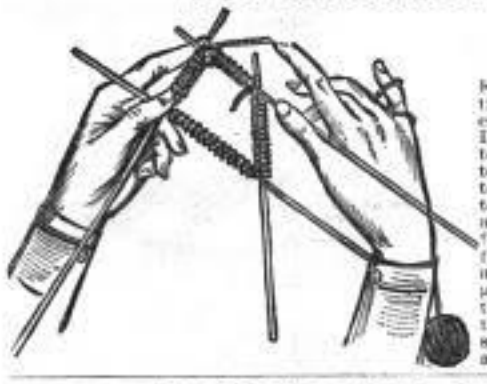
☞ GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR ONLY 6 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS PER YEAR EACH.

These are designed to be placed back of a washstand to protect the wall from being soiled by being spattered. They are embroidered mostly in outline with embroidery cotton or etching silk, and are washable. They are finished by fringing and drawn work, according to taste. We will send one Splasher and three skeins of French cotton for a club of only 6 subscribers, or 50 cents.

We have all the new and latest designs. One of the most popular premiums we have to offer. Only six subscribers required to secure it. Easily done, by simply showing a copy of the paper to six of your friends or neighbors. Splashers mailed to any address, postage paid.

How to Knit and What to Knit.

☞ GIVEN FOR ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.



This is the best book yet published on Fancy Knitting. It teaches how to knit, giving descriptions clear, concise, and easily understood. Everything illustrated. Shows cuts and gives Five Different Ways of casting on stitches. Tells how to knit plain knitting, and to purl or seam, how to pick up a stitch, and how to repair a half-knitted stitch; gives two ways to increase, tells how to slip a stitch, how to narrow, how to cast off and how to join ends; gives careful directions for knitting stockings, gives different ways of forming the heels and toes. Tells how to insert a new heel and sole in an old worn stocking; gives directions for common and artistic darning that will imitate the knitted stitch. Gives directions for numerous styles for fancy borders for stockings, mittens, etc., etc.; squares for quilts, afghans, and many other things.

BOOKS ON CROCHETING

ANY TWO OF THESE BOOKS GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS EACH.

No. 1.—How to Crochet.
No. 2.—Twine Crochet Work.
No. 3.—Miscellaneous Designs for Crochet.
No. 4.—Fine Thread Crochet Work.
No. 5.—Hair Pin Crochet.

These are the best books on Crocheting that have ever been published. The descriptions are clear and concise, the directions correct, and the illustrations fine.

We will send any two of the above books for 4 new subscribers, or 30 cents; or all five books for 8 new subscribers, or 60 cents.

KEY HOLDER

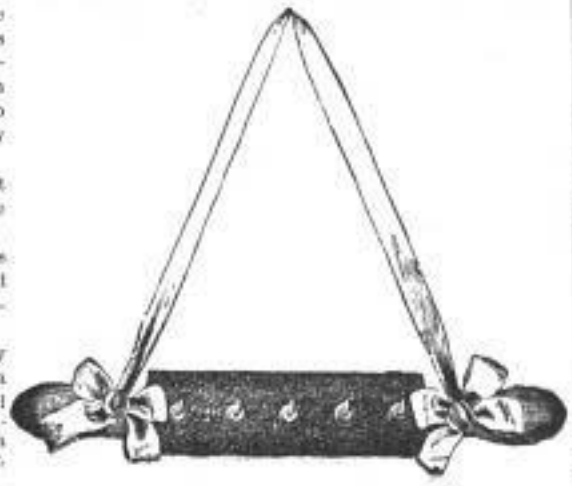
GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBES AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.

Key holders made on Rolling pins are the latest rage in fancy work. The pins are 12 inches long and covered with elegant plush, and finished with ribbon and bows; and with hooks on which to hang the keys, as seen in the cut. They are very handsome.

We will send a Rolling pin with gilt handles, ready to be covered, and five hooks, for four subscribers, or 35 cts.

We will send one with gilded ends and covered with any color plush and ribbon to finish, for a club of 15 subscribers, or $1.25.

For the holidays this is a particularly desirable premium for a present to a friend. Subscribers are easily secured by simply showing a copy of the JOURNAL, and then telling how very small a sum of money it can be had a year for.



Satin Banner.

Given for Only 20 Subscribers at 25 Cents per Year Each.

Satin Banner with gilt stand. These Banners are made from the finest quality of embroidery satin, 8x12 inches in size, stamped ready to be worked. The stand is made of lacquered brass, 18 inches high, with 8-inch rod (on which to attach the banner), with ornamental ends, and suspended from the top of the stand with a fancy silk cord. The whole making an elegant piece of fancy work which would, in any fancy work store, sell for $2.50 or $3.00. We will send this elegant Banner and stand for only 20 subscribers, or $1.75.

Or we will send the Banner with an eight-inch rod without the stand for 6 subscribers, or 50 cts.

Or we will send a Banner made of Felt, 8x12 inches, with gilt rod, for 4 subscribers, or 40 cents.

Laundry Bags

Given for a Club of only 13 Subscribers at 25 Cents each.

Laundry bags, umbrella holders, wall pockets, duster bags, and other useful things of this sort are the newest things this season. They are made of heavy twilled brown linen, and can be washed and done up whenever necessary. It may be seen at a glance that the laundry bag illustrated will be a very useful article. We will send one, size 18x26 inches, stamped with appropriate design all ready to be worked, for a club of only 15 new subscribers, or $1.00, or we will send one of these bags all bound and finished ready to be outlined, for a club of 18 subscribers, or $1.25.

Slipper Pockets

Given for a Club of only 10 Subscribers at 25 Cents each.

Slipper pockets to be hung on the back of closet doors, or other out of the way places, to keep slippers from "kicking around" the floor. A lady who once has one of these handy articles will want one in every corner of the house. We will send one cut and stamped for a club of 10 subscribers, or 75 cents, or one all bound and finished in red or blue trimmings, for a club of 13 subscribers, or $1.00.

Elegant Thermometer Case

Given for a Club of only 14 Subscribers at 25 Cents each.

The accompaning cut shows a beautiful piece of fancy work for a thermometer. It consists of a pallette covered with fine embroidery plush on which is embroidered or painted a pretty spray of flowers; the whole finished with ribbon as shown in the cut.

We will send the materials for this beautiful article, consisting of: the pallette, piece of plush stamped ready to be worked, and a thermometer, for a club of only 14 subscribers, or $1.25.

Clock Easel

Given for a Club of only 12 Subscribers at 25 Cents each.

This beautiful piece of work can be easily worked and finished, the cut showing how it is done. It is one of the latest fancies, and is a beautiful ornament when finished.

We will send the easel 6x9 in. with piece of stamped plush to cover it, for a club of 12 subscribers, or 75 cts.

We will send a clock made especially for this purpose, for a club of only 30 subscribers, or $1.75. Or we will send both together for 40 subscribers.

Duster Bags

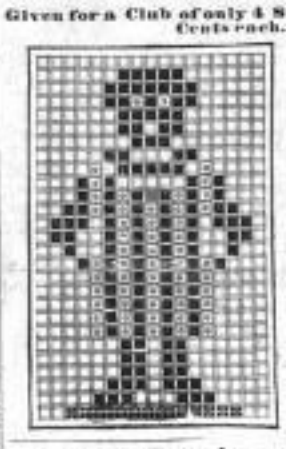
Given for a Club of only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cents each.

Made the same as Laundry Bag, of brown twilled linen. Any lady will at once see at once what a handy little thing this bag is.

We will send one all stamped, for a club of only four subscribers or 35 cents. We will send one bound and finished with red or blue trimmings, for a club of 6 subscribers, or 50 cents.

Choice Designs for Cross Stitch Embroidery.

Given for a Club of only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cents each.

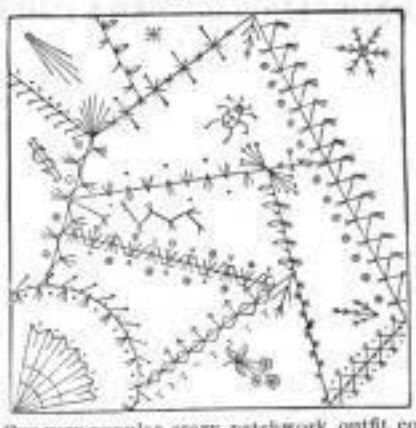


This is the best collection of Cross Stitch Patterns ever collected together, and embraces designs for all kinds of canvass work, and linen embroidery, such as Alphabets, Flowers, Figures, Pigs, Birds, Dogs, etc.; Borders and Centerpieces, etc., etc.

We will send book for four subscribers, or 25 cents.

Crazy Parchwork Outfit,

Given for 16 Subscribers at 25 Cents per Year Each.



Our very popular crazy patchwork outfit contains our new book, giving over 125 new stitches, and instructions in doing the work, 25 cents.

25 Perforated Parchment Stamping Patterns, of small sprays, sprigs, butterflies, snow flakes, and quaint designs, with instructions for making the transfers,	.50
1 Box Stamping Powder,	.15
1 Distributor,	.10
12 Pieces of Silk, stamped ready to be worked,	.50
12 Skeins Assorted Embroidery Silk,	.25
2 Doz. Spangles,	.05
2 Yards Tinsel Cord,	.10
	$1.90

Given for 16 new subscribers.

Damask Tray Cloths.

Given for a Club of only 10 Subscribers at 25 Cents per Year.

These are designed to be placed on the table in front of the hostess at table, and is to be embroidered on the corner or ends. We will send one of these Tray Cloths of fine linen damask with cup and saucer, sugar bowl, creamer, and teapot stamped in each corner. Given for a club of 10 subscribers, or 75 cents.

Carver's Cloths to match, stamped with knife and fork, dishes, &c. We will send at same price.

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Given for Only 12 Subscribers at 25 Cents each for One Year.

The most practical labor-saving device ever invented for making RAG and TUFTED RUGS on the sewing machine or by hand. It entirely does away with braiding, knitting and weaving. A handsome Rug two by four feet, with border, can be made in from three to seven hours; any size Rug may be made. All kinds of cloth—small pieces from the waste basket, wool carpet waste, odds and ends of yarn—can be utilized in making handsome, durable Rugs. Silk clothing too much worn for patch-work, can be made into stool and ottoman covers, designs in flowers and figures are readily produced. All the material comes on the upper side, and is firmly sewed on a base or foundation of coarse cloth. The engraving at the top of this article shows the operation in making a Smyrna Wool Rug. Oriental designs may be followed in colors, and a beautiful tufted Rug with pile a half inch thick can be made in one-fiftieth the time necessary to knit one by hand, and it will not curl or draw. No hooks, frames, or blistered hands.

Medal received at "International Inventions Exhibition, London, 1885." Also silver medal at Decorative Art Needlework Exhibition, Baltimore, Md.

Ladies! don't buy a new carpet; with the Rug Maker you can make handsome rugs, and cover those worn pieces.

Directions illustrated with 13 Engravings, which thoroughly explain this process of Rug Making, and is so simple a child can use it, accompany each Rug Maker. No personal instructions necessary.

Given as a present to any lady sending us 12 subscribers at 25 cents each per year, and mailed to any address, postpaid.

We will send this Rug Machine and the Ladies' Home Journal, One Year, for $1.00.

The Bijou Embroidery Frame,

is the handiest and most useful frame for holding small pieces of work, and is indispensible. Given for only four (4) subscribers at 25 cts each per year.

Crazy Patchwork Books.

TEN NEW STITCHES.

This is THE book which every lady should have. Crazy Patchwork is becoming more and more popular. This book gives a great number of stitches and combinations which will be found of great use, and teaches how to do the work, giving illustrations of the manner of making the squares for crazy quilts. Given for 4 new subscribers, or 25 cents.

GREAT OFFER! We will send ALL of these books for 24 new subscribers, or $2.25.

Kensington and Lustra Painting.

This book is a complete instructor for this new and beautiful branch of Fancywork. The directions for doing the painting are so clear and easily understood that any one—whether they have ever painted or not—can easily learn how to do the work. The book gives, besides the directions for painting, receipts for mixing the medium, and applying the bronzes, and tells what paints to use for painting the different flowers, &c., and also gives instruction for painting Enamel Pottery. Given for 4 new subscribers, or 25 cents.

Talks with Homely Girls.

Talks with Homely Girls: On Health and Beauty, their Preservation and Cultivation. By Frances Smith.

A manual of advice and instruction upon the general care of the mind, exercise, bathing, the care of the head, hair, eyes, ears, teeth, nose, and the complexion, with chapters upon dress, manners, housekeeping, and all topics pertaining to a young girl's appearance and deportment. The twenty chapters are as follows: Grace and Beauty of Form, Bathing Exercise, Care of the Head, Hair, Teeth, Face, Hands, Complexion, Carriage of the Body, Dress, Deportment, Conversation, and General Care of the Health. A very useful book for every lady. Handsome cloth binding.

Given for a club of only 6 subscribers at 25 cents per year each. Price, 50 cents when sold alone.

Usages of the Best Society.

The Usages of the Best Society: A manual of social etiquette. BY FRANCES SMITH. Nothing is given in this book but the most approved usages as practiced by the best society. Contains 21 chapters. Introductions and Calling—Visiting Cards and Visiting—Strangers and New Comers—Engagements and Weddings—Receptions and Dinners—Private Balls and Dancing—Fancy Dress and Masquerade Balls and Costumes—Opera and Theatre Parties—Bouquets and Flowers—Dinner Giving—Table Decorations and Etiquette—Luncheons, Breakfast and Tea, The Art of Entertaining—Letter Writing and Invitations—Musical "At Homes" and Garden Parties—Traveling Manners and Mourning Etiquette—Wedding and Birthday Anniversaries and Presents—New Year's Day Receptions—Important General Considerations—Brief Hints for everyday use. This book is indispensable to all who wish to obtain the most enjoyment from daily intercourse with their fellow beings. Handsome cloth binding.

Will be found useful by all who wish to obtain instruction on matters relating to social usage and society.—Demorest's Magazine.

Given for a club of only 6 subscribers at 25 cents per year each. Price, 50 cents, when sold alone.

Both of the above books, "Talks with Homely Girls," and "Usages of the Best Society," will be given to any one sending us a club of only 10 subscribers at 25 cents each per year.

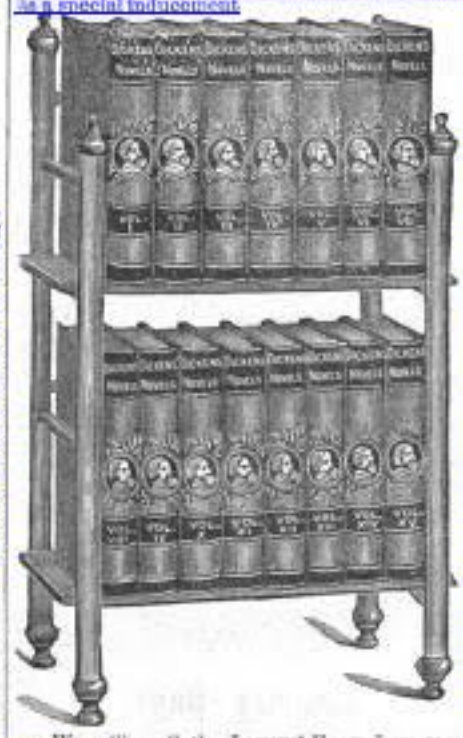
A MOST EXTRAORDINARY OFFER!

We will send to any address, any one of the following books, for a club of

ONLY EIGHT SUBSCRIBERS,

At 25 cents each per year,—provided 10 cents extra in stamps is sent to prepay the postage on the books.

We have never before offered these books for less than 12 subscribers, we make this offer as a special inducement.



DICKENS' WORKS:

The books are all handsomely bound, good print and good paper, and are sold in all bookstores for $1.50 and $1.75 per volume.

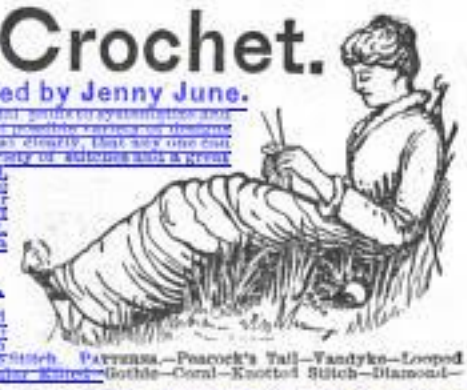
Pickwick Papers.
Martin Chuzzlewit.
Oliver Twist. Pictures from Italy, and American Notes.
Nicholas Nickleby.
David Copperfield.
Child's History of England. By Charles Dickens. New edition, large type.

Robinson Crusoe. By Daniel De Foe.
Arabian Nights Entertainment.
Swiss Family Robinson.
Orange Blossoms. By T. S. Arthur.
Bar Room at Brantry. By T. S. Arthur.
Cook's Voyages Round the World.
Vicar of Wakefield. By Oliver Goldsmith.
Pilgrim's Progress. By John Bunyan.
Gulliver's Travels. By Jonathan Swift.
Ivanhoe. By Sir Walter Scott.
Waverly. By Sir Walter Scott.
Guy Mannering. By Sir Walter Scott.
Tom Brown's School Days at Rugby. By Thomas Hughes.
Scottish Chiefs. By Jane Porter.
Thaddeus of Warsaw. By Jane Porter.
Children of the Abbey. By Regina Maria Roche.
Don Quixote. By Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra.
Paul and Virginia. By Bernardin de St. Pierre.
Æsop's Fables. With over 500 illustrations.
Dog Crusoe. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Gorilla Hunters. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Wild Men of the West. By R. M. Ballantyne.

We will mail the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL one year, and give any one of these books, for only $1.00.

Knitting & Crochet.

Edited by Jenny June.



Knitting and Crochet.—a guide to the use of the Needle and the Hook. In arranging this work the editor has taken special care to systematize and classify the different departments, give the proper technical names of designs and stitches, and explain the technical details as clearly, that any one can easily follow the directions. There are a large variety of stitches and a great number of patterns fully illustrated and described, which have all been tested by an expert lady in Knitting in our collection. The aim of the editor has been to produce a practical, comprehensive and satisfactory guide to knitting and crochet work. This book is printed on fine paper, bound with a handsome cover, and contains

200 Illustrations.

The knitting stitches illustrated and described are:—To Cast On with One and Two Needles—To Narrow—To Widen—To Purl—To Cast Off—To Slip a Stitch—Round Knitting—To Join Together—Knit Stitch. PATTERNS.—Peacock's Tail—Vandyke—Looped Knitting—Chain Work—Leaf and Trefoil—Triangular Knitting—Gothic—Coral—Knotted Stitch—Diamond—Ivy—Cable Twist—Stripes, etc.

MACHINE STITCHES.—Solomon's Knot—Simple Chain—Spiral Cord—Waved Bar—Spherical Knot—Slanting Bar—Open Knotting—Plait Braiding—Cross Knot—Fringe—Tassels, etc.

CROCHET STITCHES.—Chain Stitch—Single Crochet—Double Crochet—Half Treble—Treble—Double Treble—Cross Treble—Slip Stitch—Tricot—Musavite Tricot—Shell Pattern—Basket Pattern—Raised Spot Stitch—Dung Stitch—Jaci—Fan Crochet—Crochet Lace, etc.

PATTERNS AND DIRECTIONS are given for Knit and Crochet—Shawls—Undersleeves—Shirts—Petticoats—Jackets—Sacques—Leggings—Blanket—Comforters—Caps—Hoods—Socks—Boots—Slippers—Gaiters—Drawers—Knee-Caps—Stockings—Mittens—Clouds—Purses—Counterpanes—Quilts—Rugs—Infants' Jackets—Bonds—Cats—Shawls—Dresses—and Dolls, etc., etc. Every lady will find this the newest and most complete work on Knitting and Crochet published.

Given for 6 subscribers at 25 cents per year each. Price, when sold separately, 50 cents.

NEEDLE-WORK

Edited by Jenny June.

Needle-Work: A Manual of Stitches and Studies in Embroidery and Drawn Work. The manuscript for this work, as prepared by the editor, systematizes and arranges in an order convenient for workers the modern methods in embroidery and drawn work. The author has felt the desire and the responsibility involved in aiding women to a true and practical guide in the beautiful art of needle-work. When the Angel of Mercy bestowed this woman might not be creating beauties and sound to amazed of man, as the sponsor, the Lord listened, but felt that he could not give up the white angel of creation, and gave the young Adam permission to take whatever he may consider fit for the curse, and the angel instantly transformed her work tears and the sore of needle-work. This book is printed on fine paper, has a handsome cover, and contains

200 Illustrations

The list of stitches, with illustrations, are: Buttonhole—Herringbone—Interlaced—Cross Bar—Herring Bone—Feather Stitch—Knotted—Hide Fine Drawn Work—Chain Stitch—Twisted Chain or Rope Stitch—Split Stitch—French Knot—Gold Leaf—Satin Stitch—Padding—Darning Stitch—Satinet Outline—Counting, Kensington, Filling, Cord, Tedius, Levantine and Eugene Stitches—Appique—Tentured Ground—Waving Stitch—Gold and Silver Thread—Crimson Stitch—Wheel, etc.

Designs in Needle-Work are given to decorate My Lady's Chamber, My Lady's Robe, the Dining Room, Parlor and Library, and for Linen and Cotton Fabrics, including embroidery designs for Mantel Scarfs—Bed Spreads—Child's Quilt—Pillow Covers—Cushion Boxes—Bureau Scarfs—Table Covers—Chair Backs—Morning Sacques—Artist Jackets—Walking Dress—Afternoon Dress—Evening Dress—Handkerchiefs—Muffloers—Fichus—Piazza Wraps—Sashes—Fans—Slippers—Bonnets—Parasols—Aprons—Work Bags—Opera Bags—Glove Case—Sachets—Lunch Cloths—Dinner Cloths—Napkins—Doilies—Table Mats—Corn Napkins—Fish Napkins—Tray Covers—Tea Cloths—Curtains—Panels—Banners—Screens—Sofa Cushions—Piano Scarfs—Chair Scarfs—Sofa Rugs—Photograph Cases—Book Covers, etc., etc. This will be found to be the only standard book on the subject of needle-work.

Given for 6 subscribers at 25 cents per year each. Price, when sold alone, 50 cents. Both of the above books, "Knitting and Crochet," and "Needlework," will be given any one sending us a club of 10 subscribers, new or old, at 25 cents each per year.

A SILK PLUSH ALBUM!

GIVEN FOR 50 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.

An elegant silk plush Photograph Album holding 28 cabinet, 2 panel, and 24 card portraits. Soft padded sides with round corners, openings for portraits beveled; fine nickel extension clasps. The word "Album" in fine nickel letters. The finest quality of silk plush is used, guaranteed to contain no cotton. Extra size, 9¼x11. Thoroughly well made in every way, and will wear for years. It takes 50 subscribers to get it, but it is something well worth working for to one who wishes the finest goods only. This is the best album made; regular price $5.25. Can be sent by mail for 75 cents extra.

We give this elegant Album for 50 subscribers at 25 cents each, or we will give it for 40 subscribers and 50 cents extra in cash; or for 30 subscribers and $1.00 extra in cash; or for 20 subscribers and $1.50 extra in cash; or we will sell it at the regular price of the manufacturers, $5.25.

Mailing, 75 cents extra, or sent by express well packed, recipient to pay express charges.

For a holiday, birthday, or wedding present, nothing could be better than this splendid album. It is not too soon to commence getting things for Christmas. A club of 50 can easily be secured in a few days.

Riverdale Story Books.

TWELVE BEAUTIFUL BOOKS.

Your Choice of Any One of These Volumes.

Each book contains nearly a hundred pages, with many illustrations. The type is large and the stories fully illustrated, highly interesting, and are written by "Oliver Optic." The following are the titles:

Little Merchant,
Proud and Lazy,
Young Voyagers,
The Do-Something's,
Christmas Gift,
Robinson Crusoe, Jr.,
Dorry and I,
The Picnic Party,
Uncle Ben,
The Gold Thimble,
Birthday Party,
Careless Kate.

These Books are especially fitted for Sunday-schools, Day-schools, Birthday, Christmas, and other Gifts for the Little People.

We will send A SET of the above-named books, packed in a neat case, for only 20 subscribers, at 25 cents per year each.

BEAUTIFUL DOLLS

Given for a club of 20 new subscribers at 25 cents each.

These dolls will delight the little girls. Their hair and eyes are beautiful, and their complexion indicates perfect health. Any little girl would be happy with one or both of these dolls to care for and educate. The face, neck and shoulders are bisque. The eyes are bright and beautiful. This Doll has already grown to be fifteen inches tall. Any little girl can easily secure this doll by getting 20 neighbors or friends to subscribe for the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

Price, $1.30, Postpaid.

For only 8 Subscribers, we give a very nice Doll, with patent head, very strong and durable, kid body, 12 inches long. Any little girl can easily secure one of these beautiful dolls.

DECORATIVE ART COLOR BOX AT HOME.

MOIST WATER COLORS.

Given for only 8 new Subscribers, at 25 Cents each per Year.

We offer as a premium the box of English Moist Water Colors, of which we give a representation above, to any one obtaining a number of subscribers, with the cash, as above, for a low price. The box is of tin, painted and varnished, and contains twelve covers which, when open, afford ample room for mixing the paints. It has a thumb-hole in the lower, so that it can be used as a palette. The colors are ten in number, each enclosed in a tin tray. These good features of convenient size complete the set. Most convenient for the superior to the city. This box of colors is the one recommended by the Society of Arts in England for pupils as one in the country.

Price, 60 cents, postpaid.

Given as a premium for 8 new subscribers, and mailed, pos age paid, to any address.

SPLENDID FLUTING MACHINE

Given as a Premium for only 40 Subscribers, at 25 Cents each, per Year.

This Fluter will do as nice work as any machine in the world. It is the cheapest and best fluter in the market. It is simple in its construction, heated by loose irons, and can be attached to any table easier than any other machine. The taste for this style of trimming is popular. Our effort has been to produce a machine that will come within the reach of all. It is handsomely made, the handle being japanned and the rollers nickel-plated. It is designed for the family and the workshop.

The platform in front of lower Roll is arranged to enable the operator to guide the material, and by a pressure of the hand on it to separate the Rolls quickly and without trouble, in order to adjust the goods if fluted crooked or bias, or if the goods are being scorched from using heaters that are too hot.

The spring is so placed that the separating of the Rolls for the putting in the work does not compress or affect it in the least, thus, not only saving the spring unnecessary strain, but easing the operation.

Each machine is put in a separate wooden box, with four heaters and a lifter.

Given for only subscribers, which any lady can secure in half an hour. We offer it for sale for $3. Must be sent by express, receiver to pay charges.

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A FIRST-CLASS RELIABLE WATCH AND CHAIN,

WILL BE GIVEN TO ANY BOY OR GIRL WHO WILL SEND US A CLUB OF 50 SUBSCRIBERS, AT 25 CENTS PER YEAR EACH, OR WE WILL GIVE THIS WATCH AND CHAIN FOR ONLY 25 SUBSCRIBERS, AND $1.00 EXTRA IN CASH.

THE WATERBURY WATCH is a stem-winder, and will run 28 hours. The case is **Nickel-Silver**, and will always remain as bright as a new silver dollar. The watch has a heavy beveled edge, and crystal face. The works of the Watch are made with the finest automatic machinery. Every Watch is **Tested** in varying positions and is perfect before leaving the factory. Each watch is put up in a handsome new improved **Satin-lined case**, for safe transportation through the mails.

So well known have these watches become, thousands are buying them in preference to higher priced watches. The Company are now making **1,000** watches each day, an average of 1⅔ watches per minute.

This watch is thoroughly reliable, and will keep just as good time as any watch costing $40 or $50. If parents could only understand how this watch is made, and that it is really just as good a time-keeper as any costly watch, the company would not be able to supply the demand. Boys, you will find this a valuable premium, well worth working for.

Any bright boy can secure 50 subscribers in a day. Just show the **Ladies' Home Journal** to the ladies, and no one will refuse you 25 cents to try it a year.

Begin at once; use this paper for a sample copy, and send us a postal card for as many more as you can use.

Every Boy Should Have One !

Is the Waterbury a Toy?—Probably no other invention ever patented has been so persistently maligned and ridiculed and misrepresented as the Waterbury watch has been by watch-makers and dealers. The reason is obvious. There is not an opportunity to make as much on the sale of a $5.50 Waterbury as on a $50 Waltham; and those who purchase the Waterbury cannot be induced to invest in the Waltham.

Repaired for a Trifle.—The fight of the dealers against the Waterbury has been so bitter and desperate that in most cases they refuse either to handle or repair it. Hence the manufacturers offer to repair, for little or nothing, all watches which may be accidentally injured. Also, while it costs from $1 to $3 to repair an ordinary watch, the manufacturers charge only from 25 cents to 50 cents to clean and repair any Waterbury.

Average Sales 1000 per Day.—But in spite of watch-makers and dealers efforts to discredit the Waterbury, it is still being sold at the numerous rate of over 1,000 per day the year round. We not only guarantee the watch to give satisfaction, but we present a few samples of the thousands of testimonials received from those who have purchased the Waterbury.

What Purchasers Say About the Waterbury.—"For three years I have carried a Waterbury Watch. It has been wound regularly, and has not varied or been repaired or regulated in that time."—M. M. Merrill, Louisville, Ky. Aug. 30, 1884.

"I have sold my Waterbury for $7.50 and now want another."—Wm. B. Scott, Wadley, Ga.

"I am perfectly delighted with my Waterbury. It is not only neatly and substantially made, but is a splendid timer. I have run it with a Waltham Watch, full jeweled, chronometer balance, and adjusted to heat and cold and position, and it has not varied ten seconds in ten days."—W. M. Heath, Edgefield C. H., S. C.

"I have tried my watch for three weeks with $50 watches and it keeps as good time, or better, than they do."—J. P. Langmira, Como, La.

"Have had a Waterbury Watch for more than a year. It gives perfect satisfaction in every particular and has kept perfect time."—Clark W. Huntley, Chariton, Iowa.

"I have carried a Waterbury for the last three years and always found it to be a good timekeeper."—Harry G. Wall, 51 Cedar street, New York.

What the New York Tribune Says.—But some one may say that the character of the above testimonials is exceptional. Well, we do not pretend to say that **every** Waterbury, any more than **every** high-priced Waltham watch, can be so accurately regulated as not to vary a minute a year, or a second a day, but we do pretend to say that, with very few exceptions, they keep satisfactory time; and, in support of this fact, we quote the following from the New York Tribune: "It is a remarkable fact that out of the first 1,000 watches sent out by the Tribune, only eight have failed to give perfect satisfaction."

Safe Delivery Guaranteed.—The Tribune's "eight unsatisfactory" watches in the 1,000, may have been injured in the mails, so that even these watches may have left the factory in good condition. But whether they did or not, we guarantee to deliver a perfect watch in every case, so that if the first one received should not suit, it may be returned for another that will.

Description.—The Waterbury which we offer contains all the latest improvements. It is a full plate movement, comprising 37 separate parts. It is a stem winder in half-open face and nickel silver case. With every watch, we supply a Nickel Plated Chain and Charm Whistle. The cases are handsomely chased and the Watch and Chain complete are packed in a handsome Satin-lined Box.

On Time.—If you wish to be on time, carry a Waterbury Watch. If you wish to teach your children habits of promptness, give them a Waterbury. It will save its price over and over again every year, in time, anxiety and vexations, besides the habit of punctuality which it cultivates. Price of Watch and Chain complete, is only $5.50, postpaid.

ROGERS' & BRO., AI, SILVER-PLATED PIE KNIFE

Given as a Premium for ONLY 40 Subscribers, at 25 Cents each per Year.

This makes a very handsome present, and a beautiful table ornament. Every lady ought to have a Pie Knife for company. The above is the best plated ware and will last a life-time. We offer it for sale for only $1.50, or we will send it, postpaid, as a free present to any one sending us 40 new subscribers, at 25 cents each per year. Any bright boy or girl can pick up 40 subscribers in an hour or so. Try it and secure the above beautiful present for your trouble.

Silver Plated Butter Knife,

GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS PER YEAR EACH

A new, handsome, neat and stylish pattern, tripple-plated, on finest English white steel. Will wear for years. Almost as good as solid silver. All the objectionable qualities of German Silver and brass, which are known to have a disagreeable taste, and are, when a little worn, poisonous, will be avoided in the use of these goods. They are also stronger, and of greater durability than any goods produced.

Butter Knife given for only 4 subscribers. Price, 50 cents.
Set of Six Tea Spoons given for 12 subscribers. Price, $1.00.
Set of Six Table Forks given for 20 subscribers. Price, $2.00.

For a club of 30 subscribers at 25 cents each, we will send the Sugar Shell, Butter Knife, Tea Spoons and Forks, a good, serviceable present for a young housekeeper. Price, $3.00 for the set.

HANDSOME

Silver-Plated Sugar Shell

Or Butter-Knife

Given for Four New Subscribers at 25 Cents Each per Year.

A new, handsome, neat and stylish pattern, tripple-plated, on finest English white steel. Will wear for years. Almost as good as solid silver. All the objectionable qualities of German Silver and brass, which are known to have a disagreeable taste, and are, when a little worn, poisonous, will be avoided in the use of these goods. They are also stronger, and of greater durability than any goods produced.

A Butter Knife will be given instead of the Sugar Shell, if prefered.

For 12 subscribers we will give a set of Tea Spoons, same quality, and for a club of 20, a set of forks.

At 25 cents per year, in clubs of four or more, every lady in the land can afford the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. Send for sample copies to distribute among your friends and neighbors. Address:

LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, Phila., Pa.

CRESCENT LACE PIN

Given for Only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cts. Each per Year.

A little beauty, of the latest style with crescent of Oxidized Silver, and spray of Forget-me-nots in frosted silver. These pins are exceedingly neat and pretty, and are very easy to secure. Given for only four subscribers at 25 cents per year each. We sell them, postpaid, to any address for only 50 cents.

LADIES SILVER BAR PIN

Given for only 4 new subscribers at 25 Cents per Year.

SILVER BAR PIN.

A Silver Bangle Lace Bar Pin, with four bangles handsomely engraved. One of our best premiums for ladies. They are very fashionable, and cannot be bought in any store for double the money we ask, for 4 subscribers at 25 cents each.

MAGIC LANTERN !

GIVEN FOR 20 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR, OR FOR ONLY 12 SUBSCRIBERS AND 50 CENTS EXTRA IN CASH.

Magic Lantern with fine lenses, coal oil lamp, 12 long Colored Slides containing 40 Views; Screen, Posters, Programmes and Tickets.

Home Entertainments.

The large picture suggests the pleasant evenings which may be in store for the boys and girls who obtain this intrument. With this magic lantern very fine entertainments can be given to friends and neighbors.

A DELIGHTFUL AND PROFITABLE PASTIME FOR YOUNG AND OLD.

We can now send a Magic Lantern complete, for only **20** new subscribers; so small a club can be secured in half an hour by any bright boy. The lenses are fine and the same as used in high priced lanterns. We also send views, show-bills, tickets, and full instructions, enabling any person who gets a lantern to give delightful evening entertainments in churches, school rooms, and their own homes, charging an admission of 10 cents or more, and make $5 and upwards, on each exhibition.

How to Earn Money With It.

Become familiar with the lantern and views, select a convenient evening to give your exhibition, then announce it and sell the tickets to your neighbors and friends, or give an exhibition for the benefit of some church, Sunday-school, or charitable object, and thus enlist many others to sell tickets.

THE POLYOPTICON--A WONDER CAMERA.

No. 1 given for 30 subscribers and 30 cents extra for postage. No. 2—largest size—given for 60 subscribers. Sent by mail for 60 cents extra, to any address.

This is a wonderful invention whereby views from newspapers, magazines and book illustrations, portraits, comic cuts, photographs, chromo cards, IN ALL THEIR COLORS, flowers, etc., can be thrown on a screen in the parlor, enlarged about 400 times. Our little ones are wonderfully delighted with it, and must have it in use every evening.

POLYOPTICON PARTIES.

are all the go in social circles from New York to San Francisco. The San Francisco Morning Call reports that "Several Polyopticon parties have been arranged for the coming winter, when each guest will bring with him a few of the ordinary picture advertising cards and their photographs, or natural flowers, whereby an entire change of views can be seen every evening, which is impossible to do with the magic-lantern without a great expense in purchasing new slides for each evening."

OVER 200 FREE PICTURES,

Worth $20 if on glass, for use with a magic lantern, are given with each Polyopticon, thus affording a lot ready for immediate use, including:

Around the World in 80 Sights; Bible Pictures—Old and New Testament, Ancient and Modern Statues, Portraits of Prominent Persons, Illustrations from Robinson Crusoe, Illustrations of a Temperance lesson; Over 100 Comic German Figures in Procession, and Silhouettes.

PRICES:—No. 1. Lamp Shade Polyopticon and Pictures, $2.50. No. 2, Complete, $5.00. Sent by mail or express, prepaid, on receipt of price. If sent as premium for clubs, send 30 cts. extra for postage on No. 1, or 60 cents extra for postage on No. 2.

DECORATED TEA SET.

Girls, Send us 12 New Subscribers, at 25 Cents each, and Secure This DECORATED CHINA TEA SET.

SPLENDID PREMIUM FOR THE GIRLS.

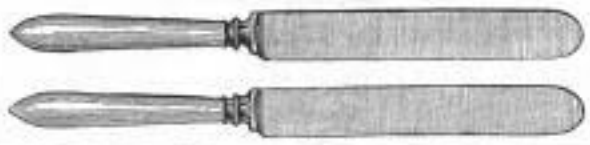
Given as a present to any little girl sending us a club of only 12 subscribers, at 25 cts. each.

This is a beautiful china set, consisting of 15 pieces, richly decorated with gold and floral designs; it will please any parents to see how delighted their child will be to get one of these lovely China sets. Large enough for three little girls and boys to have a stylish party and each one to have a separate cup and saucer.

If subscribers can easily be secured in half an hour by simply showing a copy of paper to your mother's friends.

Our new Set for 1886 is much handsomer than the one we have been sending, and will make a very pretty Holiday present. POSTAGE 35 CENTS EXTRA. Sent to any address by mail.

ROGERS' SILVER-PLATED STEEL KNIVES !



Set of six given for a club of 30 subscribers, at 25 cents per year.

These knives are steel, and heavily plated with pure coin silver. They are the best made, and will last for years. Price $2.50 post paid.

These are Rogers & Bros. best tripple plate. A very good quality of other makes can be given for 20 subscribers.

Splendid Premium for the Boys.

A Complete Printing Office

given free of all charge to any boy who will send us 12 new subscribers at 50 cents each, or for 6 subscribers and $1.00 extra in cash.

The Daisy Printing Press, Type and Complete Outfit is the newest and only really practical printers' equipment for beginners. It affords pleasure and remunerative employment to boys or girls, who can print with this press Visiting and Business Cards as perfect as can be done on presses costing many times the extremely low price of the DAISY. The very first order you get for printing may amount to two or three times the cost of this valuable outfit, so that in reality you will only have executed a little pleasant labor and have the source of considerable profit in the end.

This outfit is provided with Ink Table, Screw Chase, Adjustable Metal Card Gauge, and Patent Composing Pallet, with Screw Attachment, by the aid of which ingenious little device the amateur quickly learns to "set up" and "distribute" type, besides being a wonderful improvement over any other method for adjusting the form for Visiting Cards. It also includes the Composition Ink Roller, Can of best Card Ink, and a full, regular font of Fancy Card Type, with Spaces and Quads. The whole put up in a neat sliding-cover wooden box, with full directions to amateurs, How to Print, How to set Type.

Price $2.00, sent postpaid to any address.

This PRINTING PRESS, 1 Composition Ink Roller, 1 Can best Card Ink, 1 Composing Pallet, and a full regular font of Fancy Card Type, including Quads and Spaces.

The whole put up in a neat wooden box, with full directions to amateurs—How to Print, How to Set Type, etc, delivered to any point in the United States.

Furthermore we will give free a Package of Cards to begin with.

LACE BAR PIN

Given for only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cents per Year Each.

A very pretty and stylish Pin of frosted silver. They are the very latest style and are very popular. Given for a club of only four subscribers, or sold for 30 cents and sent postpaid, to any address.

PHOTOGRAPH ALBUM,

Given for 20 new names.

This Album is bound in fine leather, has bevelled edges and is ornamented in black and gold, as seen in the cut.

It contains places for 40 pictures; part of the openings are oval and part square. The pages are lined with gold. The book has gilt edges and nickel-clasp. Size, 6¾ x 8½ inches.

Given for twenty new subscribers at 25 cents each per year

LADIES' SHOPPING BAGS.

This is a very popular shopping bag with ladies, and is a very convenient arrangement for carrying purse, handkerchief, and other such small articles when on the street or shopping. It has nickel trimmings and is made of fine leather. The style in shape is constantly changing, and we will send the best shape or style at time it is ordered.

Given as a premium for 20 subscribers at 25 cents each.

Price, including one year's subscription, $1.00

Given for a club of 22 subscribers and 37 cents extra

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

Bulbs in the House.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

Every lover of flowers who desires to brighten the windows of the sitting-room during the early months of winter, should pot a few bulbs now, and give them a chance to get well rooted before bringing them into the house. I find that a great many persons think it unnecessary to make any preparation for the winter blooming of bulbs so far in advance of the season when it is desired to have them come into flower, and labor under the idea that it is quite as well to pot the bulbs and place them in the windows at once. This is not so, because the heat and light stimulates a growth of top before the roots have had time to get a good start. If potted and placed in a cool, dark cellar, the roots grow, and when you bring the pots to the sitting-room, the plants have become so well established that there is plenty of strength in them to develop leaves and flowers rapidly. If this is not done, the show of flowers will be weak and small.

Tulips are good bulbs to bring into bloom in winter. I prefer the single to the double ones for this purpose. Hyacinths are among the best bulbs for winter blooming, and, as is the case with Tulips, the single varieties are most satisfactory. The Crocus and Narcissus will give a profuse bloom, and make a fine show if several bulbs are planted in a six or eight inch pot. If one has not a cellar in which to place the pots until it is time to bring them to the windows, the pots can be sunk in the ground and covered with litter until November. A period of four or five weeks should be given the roots to form in. After blooming the pots can be placed in a cool, dry place, and kept there during the winter. In spring, the bulbs can be planted out in the garden. They can not be expected to bloom again in spring, after having been forced, but they will produce bulbs which can be used in the garden next year. Bulbs are so cheap that a small amount of money will purchase all that one can accommodate in the sitting-room. I shall not attempt to name flowers which are most desirable for winter blooming, because one florist has varieties of one name, and another sells the same varieties under other names, therefore ordering named varieties is a very uncertain way of getting what you want. The best plan is to tell the florist that you want the bulbs for winter flowering, and he will select and send you what he knows, from his own experience, to be good. In potting bulbs for the house, I use a rich compost, and put from three to four good-sized bulbs in an ordinary sized pot.

ROSES FOR THE HOUSE.

I am in receipt of several letters asking how to grow Roses satisfactorily in the house, and what kinds to select. I do not generally advise amateurs to attempt house cultivation of the Rose, because it is a most difficult plant to grow well in living-rooms. If there is a green fly about, he will be sure to take up his dwelling among the Roses, and the red spider seems to prefer them to any other plant. Those who grow roses in the house must be willing to fight for them if she would succeed. Still, they can be grown there with moderate success. The best varieties are, Agrippina, scarlet-crimson, Perlides jardins, rich, tawny yellow, and very fragrant, and Hermosa, bright pink. Take these three to experiment with. If successful, enlarge your collection, and add Bon Silene, Queen's Scarlet, Niphetos, and Safrano. If you are not successful with the three first named you can hardly hope to be with any others. Use garden loam, made rich with thoroughly rotted cow-manure. Roses like a moderately heavy soil. Keep them in the coolest place you have. Give them as much fresh air as possible. Do not wait for the green fly to make his appearance, but syringe the plants two or three times a week with tobacco tea. The moisture will keep the red spider down. If the plants flower, cut off the blooms as soon as they fade, and as soon as all the buds have developed, cut the branches they were borne on back to good strong buds from which new growth can be looked for. The buds last spoken of, it will be understood, are not blossom buds. I make this remark, because a lady recently wrote to me that she had read an article of mine in which I advised cutting back to healthy buds, and she could find no buds to cut back to,—she had kept her plant two years and it had grown well, but had never had a bud on it. There are buds from which flowers are developed, and buds from which new branches grow, and a little study of the plant and the application of a little thought will make instructions plain. Roses require strong light, and plenty of sunshine. While they like plenty of fresh air in the house, they do not like being exposed to a strong draft. Do not stimulate them, by the use of liquid fertilizers, into making a rapid growth. Aim to keep them growing, but let the growth be a healthy one. Too much stimulation causes them to become weak and spindling.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

H. G., Springfield.—If you want a hanging plant that will endure heat, and give plenty of flowers, the very best plant you can select is the Oxalis. It will flourish where most other plants will die. If care is taken to keep the soil moderately moist, it will give you profuse crops of flowers all the winter. One reason why so many fail in growing plants well in baskets is because they do not keep them wet enough. A plant suspended near the upper part of the window is in a much warmer stratum of atmosphere than those near the floor, and dries out much more rapidly. A hanging plant requires water nearly every day. If allowed to get dry, the leaves turn yellow and the whole plant becomes unsightly in consequence.

Mrs. S., Vandalia.—Yes, there are many varieties of Begonias which will bloom well in winter. B. rubra, or coccinea is one of the best, with bright, coral-red flowers. B. Weltonienses, with pink flowers is very good, also B. Richardsonii, white. B. fuchsoides is pretty, having small, red flowers, and rich shining foliage. Do not bother with the Rex varieties in the sitting-room. They will not do well there.

Fuchsia-lover.—After your Fuchsias have done blooming, set the plants in the cellar, and give only enough water to prevent the soil in the pot from becoming dry. Let them remain until February. If the leaves fall off the plants are not injured in the least. In February, bring them up, and cut off at least two-thirds of the top. Give water gradually until new growth begins. This increases the supply. It is a very good plan to put a supply of potting soil in the cellar in fall; having it on hand, you can repot the plants when you bring them up, and not wait to do this until they are full of buds, as you will have to if you do not lay in a supply. Every grower of flowers should keep a box full of compost in the cellar, or some other convenient place, to draw from in repotting such plants as start into growth early in the season. If one has to wait until spring, the plant is often injured by repotting it at a time when it should be allowed to make an uninterrupted growth. With soil at hand, this can be attended to whenever it is necessary.

Birdie Holmes.—The Stephanotis cannot be grown successfully out of a green house. A white-flowered, sweet-scented vine with which you can succeed is Rhynchospermum jasminoides. This will grow well in ordinary living-rooms, if syringed all over two or three times a week to keep the red spider down.

We would refer all who need artist's materials or paints of any description, to Frost & Adams, of Boston, Mass. Importing largely, and keeping in stock all the best oil and water colors, they are prepared at any time to supply any demand made upon them. A complete assortment of mathematical instruments, architects and engineers supplies constantly on hand. All orders sent by mail will receive prompt and particular attention, and with the aid of their illustrated catalogue, sent free, any one living at a distance can purchase material with as great economy, and as much satisfaction, as if giving it personal attention.

Send your address with stamp enclosed, to A. Brackenridge, of Govanstown, Md., for catalogue of his large and wonderful collection of Orchids. The cultivation of this Queen of Flowers has been brought to perfection in the Rosebank nurseries, and any instructions received from Mr. Brackenridge will be practical, and thoroughly reliable. These nurseries—established since 1854—have an enviable reputation, and all dealings with them will give satisfaction.

Amber Enamel, advertised by Pratt & Lambert, of N. Y., is used for enameling art pottery, plaques, and any other article needing a fine smooth coat of hard varnish. Being perfectly waterproof it can be used without first baking the object that has been decorated, and for that reason is of great assistance to ladies in painting and home decorating. Any one requiring a good, transparent, and perfectly reliable varnish, can obtain it by addressing the manufacturers, as advertised in another column. In sending be sure to mention JOURNAL.

EIGHT

Excellent reasons why every Lady should wear

BALL'S

CORSETS

1st. They need no breaking in.
2d. INVALIDS can wear them with ease and Comfort, as they yield to every movement of the body.
3d. They do not compress the most vital parts of the wearer.
4th. They will fit a greater variety of forms than any other make.
5th. Owing to their peculiar construction they will last TWICE AS LONG as an ordinary Corset.
6th. They have had the unqualified endorsement of every Physician who has examined them.
7th. They have given universal satisfaction to all ladies who have worn them, the common remark being,

"WE WILL NEVER WEAR ANY OTHER MAKE."

8th. They are the only Corset that the wearer is allowed three weeks trial, and if not found perfectly satisfactory in every respect the money is refunded.

FOR SALE BY

ALL LEADING DRY GOODS DEALERS.

CHICAGO CORSET CO.,
240 & 242 Monroe St., Chicago, Ill.
NEW YORK SALESROOM.
13 Lispenard Street.

SCHULTHEIS BROTHERS, the Largest ROSE GROWERS in the United States. Write for their descriptive Catalogue.
SCHULTHEIS BROS., P. O. Box 78, College Point, L. I.

Palmer's Piano Primer, Endorsed by Dr. Wm. Mason, W. H. Sherwood, A. R. Parsons, Carlyle Petersilea, etc. Invaluable to teachers, indispensible to learners, saving time of teacher worth many times its cost. Price, 75 cents, post-paid. Address H. R. PALMER, Mus. Doc., Lock-box 3841, New York City.

TAKE THE HINT.

"WHEN'EER an anxious group is seen
Around some monthly magazine
Or paper that is daily whirled
To every quarter of the world,
And merry peals of laughter rise
As this or that attracts the eyes,
The smiling crowd you may depend
Above some illustrations bend
That advertise the strength and scope
And purity of IVORY SOAP.

But while they smile or praise bestow
And wonder whence ideas flow,
The fact should still be kept in mind
That people of the knowing kind
Will heed the hints or lessons laid,
In rhymes and pictures thus displayed,
And let no precious moments fly
Until the IVORY Soap they try,
And prove on garments coarse and fine
The truth of every sketch and line.

If your grocer does not keep the Ivory Soap, send six two-cent stamps, to pay the postage, to Procter & Gamble, Cincinnati, and they will send you free a large cake of IVORY SOAP.

Granite Ironware.

FOR BROILING, BAKING. BOILING, PRESERVING,
IS LIGHT, HANDSOME, WHOLESOME, DURABLE

TRADE MARK PATENT GRANITE IRON WARE

The Best Ware Made for the Kitchen.

MANUFACTURED ONLY BY THE

ST. LOUIS STAMPING COMPANY, ST. LOUIS.

This Trade Mark on Every Piece.

For Sale by all Stove, Hardware and House Furnishing Dealers.

COOK BOOK AND PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION. BE SURE TO MENTION THIS PAPER.

DECKER BROTHERS'

MATCHLESS

PIANOS

33 UNION SQUARE, NEW YORK.

Mason & Hamlin

ORGANS: Highest Honors at all Great World's Exhibitions for eighteen years. One hundred styles, $22.50 $900. For Cash, Easy Payments or Rented. Catalogues free.

PIANOS: New mode of Stringing. Do not require one-quarter as much tuning as Pianos on the prevailing "wrest-pin" system. Remarkable for purity of tone and durability.

ORGAN AND PIANO CO.

154 Tremont St., Boston. 46 E. 14th St. (Union Sq.), N. Y. 149 Wabash Ave., Chicago.

READ THIS!

NEW STYLES OF HUMAN HAIR,

Of our own invention and manufacture, just out.

On receipt of order with sample shade will send goods to your address in any place in the U. S. for examination and approval before risking your money.

La Pompadour, Lisbon, Sea Foam, and other Waves, all warranted natural curl and to withstand dampness.

Switches in all shades and sizes; Wigs, Frontpieces, etc. Send for circular to

JOHN MEDINA,

463 Washington Street, BOSTON, MASS.

LE PAGE'S GLUES

Used by the best manufacturers and mechanics in the world. Pullman Palace Car Co., Mason & Hamlin, Organ & Piano Co., &c., for all kinds of fine work.

At the New Orleans Exposition, joints made with it endured a testing strain of over

1600 Pounds TO A SQUARE INCH.

"Strongest glue known." Rec'd

TWO GOLD MEDALS. London, 1883. New Orleans, 1885.

If your dealer does not keep it send his card and 10c. postage for sample can, FREE.

RUSSIA CEMENT CO., Gloucester, Mass.

ORCHIDS

LARGEST COLLECTION IN AMERICA. CHEAP AS GOOD ROSES.

Enclose stamp for Catalogue with colored plate, which will give practical instructions how to grow these Queens of Flowers.

ROSEBANK NURSERIES, Established 1854. Mention this paper.

A. Brackenridge, Govanstown, Balt. Co., Md.

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VOL. III, NO. 2. PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY, 1886. Yearly Subscription 50 Cents. Single Copies 5 Cents.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE DOCTOR'S DAUGHTERS.

BY MARY ABBOTT HAND.

CHAPTER II.

A big Cunard steamer lay at the wharf and plenty of eager or reluctant travelers were leaving their native land. But one young man could be classed with neither the above. He was leaving his native land, but there was nothing to which he could look forward with eagerness. The sad object of his journey was to make, probably, fruitless inquiries regarding a recent Alpine calamity, hoping against hope that the bodies of his parents might be recovered.

On the other hand, he was not reluctant to leave his native place. It was heart-rending to pass the old parsonage and think that the doors would never open to receive the venerated figure of his father, and that he should never more see his busy mother gathering mignonette and roses in the garden, or flying about the house in her lively way, preparing for company. As he recalled those familiar pictures, forever lost, poor Fred felt more lonely than ever. He was not quite alone, however. A goodly number of friends had come in town to see him off and wish him bon voyage.

Doctor Drexell was among them and wondered why in the world Fanny did not come too.

The Woods' were there and Miss Dollie's eyes were quite wet, and the pink in her cheeks had gone to her nose which was not at all becoming. But Dollie, be it said, was crying from pure sympathy and not because she had, or desired to have, any personal claims on the young man.

And he was not especially grieved on parting with her, or any of that group of kind friends. His heart was with Fanny,—giddy, inexplicable but most dear Fanny.

What would he not give or one word or look from her now!

The last warning had sounded and a final rush for the boat was being made when a square-shouldered, red moustached young man made his way through the crowd and reached Fred Garrett as he was just stepping on board.

"Here's a note for you, sir; something Miss Drexell was anxious you should get. I was afraid I shouldn't hit you; ran every step from the station. Good luck and good by!"

Fred had time only for the hastiest acknowlement and crushed the little, violet-scented note in his hand as eagerly as if it was an answered prayer. He felt condemned for ingratitude as he responded to the waving handkerchief on shore, for he was longing to get out of sight of them and be in his state room, reading Fanny's note.

It was a penitent little thing, making amends for all that had gone wrong; telling pathetically, of her stealing alone up to the Woods' to try to comfort him, and how she found that Miss Dollie had taken her place, and how she hoped Miss Dollie would never grieve poor Fred as she had done and prayed they might be happy &c., &c.

The postscript conveyed the not wholly pleasing information that this note was forwarded by young Captain Marston, a new friend of hers who had been very kind and had come to her aid once when she was really afraid of that dreadful Mac Bennett."

Fred read and re-read the first part of the note and his soul was comforted; but he did not enjoy the postscript.

He wrote Fanny at once, sending an answer by the pilot: an answer that relieved poor Fanny.

He said that his neighbors, the Woods', had been very kind to him, but Miss Dorothy, as perhaps Fanny did not know, was soon to be married to a Chicago merchant, and was simply a friend, while Fanny was dearer than all the world, and the hardest thing in all his sorrow was not to have have her sympathy, but now he was assured of that, he could start on his sad journey with something of courage and hope, and nothing must ever come between them again.

Fanny's drooping spirits rose when she received this letter and she was kinder than ever to Captain Alf. for being the means of instituting happy relations between her and Fred.

Meanwhile, the honest young captain, who was ignorant of any special interest that Fanny had in Fred, became daily more and more in love with her, and few were the evenings that did not find him at the doctor's, either singing while Fanny played, or sitting on the door steps with all the sisters. Fanny, of course, took the position of belle. Beatrice looked lovely but took no more pains to speak than if she had been a marble statue. Ella was not prominent in any respect; only, as Fanny said sweetly, "she was a dear, handy little thing to have around."

It was she that answered the kitchen bell when Peggy was out. She was the one to bring wraps if it grew chilly. And nobody but Ella was depended upon to receive the orders which came for the doctor during his absence. Then, when he returned, it was always Ella's quiet step that hastened to the office and drew up the easy chair and slippers and adjusted the light of the student lamp to just that subdued, steady glow that his sensitive eyes alone could bear.

It was an increasing care on this little woman's mind, this subject of her father's eyes.

For years he had been troubled with them. He was exceedingly sensitive on the subject and Ella was careful not only to be eyes for him, but to try to disguise the fact that she noticed his increasing infirmity.

"'WHY, SHE ALL BUT SPEAKS!' SAID HE, VERY MUCH AFFECTED."

THE DOCTOR'S DAUGHTERS.—"HERE'S A NOTE FOR YOU, SIR; SOMETHING MISS DREXELL WAS ANXIOUS FOR YOU TO GET."

One evening, a few weeks after Fred Garrett had sailed for Europe, the sisters were enjoying the sunset from the front door steps. Beatrice always claimed the privilege of skimming the cream from the daily news. Fan did not care, and Ella, whatever she might have enjoyed, was not selfish.

"Why,—I—am—astonished!" said Beatrice, in her deliberate tones. "Here is an interesting item: 'Rescue of an Alpine party;' shall I read?"

"Go ahead!" "Hurry up!" rejoined both sisters eagerly.

"A party of American travelers," continued Beatrice, slowly, "supposed to be overwhelmed by an avalance, have been heard from in a little Swiss village (can't pronounce the name)——"

"No matter!" cried Ella, "Go on!"

"The guide, who alone, was not precipitated, reported the party as crushed, but by a wonderful escape they are all alive and well, barring a few bruises, and, in some cases, a naturally disturbed state of the nerves, resulting from the frightful experience through which they passed. They will, doubtless, soon be able to resume their journey. The Rev. Mr. Garrett and wife are among the rescued party."

"Oh, Fred!" cried Ella, "I wonder if Fred knows it!"

"I hope so, I'm sure!" exclaimed Fanny, warmly. "I wish I could be the one to tell him. Oh, here comes Captain Alf.!"

"Yes, and father, too," said Ella, as she spied the big, awkward figure of the doctor groping uncertainly through the twilight. She hastened to make the usual preparations to welcome him, and then tripped out to tell him the wonderful good news the evening paper had brought.

"Is that so? Thank God!" said the doctor heartily, and his face lighted up with a brighter smile than the girls had seen for many weeks.

"Well, well!" he said, or sighed rather, as he entered his pleasant office. "I'm glad to have it look hopeful in some quarter."

"Ella!" he called, somewhat fretfully, "Won't you turn down this lamp? You forget I can't bear a glare, coming right out of the soft twilight too; this is unbearable!"

Ella did not reply, as she might in truth, that the lamp was adjusted exactly as usual, and was as low as it could possibly be turned. She touched the screw, however, to satisfy her father, quietly placed a screen between him and the light and then read him the orders that had been left during his absence.

Meanwhile, Beatrice, whose imagination had been much stimulated by the news of the Alpine rescue, was in her room writing a poem in several cantos, entitled "Fear Overtaken by Hope."

Captain Alf. still lingered on the door-steps and improved an opportunity he had been seeking.

When he left, silly Fanny had promised to marry him on his return from his next voyage. "How could I help it!" she asked herself as her conscience rebuked her. "I couldn't say 'no' to such a downright kind friend as he has shown himself. Perhaps I shall have to write 'no' sometime. Anyhow, a thousand things may happen before the end of the next voyage, and he has promised to keep our engagement quite secret. And I like him almost as well as Fred. Nobody will ever know. Something will happen to help me out,—I am sure there will. I never thought I could get rid of Mac Bennett—though to be sure, I wasn't engaged to him—but, after that dreadful evening when Captain Alf. came to the rescue, Mac took himself off so nicely,—just wrote papa that he had concluded to study elsewhere, and papa, like a dear old stupid as he is, never said or thought anything more about it. No, indeed, I couldn't have said a harsh word to poor Alf. And now, I must write a word to dear Fred and tell him how overjoyed I am to hear that his father and mother are alive after all."

The dainty little love letter was written and sealed with the seal Fred had given Fanny the Christmas before, with double "F" to indicate their mutual initals.

Then, this naughty Fanny laid her pretty head on the pillow, tucked one hand under her rosy cheek and in a few seconds was quietly sleeping.

Beatrice burned the midnight oil over her poetry, while Ella was awake over some stern prose. She was barely fourteen now, and frightfully young to lie awake over worries.

But though Fanny did not confide in her younger sister, Ella knew well enough that Captain Alf. was accepted that night and that Fred was wronged.

"Poor Fred!" said the little girl and hot tears brimmed her tired eyes.

Another worry that had taken definite shape, was in relation to her father. He had said to her very distinctly that evening that there was no use in disguising the fact that he was not much better than a blind man, and he proposed to go to Boston the following week and consult an eminent oculist. "And, if I go, little woman, said her father fondly, "you must go too. Only, Ella," he added, refuming a brusque manner, "don't hover around me too much and draw attention to your poor, blind father. Nothing troubles me so much. I hate to be an object!"

"I will try, papa dear," said Ella simply, as she kissed him good night.

A few days later found the little woman and her rather breakfasting at the Coolidge House. The dreaded examination had take place the day previous. The learned oculist had said, much to

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Dr. Drexell's relief that possibly an operation might not be necessary. They would try first if the cataract which obscured the sight, might not be absorbed. They would, at least, try the experiment.

Dr. Drexell was in the brightest spirits, and so sure of having his sight fully restored that he went stumbling about in the most confident manner, making no end of mistakes.

It would have been trying for the sensitive young girl at the best to breakfast for the first time at a public table, but the care of her father greatly increased her uneasiness.

She deftly placed what he wanted before him, buttered his roll and salted his egg. "Let me put on the pepper!" interrupted the doctor in an irritated way, taking it from Ella's hand. "Let be!" he called again roughly, when she would have replaced it. "I hope I can see casters when right before me." Then, with an air of triumph, he popped the pepper cruet right into the cream jug!

Some young girls opposite giggled outright,—a mirthful fat man tried to change his uncontrollable emotions into a cough. The well-controlled matrons in the vicinity maintained their decorum, much to Ella's relief. But she was especially grateful to a very plain-looking young man next her father who appeared utterly unconscious and who very soon, in an entirely civil and easy way, managed to engage the doctor in conversation.

Ella was far too timid and modest even to look her gratitude, but she felt grateful to the depths of her soul.

The homely stranger somehow made the remainder of the breakfast time pass very pleasantly. He addressed no remark at all to Ella and apparently did not notice her, though, in point of fact he had approvingly observed the graceful little figure daintily dressed in morning gown of white cambric, relieved only by black ribbons and golden hair. He left the table somewhat hurriedly, handing his business card to Dr. Drexell as he bowed his good morning.

The doctor passed it to Ella, who read it out,—"Keyser Claybourne, Commercial Traveler, Boots, Shoes, and Leather."

Ella glanced up as the fine figure of the boots and shoes man disappeared through the doorway.

"A good form," she commented, but about the homeliest face I ever saw. "Wasn't he kind, though!" thought she. "He acted just as Fred Garrett would have done, I am sure."

Ella, you see, not being old enough of course to have a hero of her own made a temporary hero out of one of Fanny's old ones, just as she sometimes adapted a dress that Fanny was tired of to her own more slender figure.

Fred Garrett, however, was very far from any intention of being little Ella Drexell's hero. How indignant he would have been at the thought, for he was not a little proud-spirited, this Fred Garrett.

He had the best of reasons for regarding Fanny Drexell as his promised wife. Ardent missives sped back and forth between them on every steamer, and an American friend returning home was commissioned to bear to Miss Fanny a pearl cross which she wore devotedly and privately out of sight.

"The ring," Fred wrote, "I want the pleasure of putting on your dear finger myself."

Meanwhile, Fannie was not ringless.

Her sailor lover had decorated her engagement finger with an elaborate circlet, blazing with emeralds and diamonds.

Fanny "reckoned without her host" when she flattered herself that Mac Bennett was disposed of without further trouble.

She shrank lunately from him as a person different from the good, respectable people with whom she had been associated.

Yet she did not know how much reason she had to shrink from him. She had not the faintest idea of his wickedness.

Although the young man had left Uplands, he had means of informing himself of Fanny's welfare and he was piqued to learn that she had no regrets to waste on her father's assistant. A thoroughly bad man like Mac Bennett does not need a great deal to inflame his revengeful passions. He thought it "a great deal" though to have the lady of his love despise him and insult him by turning him off in the street and appealing to a comparative stranger to take care of her.

It did not matter to Mac that Fanny had never admitted any special interest in him,—that she had only accepted his attentions to show Fred Garrett that he was not the only young man in the place. Mac felt rebuffed as much as if he had every right to claim Fanny's society and he did not rest till he had planned a brutal scheme of revenge.

It was months before this could be carried out.

The white roses and honeysuckles, which were in their sweetest glory when Mac left Uplands, had long since faded and danced as spectres to the music of the September wind.

The autumn leaves had blazed and burned to brown ashes. Now, the garden was overspread with white; the vines that had been so lovely around the porches had lost their beauty and their usefulness too, and one must look for comfort indoors.

It was pleasant enough, however, in the Drexell's parlor; an old-fashioned room, furnished handsomely and not too recently. It was rich in a good deal of deep, red color, in rugs portieres and lambrequins. All sorts of comfortable chairs tempted you to rest, and there were plenty of good pictures, books, music, a laughing, open fire; last, not least, three delightful young girls. Were not these enough to make a home parlor attractive!

The master of the house could seldom bear the brightness of this cheerful room. He would come in late in the evening perhaps for a little while, when the fire was covered up for the night and the gas turned low. The pleasant wood fire had been banished from his office, and a dark stove that kept the bright spirit within safely imprisoned, took its place.

Yet, the doctor hoped his eyes were better, and his faithful nurse, Ella, thought so too.

One evening in December, the family were all at home, including young Captain Alf, who might almost be reckoned one of the family. Dr. Drexell's mental vision seemed to have a cataract or something else obscuring it, for he had no suspicion of Captain Alf's special interest in Fanny.

The doctor thought he came to see the girls in general and pass a pleasant evening, and he was glad to see his motherless daughters appreciated.

"Nice girls, every one!" the doctor would say to himself. "Couldn't get along without my little Ella, but Fanny's the belle, that's plain; and as for Beatrice,—What a head that girl has—we shall hear from it sometime, depend upon it!"

Perhaps there had not been so pleasant an evening as this since Mrs. Drexell died.

In the office, Ella was reading the evening news to her father.

"Why, child!" he interrupted. "My eyes are certainly better,—no doubt of it! I've been experimenting here with this screen and I find I can bear the light very well. Wouldn't wonder if I could knock this stove away before winter is over, and have my pretty open fire back again. Let's go out in the parlor and see if I can stand the light there."

"I don't know," said Ella, hesitatingly, "I'm afraid you will find it too bright." The doctor was not to be stopped, so, Ella, bearing the screen as a defence if necessary, hastened after him. Reaching the hall first, they were surprised to see the old white cat, who had not entered the house since the day of Mrs. Drexell's funeral.

There she stood, or rather, revolved, striving to express by unearthly mews and every means in her power that there was something on her mind.

"Why, kitty!" said the doctor with a startled feeling. He well remembered the last time she had ventured into the house. The kitty rubbed against the doctor's slippers and then would dash wildly down the hall,—then return to the doctor.

"Why, she all but speaks!" said he, very much affected. "Run back, Ella, and get a lamp and that young man, and then come with me.

Ella gave the alarm, and young Captain Alf, Fanny and Beatrice hastened after her.

They had only to open the kitchen door to find out the cause of the cat's distress. Flames were bursting through the floor!

In that first moment of alarm, it was evident that the fire was not the result of accident.

Faithful Peggy had left the stove, the lamp, the matches, the furnace and every possible avenue of danger carefully guarded as usual.

(To be Continued.)

[For the Ladies' Home Journal.]

A MASQUERADE, AND WHAT CAME OF IT.

By Fannie L. Fancher.

"Well, Lottie, what shall we do about attending the masquerade?" Guess they calculate on a big time. They have sent invitations to all the stations for miles around, and a good many tickets have already been sold, though its nearly two weeks ahead. Schofield has ordered fifty suits, or costumes, from Chicago. Presume they will be fine."

"You seem very enthusiastic. Will, over this prospective party," said his wife, "but I have been thinking it all over, pro and con, and—well it will cost at least ten dollars, won't it, and more too," added she, not waiting for his reply, "if we do anything nice in the way of costumes. Baby needs a cloak, and Freddie an overcoat, so it strikes me 'twould be foolish to fritter away the money in such a manner."

"Money! The d——l, who has asked you anything about spending the money? I asked you, Mrs. Smith, if you wanted to go to this masquerade ball, the event of the sea on, and you throw up in my face, the money question. Pray tell, Mrs. Smith, who earns the money, and who has the better right to spend it how they best please? When you earn the chink, then you can dictate how to spend it, madame," said Mr. Wm. Jacob Smith, in a terrible rage, as he hastily buttoned up his ulster to get out of the, to him, stifling atmosphere, made so by the heat of his passion.

Anger, like a pestilence, is contagious, and the hot blood rushed to the face of his wife, as she angrily retorted: "I'll never, never, go to the ball with you, William Smith, a man who is too stingy to clothe his children in comfort, and mean enough to take all of the services of a woman; all of her time, and talents, giving only in return her board, and a few clothes. Then twit her of not earning a penny. I tell you, Mr. Smith," added she, "when I was a girl I went out sewing by the day; was only expected to work from seven o'clock in the morning till seven at night; earning several dollars a week, with which I clothed myself as well, if not better, than you ever clothed me. For, haven't I turned, and returned, and made over, and over—humph! not earned anything! If it wasn't for the love that I bear these children, I'd go this very day. I'd let you see for what amount you could procure a woman to come here and cook, wash, iron, sew, and scrub; taking care of the children nights, in the bargain. I'm up with them night after night, when you are snoring away in your selfish ease. You know that you couldn't for any sum, hire one woman to come and do all that I do for you, and them." Then she relapsed into tears—a woman's safety valve, when overwhelmed with grief, or anger, while he stood, hat in hand, surprised at his wife's unusual independent spirit, she who was generally so docile, and meek. With a very injured air, however, he lit his cigar—a very choice expensive brand—and left the house, not forgetting to slam the hall door, as a parting shot.

The date of the ball drew near, and Mr. Smith sought in vain to heal the injured feelings of his wife. He loved her, in the selfish way that, alas! so many, many selfish men love their wives. She was a faithful wife, and previous to this affair had always yielded to his stronger will. But it stung her to the quick, when he accused her of not bringing in any money value, knowing that her time had in years agone been worth something. She felt that her services were not adequately appreciated. Indeed, this event led her to do a considerable amount of thinking. A little sum in arithmetic was the result of her cogitations. She remembered that they had been married about ten years. He had on the start, perhaps, a thousand dollars. She, Lottie Grover, had supported a widowed mother—who died soon after their union—hence she had nothing i. e. no money to bring into the firm of Smith and Glover. But, during these ten years, she had labored early and late, in fact, had even worked harder in proportion to their relative strength than had he, her husband. The accumulation of these years were, in the aggregate, some six thousand dollars. Surely, her thrift and economy had, in great measure, brought about this result; and yet, not a dollar of it could she claim. Were she to die that very day, not a penny could she will away. Her children were beggars, as far as she was concerned, since she could leave them nothing. For ten long years then, she had only earned her board, and clothing. As she had formerly supported her mother, as well as herself, with her earnings, she reasoned that alone, she could have laid by, at least, two dollars a week. That being the case, a thousand dollars would have accrued, say nothing about interest money, which would have increased the amount to a much larger sum. But now, everything was grudgingly, even condescendingly, given her. What the children really needed, she had to beg for. Though Mr. William Jacob Smith provided lavishly for his table—for there he enjoyed himself—cloth, and clothing, he deemed an unnecessary expense. Lottie felt that she, perhaps, was in a great measure to blame for this state of things, since from the start she had, being so apt with her needle, fashioned new garments from old ones, thereby saving many dollars every year. Surely, thought she, "a penny saved is a penny earned," and Will would appreciate my efforts, had he for a wife one of those extravagant, poor calculating women of my acquaintance.

We observe, as she sits there in her angry, excited meditations, traces of the beauty which attracted her husband in former days. Her waving hair, clear complexion, and warm brown eyes, shaded by long drooping lashes. To be sure the color from her cheek has gone; gone into the faces of her children, who have taken so much, so very much, of her life and care. Her somewhat voluptuous form is now arrayed in an old faded wrapper. Since its make, she has evidently shrank from its ample folds, hence it is anything but a good fit. Her hair has received no attention, and her neck is devoid of all adorning. Her husband being in a hurry for his morning meal, and her increasing cares, since the advent of the children, have brought about her slovenly habits in regard to her personal appearance. Ah, what wonder that so many, many, men turn from their marriage vows, to women whom they never see in other than becoming array! It does not alter the solemn fact that they have nothing to do but to adorn, and render themselves attractive.

To return. The day of the masquerade came, and again her husband urged her to make ready, saying that he had engaged a magnificent costume. He was going to personate a Spanish cavalier. Then, to arouse her enthusiasm, he described many of the beautiful suits hired for the occasion. She was inexorable, however. She would not go to this ball with him. She told him so on the start and she had not changed her mind. It would be useless for him to press the matter, and if he chose, he could allow her the five dollars or more that her self-denial would save. This of course he refused to do; since, as he said, he wished her to go with him.

Mr. Smith was fond of gaiety, and something of a petit-maitre, hence he decided to go, and have a good time if his wife, silly woman! carried her spite so far, as to relinquish the party. So he donned his costume, viewing his fine proportions with unconcealed satisfaction. He had scarcely left the premises, ere a friend, and neighbor, came in at the back door. Her arms were full of a diaphanous material of a sea green tint. Mrs. Smith chanced to have, among her mothers belongings, a green tissue, which would be just the thing for a costume, to personate the character of Undine. In its construction, she covered the front with small sea shells which she had saved when on a jaunt to the seashore. Not having a sufficient supply, she remembered a quantity of beautiful fish scales she had been hoarding, thinking some day they might be utilized. We have not time to describe, in detail, her lovely costume. Suffice it to say, her deft fingers, and exquisite taste, had, without much expense, wrought something at once unique, and beautiful; and after arraying her petite form in its shimmering draperies, she looked indeed the sea nymph that she personated. Then she, with mischief in her eye, bied herself away to the masquerade (her friend kindly remaining with the sleeping children). For, when she found that her husband was bent on going without her, she resolved to go unbeknown to him. Never did devotee of terpsichore, exert themselves more than did she; and her lithe graceful form, and unique costume, became the centre of attraction. Mr. William Jacob Smith became, of course, her most devoted admirer, and her apparent preference for him flattered not a little, his excessive vanity. In vain he sought to hear her voice, or get some clue to her personality. At length, driven to desperation, and somewhat under the influence of the exhilarating bowl, he grasped her hand, saying: "I beg of you to tell me when I can see you again? Surely, you are not a resident here, as there is but one woman in the place who dances as gracefully as do you. She, I believe, is not present. My business often calls me to K.—perhaps I can find you there."

A negative toss of her head was her only reply.

They had just been whirling in a waltz, one of those sensuous waltzes of Offenbachs, as the closing strains of the orchestra languished. Undine leaned heavily upon her attendants arm, when suddenly, the call came to unmask.

Words cannot describe the consternation, or chagrin, of Mr. William Jacob Smith, nor the triumphant gleam sparkling in the eyes of his wife. He congratulated himself, however, that the awkward situation in which he found himself, viz.: making love to his own wife, had not been observed by others. Still he feared that she would in some way expose him.

Sure enough, while at the banquet, a ripple of laughter burst from her lips, and one of the gossips of the place, who chanced to be near, said: "Pray tell us, Mrs. Smith, what amuses you so! You have tried, in vain, to suppress your merriment, ever since we came to the table."

"Oh, such a splendid joke! It's too good to keep ——"

"Well, let's all have it then," eagerly cried Mrs. Brown.

Lottie's husband hastily trod on her toes beneath the table, and she adroitly said: "Some other time I'll divulge."

But she fully realized her power over him, which she, little woman that she was, meant to turn to her own advantage. She accordingly, that very night,—or morn really, when they reached home—gave him to understand, that her silence as to his conduct was to be purchased for a deed on the house and lot; which he, as soon as possible, had drawn and ratified.

Then, she felt that she had a home, to show for her years of toil, saying nothing about sickness and suffering, which dollars and cents cannot remunerate.

Aside from the pecuniary advantage gained, Mrs. Smith felt that she had learned an important lesson. One that, perchance, would benefit many another married woman, viz.: Not to be willing to settle down into mere domestic drudges. Doubtless there are men that fully appreciate such services; but they are rare, and ten chances to one that their wives in doing this, do not loose all the attractions that they ever possessed. That iron Juggernaut, in the shape of a cook stove, is very remorseless, crushing out the life of many a woman that is not over strong. Indeed, it takes delight in ruining the complexion, and health, of its many devotees. With health, and therefore good looks and temper gone, how can a wife compare favorably with those pretty, alluring creatures, that will not drudge, preferring to pose, and bask, in the smiles and flattery of men. In view of this fact, Mrs. William Jacob Smith resolved to take life easier, hiring help in the performance of her household labors. Thus she had more time to devote to her children, her own good looks, and her mental improvement as well. Mr. Smith became her most devoted admirer. Indeed, she became so interesting and attractive to him that he lost all desire to flirt with other women.

The Cornish Organ and Piano Co., of Washington, New Jersey, whose large advertisement appears in this issue, are doing an enormous business in their line, and in order to meet the requirements of a big rush during the Holiday Season, have added a new addition to their already mammoth factory. The junior member of the firm, Hon. Johnston Cornish, has twice been elected Mayor of the City, which attests their popularity at home. Send for their Catalogues.

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TO THE YOUNG LADY WHO WILL SEND US THE LARGEST NUMBER OF 3 MONTHS TRIAL SUBSCRIBERS, AT 10 CENTS EACH, UP TO FEBRUARY 1ST, 1886.

We will give 16 yards of the best quality of colored silk, any color that may be selected, from one of the leading dry goods' stores in Philadelphia, to the young lady sending us the largest list as above stated; no matter how large or how small the number may be.

WE OFFER TEN DOLLARS

In Cash, to the Young Man sending us the Largest Number of 3 Months' Trial Subscribers at 10 Cents each, up to February 1st, 1886.

These presents are extra inducements for large clubs and do not in any way conflict with our premium offers below. If you fail to secure the prizes above offered, you can have the premiums as offered below, for whatever number you do send in.

We want our young friends to induce all the neighbors to give the Journal a trial of three months. The amount of money—only 10 cents—is so small that every woman can easily spare that amount and will not refuse to join your club. Hundreds can be secured in any small town, for the simple asking.

We offer the following list of premiums for clubs of 3 months' trial subscribers at 10 cents each.

For full description of these goods see premium supplement in our December number. These are the same goods offered for yearly subscriptions.

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These elegant Tidies are 14x18 inches in size, are made of the very best quality of Felt, and the same as are sold in all the stores at from 25c. to 35c. each. You can select the color of felt you like, and have it stamp'd with any design you wish, either for Kensington or Outline or Ribbon embroidery, all ready to be embroidered.

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We will send one of these Tidies and the Book of Stitches, for a club of only 4 subscribers or 35 cents.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HOW WE AMUSE THE BABIES.

This may not be of the least interest to a great many readers of this paper, but to tired mothers, like myself, anything for a change, that will keep little meddling fingers out of mischief, and little minds, and tongues employed, so they will not wear mamma out, with their ceaseless questions, would be thankfully received by almost anyone, who has two or three little prattlers to work with and amuse.

Of course very young babies cannot be amused, only as they grow to take notice of surrounding objects, and persons, but when they grow old enough to be propped up in a crib with pillows, or to sit up in a high chair, where they can watch ope ations in kitchen or sitting room, they may be kept quiet for some time. With a piece of strong paper that will not tear easily, but will rustle, they just have heaps of fun; and a few simple toys such as a rattle, a bell, a few glass balls, etc., are about all one can give to such small people. But after they get to running about, one needs something to keep them out of mischief for a certainty; and all the toys, and all the watching in the world can only result in that, for a little while at a time. A soft rubber ball, will often contribute something to their happiness, and of course a doll or two, for where is the baby who does not love a doll? It is laughable to see the way our eighteen months-old boy will carry his sister's doll around in his arms, stopping now and then, to kiss its little face, and smooth its hair in a grandfatherly sort of way, then clasp it in his arms, and go trudging off with sister, on one of their journeys across the room and back; they have great times going on "journeys."

Another source of pleasure is the bean bag. Take small bags—tobacco sacks answer nicely, when well dusted, or washed, or any little scraps of muslin sewed up and filled loosely with beans or corn and sewed up so they will not spill out, make nice loads for little wagons, or to pitch at each other, as they are soft enough not to hurt. Another thing that has pleased our little ones is a scrap book, composed of gay pictures, funny wood cuts, pictures of birds, animals, and all sorts, pasted on nice leaves, that can be sewed in any old book back; they seem to enjoy a book of this sort better than those that are bought for them. We like scrap books for the older children, too, they can be illustrated with steel engravings, from worn out magazines, that would otherwise be wasted; and cuts suitable to the pieces that are put in make them quite entertaining. Such books as Patent Office Reports, or those having no especial value do nicely; of course, the ones that are for sale at the book stores are better, but this article is intended to provide cheap amusements only, and I have noticed that costly toys do not add any more to children's pleasure than do home made ones. Another enjoyment that never wears out is the blowing of soap bubbles. Provide the youngsters each with a clean clay pipe, and a bowl of strong soap suds, and then see the fun; it is a never ending "Oo just look, mamma, do just look, and we look, in time to see a lovely ball as large as one's head, floating around reflecting windows and sky, on its gayly colored surface; or they toss off smaller ones, one after another, that sail lightly down to the floor, and rebound in a manner quite surprising, considering the material of which they are composed. When the weather is fine, and they can be outdoors, a swing, a hammock, wagon or buggy seats placed under shade trees, chickens, when one can keep them, and many other things of a like nature, are all well; but it is in winter, and during the dark rainy days of fall and spring, that indoor amusements are a necessity.

Our children hail a rainy day with delight, for they are always allowed to pop corn, make candy, crack nuts and "cut up jack" generally, so those days will be the bright ones to look back upon in after life; and always keep as many entertaining books and papers within reach as your means will permit, for many boys and girls are kept off the streets, and out of bad company, if a taste for reading has been cultivated from the time they were large enough to be interested in stories.

Another thing, train them to look at the beauties of nature. The trees, the sky, the clouds, the birds, and all such things, are spread out before us in such rich profusion, if we will only open our eyes to behold them. Go with them if you can, to the woods, now and then, and see how much enjoyment can be crowded into a few short hours. Take for instance a lovely autumn day. Can Heaven itself be fairer? The sky so blue, the grass so brilliantly green, the trees have only begun to put on their beautiful coloring of crimson and gold, and even the sun, seems to shine through the clear atmosphere, with an additional brightness that makes this earth so beautiful. Point out these things to the little ones, and teach them, that one of the secrets of true happiness, lies, in being able to enjoy the things that are always within our reach—to look at nature, and from nature up to nature's God.

THORNY POPPY.

The editress will consider it a personal favor, if the mothers who read these columns, will call the attention of their children to the special inducements we offer them this month to introduce the JOURNAL into new homes. Very few women will refuse our young friends so small a sum of money as ten cents for a three months trial. We trust the JOURNAL to work its own way after once introduced. Sample copies are free. Will you not help us?

EDITRESS L. H. J.—"Perplexed Mother" in October number of Babyhood tells us of one of her peculiarities and that is, ought she, or ought she not, rock and pat and sit by her baby boy while he falls asleep?

She is very fearful that she ought not to do these things. There is something so pathetic in her words that I am not ashamed to say I cried over them.

"The trouble with Master Baby is, not that he does not want to take his nap, but that he doesn't want to go to sleep alone. He will go to sleep readily if I will stay with him. He does not ask for rocking or walking, singing or patting. If I will only sit quietly by the side of his crib, with my hand resting gently on his shoulder, he is satisfied and in a very few minutes is fast asleep."

I cried because I pitied that poor, little baby so much. I am almost sure he is to be denied any more mothering when his sleepy times come. His mother fears she is "humoring" him if she pets him.

How a mother can hesitate to grant so small and innocent a favor as to "only sit quietly by his crib with my hand resting on his shoulder," seems very strange, especially such a good, kind mother as I know by the ring of her letter, she means to be.

It is the cry of these days to tend baby just as little as possible; no margin allowed for loving good-night rocks and sleepy time caresses, and brooding and hushing that the sensitive, dear, little babies love so well and appreciate so fully.

We are not resurrected Spartan mothers, though I judge the press is trying to incorporate some of their steel-blue blood into our veins.

"Perplexed mother," in the name of common sense, common humanity and motherly love, why not brood that baby boy to sleep! Can it now or ever harm him to be warmly snuggled in your arms while he falls asleep with a happy smile on his sweet face, because mamma is holding him close!

Do you grudge the time that it takes not having baby go to sleep alone? Then the dear, little fellow has come to the wrong home, for what task is there that cannot wait till baby is made comfortable? I can think of none.

"Baby, first, always." Pin it over the bread board, the ironing table, the sewing machine, the mending basket, the street door and your board of crewels and embroideries.

Baby came, but baby didn't come to be turned off like a cold blooded little frog to whom its slimy, icy backed and bellied mother refuses to give suasle.

You and I have seen many pictures of our Lord and Saviour when an infant, with his mother, but I can think of none in which the Holy Baby is represented as shugged one side to go to sleep alone while his mother with empty arms, strolls about the long, low cattle sheds.

No. The Holy Child to which the nations of all ages of all the earth shall bow, is pictured lying in his mother's arms while she lovingly caresses him as is our right and blessed privilege to hold and pet our babies when we can.

"When we can." Ah! there is a dreary note to that. Such a little, little time that these babies of ours will care for our laps and arms, and, maybe, for our kisses. All too soon they will outgrow our loving care, or mind whether we sit by their bedsides or not.

Then while we may, why not make them happy with good-night rocks and lullabys and close clasping to the heart that would die for them and may break for them!

We should not be sorry for the time thus given if some dreary day the sods should be heaped betwixt us and the precious, little form that loved so well to nestle in our arms. Would it not grieve us to remember again and again we had put the clinging, timid, little one off alone to go to sleep, while we thus gained tear-bought time?

I think "perplexed mother" would lay her cheek, that her baby boy used to reach out his arms to pat, and fold her empty hands over the cold clods and wish, oh! so intensely, that she might again have opportunity to clasp her warm, nestling, loving little boy in her arms and rock him to sleep.

HELEN AYRE.

88 BOLTON TERRACE, BALTIMORE, Oct. 11, '85.

EDITRESS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—"Many times and oft," dear Mrs. Knapp, have I been on the point of writing you, expressing thorough appreciation of your little gem (the JOURNAL) and gratitude for the many ideas received from it, but my health is wretched in the extreme, and within the few months I have been so fortunate as to make acquaintance with your paper, have not only had repeated spells of illness, but was so unfortunate as to be subjected to a fire in the house in which we boarded, so entirely demolishing our "household gods" and rendering the house so uninhabitable as to necessitate a move, and as we furnished our own apartments, much shopping and many steps followed in the wake of our flitting. This so completely prostrated me as to frustrate my hope of increasing your subscribers by visiting our friends on their return to the city, and by loaning my JOURNALS to each by turns induce them to give it a place amongst their home treasures. This I hope to do later, and in the meantime may I give a few hints to the mother who asks for such in training her little one. As the mother of a large family who when her children were but mites was frequently congratulated upon their courteous bearing, perfect table manners, and unquestioning obedience, I feel that I may do so without vanity, especially as whatever pride may have accrued from repeated felicitations has been purged in waters of affliction so deep that at times it seemed as if they must overwhelm in their course. My little ones, reared in luxury, have borne the "heat and burden of the day" battling with poverty, changed position and transfer to a strange home in a strange land, and the comment to day which causes my heart to pulse with pride is one oft made,—"How very rare to see an entire family so devoted to each other." Believe me, I am not writing this in any spirit of egotism, but only that I believe much of this devotion to each other has arisen from their being taught from infancy to respect the rights of others, and that courtesy is a command of Holy Writ. My advice to all mothers is—make fewest possible points with children but a command issued must be obeyed. Teach your babies courtesy to each other; let the brother put on manliness with his first pants; rising to open the door for his mother and sisters, giving them choicest seats, etc., etc. Let sisters repay such attentions by vieing with each other in pleasant little surprises etc., for true politeness as a habit soon grows into a principle and affection grows with it. Affection, good measure, pressed down and running over never spoiled any child. Join in your childrens pastimes and occupations, let them see that all that interests them, more than engages your attention, that it occupies your heart as well, and mamma will be their prime confidant, and thus have a chance to turn aside all that is spurious and cultivate what is good. Don't be a raid to let your darlings feel when they must be punished, that the inflictor suffers (as she must, necessarily) more, than the one inflicted, that while she is firm as a rock where their good is concerned her heart bleeds at the necessity which they have caused. To grieve mamma will soon be the hardest of all hard punishments and the most wayward soon becomes needful.

Of morals and principles I say nothing here save a caution to heed the day of small things, and teach by example that it is necessary to be watchful, to be strictly truthful, and that due regard for others is part of your religion. I can only say that the plan hastily recommended here has carried me and mine so far, over the bridge of life. With faults numerous and evident I trust our principles will stand test and our affection has passed into a by-word.

Very truly, MRS. V. L. WEST.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE CHILDREN'S HAIR.

"It is actually wicked in you to crop the heads of your little girls so closely when every other child in the place wears her hair in crimpy, pretty tresses as long as Mother Nature has granted them to grow since babyhood. Shingled hair is not stylish and your little girls thus disfigured look like bald-headed little monkeys."

Not a very complimentary or fitting remark to have whispered to oneself across intervening pew railings just as church services were about to commence; so I stared straight ahead up to the preacher and pretended not to hear the disparaging morsel that was wholly out of element to digest in the House of God, but I did hear, and what was worse, allowed the train of thoughts thus stirred to partially fill my thoughts through the service, else I should not have taken note of how every little girl's hair was dressed who sat within range of my eyes, and to acknowledge my whispering neighbor in the rear was right, for every little lassie present wore her hair in long, wavy locks, whether they be dark or light, thick or straggling, falling over her shoulders in a pretty, crinkled cloud, that even a very little girl soon learns to arch her neck and toss her head to set flying.

The most beautiful part of childhood is its simplicity, and is there a mother who would not teach her little girls to be and grow unaffected, honest, conscientious and pure?

Can long, switching crimps have anything to do with this? A keen country woman thinks so. She could tell you of little misses, not yet in their teens, who have lost all the artlessness and gracefulness of childhood in poising for effect and tossing their crimped and frizzled heads and shrugging their shoulders in silly attempts to call notice to their waving tresses.

So take a yankee woman's advice and save time by keeping the restless, round heads of your little girls—as well as your little boys—clipped short. Do it for the sake of cleanliness and health if for no other reason.

It is trying for both you and the child to semi-daily comb and thoroughly wash each week a head covered with long tresses, and the little people's scalps must be kept clean else dandruff, scurf and humor may result later in life.

I like cuticura soap best for this purpose, though one of our writer's advises the free use on the head of juniper tar soap, but I have not been able to find it.

As regular as the weekly bath, suds the little ones heads with some safe, healing soap—such as I know cuticura to be—thoroughly washing them clear of dandruff as well as dirt. With short cut hair you can do this and there will be no tears or outcries as must be the case with long, matted locks to brush smooth.

Keep your little girl's head clean and cool which is difficult, unless she wears her hair short, and she will thank you for it when childhood is past.

Constant clipping insures a thick growth of hair. How many ladies, before their toilet is completed, have but a few lonesome wisps of braids to cover the bare broadsides of their cranium!

Had their mothers been wiser and by occasional cutting thickened the growth of their hair when they were little children, no doubt they would be blessed with abundant, beautiful braids.

Through the heated term of the year we must keep the heads of our little people cool, and how can we do this if they are weighted and sweltered by long, thick mats of hair.

Some hot, August day lift the heavy, sweaty braids or curls of a little one thus hampered and note the fierce, furnace-like heat you will find in the back of the head and neck, just where that reason should teach every mother that coolness, especially in the hot months, is imperative.

Many a little one falls an easy victim to diseases of the brain because the mother is not reasonable in this matter.

For the sake of cleanliness, and health and comfort and future beauty, dress your little girls' heads with short hair.

JOHN'S WIFE.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE KING OF BABYLAND

Babyland is a level floor;
Its confines end at the nursery door;
It is ruled by a monarch one year old,
With eyes like blue-bells, hair like gold.

Never was monarch so glad and gay,
For he rules by right divine alway;
And this is a thing that is very rare,
A king devoid of a single care.

His voice is sweeter than one can tell,
And a faithful lover is he as well;
At the door on the floor he takes his seat,
And waits the coming of mamma's feet.

His robe of state is a creeping-dress,
His sceptre a jumping-jack, I guess;
His throne, a little red rocking-chair,
And his crown is his bright and curling hair.

But see his majesty's drooping head,—
The song is ended, the story read;
The playthings drop from his tired hand—
Good-night to the King of Babyland.

ELEANOR W. F. BATES.

Babies are usually "cross" not from a bad disposition or love or crying, but because they are sick, ill cared for, or uncomfortable.

You should read advertisements, even if only from curiosity a one, or you will miss a great deal of valuable information. Those found in these columns can be depended upon as reliable and trustworthy, and we hope our readers will form the habit of looking to our advertisers to supply their wants.

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With this outfit ladies can do their own stamping for embroidery, Kensington, or Lustra painting, or they can do stamping for others at a profit.

The patterns in the outfit are made of the best quality government parchment, and can be used a thousand times before they are worn out. With them the designs can be transferred to Felt, Velvet, Plush or any other material, so they cannot be rubbed off.

SEE WHAT IT CONTAINS ! 47 ELEGANT PATTERNS AND ONE COMPLETE ALPHABET !

DESCRIPTION:—One Set of Initials for Towels, Hat Marks, &c., worth 50 cents. 2 large outline designs, 7x9, for Tidies, 25c. each, 50c. 1 design for Tinsel Embroidery, 5 inches wide, or end of Table Scarf, 25c. 1 Tidy design for Ribbon Work, 20c. 1 large Clover design, 7x11, for Kensington painting, 25c. 1 Thistle design, 6x11, for Kensington painting, 25c. 1 Stork and 1 large Butterfly for Lustra painting, 10c., and 15c., 25c. 1 Pansy design for lady's Satin Bag, 10c. 1 design for Thermometer case, 20c. 1 elegant spray of Golden Rod, 6x11, 25c. 1 Martha Washington Geranium design for plush petals, 6x10, 25c. 1 design for top of Umbrella case, 15c. 1 Spider's web, 10c., 1 Disk design, 10c., 1 Tidy design—Owls on a tree—25c., 45c. 1 Daisy vine, 1 large bunch of Daises, 25c. 19 other designs of Braiding, Scallops, Roses, Forget-me-nots, Wheat, Birds, etc., worth 10c. to 15c. each, $1.90. 10 small sprigs and figures for Crazy Patchwork or other uses, 50c. Besides all these beautiful designs, we send Powder and Distributor, with which to do the stamping; and a book of instructions teaching how to do every branch of the work.

ONE HANDSOME TIDY made of the best quality of Felt, stamped with pretty flower design, with silk and needle to work it; worth altogether, 40c.

ONE BOOK OF STITCHES which Teaches the Outline and Kensington stitches, Ribbon Embroidery, Arrasene and Chenille work, Plush Embroidery, etc. Also, instructions in Crazy Patchwork, with illustrations showing 8 finished blocks, and over 150 new stitches for ornamenting the seams.

BESIDES all the above, we are going to give away with each Outfit, a book of KNITTING AND CROCHETING, giving instructions for knitting all the latest novelties; also a FANCY BRAID AND CROCHET BOOK, giving directions for making edgings of Feather Edge and other novelty braids.

We have ordered an immense number of these Outfits from the maker, and, by so doing, have procured them at a price which enables us to announce

The Best Offer Ever Made !

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YOUR BABY, the cause of more trouble and delight than anything else in the world, respectfully requests you to subscribe, for his benefit, the only periodical in the world devoted to considering his health, comfort, and well being generally. It is edited by Dr. Leroy M. Yale and Marion Harland, and may be had for a year by sending $1.50 to AARY WOOD, 18 Spruce St., New York. Sample numbers, 10 cts. Examine a copy at any newsdealer's.

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

STITCHES.

THE KENSINGTON OUTLINE STITCH.

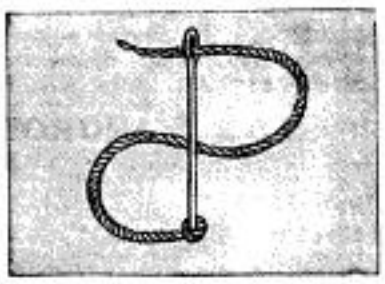
This is the fundamental stitch of Kensington needlework, which is most used in the embroidery of the day. It is used for working designs in outline, either flowers, figures or pictures. This latter is sometimes called sketch embroidery. Very handsome effects can be produced by outlining different flowers in their appropriate colors. The Kensington stitch has been described as a long stitch forward on the face of the material and a very short stitch back on the under side. All embroidery done with this stitch is done upon the surface of the cloth, so that a piece of work neatly and correctly done will show no loose ends upon the back side. In taking the stitch, the needle is held with the point almost directly towards you, the thread being drawn from you. It is nearly the opposite of the ordinary back stitch, which can be used in outlining, if preferred, the object being simply to cover all the lines of the pattern, as stamped on.

KENSINGTON FILLING IN STITCH.

In filling in the leaves or petals of flowers, one or two rows of outline stitches are taken around the outside. The needle is then brought up near the lower leaf or petal on the outside of the outline, and the first stitch taken about three-eighths of an inch below towards the center; the next stitch is taken back at the outside of the outline. Several stitches may be taken like these two, but of irregular length; then take a stitch in the direction of the first one taken, but considerably longer, over which shorter stitches may be taken back to the outline, as shown in the accompanying cut. Repeat these irregular-length stitches till a row has been worked all around, care being taken to point all the stitches toward the centre if a petal, or the centre stem if a leaf. The second row of stitches is worked in the same manner, with a darker or lighter shade, pains being taken to bring the stitches up between the stitches of the first row, in order to blend the shades. If a long leaf like grass or the leaf a cat tail, is to be worked, the stitches should not be slanted towards the centre of the leaf, but should follow the direction of the leaf itself.

THE FRENCH KNOT.

Art needlework can hardly be done without the use of the French knot. It is the best stitch that can be found to represent the centre of such flowers as daisies, roses, etc., and the pollen or anthers of many others. To make the knot bring the needle up through the material at the spot where the knot is to be made, draw the thread tight, and hold it over one finger of the left hand; then twist the needle—so to speak—once or twice around the thread, then pass the needle down partway through the cloth, at or very near, the point where it was brought up, and draw the knot tight around the needle, holding it with the left thumb; then draw the thread through. This stitch may require some little practice, but after the "knack" is once caught it will be found easy.



PLUSH OR TUFTED STITCH.

This is simply couching filoselle on the material instead of working it through, and although claimed by some to be a new stitch and to have been discovered by themselves, is really as old as the hills. To embroider with this stitch, first fill the petal with rather coarse French knots, using the proper colors; then take a single or double strand of filoselle, according to the size of the flower, bring the needle up half way through between the French knots; lay the floss at about one-quarter of an inch from the end, against the needle, holding it in position with the thumb, then draw the needle through and pass it down on the opposite side of the floss, at nearly the same place it was brought up; draw the stitch down tightly and clip the floss evenly with the scissors and it will stand up straight and velvety. Repeat these stitches, placing them quite near together, until the design is completed. This stitch is especially adapted for working such flowers as coxcomb, princess' feather, golden rod, love-lies-bleeding, etc. The effect is very striking, and with practice and a little knack the imitation of the flowers can be made very perfect.

HOW TO WORK A WILD ROSE.

The leaves and petals of this flower should be worked in the Kensington stitch, the stems in stem stitch, the centre of the flower and pollen with French knots, and the stamens with straight stitches. The materials with which the best effect is procured is Kensington floss, although very beautiful effects can be obtained by combining floss with English crewels. The rose is also one of the most popular flowers to represent in Rococo or ribbon embroidery, as each petal can be made with one piece of silk. The different shades of rose pink Surah silk make the best rose petals. In working roses in this way the leaves should be worked with arrasene, which will give a very beautiful and artistic effect.

The proper colors are as follows:

Petals.—Pale pink 704, shaded down through rose pink 572 to rose 575, using four shades in all.

Stamens.—Light golden olive green 581, with French knots of medium maize 567 and 568, to represent the anthers or pollen.

Sepals and Young Leaves.—Three shades of bright olive green 683 to 688½.

Older Leaves.—Three or four shades of bronze olive green 584 to 587, veined with darker shades.

Stems.—Bright olive green, slightly shaded with light pomegranate 680.

The above descriptions are taken from our book "Kensington Embroidery and the Colors of Flowers." Besides the above it gives descriptions of other stitches—Laid Embroidery, Stem Stitch, Bullion Stitch, Seed Stitch, Bird's-Eye Stitch, etc., and a description of seventy or more flowers, telling how to work, what materials to use, and what colors are needed for the petals, leaves, stamens, etc. This book will be sent for four subscribers, or for 35 cents.

Will some one please send directions for making novelty lace and oblige F. J. REHM.

MRS. CHAS. F. DECHNER will find crazy stitch illustrated in December number of L. H. J.

MRS. F. GRAHAM should try the star stitch for in ant sack, which is described in October number of JOURNAL.

MRS. D. H. wants directions for making skeleton leaves, also asks for best cement for sticking shells and metal ore.

DEAR EDITRESS:—Please ask "country girl" in October number what she cleans her perforated stamping pattern with, and oblige MRS. ANNIE CULLYMORE.

E. P. S., N. C.—The two firms you mention we do not recommend for square dealing. Partridge & Richardson, Phila., Pa., can supply you with all kinds of beads for fancy work.

MRS. J. H. BREWER.—If you will address your inquiries to Lida Clarkson, Pleasant Valley, Dutchess Co., N. Y., I think she will help you.—ED.

H. G. TISDALE.—Our fancy work patterns are all tried and known to be correct, before inserting in our columns. Are you sure you understand the terms for crochet and knitting?—ED.

EDITRESS L. H. J:—In reply to Eliza J. Curry in the Oct. No., please say that I knit torchon lace of No. 24 Coates' thread, for a white apron. For heavier cloth, No. 16 is about right, knit on rather coarse needles. AUNT RUTH.

ELIZA J. CURRY, LANSINGBURGH:—N. O. in directions for clover leaf edging means narrow, and throw thread over. Each row is finished without any stitches remaining. LILLIAN A. POOR,

SEBAGO, ME.

A SUBSCRIBER will find in our December number, books on knitting and crocheting, by Jennie June, offered for sale or as a premium for club. They will prove a help to you. We cannot recommend any firm offering to supply any work to be done in your home.—ED.

MRS. H. N. PIERCE, OYSTER BAY, L. I.:—If you will send us the patterns you mention we should be glad to give them to our readers. You will find desirable pattern for crocheted bed spread in December number of L. H. J., and several knitted patterns have been given in back numbers.

CHILD'S TABLE BIB.

A decided improvement in the old-fashioned bib for children, is made of a towel. It is better to have the towel all white, and work a fancy border in colored worsteds. Bind the neck with white tape, and cat stitch it with color. Do not get the towel too wide, or the bib will always be over the hands. Hollow out the neck before binding.

SEWING MACHINE COVER.

This design is ornamental as well as useful for protecting the machine from dust. Measure the length of your machine table, and cut your cloth or crash so it can hang over front and back. Line it or not, but it is preferable lined with holze, such as is used for the top of desks. Cut the two ends in deep vandykes, bind them with braid, which cover with a heavy cord, and finish each point, and between each point, with a tassel. Appliqued work on the cover is a pretty addition, and easily done.

TIDY IN RAILROAD KNITTING.

Cast up 23 stitches.
1st row. Knit plain.
2d row. Purl.
Repeat these 2 rows twice, making 6 rows in all.
7th row. Purl.
8th row. Plain.
Repeat the 7th and 8th rows twice.
12th row. Repeat from the 1st.

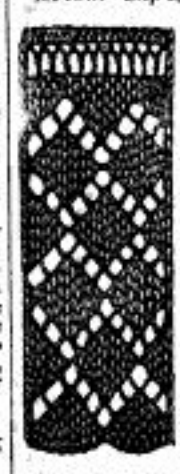
Continue in this manner 'til the strip is long enough, and bind off. In binding off, drop every 6th stitch entirely from the needle. When bound off unravel the dropped stitches the length of the strip. 5 strips of 2 colors, and narrow ribbon run through the open spaces formed by the unraveled stitches make a very pretty tidy. Scarlet and olive worsteds look well together. M.

FLUTED LACE WITH EDGE.

Cast on 22 stitches. Use No. 20 thread.
1st row. Knit 16, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 2.
2d row. Knit 9, purl 11, leave 3 stitches on needle that you do not knit and turn and go back.
3d row. Knit 14, over, narrow, over narrow, over, knit 2.
4th row. Knit 10, purl 11, knit 3.
5th row. Knit 18, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 2.
6th row. Knit 11, purl 11, leave 3, turn and go back same as 2d row.
7th row. Purl 11, knit 5, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 2.
8th row. Knit plain across.
9th row. Knit 3, purl 11, knit 6, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 2.
10th row. Knit 24, leave 3, turn and go back.
11th row. Purl 11, knit 7, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 2.
12th row. Slip and bind 6 stitches, knit the rest plain.
1st, 5th and 9th rows slip first stitch.
EFFIE NORTH.

SHELL EDGE DIAMOND LACE.

32 stitches.



1st row. Slip 1, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 2, narrow, [over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 3, narrow] repeat directions enclosed in the brackets, over, knit 2, over, knit 1.
2d row. Plain until only 3 remain on the needle, then over, narrow, knit 1. (33 stitches).
3d row. Slip 1, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, [over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow] repeat, over, knit 4, over, knit 1.
4th row. Like 2d.
5th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over, narrow, narrow, [over, knit 7, over, slip 1, narrow, pass the slipped stitch over] repeat, over, knit 6, over, knit 1.
6th row. Like 2d. (35 stitches).
7th row. Slip 1, knit, 2, over, narrow, knit 2, [over, narrow, knit 3, narrow, over, knit 3] repeat, over, narrow, knit 5, over, knit 1.
8th row. Like 2d.
9th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 3, [over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 5] repeat, over, narrow, knit 5, over, knit 1.
10th row. Like 2d. (37 stitches).
11th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 4, [over, slip 1, narrow, pass the slipped stitch over, over, knit 7] repeat, over, narrow; now, with the right hand needle pass the second stitch on the left hand needle over the first one; so continue until but one stitch remains on the needle; knit that.
12th row. Like 2d. (32 stitches).
MRS. A.

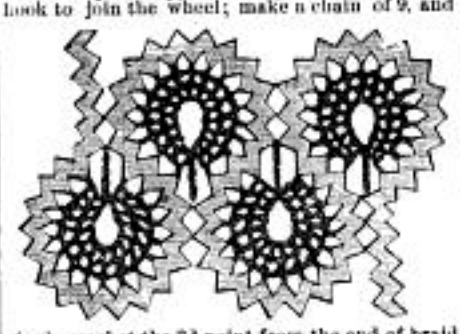
HANDSOME CROCHET RICK-RACK TRIMMING.

Use No. 17 rick-rack braid with a hole in the points, spool cotton No. 20, and a fine steel hook.

1st row. Put the hook in 4th point of braid, draw the thread through, chain 2, and put 1 double crochet in each of the next 16 points, making 17 points in all. Turn.

2d row. Chain 1, 1 double crochet in first loop made by chain 2, chain 1, and put 1 double crochet in each of the loops. Turn.

3d row. 1 double crochet in each loop through the row; then take the hook out of the stitch, put it through the first stitch of the row, draw the stitch you dropped, through the stitch on the hook to join the wheel; make a chain of 9, and single crochet the 3d point from the end of braid where the work is begun, with the point opposite; chain 2, single crochet the second point with the one opposite, chain 2, single crochet the first point with the one opposite, make a chain of 16, put 1 single crochet in the 5th point on the outside edge of wheel, which comes opposite the 2d loop in first row, chain 2, and put 1 double crochet in the next 16 points of braid, making 17 in all. Turn, and repeat from the 2d row. The chains 9 and 16 must come on the same side of work, for the wrong side. There is no need to turn the work after finishing the 2d wheel.



I have worked from these directions and hope others will be able to do the same. M. F. K.

DIRECTIONS FOR SUTRO TRIMMING.

(Feather edge) without thread.

I insert the hook in the first loop, and in the ninth loop on the same side of the braid. Draw through the first loop, then insert the hook in the loop directly opposite, on the other side of the braid, and chain three, thus leaving seven loops on the scallop. Turn the scallop, count eight loops, insert the hook in the ninth, and continue as above. In making the edge to sew it by, insert the hook in the third loop, or the first of the three centre loops of the scallops, and draw the thread through. Pass the hook through the fourth loop, and draw the thread through, then draw the thread through both loops thus made. The same with the fifth loop. Chain three and crochet the centre loops of each scallop the same.

Having given the directions as plainly as possible, I hope that no one will mistake them. I like your paper very much and wish that young women of my own age, would read such papers rather than the senseless novels they now read. L. F. B.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

BRUSH STUDIES AND HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

NEW SERIES.

An Ebonized Panel with Plaque Design of Snow Scene and Holly—Hints upon Home Decoration—Interesting answers to Inquirers, etc., etc.

BY LIDA AND M. J. CLARKSON.

Let us begin the New Year, dear reader, with wishes for your happiness and success, in every good and useful undertaking.

Certainly, to make home attractive and beautiful, is an object well worth our while; for the home exerts an influence over heart, and life, which cannot be overestimated.

Make home so bright, and cheery, that husband or children will love and enjoy it too well to resort to questionable places of amusement, or to seek their happiness outside the family circle. We present our readers this month with a description of a panel which has been much admired as both novel and beautiful.

It is of ebonized wood, 10x20 inches, with a circle, or disk in the center, 8 inches in diameter, partly surrounded by holly, with its bright berries, which form a striking and pretty contrast to the polished black surface of the panel.

As we have had as yet, no studies in landscape painting, this may seem a difficult subject to some of our readers.

The design selected is, however, so comparatively easy, that few will experience any trouble in following the directions given below.

The simple but pleasing little snow scene may be painted in the following manner:

Lay a tea plate, or large saucer upon the center of your panel, and trace around it a perfect circle, which is then painted a dead white, and allowed to dry thoroughly before proceeding to sketch in the outline, which many can easily do with the brush. Any simple little winter scene may be used for a model. The one given in illustration will serve the purpose, and may be enlarged with very little difficulty. Having sketched in the outlines with burnt sienna thinned with turpentine, we proceed to lay in the sky at the horizon back of mountain with a sunset tinge made by using silver white, burnt sienna, yellow ochre, and the least trifle ivory black.

Lay this on with bristle brush No. 4 or 5, letting it run more to the right, and fully to the top of circle, taking it over the entire sky save at the left. This will avoid leaving a harsh line where the sky tints meet. Afterwards the darker shade at the left is put in. This is a purplish gray tone, and is painted with white, ivory black, a very little permanent, or Antwerp blue, and madder lake.

The fleecy clouds are painted with the same colors as the horizon tint, adding more white for the high lights, and shading underneath with the gray tone. Lay the paint on heavily and do not smooth down afterward with the brush. For the distant mountain add to this gray tint, more white, and permanent blue, observing that the base of mountain is lighter than at the top. Remember that we are always to make different tints on the palette with the combinations of colors given, in order to produce the different effects necessary, instead of putting them on in one even, uniform tone. The foliage in the distance, is a shade of cool, rather greenish gray, and is painted with white, a trifle Antwerp blue, yellow ochre, ivory black, and in small quantity madder lake; in the shadows using a little raw umber, with an occasional touch of white, and yellow ochre, to suggest snow.

The hills are lighter in tone than the foliage. Omit the madder lake, and add more white, and a trifle burnt sienna, for the nearer hill using still more white. The fence in the distance, is painted with white, ivory black, raw umber and burnt sienna. The nearer one is darker, for this add more raw umber. The distant fir trees are painted a purplish gray with white, a little permanent blue, madder lake and ivory black, and for the nearer trees which are a dark, dull green, with touches of brown and white, zinnober green, burnt sienna, Antwerp blue, yellow ochre, black and white, with raw umber in the shadows.

The cod house, a dark reddish brown, is painted with silver white, ivory black, raw umber, burnt sienna and yellow ochre, with a trifle light red. The snow covered roof, with white, yellow ochre, a trifle each of burnt sienna, permanent blue, and ivory black, in the shadows adding more raw umber, and ivory black. The snow in the distance is darker in tone, shaded with raw umber, yellow ochre, and permanent blue. The lighter, brighter tone of the foreground is made with white, yellow ochre, a trifle black, permanent blue, and burnt sienna. The frozen stream at the right, is very much darker in tone. Paint this with white, Antwerp blue, raw umber, yellow ochre, burnt sienna, and ivory black. For the grasses in the immediate foreground, use white, yellow ochre, raw umber, a trifle ivory black, and burnt sienna. The figure with skirt of red, is painted with vermilion, and madder lake, toned with ivory black. The waist, cobalt, white, and ivory black. The hood, vermilion, ivory black and white. The holly which borders our little landscape, has been already described in a previous study, but I repeat it by special request.

The leaves which are a dark, glossy green, are painted with Antwerp blue, white, medium cadmium, (or, chrome yellow) ivory black, and a trifle burnt sienna, adding raw umber in the shadows. Some of the smaller leaves are lighter in tone, for these use light cadmium, with a touch of vermilion. Where the light strikes the points of the leaves, which should be clearly, and rather sharply defined, add more white, yellow ochre, and permanent blue, with a trifle madder lake. The glossy look is given to the leaves by carefully observing the light falling upon their surface. This is gray in tone, and is painted with white, yellow ochre, permanent blue, ivory black, and a little burnt sienna. Put on the high lights last, with crisp, sharp touches of the brush. The red berries are painted with a general tone of vermilion and ivory black, shading with madder lake, and ivory black, with a touch of white, trifle vermilion, and madder lake, for the high lights. The stems, and branches with light red, ivory black, and raw umber.

It used to be the prevalent opinion that the decoration of home meant great expense, and that only those having ample means, could afford to gratify a taste in this direction. But of late people are beginning to learn that home may be made very attractive by the infinitesimal things that go to make up tasteful house furnishing.

We have seen homes of quite humble pretensions far pleasanter, than elegantly furnished apartments, where money had been lavishly expended, simply because there was a sense of fitness, and harmony about them.

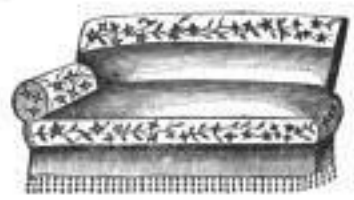
We begin this series of papers upon household decoration, remembering that a large class of our readers are in humble, or limited circumstances, and with this in mind, we shall endeavor to show how home may be beautified, and improved, in numerous economical ways, while, at the same time, our aim will be to adapt our suggestions to all classes, and conditions of readers. Who does not glance back, almost with a shudder, at the old fashioned times of stiff, uninviting rooms, with cold, dead walls, horse hair furniture, with its stiff back chairs, and bare mantel, unrelieved by drapery, or other tasteful adornment! Who, in reviewing this picture, does not turn with a feeling of relief to the home of to-day, with its tasteful belongings, and pretty decorations! The desire to surround one's self with what is beautiful, is natural to a refined mind, and even the aesthetic craze, has not been without its healthful influences. Anything which has a tendency to make people better natured, and happier, is without doubt a benefit.

AN EBONIZED PANEL.

Some one has waggishly remarked that it is not at all surprising that our forefathers were guilty of atrocities and cruelties, when they were brought up to endure such tortures as could be inflicted by the furniture of even twenty years ago, as it served to deaden their sensibilities. O! the discomfort of those chair backs, and sofas, that might have been invented as instruments of torture. Speaking of the sofa, we would suggest one that is ornamental, and yet thoroughly comfortable, one too that our economical folk, can make at home, at a small cost. Free from curves and angles, it is easily upholstered, and there is scope for decoration, either with the brush, or needle.

Perhaps there may be in the possession of the family, one of those old fashioned heirlooms styled by our grandmothers, "settees." By removing one of the arms, and cutting off the legs, so as to lower it, you have a frame ready made, which will answer the purpose very well provided it is not built strictly upon the perpendicular principle, so dear to our ancestors. Of course the whole thing must be very generously stuffed and padded, until it assumes the appearance and comfort of a Turkish divan. A set of ordinary springs will further this object. It is necessary to cover first with some strong durable material, such as ticking, or coarse linen, before the outside is put on.

For an inexpensive covering there is nothing prettier than the cretonnes, which come in really artistic designs of flowers and foliage. The French manufacture is best for this purpose, the colors being brilliant and durable, and exquisite as to design and arrangement. If a more expensive covering is preferred, with decoration of Kensington painting or embroidery, a silk, or wool serge will be as handsome, and durable a fabric, as could be chosen. It comes double-fold purposely for upholstering purposes. A soft serge, of some deep, rich shade, decorated with bands of satin, or plush, as shown in illustration, gives a most charming effect. The decorative work may be done in either painting or embroidery, although the latter would doubtless prove the most durable of the two for this purpose.



HOME-MADE SOFA.

Have any of our readers in parlor, sitting-room or chamber, an unused fire-place? Where the cheerful grate fire ought to be, an ugly blank spot, which is an eyesore, and an unpleasant feature in an otherwise pretty room. Perhaps they do not know that this very annoyance may be converted into a bit of elegance, as attractive as it once was homely.

A board screen, with an arrangement of autumn leaves as shown in illustration, is very handsome and inexpensive.

Have a light wooden frame made to fit into the fire-place, and cover with cotton cloth for a foundation. Over this any material, to suit the individual taste, or pocket book, may be used: satin, sateen, silk, or worsted, or even silesia will answer the purpose. Of course if rich material is chosen, the effect will be handsomer, but a cheap fabric looks better than one would naturally suppose. An ingenious friend describes a very handsome screen made in this manner. She first covered her board with rep, and fastened to it, a little to the right, a stuffed blue jay, and a bright red bird, she had once worn as trimming for a hat. Above these a bat, prepared by filling with cotton, previously soaked in alcohol. At the lower left hand corner, was added a bunch of grasses, tied with a bright ribbon. A more simple arrangement is to make a frame of the

DECORATED FIRE BOARD.

grasses, by sewing them all around your board, filling in the center space, with autumn leaves that have been waxed, or varnished, adding here and there a graceful bit of grass or fern. We give here an illustration of still another screen, for which autumn leaves may be used as decoration. For this design it is prettier to full on the covering of satin, or silesia, instead of covering plain as described above. This is done by tacking the material in pleats, at the back of the board, then drawing it over to the front, sewing firmly in place at the center, where the leaves, grasses, and ferns are arranged, with a tasteful bow of satin ribbon. Cat-tails, ferns and grasses can also be used thus in decoration with excellent effect, or instead a bunch of peacock feathers, with a band of same, top and bottom. Numberless are the ways of ornamenting these screens, and many others might be suggested equally pretty, if time and space permitted, but the remainder of our paper must be devoted to

ANSWERS TO INQUIRERS.

Miss K. H., Colorado, queried a long time ago about the Adolfi process for painting upon silk, satin, etc. It is simply a medium to be used which it is claimed, renders the fabric so supple that it will not crack when made up into dresses, curtains, etc. It is also asserted that the colors when used with this medium, will not become dull by exposure to the air, but retain their brightness for years, and have the power of refracting the different tints of the material upon which they are painted, producing a novel and beautiful effect. This medium is sold by the bottle, price, $1.00. We have never tested it personally, but as it is advertised by reliable dealers presume it is as represented.

Miss P. S., Colorado:—An ecru, or if that is too delicate, a sapphire, or old gold ground would be pretty for your screen, worked in lilac ribbosene and filoselle. It is difficult to tell why your painting looks dauby without seeing it. Perhaps with the apple blossoms for instance, you would have done better to let the first painting dry before putting in the shadows, or high lights.

Mrs. M. L., Ohio:—If your walls are hard finish, you will probably not require any preparation for the oil paints.

"East or West, Home's Best," is as good a hearth or home motto as you will find. "Home, Sweet Home" is also good, and "There's No Place like Home." "Sans Souci, Sans Invidia" —Without Care, Without Envy—is perhaps a little more modern, as is the single word "Bonhomie," the French term for human kindness, and warmth of heart. It is bonhomie that should grace every hearthstone, the brightness and warmth of brotherly love and sympathy. There are so many beautiful designs for home decoration that it is difficult to choose from them. If you wished your motto especially unique and striking you might make use of the old Scotch proverb

"O wad some power the giftie gie us,
To see ourselves as ithers see us,"

and for decoration, paint above the words, three wise looking owls on a branch. If, however, floral decoration is preferred, the scarlet trumpet creeper is very bright and pretty, as also the Virginia creeper with autumnal tints. Holly, with its bright berries, so suggestive of Christmas cheer, makes an excellent hearth decoration. I trust some one of these hints will prove acceptable.

M. L. R.:—Zinc yellow is not an expensive paint. The cadmiums, Schoenfield's are 35 cts. per tube. Geranium Lake is an unreliable color, and will fade. Use instead madder lake and vermilion.

M. E. W., Iowa:—"The Principles of Perspective," by George Trowbridge, is a work highly recommended. There is also a handbook of Windsor & Newton's on Elementary Perspective, by A. Penby, which is very good, and contains a great deal of information, for such a low-priced book. There is another handbook called "Guide to Light and Shade Drawing," which might be of service to you. If you send to Frost & Adams, who advertise in this journal, for their catalogue, you will find a list of many useful text books upon the subjects you have mentioned. Probably the French pastel paper, called the double elephant, is what you need for your work.

Mrs. H. R., Illinois:—Lustra painting may be done upon satin, silk, linen, velvet, plush or other material, although velvet is best adapted to the work. The different subjects you mention will all be treated in due season in these columns. It is impossible to go over so much ground in one, or two studies. Instead of pasteboard use academy board for painting in oil. It is inexpensive, and comes prepared for the purpose. For gilt letters, or edges, use what is called gold paint, which comes in the form of a powder, with a medium for mixing. Directions for use accompany each box. Sold by all dealers in artists' materials.

Miss L. T., Virginia, will find her request complied with in this paper.

We will continue to rent studies to subscribers to the JOURNAL, both flowers, or landscapes, and have ready for this month, model for ebonized panel described in this paper—snow scene and holly. Send stamp to address given below, for particulars. Premiums will be given as heretofore. For one full subscription, or club of six, a handsome piece of iridescent or brocade painting. For club of twelve, piece suitable for a bracket valence, in Kensington and iridescent painting. For club of twenty, piece for good sized wall banner, in Lustra, very elegant.

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Will mail you rules to develop muscles of cheeks and neck, making them plump and rosy; also rules for using dumbbells, to develop every muscle of the arms and body—all for 50 cts. Prof. N. L. Dowd, Home School for Physical Culture, 18 E. 14th St., N. Y.

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The most useful article made. Every Lady wants one. Can be attached to any table. It has a Spool Holder for sewing and basting thread, Emery Cushion for pins and needles, a Work Holder, and a steel Thread Cutter. This is the best selling article you ever saw. A little girl nine years old sold 50 in two days. One agent has sold over 5000 in 4 weeks. Never was an article invented that sells equal to this. Everybody buys it. The ladies all admire it. It recommends itself, as it is the most useful and convenient article ever invented. Sample, with best terms to agents, sent free for 25 cts. in stamps. Address, G. H. W. BATES, 106 Sudbury St., Boston, Mass.

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10 C. secures The Home Friend 4 MONTHS on trial. Size Youth's Companion. Full of home helps. HOME FRIEND, Plainfield, Conn.

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Cut This Out & Return to us with TEN CTS. & you'll get by mail A GOLDEN BOX OF GOODS that will bring you in MORE MONEY, in One Month, than anything else in America. Absolute certainty. Need no capital. M. Young, 175 Greenwich St. N. York.

AGENTS coin money collecting Family Pictures to enlarge; all styles. Pictures guaranteed. Special inducements. EMPIRE COPYING CO., 96 Canal Street, N.Y.

A Casket of Silver Ware Free To any person who will show it to their neighbors, and use our agent and mind orders. Give your nearest express and Post Office address. Address CONN. MANFG. CO., HARTFORD, CONN.

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MAGIC LANTERNS And STEREOPTICONS, all prices. Views illustrating every subject for PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS, etc. A profitable business for a man with small capital. $100 Lanterns for Home Amusement. 136 page Catalogue free. McALLISTER, Optician, 49 Nassau St., N. Y.

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THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL

AND

PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER.

A NATIONAL ILLUSTRATED FAMILY JOURNAL.

CONDUCTED BY MRS. LOUISA KNAPP.

Published Monthly at 441 Chestnut St.,

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

THE CURTIS PUBLISHING COMP'Y,

Publishers.

Terms: 50 cents per year, 25 cents for six months. In clubs of four or more, only 25 cents per year.

Advertising rates 50 cents per agate line each insertion. Address,

LADIES' HOME JOURNAL,
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Renewals can be sent now, no matter when the subscription expires, and the time will be added to that to which the subscription is already entitled.

Notice is always sent of expiration of subscription. If not renewed it is immediately discontinued. No notice is required to stop the paper, and no bill will be sent for extra numbers.

Receipts.—The fact that you receive the paper is a proof that we have received your remittance correctly. If you do not receive the paper promptly, write us that we may see that your address is correct.

Errors.—We make them; so does every one, and we will cheerfully correct them if you will write to us. Try to write us good-naturedly, but if you cannot, then write to us any way. Do not complain to any one else or let it pass. We want an early opportunity to make right any injustice that we may do.

Philadelphia, January, 1886.

CURRENT NOTES.

We cannot supply back numbers.

Our premium offers in previous issues are acceptable by us at any time.

Premiums advertised by us in Sept., Oct., or Dec. numbers, are available now.

We admire the mother who has the courage to refuse to have her little ones promiscuously kissed.

Do not attempt to bring up a family in a two thousand dollar style on a one thousand dollar income.

Most of the shadows that cross our pathway through life are caused by our standing in our own light.

About as foolish a thing as a person can do who suspects that the gas has been leaking in his room is to strike a match.

Do not speak flippantly before children, as they may meet the neighbor's children unexpectedly, and have a talk about it.

A woman has a right to expect, and demand, if need be, the purchase of labor saving contrivances for lightening her domestic work.

We make no distinction between old and new subscribers in our premium offers, neither does it matter to us how many different addresses there are in your club.

Do not quarrel in the presence of the children, but wait till they are gone to bed. Then they will not see you, and perhaps by that time you may not want to quarrel.

The most successful housekeepers are those who can rightly discriminate between the work that must be done to insure the health and happiness of their families, and that which is superfluous.

The following wise counsel was given by an old gentleman to his daughter: "Be sure my dear, you never marry a poor man; but remember, the poorest man in the world is one who has money and nothing else.

WE ALL KNOW HER.

Firm mother to boy—"Didn't I tell you that I'd whip you if you played in that water again, say?"

Boy—"Yessum."

Firm mother—"Then why did you do it?"

Boy—"Because I didn't believe you."

Firm mother—"Never mind, you shan't go down town with me when I go; see if you do!"

Shortly afterward the firm, mother and boy, go down town together.

POSTAGE TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

A discrimination in the rates of postage to city subscribers is made between weekly and monthly periodicals, to the great disadvantage of the latter; for, while the weeklies can be mailed to city subscribers at one cent per pound, monthlies cannot be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent each, except where the subscribers go to the post office for their mail. We are, therefore, obliged to ask Philadelphia subscribers twelve cents extra for postage, unless the paper is addressed at the post-office to be called for, or to any P. O. box.

HOW SHALL WE GET THAT 200,000?

WE KNOW the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL is worth far more to practical housekeepers than it costs, and that if your neighbors could be INDUCED TO READ IT THREE MONTHS they would never rest content without it.

To get the JOURNAL introduced into thousands of new homes as speedily as possible, we offer to send it on trial three months for only 10 cents, and in other columns we offer some special strong inducements to the young folks to send us large lists of trial subscribers up to Feb. 1st. For the largest list sent in by a young lady we shall give a handsome Silk Dress. For the largest sent in by a young man we offer $10 in cash. These are extra presents for the largest lists, in addition to the premiums offered for clubs. Premiums will be given to every club of 10 or more.

This month we look to our young friends to help us in bringing the JOURNAL to the personal notice of neighbors and friends, and the small sum of money asked for a trial, will make it an easy task to obtain a subscription from every woman to whom this paper is shown.

SCRIBBLER'S LETTERS TO GUSTAVUS.

NO. VI.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

I am not possessed of untold wealth, Gustavus, but I would cheerfully have sacrificed five cents if you could have seen your own face last Sunday when Julia came in, looking so like a guy when she was ready to go to church. I am glad to see that you can bear a defeat like a man, though, Gustavus, and I promised Julia that I would write you an explanation as soon as I reached home again. I would have explained while I was there, but that I knew I should laugh so immoderately that you would never forgive me. The way the whole thing happened is this. I received a letter from Julia a few days ago in which she writes:

"You remember Miss Jones, Cousin Scribbler? Well, Gustavus said to me the other day, 'Why don't you get a bonnet like Miss Jones, Julia? I do think she dresses in the most exquisite taste I ever saw. I do wish when you get your next bonnet you'd buy one like hers. I wish you would dress like her.' I didn't say anything in reply, Cousin Scribbler, because a wicked idea entered my head that it would be a good notion to do it just once—if I dared, only I know Gustavus won't like it."

But I wrote, telling her to do it by all means and I'd bear her out. So she replied that if I'd be there on a visit when she came out in her new toggery, she would try the experiment. Then she went to Miss Jones, milliner, and ordered a bonnet, a fac simile of Miss Jones'. The milliner looked at her in amazement, and said: "But, my dear madame, you don't consider that Miss Jones is tall, and very dark and slender, while you are short and stout, and fair. It will not be becoming, it will look very, very bizarre." (I presume she chose this word instead of hideous, though hideous is what she meant, undoubtedly, if I am any judge of effect). But Julia stood her ground with a quiet smile, and received her bonnet and her bill. Then she went to the dressmaker, and the same performance was gone through with, including the bill. Then I came to the house, and Sunday morning, when she appeared looking as she knew she would, like a fright, I say your face was a sight. But that wasn't anything to your expression when, in reply to your question as to what on earth she had on now, she meekly answered "Clothes like Miss Jones's, and here's the bill like Miss Jones's, too." I think, Gustavus, if I were in your place, I'd pay that hundred dollars without a murmur, and consider that I'd bought a hundred dollars worth of experience cheap.

Now there are two things for you to reflect upon in future action. Miss Jones and your wife are very good friends, but they won't be if you are constantly holding Miss Jones up as a pattern, either in conduct or clothes. There is nothing more absolutely aggravating, and affection-destroying to man, woman or child, than to have some one particular person held up as a pattern forever, and if you want your little Bessie to be like any one else don't say to her, "Bessie, I wish you would act like Mary Smith," or, "walk like Susie Brown," unless you want her to learn to despise these two individuals, and resolve that if there are just two girls in the world she will aim not to copy they are the Misses Smith and Brown.

This may be an ugly way to act, but is human nature, after all, clear through. Each human being likes to be an individual, and not a copy.

Well—to return to the Miss Jones question—there is one thing more to be considered. When you recommend your wife to dress after the pattern of some one else, study the matter sufficiently before you speak to be sure first that your wife's complexion and figure will stand the apparel—and second, that your pocket book will stand the strain. For it is very unreasonable to ask your wife to dress after a certain pattern to please you, and expect her to pay for it out of her allowance. You evidently had not thought before you spoke, Gustavus, that Miss Jones' income was twice yours, and spent entirely on herself.

Always think, Gustavus, before you speak.

SCRIBBLER.

HUSBANDS AND LOVERS.

Many a woman sighs and weeps in secret because the husband of her youth has ceased to pay her the attentions of a lover. He coolly lets her pick up her own handkerchief, stalks stiffly out of the door before her, and lets her risk all sorts of disasters by clambering out of a double wagon unassisted. Now, we don't propose to excuse men for any such unpardonable lapses; but it is a fact that the majority of women cease to grow in attractiveness, or—to speak botanically,—cease to put forth new buds of promised loveliness to challenge their husband's perennial adoration; and the perverse creatures cease to cast admiring glances at the old plant which has dropped its blossoms. Do you see the remedy, neglected wife? Treat yourself as you treat your plants. You give them fresh air and sunshine, fresh soil and more room for the advancing roots to grow in; give yourself more opportunities and room for mental growth and the cultivation of personal graces. Maybe its too bad, but you can't blame a man much for not continuing to smile perpetually at the remembrance of honey tasted long ago. You must yield a present sweetness and a promise of plenty in the future.

Ability to be a perfect housekeeper, says Miss Parloa, is not conferred on every woman, but it is possible to be a good one without sacrificing all the other interests in life. While one is learning, to be sure, it may seem as if there were not many interests beyond the household, but after the art has been mastered there is a freedom and a sense of power worth all the struggles made. The care of the table generally makes itself felt more than anything else; and no matter how well conducted all the other departments may be, if this one be neglected discomfort and unhappiness will ensue. Cooking is a science, and for this reason girls are often more successful than their elders in culinary experiments, because they comply strictly with directions instead of guessing what quantities of ingredients to use in order to produce desired results. Experienced housekeepers might avoid much disappointment if they were always equally careful.

Is your sleeping room thoroughly ventilated? If not, it may be the cause of that tired and listless feeling you complain of every morning.

We have over one hundred thousand paid subscribers and expect to close our third year with two hundred thousand. Shall we have them? We shall, if you will but show the JOURNAL to your neighbors.

CORRESPONDENCE.

M. E. W., Box 296, Clay Centre, Kan.:—We have not the space to devote to exchanges.

Cora Woodward, 18th and Jefferson Sts., Phila., wishes directions for making paper pond lilies.

Box 144, Hillsboro Bridge, N. H., will do well to consult Mrs. F. A. Warner, E. Saginaw, Mich.

DEAR EDITRESS:—Will some one tell me how to remove grass stains from white cloth?

KATE W.

Will M. H. W., who gives black radish remedy in October number of JOURNAL, please send her address to Addie E. Albee, St. Charles, Ill.

"Seeker After Paying Home Work" can obtain information on preparing pickles and preserves for the market by writing to E. E. Martin, Auburn, N. Y.

"Brownie:"—In answer to your question how to mate a young female canary I will say you can not mate young or old in fall. If you want them to mate you must put them in cage together in spring, as all birds mate in the spring.

EDITRESS L. H. J.:—Will you please instruct me how to conduct a Japanese tea, and what kind of refreshment to have, and how to dress. Please tell me how to set out the Gipsey's Warning and what kind of costume to wear, and oblige

FRANKIE.

DEAR EDITRESS:—Will you kindly inform me how to repair old rubbers, also to renovate oil paintings, and oblige A SUBSCRIBER.

[Perhaps some of our readers may be able to help a "subscriber," but we would advise an old worn out rubber to be replaced by a new one, as no advertised cement can be relied on for any length of time. Oil paintings defaced by time can be touched up by an artist, but if cracked can never be repaired. Always expose an oil painting to the light and air. It will wear better.—ED].

"Kit Clover" in HOME JOURNAL, Sept.:—You inquired about bees. My mother and I have had some experience, this being our fourth year. We commenced with four colonies, have sold twenty-five, now have forty-eight. This year sold half a ton of honey—in the comb—one pound sections. We use a patent hive, which stands in one place the year round,—on its stand. Would suggest: Begin in winter, about February or March, with not less than two, nor more than six colonies, as you need experience to manipulate. We can recommend "A B C in Bee Culture," price one dollar, by A. J. Root, Medina, O., also "Gleanings in Bee Culture," by same author, and "American Bee Journal," by Newman, Chicago, Ill., "Apiculturist."

ELLICOTT CITY, Aug. 20th, 1885.

EDITRESS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I have lately received the stamping outfit offered by the JOURNAL for 12 subscribers. Am pleased with it, and think it well worth the little trouble, but was disappointed when I tried to stamp a fine piece of dark cloth, it would not do at all, it stamps white goods beautifully; is there no other powder that will do for cloth, except the blue? I am an anxious reader of the L. H. J., and would love to correspond with some of the encouraging writers, through the JOURNAL. I love the correspondence page, I find it a great help. Am a young housekeeper, and have much to learn. Am getting up another club for this month.

ANXIOUS READER.

[If "Anxious Reader" will read again the instructions accompanying the stamping outfit she will see white POWDER is not recommended for dark goods, it is seldom satisfactory. The French indelible stamping should always be used for dark goods, and dark powder for light goods, and the instructions should be read over and over again so as to become familiar with every little detail.—ED].

DEAR JOURNAL FRIENDS:—As the long winter evenings are approaching, and we are all anxious to amuse the young folks around the sitting-room table, allow me to make a suggestion that has been a source of much merriment in our home. Did you ever make a Pig Album? If not, try one this winter. If you do not "laugh and grow fat" you must be like the

"Wise men who laugh but rarely,
The reason I'll state fairly,
They think it unbecoming
To be found in any funning
So their laugh is very low."

Take a small autograph album, or cheaper still, (do as we did) make one yourself, by folding plain paper in the form of a book and fasten together two Christmas cards for a cover. Now pass it around and each draw a pig and write your name with your eyes shut. No peeking, as that spoils the fun. Don't forget to bring it out when the neighbors come in to spend the evening if you want to enjoy a hearty laugh. You will find your best artists are liable to put poor piggies eye under his feet or on his back somewhere.

I would like to express my gratitude to the JOURNAL sisters—if words would suffice—for the friendly and generous manner in which they have responded to my favor for autumn leaves. In my attempt to collect a wreath, a leaf from each State and Territory. With permission of the editress I will tell you how I have arranged them as soon as I have a full representation.

MRS. W. H. THOMPSON.

EDITRESS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Have all who sent to me for patterns received them? If any one has not they will please drop me a postal and I will send them again, for occasionally a mistake will occur in the mail as well as anything else, and a package will miscarry. I am glad to learn so far every one seems pleased with the patterns. One lady writes me her little 8 year old daughter has pieced the "Road to California and Back," and several have made the Boot albums. It was little or no trouble to send the patterns, and no one need to almost apologize for sending for them, for you are welcome to them, or I would not have made you the offer. Only let me say no one should send to our editor for the patterns, as several have done, but send direct to me, as my address was certainly given plainly. The letters sent to the editor he forwarded to me, and of course it is annoying to him, besides paying another postage on your letters. Let me thank all for kind words, and good wishes, and especially those who gave me really valuable information regarding the various coral reefs in the southern coast of Florida. I have already received some lovely specimens of coral. I think specimen collecting very interesting. A few weeks ago I received from Washington Territory a nice package or box of Indian money, which is indeed a curiosity. The Indian money is a rare sea shell, an inch or more in length, a little larger around than a large knitting needle, slightly bent, and hollow. The lady who sent me the money, says her husband was once an Indian trader, and he collected the money years ago, when with the Alaska Indians. The value of each piece to them was 4 cents. I have more than I care for of this Indian money, and anyone who wishes a piece, may have it and welcome, by sending a stamp for the postage. MRS. F. A. WARNER,

EAST SAGINAW, MICH.

WYANDOTTE, KAN., Oct. 29, '85.

DEAR EDITRESS:—You are quite right in my opinion in not thinking it advisable to curtail the stories. Ida Belle Discreus forgets that "variety is the spice of life," and what to her may seem "idle stories" is a source of entertainment and profit to others. Many of the subscribers must have growing daughters who are not "particularly interested in babies," neither are they versed in music nor painting, but they can draw wholesome lessons from such stories as "A Lark," "A Railroad Acquaintance," etc. A new subscriber, whose name I send you, is a young girl of sixteen or seventeen, whose first question when I told her of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL was, "Are there any stories in it?" The only fault that I can find with it is that by the time I have read every line—including advertisements, I am obliged to "take it up tenderly, lift it with care" else it will fall to pieces. Would it not be an improvement to have it in book form, such as Babyhood for instance, or would the expense be such that the subscription would be raised in proportion? We also need more criticisms—taking it for granted that there is occasionally good grounds for such for we are all prone to err. Happily, we find more that is of real benefit to us and can oftener feel like exclaiming "Them's my sentiments" than otherwise.

By the way, I found the hint in regard to putting a little common soap with starch when starching shirts, etc., a most valuable one. The water must be warm as was formerly stated, and the irons will not stick.

Would it not be a good idea for us housekeepers to keep a small blank book and pencil hanging in our kitchen, so that when we have a happy thought, at least a helpful one, we can jot it down while the inspiration lasts, and when we have a batch of them—how else shall I express it, Ida Belle?—we can send them to the editress to be culled from according to her judgment.

Methinks I see her waste-basket now looming up in the distance, so I'll say good night.

PENSE.

OCT. 18th, 1885.

MRS. LOUISA KNAPP:—I see so many things in reading your paper that I would like to answer, and also when I read your paper and note other mothers' experiences I begin to count my faults and mistakes and then I think I am not fit to answer their queries.

I saw the question asked not long since, what are we going to do for good hired girls, and my answer is, make them. Teach your daughters to do housework well, and if they are obliged to earn their own living, let them go into a nice family where they can be respected and command respect. There are many girls that can't do this that work out, and those are the ones that disgust one; but if girls were more respected I think we would have more respectable servant girls. I am one of a family of six girls, and each one of us have been and are self-supporting. I was a seamstress and shirtmaker, and while going from one family to another for years I saw the trouble they were having with their kitchen help. Sometimes it was the fault of the girl and as often the fault of the mistress, for people that are brought up in wealth and idleness are very apt not to know when a thing is done right. I often think of a friend of mine whom I saw when I went home on a visit who had just buried her only child, and had very poor health then, and had always done her own work until sickness came. "I can't get well so long as I have to keep a girl, why, I have had eight girls in seven months, and there was only one of them that I would have kept, and she would not stay." I had to laugh to myself, and the more I saw of her, I saw she was particular to a fault, so I think if one has to keep help it is better not to be so particular, and try and save one's patience, for it makes a neat woman irritable to see things going hap-hazard. I am not very well myself just now, and have had two girls in seven months. The first was young and had some very good qualities, and I could have made a good girl of her, but she wanted to go to school this winter, so of course I had nothing to say. I have a sister of hers now, and I'm bound I'll keep her for fear of spoiling my own reputation, but my little girl (aged 4½) says, "Oh, mamma, can't we do our own work some way?" So I say to mothers, let painting and fancy work go and teach your daughters to make good bread, sweep a floor clean, and iron your clothes so they are fit to wear, and you need not fear but they can get good husbands. I think that is one reason so many men are driven to dishonesty and drink, they get wives that won't bear up their end of the yoke and growl all the time because their husbands can't make more money and keep them in ease. If I lived in a city where I'd have so many advantages as the city affords, I think housework would be mere play. Where I live now, in a scattered settlement, I can hardly have a few washes done for love or money, girls are scarce and marry young, an over market of school teachers, and the consequence is, we are obliged to hire the horrid Chinamen in the house, so I've quit painting and fancy work and have learned to knit the children's stockings and do my own work. I said I was one of six girls who were self-supporting, and I will now tell you what each does. One is the housekeeper, one cashier in a large dry goods store, one is a burnisher in a silver-plating establishment, one is married and happy, and the youngest, who was ready to graduate, was taken sick and treated for spinal disease a year, and is now book-keeping. We had no brother. When I was married, I am ashamed to say, I could not make bread. I could make "pocketbook" biscuit, and nice lemon pies, and when a young gentleman took dinner or tea with us, I made these things, and I expect fooled many a one to think I could do everything in that line, but I married a man who knew something about cooking, and he was willing to take me as I was and teach me, and now I do pretty well, and the way I am going to make up for it is, teach my girls those necessary things first. My little girl, 11 years old, can make bread as good as I, and I think it tastes better. But don't think for a minute, it was my mothers fault, for it was not. I was proud and wanted something else than a neat calico dress, so went to work to earn it for myself and little sisters, so that is why I did not do housework.

MRS. AMANDA,

CALLAHAN'S RANCH, SISKIYOU CO., CAL.

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THE PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER

DOMESTIC JOURNALISMS.

HINTS FOR HOUSEKEEPERS, CONTRIBUTED BY JOURNAL SISTERS.

E. B. F. will find recipe for cream puffs in December number.

Mrs. A. A.:—Better get a new dinner pot, lest the old one mended part when you least want it should.

"Young Housekeeper" will find good recipe for cream puffs in December number of LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.—ED.

DEAR EDITRESS:—If the sister will tightly stretch her stained table cloth over a hollow vessel, and pour boiling water over the spots they will soon disappear.

"Staff of Life."—Stand your bread on its side to dry off. Be sure also to keep it wrapped in a cloth inside the closed tin which holds the bread. Do you use some shortening while mixing your bread? Some brands of flour require more than others.

DEAR EDITRESS:—Please tell the readers of your household column that a nice way to clean a white straw hat, is to rub it with lemon juice. If the straw has become yellow, this restores the white color again, at least for a time.

MRS. IRA S. PATTERSON.

43 WILLOW ST., LOWELL, MASS.

EDITRESS OF LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I saw by the Sept. number that "Frank's Wife" would like to know how to get rid of ants. I have always found the Turkish Remedy successful in driving them away. It is found at either apothecary or grocery stores. It should be used about once a week. EFFIE.

A HINT FROM "MOSSY."—To clean a burned place from a brass or copper kettle. Take enough lard and spread liberally over the burned spot, then put the kettle over the fire, and let it heat until the lard is well melted into the burn; now remove the kettle, and with a sharp, thin-bladed knife, the burn can all be removed in less time than it takes to tell it. If the first application of lard does not do the work completely give it another trial. Any of the sisters who have made jams and butters in brass or copper kettles, and have had the misfortune to burn them as I have, and then have had to tear their finger ends, and tear their patience and their nerves worse, to get that burnt spot eradicated, will appreciate this knowledge after one trial.

SCRANTON, Sept., 1885.

EDITRESS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—In the August number of the HOME JOURNAL, Mrs. M. Ella Turner wishes a recipe for taking ink spots out of baby's white dress. They can be removed with oxalic acid. Dissolve the acid in water. Wet the garment before applying it. Fill a small tin pail with boiling water, put the lid on and hold the ink spots tightly on the hot lid and apply the acid with your finger. It will remove the stain instantly. Wash it out immediately or if it should be very strong it will eat the goods. It will also remove rust spots. It will not do for colored goods as it will remove the color as well. I have kept it on hand and found use for it for over thirty years.

Yours respectfully, MRS. R. W. A.

EDITRESS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I have read with much interest the article in your November number entitled "The Art of Good Dining." The chief art in this one article seems to be setting the table and serving. It occurs to me that the way recommended must be designed for those whose time is more unlimited than the time of most of us housekeepers. Why all this array of mats, cruets, and tiny dishes? Why burden the one hard-worked servant with so many trips to and fro between the dining-room and kitchen? For, even the Bridgets, and Gretchens, and Dinahs, are human, and ought to be spared all unnecessary travel over the hard way of servitude. No wonder our American girls disdain to enter our kitchens for a livelihood, when so much useless serving is required of them.

I grant that the table should be as clean as possible always. But scrupulously clean napery cannot be afforded in every family, even where a degree of gentility is aimed at. Clean napkins and a clean cloth at every meal would entail an interminable task on some one, for very few could afford napkins enough for such a custom. For, if the family consist of six persons, there must be, at least, one dozen and a-half used every day, necessitating a large supply, or an everyday washing and ironing; and, it is no small task to wash and iron well, eighteen napkins.

Granting, that all this serving and fastidiousness is done according to the mode furnished by the article referred to, of what practical use would it be? Would paterfamilias enjoy his dinner any better? Whisper: (Paterfamilias taken in the aggregate wouldn't give a snap for all this formality). If the food is well cooked and of good quality, that is about all the average paterfamilias cares about it.

"Its influence is elevating to the children." Certainly, here is a strong argument, and one that cannot be ignored. We all wish our children to have the advantage of refining influence. We would throw around them all the things that are good and true and beautiful. But it would be well to see that their culture is not merely the outward love for these things. We do not want them educated to that degree of refinement that can see no good or true things except it be gilded and polished, and laid all over with the dross of modern improvement. If we strive, at meal time, to exert a spirit of cheerfulness and harmony, and joyfulness, our children and other members of the family will not notice if the table cloth and napkins are a little soiled, or the silverware tarnished, or the cutlery spotted. In after years when the daily meetings at the family table are recalled, it will not be the immaculate furnishings that will strengthen their young manhood or womanhood, but it will be the cheery talks, the flashes of wit, the joke or the lively conversation about public affairs, that will spring up before them; and they will see where their moral nature as well as their physical, gained its healthfulness and beauty.

I do not wish to be understood as depreciating a faultlessly set table, or the modern mode of serving the food. But, for the sake of tired housekeepers all over the land, for the sake of the mothers who would fain grasp at every idea that has a tendency to elevate and refine their children, I want to say: Have your table spread as neat and clean always as you can; but make it a rule, as unchangeable as the law of the Medes and Persians, that no dissensions, nor disputes, nor any worry whatever, shall be discussed at meal time. But lay by a fund of anecdote with which to entertain your family; or relate some fact or sentiment that you have picked up during the intervening time; or talk of public affairs, and you will have your reward in seeing your children grow up, ignorant in nothing but gossip, and with a keen sense of the good, the true and the beautiful, wherever it is found.

S. M. H.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

A PLEA FOR THE WEAK ONES.

Nothing adds more to the sum of human happiness than a well ordered home. Every true woman is ambitious to have her household arrangements as near perfect in their way as her means and strength will permit. Yet how many can tell of various hindrances in their own experience, that prevent, the full realization of this ideal completeness.

Limited means; inefficient servants; the constant strain of providing for a large family; but beyond all these, is not the hindrance more often that sense of physical weakness which so large a number of our countrywomen are obliged to confess!

The maid-of-all-work sadly only decides to "find fresh fields and pastures new." Her mistress has no such choice; necessity is laid upon her to make the best of the present surroundings. When the children have been prepared for school, the baby washed and hushed to rest, and the house put in order, the preparations for dinner are no light tax upon her strength.

Is she not entitled to every possible aid in such emergencies?

How many a frail mother has bowed her head in bitter sorrow at the thought of the coal and ashes to be handled, of the dinner to be ready for the return of the weary father and proverbially hungry children!

Where it is possible, let a gas or kerosene stove be in readiness for use on such occasions. The price will often be saved in doctor's bills as well as in personal comfort.

Some housekeepers find these alleviations are beyond their means. I have one other suggestion to make that is within the reach of all. This is an ordinary high stool. Rising from a low chair is itself a strain upon the weary body, while moving from the high seat will be but slightly felt. I know a delicate woman who considers her high stool more precious than her piano. I have seen her sitting at her gas stove preparing an ample dinner, which she was able cheerfully to share, and also to digest it, because the stool had saved her from the utter exhaustion which she would have felt, had she stood at the range.

I have seen her sitting at the ironing board with a smiling face, as the linen passed under her dainty fingers, smoothed and polished so well that "her husband was known in the gates," as one who was well cared for at home.

Never have a closet under the kitchen sink to gather vile odors and associations. Then the stool can be drawn up close, and with a table near, the washing of the dishes will be robbed of half its unpleasant weariness.

These precautions will often prove a valuable aid in preserving the cheerful serenity of the housemother in trying circumstances, adding to her comfort and to the happiness of all the family.

Have the stoves, if you can, sister housekeepers, but fail not to try the high stool.

JENNY WALLIS.

A nice way to serve sardines is to lay them on three-cornered pieces of nicely buttered toast, and garnish the dish with parsley.

To prevent a burn from leaving a scar a subscriber sends the following, to be used after removing the fire from the burn. Grate or scrape flat turnips, fry in fresh lard until quite brown, and strain into bottles or boxes kept air tight. Apply on linen cloths.

Home can be made comfortable and happy without fancy desserts, and it cannot be either comfortable or happy with meals and vegetables that are ill cooked, or with heavy bread and biscuit. Young housekeepers remember this.

Hot alum water is the best insect destroyer known. Put the alum into hot water, and let it boil till it is all dissolved; then apply the solution hot with a brush to all cracks, bedsteads, and other places where insects are found. Ants, bedbugs, roaches, and creeping things are killed by it, while there is no danger of poisoning the family or injuring property.

If your servant is too consequential or too ill-tempered to bear your oversight in the kitchen, and tact and kindliness will not win her, dismiss her and try again. It may not be easy to find one who will bear watching and direction, but there are good dispositions among servants as elsewhere, and kindliness and consideration will help you to carry your point. Take a share in the cooking yourself, and appear often in the kitchen. When you know certain dishes are to be made, be on the spot and yourself, check the lavish use which is so closely allied to wilful waste that the result is the same. You know that two or three eggs will make your pudding as well as five, that your cake is far more apt to be heavy with a heaped cup of butter than a scant one; you can judge just how much your family will eat, and can see that little is cooked to be left over, and the best of it cold or "hashed up"—that distressing form of bad diet. Only your authority can stop these leaks.—Good Housekeeping.

HOME COOKING.

ORIGINAL RECIPES CONTRIBUTED BY THE JOURNAL SISTERS.

SPONGE CAKE:—Whites of four eggs, ½ teaspoonful cream tartar, ½ cup of sugar, same of flour, one teaspoonful of lemon. This took the prize also. MRS. A. E. W.

SALAD EGGS:—Arrange eggs the same way, only omit the chopped meat, and mix the yolk with a little salad dressing, and fill the eggs as before, and serve on lettuce leaves.

ICED APPLES:—Pare and core 12 juicy apples, fill with sugar mixed with a little nutmeg, bake until nearly done, cool, and remove fruit without breaking, into another dish; put icing on top and sides, first pouring off juice.

BANANA CREAM:—Remove skins from 5 large bananas, and pound with 5 oz. sugar. Beat ½ pt. cream to a stiff froth, add pounded fruit, and piece of lemon, mix well and add ½ oz. gelatine, previously dissolved in a little rich milk; gently whisk and mold; eat with cream.

HOW TO COOK POTATOES:—Wash them and put them in warm water to boil, when at the boiling point, turn off the water and pour in cold, and you will find even old potatoes mealy. I have tried this in the spring, and found the same potatoes nicer done this way. LOUISA.

ENGLISH PLUM PUDDING:—One pound of suet chopped fine, one pound of sugar, one pound of dry bread, grated, one pound of raisins, two of currants, two teaspoonfuls of ginger, two nutmegs, half a pint of sweet milk, a pinch of salt. Beat well together, and steam five or six hours. Serve with rich sauce. MRS. R. H. K.

FIRST PREMIUM WALNUT CAKE:—One cup of sugar, ½ cup of butter, 2 cups of flour, yolks of 3 eggs, white of 1 egg, 1 teaspoonful of soda dissolved in half a cup of milk, 2 teaspoonfuls of cream tartar. Bake in layers of three cakes. Beat the whites of the 2 eggs, 1 cup of sugar, 1 cup of chopped walnuts. Put the cake together with this. MRS. A. E. W.

CROQUETS:—To one pt. chopped beef or veal, add ½ pt. cream, and 1 tablespoonful butter, (creamed) roll in about tablespoonful flour. Put all save meat into saucepan, season to taste and place over fire to thicken, when this is done pour over meat, mix thoroughly, and form into shape, roll in cracker dust and fry a nice brown, or if preferred, bake. MRS. V. L. W.

MACAROONS:—Skin ½ lb. of almonds, pound them to a smooth paste, and add a teaspoonful of essence of lemon. Then add an equal weight of powdered sugar, and the whites of 2 eggs. Work the paste well together with the back of a spoon. Dip your hands in water and roll them in balls the size of a nutmeg, and lay on paper an inch apart. Then wet your hands and press them gently. Bake in cool oven ¾ of an hour.

COFFEE JELLY:—Make a pint of clear strong coffee, dissolve half an ounce of gelatine in cold water enough to cover, then add to coffee and sweeten to taste. Pour the jelly through a strainer into a mold, which has been wet in cold water, Set in a cool place to harden, then turn from the mold and heap whipped cream around it, or eat with plain cream. It is best to make it a day before you wish to use it. This is very good. MRS. R. H. K.

EGG BASKETS:—Boil eggs hard, cut neatly in half and extract the yolk, rub these to a paste with some melted butter, pepper and salt, and set aside. Chop very fine the meat of cold fowl ham or veal, and mix with the egg paste. Cut off a slice from the bottoms of the hollow whites of the eggs, to make them stand. Fill with the paste, arrange close together on a flat dish, and pour over them gravy heated boiling hot. For serving with cold meat omit the hot gravy, and serve on lettuce leaves.

GINGER POUND CAKE:—3 lbs. flour, 1 lb. butter, 1 pt. molasses, 1½ lbs. sugar, 1 doz. eggs, 2 teaspoonfuls cream tartar, 1 of soda, ½ cup ground ginger. Cream butter and froth eggs lightly, to yolks of eggs add sugar, then butter and molasses, alternately add flour and white of eggs; having put cream tartar in flour, finally pour cup boiling water to dissolve soda, and add it; give a final beating, and bake at once in a moderate oven. Cream instead of milk is a great improvement, but the latter answers. V. L. W.

MOCK ROAST:—Take a round of beef, (cost from 15 to 25 cents) and sprinkle salt and pepper on it, after which roll it up and wind enough twine or coarse thread around to keep it in shape. Put a lump of butter or beef fat in a hot stew pan with one or two sliced onions. When the onions turn brown put in the meat, and turn from side to side until it has changed color, then pour on enough cold water to cover, but not to drown. When the water boils down add a little hot water, and thicken and season the gravy to taste. If put on to cook soon after breakfast, it will melt in your mouth by dinner time, and be equal in every respect to a half-dollar roast. Try, and report.

PRINCESS PUDDING:—One box of gelatine. Soak until dissolved in one pint of cold water, then add one pint boiling water, and one pint of wine, the juice of four lemons, and three large cups of sugar. Beat the whites of four eggs to a stiff froth, and stir in the jelly when it thickens. Pour in a large mould, (first wet with cold water) and set in a cool place. When hard turn from the mould, and serve with sauce made with the yolks of 4 eggs, 1 cup of sugar, and 1 teaspoonful of corn starch rubbed smooth with a small piece of butter. Rub well together, and add 1 pint of milk. Set in a basin of water and let boil, stirring all the time. When done, flavor with vanilla. MRS. R. H. K.

WHAT SHALL WE HAVE FOR DESSERT?

is a question daily asked in thousands of homes. Messrs. Burnett & Co., 27 Central Street, Boston, Mass., will send you, on receipt of your address and five two-cent stamps, their book of "Household Receipts"—72 pages of choice receipts. It is a most satisfactory answer. Be sure you mention the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. This is important.

Put under the damask cloth upon the table a sub-cover of thick Canton flannel, if you cannot afford the heavier table felt sold for this purpose. Or an old blanket, darned, washed, and kept for this use only will answer the purpose. The upper cover will lie more smoothly, look like a much better quality of napery, and keep clean a third longer than spread over the bare table top.

If you have a good plain cook in your kitchen, value her at her just worth. Do not deny her an occasional compliment. Three times a day she comes to your aid, and helps to make you healthy and wise; and if, by chance, it is one of the family who does that plain cooking, as in our wholesome, homely land it is quite likely to be, honor her and admire her.

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It contains no injurious ingredients.
It leaves no deleterious substances in the bread as all pure grape Cream of Tartar and Alum powders do.
It restores to the flour the highly important constituents rejected in the bran of the wheat.
It makes a better and lighter biscuit than any other baking powder.

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EDWARD GALE, Peoria, Ill.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MID-WINTER FASHIONS.

Comfortable Outside Garments—Skating Costumes—Walking Suits—Evening Toilettes—New Year's Robes—Odds and Ends for the Festival Season.

BY MRS. JAS. H. LAMBERT.

The most expensive and elegant wrap for the season of ice and snow is that of costly fur. In the past, fur wraps were in circular and sacque shape; then cloaks of fur were introduced, and now coverings of fur can be found in all the varied shapes and styles of the outside garments, made of other materials, in dolmans, coats, pelerines and jackets. Seal, sable, mink, beaver and astrachan, with long hair furs for trimmings, are popular; often two kinds of fur being used to construct a wrap. Seal plush is also much in demand, the rich garment finished with band of fur.

Young girls are wearing outside long coats or ulsters of heavy cloth, made in the same style as their brother's swell ulsters; then they are seen in all kinds of jackets in the most jaunty shapes imaginable, supplementing the suit of cloth, boucle, or of velveteen.

For ladies there are numbers of elegant shapes in wraps, such as dolmans, visites, cloaks and mantles, of plush, brocade, ottoman and cloth, exquisitely made, and finished with passementeries, embroideries, fringes, or on cloth, curious appliques, and borders in needlework.

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Skating costumes are made very much as walking suits, with an additional wrap to put on after finishing skating, which is apt to make one rather warm. An inexpensive suit is made of Arcadia velveteen in seal brown, trimmed on lower edge of skirt with band of imitation seal plush. The basque is secured with bronze edged wooden buttons, and the outside jacket is bordered with band of seal plush, and closed with very large buttons matching those fastening the basque, only ten times larger. Such buttons cost 85 cts. a dozen small sizes, and $3.00 for the large buttons per dozen.

Perhaps one of the most elegant skating costumes of this season is one of oak green velvet trimmed with leather trimming. The hat is also of velvet, with upstanding cluster of feathers placed high in front. Another skating hat, has the trimming placed at the back, the front coming down rather over the face, while the brim at the back is turned up, and secured to the crown under the elaborate trimming.

***

The winter walking suit is very stylish, and what is better it is decidedly comfortable. As it is generally made in rough cloth, the drapery is allowed to hang in folds, oftener than it is looped, such folds commencing at the waist line, instead of being the result of plaits at the sides. While some skirts are alike on both sides, the most stylish are entirely different, the one side being arranged in plaited fan, the other showing the long apron of the front drawn up, and secured under a clasp of bronze, wood, or silver. In such skirts the back drapery is gracefully and elaborately looped. The corsage is in basque shape, often pointed in front, cut square, or cut away, while the back is susceptible of two or three methods of arrangement, in coat tabs, folds, or in deep points. The great attraction in the walking suit, consists of the comfortable jacket, which is generally fitted to the form in the back, with rather deep basque or plaited skirt. The front is almost always loose, and secured with large ornamental buttons and buttonholes. Sometimes the front is fastened diagonally, with the large buttons put on close together, and again it is strapped across, two buttons being on either side, holding over piece in place.

A very stylish and inexpensive costume for visiting or church wear is made of Afghan Homespun in brown, shot with copper, and Arcadia velveteen. The underskirt of homespun is trimmed at the lower edge with a plaiting of the cloth, and the front width is of velveteen. Corsage of cloth, with velveteen vest. The outside garment of cloth is a shapely redingote, looped in the back, with half-fitting front pieces, finished on either side with revers decorated with wooden buttons.

A most convenient fashion for those who have partly worn or outgrown dresses, is that of using a distinct material for the basque, which should however be in some color that will not clash with the hue of the skirt. Contrasts are considered most popular, cardinal, or garnet waists being used with skirts of blue, or old gold. These basques may be of plush, velvet, or of velveteen, and as they require no trimming but the buttons, which should be handsome if the material is, they are really inexpensive, and are much in favor for both day and evening wear.

Many ladies who are not in mourning, wear black in preference to colors, knowing that handsome black material forms the most elegant dress, which can be worn appropriately upon a greater variety of occasions than can a costume in colors, no matter what its material may be. Such a costume in reliable goods will last a long time. The most noteworthy silk warp fabrics, in jet and blue black, are Priestley's dress goods, made of the best Australian wool, and fine fibre silk, each thread being perfect, and the weaving so carefully executed that the finer grades of Henrietta cloths and drap d'Alma are now included in the list of art fabrics. In Priestley's black goods, there are various grades and kinds in silk warp materials, and all wool goods, so that the demand for any kind, at any price, can be supplied by our leading merchants.

A rich dress of Priestley's Henrietta in blue black, is made with large plaits and intersects of fans around the lower portion of skirt. The front is of velvet bordered with revers of the Henrietta in superb satin lustre, embroidered with steel beads. Back drapery of Henrietta. Corsage with velvet vest, and revers of cloth embroidered with steel beads as on the skirt.

***

The evening dresses for this season are very pretty, although most of them are really inexpensive. Some of the most charming robes for New Year's receptions, and Christmas parties are made of very cheap materials. For instance, a lovely dress in pale blue, has skirt and corsage of satin which cost, at Sharpless Brothers, only 61 cents a yard, trimmed profusely with lace which cost only 25 cents a yard, the whole being finished with knots of velvet which cost $1.00 a yard, and is in a rich shade of dark blue.

Elegant robes of velveteen are made with trained skirt, and the front, is often a perfect mass of some silk lace, put on generally over a foundation of satin. Cord de La Riene is a corded velveteen which is now much used for suits, and evening dresses, either entire or for combinations.

Neat and very pretty is a dress for a handsome brunette, in a rich red surah, trimmed with velvet revers, cuffs, collar, and plastron of velvet in the same shade. The neck and sleeves are finished with frills of real point lace, and the ornaments worn with the toilette are of gold, set with pearls and rubies.

***

A most important consideration in perfect dressmaking is the fit of the corset, a support being required by most ladies, but that support should not in any sense detract from the comfort of the wearer, or should it retard perfect freedom and hence grace of action. In Ball's corsets special features have been introduced by which they are rendered entirely flexible, easy and well fitting. Coiled elastic wire springs in each side of a pair of corsets, cause the parts to adapt themselves to the figure of the wearer, and to gracefully respond to each movement of the body.

With the fashionable dress skirt the tourmure or bustle becomes a necessity, to uphold the fulness that would otherwise drag and make the back incomplete. Some of the new bustles are of coiled wire, formed into sections, the one above another. Others consist of the cushion or pad of hair, made square, and put on under the wired portion of the dress skirt. Very fashionable ladies wear these bustles of hair, but they are decidedly uncomfortable and unhealthy.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Mrs. Thomas" and others.—The plainer you make up a dress of rich velvet the more elegant will be the result. Some superb dresses of black velvet are trimmed with handsome embroidered flounce, others have skirts with plaiting on lower edge, gracefully arranged back drapery and sash apron in front. Corsage pointed in front, coat back, neck and sleeves finished with frills of handsome lace.

"Careful Housekeeper."—Have sent price list of table linen. Thank you for calling attention to the error. Our copy read E. Bradford Clarke's prepared food would keep an indefinite length of time, in any climate. The word indifferent gives quite another meaning from that intended. As all such confections and choice foods cost one cent an ounce postage, it is cheaper to have a box sent by express if you want over two pounds of the goods. Yes, you will like E. Bradford Clarke & Co.'s tea; it is very good. 96 cents will buy a pound, and pay postage, and you will find their tea at that price, really much better than you can buy elsewhere for $1.00 a pound. Send money with order for tea, and also write for Festival Fancies in Food to E. Bradford Clarke & Co., Broad and Chestnut Sts., Philadelphia, Pa.

"Country Customer."—Doubtless you can procure everything you want in dress for the bride as well as housefurnishing goods, by writing direct to Sharpless Brothers, Chestnut and Eighth Sts., Philadelphia, Pa., for they keep every article in fabrics, or ready-made garments a lady can possibly require. During the months of December and January goods are very much cheaper than they were in the fall, and even if you do not wish holiday gifts, it will be well for you to post yourself as to their prices, for any article or goods, purchased through the mail order department of Sharpless Brothers will be sent free of cost for transportation.

"Anxious Mother."—Velveteen will make a stylish suit for your young daughter, or a combination of plain serge and boucle will be pleasing. Get a felt hat, put a few folds of velvet around the crown and trim it high in front with knots and loops of velvet and ribbon intermixed with bright hued wings, or a tropical bird.

John Medina, of Boston, Mass., is fully prepared to send wigs, switches, and human hair goods of any description, to all parts of the U. S. upon receipt of order. We have personal knowledge of Mr. Medina, and can vouch for the integrity of all his business dealings, as well as the superior quality of his goods. This is the only house of the kind, coming to our notice, where the goods are sent for approval before being paid for. This is a great advantage, and one that should be made use of by all who may need anything in this line. Artificial hair made up in all the latest styles kept constantly on hand. All mail orders receive prompt and particular attention. See advertisement.

The abdominal supporter advertised by G. W. Flavell & Bro., of Phila., in another department of the JOURNAL, is one of the most perfect arrangements ever invented for the purpose. Made of fine silk elastic, and fitting the body perfectly, these supporters can be worn with ease by the weakest of persons, and great benefit will be derived from them. Persons of a corpulent tendency will find great comfort in their use. Sent by mail on receipt of price, and satisfaction guaranteed to the purchaser in every instance, when ordered directly from the manufacturers.

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Read article on "Mid-Winter Fashions" in this number of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

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Are the most THOROUGHLY RELIABLE GOODS IN THE MARKET. They are made of the FINEST SILK AND BEST AUSTRALIAN WOOL. You can easily distinguish them by their Softness and Beauty, and Regularity of Finish. They are always the same in quality, weight, width and shade, thus enabling you to match any piece. None genuine unless rolled on a "VARNISHED BOARD," which is the Priestley Trade Mark. They are dyed in two standard shades of black.

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Address AMERICAN SOLID LEATHER BUTTON CO., Providence, R. I.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

One of the best vines for the house—always excepting the English Ivy as THE best,—is the Passion Flower, usually catalogued as Passiflora. It is a rapid grower. The leaves are shaped something like those of the Ampelopsis, or American Ivy, being five-parted, but, instead of being notched on the edges, as those of the latter-named plants, they are smooth. The vine has long tendrils, which attatch themselves to anything within reach. The color of the leaf is a bright, rich green, and a well-grown specimen of this plant is very ornamental. It can be trained about the window, or on a trellis, if desirable, but, being a luxuriant grower, it will soon outgrow any trellis of ordinary size. Its flowers are very peculiar in shape. Those of the ordinary variety are a rich blue, marked with brown and green. To grow this plant well, it must be given a soil that is rich and light, with plenty of sand in it. Do not give too much water. Aim to keep the ground about its roots moist only. Syringe frequently, over the entire plant, to prevent the red spider from troubling it.

A correspondent asks me to tell her of some good shrubby house-plant. She wants something having pretty foliage as well as flowers, and DOESN'T want anything that has to be coaxed and coddled all the while. She adds that she fears she is asking for something that she can't get. But she is not. What she she wants is the Abutilon. This plant is one of the easiest of all plants to grow satisfactorily. It requires no more care than the Geranium. It is never attacked by any insect or pest, except the scale-bug, which will sometimes establish itself on the bark of the trunk and branches; but this will not happen if the plant is kept clean by an occasional washing. It will grow in any ordinary soil. It stands heat, and dust, and dry air, well, and is almost always in bloom. There are many varieties. The kind most frequently met with has an orange flower, veined with scarlet. A. Boule de Neige has a pure white flower. A roseum is a purplish rose, and Chieftain is a dark, dull red, the nearest approach to a good red that we have, as yet, among the Abutilons. The flowers are bell-shaped and pendulous, and very graceful in appearance. There is a variety, Thompsonii, having leaves beautifully blotched and marbled with yellow. The variegative has the appearance of mosaic-work. If you have a window where it can have plenty of light, this is an excellent variety to grow, as it flowers quite as fully as any. In growing the Abutilon, you must begin to train the plant when it is quite young. If left to itself, it will grow up, and up, without branching much, and be scraggly, and ill-shaped. But if you pinch off the top when the plant has grown to be about two feet high, you can make a nice little shrub or tree of it. Branches will start, below where you have pinched it. Let these branches grow to a length of five or six inches, and then pinch them back. By persevering in this pinching-back process, until you have compelled as many branches to start as you think will make the plant sufficiently bushy, you can have a compact, well shaped specimen. The leaves of some varieties resemble those of the Maple in shape, and it is often called Flowering Maple, and, sometimes, Chinese Bell-Flower. I can cheerfully recommend it to anyone wanting a flower which will be sure to give good satisfaction with the smallest amount of care. When not in bloom, it is more pleasing plant than the Geraniums, and most persons will be able to get more flowers from it, during the winter, than they will from Geraniums.

ABUTILONS.

Another correspondent wants a plant to occupy a central position in a large vase in a bay window. She says she does not care so much for flowers as she does for a plant having beautiful foliage, for the foliage lasts, while the flowers do not, and very often they fall, with her, to even put in an appearance. I think she will find the Dracenas' very satisfactory for her use. Some kinds of these plants have long, narrow, grass-like leaves; others have wider and shorter leaves. The plants always grow in good shape without pinching or training of any sort. As she does not care particularly for flowers, I would advise her to use D. Terminalis. This variety has leaves richly suffused with a dark crimson, which will give her vase a bright look, and make the absence of flowers less noticeable. The Dracena likes a light, rich soil to grow in, and plenty of water. It is fine in pots by itself, but especially so as a center piece in a well-filled, well-cared for vase. She speaks of using the Coleus to give tone to the other plants. Do not do it. The Coleus requires a very warm, moist atmosphere in winter, if you would grow it well, and the probabilities are that you would find it anything but satisfactory. Martanta Zebrina would be a good plant for a vase in a shady window. This plant has leaves of a rich light green, marked with dark green, the dark markings having an extremely beautiful, velvety appearance. I think, however, that the Dracena will suit her wants best, because she will find that the rich crimson of its leaves will tone up her collection better.

DRACENA TERMINALIS.

Another correspondent writes for information regarding the winter care of Chrysanthemums. All there is to do is to cut off the old plants, at the ground, and set the pots containing the roots in the cellar. Leave them there till March. Water them sparingly once or twice, during their stay in the cellar, to prevent their drying up. When you bring them to the light, in the spring, dozens of shoots will be sent up. These can be cut apart, and each one will make a good plant. If plants have flowered in the ground, the roots can be lifted and put into old boxes, and treated the same as those which have been grown in pots.

"A New Subscriber" writes to ask what will keep the Bouvardia free from insects. I use tobacco water. Go to any cigar manufactory and you can get stems enough for a few cents to last a long time. Put some into a pail, and pour hot water on them. When cool, syringe your plants with it, and repeat the applications until the aphis is compelled to leave. I keep my plants clean in this way.

"Ardent Admirer" asks how to care for the Calla. The best plan is to grow it in stone jars. Use rich earth, and give warm water every day. Be sure and put some pieces of brick, crockery, or small stones in the bottom of jar, to allow the water to drain down out of the soil. Once a week run a stick down the side of the jar, and through the hole thus made turn off all the water you can. Warm water will induce growth and blooming. The Calla, being a semi-aquatic plant, wants a good deal of water at the roots. I never root Oleander cuttings, preferring to buy young plants of a florist, but a florist friend tells me that he puts slips of the present year's growth in a jar of rain water—he uses a glass fruit jar—and sets it in a warm and sunny place. He adds a few pieces of charcoal, to keep the water sweet. In this way he seldom fails to get the cuttings to root. Care must be taken in selecting the cuttings, not using those with old, hard bark.

I am also asked who the "Boston Florist" was from whom I obtained the "Bennett's Pink" Geranium. W. E. Bowditch, 654 Warren Street, Boston.

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By a special arrangement with one of the largest rose growers in the United States, we offer to our subscribers two beautiful **House or Tea Roses**, adapted for indoor culture, and as rare as they are beautiful.

1st. The **Perle de Jardin**, a rare rose, very beautiful, in color a fine canary yellow, very large, full and of fine form. It is an excellent variety for WINTER FLOWERING, and is a lovely companion of **Madame Schwartz.**

2d. The **Madame Schwartz** is a very large, strong growing rose, of a pink tint.

These roses are strong plants, five or six inches high, well rooted, and are packed with moss in a wooden box, and sent by mail, postpaid, anywhere in the United States safely. We have sent thousands to our subscribers during the past six months, and have not received thus far a single complaint, while hundreds of letters speak of the wonderful growth of the plants, and the pleasure the recipients take in them. These Tea Roses bear very large flowers, and require very little care. In spring, cut back close, and the new shoots will be sent up in abundance, making a strong growth and abundant bloom.

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January Number Now Ready

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MUSICAL STUDIES.

NO. II.

BY MARGARET B. HARVEY.

Am I going too fast for you? I hope not. If you expect to become a good performer, you must look forward and see the target at which to aim. And, to be a good performer, you must stick steadily at scales and exercises.

Following is the fingering for the common chord of C, in three positions. C, E, G, thumb, first and second, in treble; E, G, C, thumb, first and third; G, C, E, thumb, first and third; C, with fourth finger in base. If the common chord be struck in the base, the fingering for the left hand, of course, is as follows: C, E, G, fourth, second, first; G, C, E, fourth, second, first. From the foregoing may be deduced the fingering for chords in all keys—of which more hereafter.

Arpeggios are simply broken chords, or the notes of a chord following each other in order, like the notes of a scale. The fingering for any arpeggio is the same as for the chord. An arpeggio is sometimes written out, a running series of notes, or it is sometimes in the form of a chord, with an upright waved line beside it. Arpeggios should be faithfully practiced, as they are among the most brilliant ornaments of advanced playing, giving what is known as a scintillant, or sparkling effect. Those puzzling, meteoric showers of notes, spread before you in black and white, will soon lose their repulsiveness, if you recognize in them simply disguised chords, with familiar fingering.

The never-to-be-neglected scales—for scales, unlike embroidery, when once done, do not "stay done," but are if ever "done" at all, as evanescent as watery vapor—the little exercises, the common chords and arpeggios, will still continue to tax your powers, for weeks. But, sooner or later, you must have a set of Piano Studies, and again I recommend the first book of Kohler's, which comes in the form of sheet-music. This will give you modifications of scale-practice, arpeggios and chords. The little preface should be carefully read and obeyed.

Suppose you have the set of Exercises mentioned—Etudes, they are sometimes called, which is only the French word for Studies. Open the book at the first study, and try and follow me while I take up any point which may need explanation. Probably the first question hat you would ask is, "What does Op. 50, after the author's name mean?" That is a more important question than you probably think for. Op. is an abbreviation of the Latin word opus, meaning, a work; Op. 50, then, denotes Kohler's 50th production. It is customary to order valuable or foreign, in fact, any meritorious compositions, by the number of the opus rather than the name, for the reason that one work may have several names, some of which are scarcely known by English equivalents, or it may have no distinct title. You are already aware that we have a very beautiful, popular composition, called Heimweh, but perhaps you do not know that this German word means, Homesick, or, still better, Longing for Home; you have heard, possibly, of Mozart's Fifth Sonata, or Twelfth Mass. If you knew the number of the opus of any of these works, you need never be confused by names or numerals in the titles. Sometimes an opus includes one or more parts—in the present case, Kohler's Op. 50 comprises Book 1 and 2, of Etudes. It is well to remember this, as very often one part of an opus depends upon, or interprets another.

The copy of Kohler's first book, now lying before me, is marked according to the American system of fingering, the thumb denoted by a cross, the other fingers by the figures 1, 2, 3, 4. But there is another system, known as the German, or foreign. In this, the thumb is denoted by the figure 1, the other fingers in order, the little finger being marked 5. It is best to familiarize yourself with both, as soon as possible, for you will continually meet with both throughout your practice; if you are not careful you will often find yourself hopelessly confused over your third and fourth fingers.

Immediately under the first note is the italic letter p. This is called a mark of expression; and if you glance through the following pages, you will find other letters, or abbreviated words, which are classed under the same head. They are all initials, or abbreviations, of certain foreign words, denoting the manner of playing, and are intended to suggest to the performer much that cannot strictly be represented by notes.

The abbreviations in the Studies in hand are as follows: p, cres, f, dim, mf, pp, and smorz. These, except the last, are in very common use.

The first means piano, soft; cres, or crescendo, is, increase in loudness, or power; f, or forte, loud; dim, or diminuendo, diminish in loudness, —for this is sometimes substituted decrescendo, the opposite of crescendo; mf, or mezzo-forte, medium loud; pp, pianissimo, very soft; smorz, or smorzando, diminish in tone. A few others, as ff, fortissimo, very loud; mp, mezzo-piano, medium soft; allegro, quick; allegretto, less quick; andante, slow; dolce, sweet; presto, very fast; adagio, very slow; and legato, smooth, are also constantly employed. But the great majority of such terms, any one of which you may not meet with for months at a time, had better be learned from a musical vocabulary, such as may be found at the end of any ordinary Instruction book. You may guess very closely at the meaning of some of the French and Italian words, from their resemblance to English ones.

From the foregoing, you see that with all their care, with all their attempts to express their ideas in musical characters, composers, after all, cannot tell you just how to play—you must find that out for yourself. They can give you notes and rests; they can arrange chords, arpeggios, and passages more or less beautiful or complicated; they can even approximately tell you, by figures denoting the tempo, or time, whether to play rapidly or slowly—but, in music, as everywhere else, every one must bear his own burden, spite of all aids. See whether, in learing these simple exercises, you can increase and diminish at will, and alternate soft with loud, and so give expression—that is, make these preliminary studies sound as different from mere mechanical performances as the tones of the human voice do from the ridiculous squeaks of a talking machine. If you can do this, in rendering studies, probably you can do the same when you play sonatas. Perhaps you remember that in my tenth article, I advised you to stick closely to the notes of a composition—now, perhaps you begin to see that you have quite enough to do in your performance, and quite sufficient opportunity to express your individuality, without taking a single liberty with a written note.

Expression is still further indicated by characters, some of which however, correspond to words among those given above. Thus, the two lines, forming an acute angle, as seen in the second bar of the first study, denotes diminuendo; when the acute angle is turned toward the left, or beginning of a composition, it becomes crescendo; a curved line connecting two or more notes on different degrees, is sometimes called a slur, and corresponds to the term legato, denoting a smooth, connected style of playing. When the curved line connects notes on the same degree, it is called a tie, and denotes a continuous sound, as one note. All of these are found in Kohler's studies.

Is expression possible in exercises, which are merely technical? I hear some one ask, in surprise. That reminds me—a correspondent criticises me, in the November number, saying that I waste time in noticing what critics (musical) say. I will notice this critic (literary), and answer that, in my experience, I have found it to be the very hardest thing in the world, not to notice critics (of all kinds, particularly, musical.) I know all the difficulties of beginners—I know, also, that "the books" do not show the easiest ways out of the difficulties—and as adverse criticism does more to discourage than anything else could, I want to warn my pupils what to expect, and fortify them against it. The word expression prepares us for another stumbling-block ahead. You will hear a great deal about it,—people will tell you that they don't care to hear amateurs play, for amateurs play without expression, and they want expression, or nothing.—Miss So-and-So played correctly, but with no expression, and the like. Now, suppose you turn around, and bluntly ask the ubiquitous critic, What is expression? Can he tell you? If he does, let me know what he says—but I am scarce afraid to say he's "stuck," like the man who alway's liked his mother's pies better than his wife's, and was eating his wife's, all the time.

Do I know what expression is? No, I don't,—for the simple reason that I do not know what a human soul is. I should as soon attempt to paint the wind, as express all the wonderful, mysterious phases of the human soul. But music does attempt this daring, almost impious task,—and never succeeds. Simply because a human soul is its Creator's own secret, in which not even the soul itself can share. Some define music as an imperfect language—but it is not. We, who attempt to interpret it, are imperfect—it is a language which deals with our half-veiled, scarcely-awakened, spiritual natures, and we never can fully understand it, until our higher capacities are opened, which will never be, in this world. Nobody knows what expression is, except in a very limited sense. But, as we use the term, it means, something expressed. And, just so far as any musical composition expresses something to you, just so far is it played with expression. If it expresses nothing, that may mean, either that the player feels nothing of what he is trying to play, or that the listener may be compared to a sight-seer who vision is obscured by colored glasses, transmitting only one ray, red or green. The difficulty is generally in the glasses, which are often so darkened with dust and smoke as to shut out the light altogether.

Expression is not a thing of itself, any more than color is. Color is nothing without light—it dwells in light, it is the offspring of light, it dies with the light. But color is as real in a single ray as it is in the whole splendor of sunset. So, I think expression just as possible in a scale, as in a sublime mass. You may run your simple exercises, as if you loved to listen to their clear tones; as if you were glad to feel that you were daily making progress in your fascinating pursuit—and some sympathetic listener may hear and understand your pleasure just as instinctively as he would that of the birds. Just how your fingers can carry your joy from your heart and brain, and make the inanimate ivory and wire speak it out, we do not know,—but, after all, we know nothing. Keep your heart pure, your aims high, your sympathies warm, your instincts true—you can so train your soul, even if you do not know what your soul is—and you can, sooner or later, play with expression. But the test of that state of felicity is not, Did somebody think it perfect!—for, if somebody did, somebody ought to have known that nobody ever does play to perfection—but, Did it do another human soul any good?

Could I get all that out of Kohler's first book? Yes, and you can get fifty times more than that. Two more points, and I am done. Near the bottom of the page, in exercise 8, you see two little notes, before a larger note. These are called grace notes, or ornamental notes, thrown in for variety. They are played with the first and second notes of the base, and the large note is shortened in consequence. You will often meet with grace notes, in several forms. These are generally played quick, and sometimes not in strict time. Groups of grace notes need not frighten you, as they are generally arpeggios, or trills, of the same order as some of the exercises that you have already learned. In the 10th exercise, in the next to the last bar, you see a note marked with both first finger and thumb. It means, strike with the first finger, then slip the thumb on it, without raising the key. This is a device often resorted to, in fingering, to enable one to make long stretches.

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C. F. ORBIN, NORCATUR, KAN.—You are altogether in error, as even a superficial reading of my past letters will convince you. Do you not remember when I spoke of long leaps and short leaps, from one note to another, the long leaps being whole tones, the short, half-tones, or semi-tones? Tone, in popular language, means sound; but, in musical language, it means, distance between sounds. From mi to fa, or from si to do, in a major scale, is a short leap, or the distance of one semi-tone; between the other notes are long leaps, or the distances of one tone. The quality of sound in any note, has nothing to do with the position of the leaps, or tones.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MILDRED'S CLASS IN ENGLISH CONVERSATION.

NO. III.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

ACCORDING to Philippa Roland's elegant method of expression, it was "Sara Tasker's turn to catch it, this week."

There was upon Sara's face an expression hardly comprehended by the girls, so indefinite was it. There was a certain lack of anxiety that hardly seemed in accordance with the fact that she was the one "to be reduced to shreds."

"My dear Miss Tasker," read Sara, "Your little note, though it contained nothing but three questions couched in the fewest possible words" (an enlightened 'O-o-oh' in a chorus from the girls here interrupted the reading, with an "O Sara! Sly Sara!" from Pulilppa) "gives me" went on Sara with a crimson face, as soon as she could collect sufficient nerve to proceed, "nevertheless, subject matter for quite a long sermon, longer perhaps than you will care to hear.

"First then, my dear child, your question in regard to the newspapers made me laugh. Let me tell you for your own enlightenment, that for poor grammar and still worse rhetoric, newspapers are proverbial. This is due to many causes perhaps, but the chief one is hurry—hurry to get the latest news—hurry to put out the earliest paper—mistakes are made and there is no time to correct them or to even notice them. To weekly or monthly publications it is possible to devote more time, making them much more dependabl . It is not well however to pin one's faith to any of them, as errors are always liable to occur, if only those which are typographical.

Second, "'Is slang permissible?—newspapers use it.'

"That is a rather hard question to answer. I will take your argument first. Yes, newspapers do use it, but perhaps those who write for the newspapers do not always mean it so. Perhaps some of them were abused as I was once myse.f. My sentence read 'to grow old gracefully is a great art;" when published it read 'to grow old gracefully is a great act' which is decidedly slang. I did not blame the paper, for no doubt my writing was hard to read, but, still, it is an argument against using slang because some of the best papers put it forth. In these days when slang seems almost universal it is almost impossible to avoid it, and often that, which is the most innocent expression in one section of the country, may have, in another section, developed into slang, from frequent and over use. Very often, too, there are expressions which may perhaps be called slang, if strictly classed, that, being perfectly innocent in themselves and containing no suggestion of coarseness, are perfectly admissable as expressing, in a word or two, that which it would take many to express in any other way. But I would advise you to be extremely careful in your use of this poison, so dangerous to good conversation. Like many another poison, in infinitesimal quantities it is harmless, but woe be unto the one who uses a shade too much. Being a dangerous ingredient I would advise you not to use it, if there be any possibility of your becoming intoxicated with its use.

Third, "'Has pronunciation anything to do with good conversation?'

"Ah, now you have hit me on a topic that I have rather wanted to ask you about before but have not found a fitting occasion. Yes, it has a great deal to do with it. And as I cannot hope to go into an exhaustive treatise upon the subject just here, I am going to ask you a question or two which you can answer among yourselves, (you need not account to me) and then I shall give you a list of a few of the words most commonly mispronounced. If these be among your faults you can then correct them more easily, having thus had them brought to your notice. Are you, then, careful not to run your words together, speak rapidly, and protrude your tongue at every available pause, drawing your breath audibly; with an 'and-a' inserted every few words? This is one of the worst and most frequent bad habits to which young girls are subject." Philippa blushed and laughed, remarking, "She hit me square that time."

"Girls," asked Mildred in a purely argumentative tone, "would you think 'hit me square' was to be classed with slang or not?"

Fourth, "Do you pronounce all your 'ow's' as if they were 'wh's'. Do you say winduh, and sorruh, and to-morruh, etc., instead of window, sorrow, and to-morrow? Because if you do, though you are wrong, you do that which many another does, much to the detriment of her conversation."

The girls concluded they were none of them free of this fault.

Fifth, "Do you say 'me' for 'my?' 'me hat,' 'meself,' 'me father,' instead of 'my hat,' 'myself,' 'my father?'

It was Georgia Garrett's turn to blush, as she had announced a few moments before, "My father is going to have the third floor front room papered and give me a room to myself."

"Some girls vary this a little and say 'muh' instead of 'me' but the ones who say a clear, unadulterated 'my' when they use it are few.

"It would take too much of your time to mention all these little peculiarities, but I will give you a few rules for your guidance.

"Speak clearly and distinctly, not too slowly, not too quickly, pronouncing your vowels fully but not with a labored action. There is nothing that gives to ordinary conversation a greater element of elegance than the proper and distinct enunciation of the vowels, being careful to pronounce with equal distinctness the final 'd's' and 't's' etc., as kept, not kep', swept not swep', (I have heard some people say 'dremp' for dreamed or dreamt), and not an', etc. Sometimes letters are left out in the middle of words, as 'government' it is pronounced 'gover'ment.' But I might multiply instances all night.

"Now, again, and lastly; which one among you says clearly and distinctly 'seven' and 'eleven?' Do not look disgusted. Try it and see if you do not say 'seben' and 'eleben.'"

The girls did look disgusted nevertheless, and all the more when the effort to pronounce the words correctly proved to their enlightened minds how long they had been pronouncing them incorrectly.

"Now, Miss Tasker, there is one little thing in your letter, to which I must take exception. It seems ungracious to find fault with thanks so kindly expressed, but that was the bargain in the beginning, and if I were to let this opportunity go by, I might never have just the same one again. You say 'we thought we talked good enough.'

Mildred and Sara both looked guilty at this point for they recollected only too well their first conversation, in which they had both given expression to that especial sentiment.

"Among the genteel errors is the one of using adverbs for adjectives.

"Among the vulgar errors is the one of using adjectives for a verbs.

"Dealing first with genteel errors; it is quite customary to say, 'The rose smells sweetly,' 'She looks badly.'

"What's the matter there do you suppose?" said Edith Stocker, "everybody says that."

"The rose performs no action. When you smell the rose it is sweet. She, if she looks in a cross-eyed manner, looks badly, but otherwise, bad or what is a better expression, sick or delicate. When speaking of an attribute which belongs absolutely to the object spoken of use an adjective invariably, and if the word you wish d es not suit you, reverse the sentence and arrange it some other way. But talking is a different thing—that is a verb which is distinctly described and therefore an adverb must be used. One talks, writes, reads or recites 'well,' not 'good.' Well is used in two senses, therefore to say one 'looks well' in a becoming bonnet is a perfectly legitimate expression, but never does one see good, write bad, talk quick, or read slow; one sees, writes, talks or reads well, badly, quickly, or slowly.

"Trusting to your good nature to receive my admonition without ill feeling, I remain sincerely

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TOO LATE.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

"You'll be ready at eight, sharp?"

"Of course! Did you ever know me to be behind time?"

"Not often, I confess. Well! I'll be here. Good afternoon," and John Gordon walked off quickly, whistling softly, and thinking vigorously of the girl whom he had just left upon the doorstep. Her fascination for him he could not explain; she certainly wasn't handsome (and he adored beauty); she certainly had a quick temper (and he admired even-tempered women); she surely rolled him beyond description, by her sarcastic speeches (directed at him as much as any one—and he hated sarcasm in a woman; it was a weapon he prefered to keep in his own hands). She was beyond question, the best read woman with whom he associated, and could talk readily on almost all topics from politics to pickles (and of all things he disliked a "smart woman"). And yet in spite of all these things there was, to him, a fascination in her presence, perfectly inexplicable to himself. So, as I say, he walked down the street now, wondering, wondering, wondering, what it could be.

I don't suppose two mortals ever had more desperate quarrels than these two; and yet after a time, they always seemed to come round. Their fueds were sometimes long, sometimes short, but, of whatever duration, always fierce. And, during the time of batt e, the most unpleasant truths were told in the frankest manner. And yet, as they generally were truths, each had the grace to acknowledge them as such; and I believe that they were more truly friends than people who never quarrel at all.

"You are affected," he had written during one of their fiercest battles, "you are an actress of the first degree, and I have often laughed in my sleeve to see how much expression you could put into a mere turn of your arm. I have laughed to see the poor devil to whom you happened to be talking at the time, so taken in. You are a born coquette." (here he was wrong—she was simply an attractive girl who liked to be admired; and the admiration that was generally conceded her, made him a little vicious and unjust). "You only care to entertain the person present. I believe you to be thoroughly heartless. Your temper is so fierce one never knows what to do. When you get angry you lose your head, and, for the moment, you don't dislike, you hate your opponent," &c., &c.

She neither tore her hair nor the letter, upon its receipt. Theo Campion seldom wasted her energies that way. She simply laughed, and then, when she thought she had given him time to recover from his late attact of anger and be thoroughly ashamed of himself, she replied to it.

"Your favor came duly to hand," wrote she, calmly, "and upon its receipt I—shall I confess it?—laughed. You say I am an actress. Yes! that was proved last winter at the theatricals. Didn't I tell you then that I thought I had mistaken my vocation—that I should have gone on the stage? Surely I was honest enough. But you were unjust to me in one point—I never acted for your benefit. Indeed, why should I? If for no other reason than that you know me so well, it would be useless. But I never have felt any desire to do so. Whatever you have seen me I am, truly and emphatically.

"But all this wasn't what I laughed at. I laughed when you told me I lost my head &c., because it recalled to my mind so forcibly a conversation you and I had a little time back 'when I don't like people from any particular cause,' and you positively looked so vicious I felt quite alarmed, 'I don't dislike 'em I hate 'em! No; I don't dislike Seaforth—I hate him! I hate that kind of a man and I hate him! You wanted to know and now you know!'

"Your letter was a revelation to me in one respect. I have often wondered how it was that you and I quarreled so—I know now. We are so much alike by your own showing of yourself and your accusation of me. You said too, at that time: 'There's Miss Raymond; sometimes when I'm with her I think lots and lots of her, and she seems just as nice as can be, when, presently, she'll make one of her sarcastic replies, and I feel as if I hated her, all in a moment.' But it is useless to quote further; you, no doubt, remember and can make the practical application equally well with myself.

"You speak of some things that I consider my own private affairs; but as long as you have chosen so to write, I, also, choose to answer them.

"As to my treatment of my various 'lovers,' as you are pleased to term them—bah! lovers are plenty and cheap, and many, very many, in fact I may say most of them, are dear at any price—I can afford to lose, I do not regret them. What I value is friends. It hurts me to have you fly off at a tangent in this way every little while, when at most times I am unconscious of giving offence. I do sincerely regret that we should quarrel in this way. Do you know it seems to me absolutely silly, and unworthy of a full grown man and woman, that you and I, two people that, by some few years, have left childhood behind them, should squabble (ungraceful word, but to the point), make up, resquabble and remake up, like a couple of cross children sliding on a cellar door. It may be most your fault, it may be most mine; but in any case it is excessively silly and disagreeable. I'm perfectly willing to own up to my half, but don't you think it would add a little to the unity of our sentiments, and be better for peace all round, if you would just be willing to acknowledge, for once, that you could, by any possibility, be in the wrong," &c., &c.

It is needless to transcribe more. His sentiments upon the receipt of the above letter were a mixture of chagrin, rage, remorse. Before the next evening remorse had the inside track. Perhaps he had been a little hard on her. Perhaps he was in the wrong oftener than he thought. May be he did aggravate her somewhat to those provoking speeches."

Anyway, whatever his process of reasoning was, that evening found his steps tending Campion-ward, and a truce was declared.

All that had been six weeks ago, and they were still, pending a new eruption of the valcano, fast friends.

Do you want a description of Theo? 'Pon my word I cannot give it. I remember her perfectly, but as descriptions are so unsatisfactory; nobody reads them anyway, and each reader creates a heroine for himself after all! so what's the use? This much I will say—her enemies said she had a snub nose, and a large mouth; that she laughed too much, and tried to show her teeth; that she tried to attract gentlemen's attention. Some gentlemen went so far as to say that they never paid attention to any girl that had three or four men constantly dangling after her at a party. (N. B.—These worthy young men were some of those whom Theo had seen fit to snub). But her friends, both male and female, all agreed in calling her "one of the jolliest little girls,—not a bit pretty—oh, no! but very bright, and just as jolly a little specimen as can be." She hadn't even a "rare smile," and I confess it with chagrin, because I know that to be a heroine she ought to have that appendage, whatever else she might lack in the way of beauty.

She was just a good, solid, wholesome girl, with sound common sense, a good share of mother-wit, an immense capacity for enjoyment, a keen sense of the ridiculous, a quick temper, an often unnecessarily sharp tongue, a very forgiving disposition and warm affections.

She seated herself now at the supper table in sublime indifference to the fact that her brother Geoffrey sat glowering at her from behind his coffee cup, in a way that foreboded a storm.

"By George! Theo its disgraceful!" burst forth he when he found she paid no attention to him or his covert attack.

"Why, dear child! how you do startle one. To what do you particularly refer in this elegant but explosive remark?" replied she, calmly, breaking off a piece of toast.

"Why the way you treat John Gordon!"

"And, pray, has John Gordon been complaining to you of my treatment of him?" she asked, still fo cing herself to speak calmly, though an angry light came into her eye.

"You know him better, he wouldn't," he began ——

"Yes, I thought I did. I knew he wouldn't," interrupted she. "But what have I done now?"

"That tongue of yours will get you into trouble yet."

"No news, my dear boy. It did just now, for I bit it most unmercifully."

"Pity you didn't bite it off! You've no more heart than—than a—coal scuttle," fumed he.

"Then I don't presume John Gordon and I will do each other much harm, for you know he has the reputation of being a desperate flirt, and I've always heard that he had no more heart than a—what shall I say? well! suppose we say shovel, to continue your elegant simile," replied Theo, in a coolly defiant tone. "But calm your rage, my dear boy, and tell me what has so roused your ire."

"Why, coming up to-night in the cars he was talking to a lot of fellows, and he said that you said," and George hesitated.

"Yes, he said that I said. Now this is interesting. Well!"

"I shan't tell you what he said," broke out Geoffrey in a rage again. "Be satisfied to know it was one of your ugliest speeches. He said he never was so cut in his life for a moment. If I was in his place I'd never come near you."

"If you were in his place you would be as he is, at liberty to stay away or visit me at your own sweet will. You would, under those circumstances, perhaps, have gained the knowledge that he has, that it is a matter of complete indifference to me as to whether he comes or goes. I presume, however, it needs no comment when I tell you he has begged the favor of my company to Delamayne's to-night. By the way, Millie, if you're going with me to-night," turning to her younger sister, "you'd better be pretty sure to be ready on time."

"I don't happen to be going with you," remarked Millie coolly, with her mouth full of blackberry jam, as Geoffrey dashed out of the room with a smothered oath at the ill success of his "rowing up."

"If you are calculating on Geoffrey, you are mistaken. He's going with Ellice Warner."

"My dear, the time has gone by when I based any of my calculations whatever on Geoffrey Campion," again replied Millie, with as good an imitation of Theo's manner as she could get up on the spur of the moment.

Theo had turned to leave the room but this stopped her short at the door. "How on earth are you going, then? Not alone?"

"I'm going with Dolly Perkins," trying to look unconscious of the fact that this was the first time she had ever ventured forth with a young man "all by herself."

"With Dolly Perkins! How long since you started up for yourself in this way? I've half a mind to forbid it," half laughing, half in earnest.

"It wouldn't be a bit worth while," replied Millie, indifferently. "I've only to ask papa, you know, and he let's me do just as I want, you know, about such things. Why shouldn't I go with Dolly Perkins if I want to?" her indifference changed into defiance. He's just as good as any of your old John Gordon's and Harry Trascoes. Come Theo," she added, a second after, "own up, you're cross. You know you are."

"I guess I am a little," and Theo laughed good naturedly. "But it does try me dreadfully to be talked about behind my back," and tears of vexation came to her eyes. "Well, little girl, do as you please," and she closed the door after her, whistling gaily. A moment after the door opened and she put her head in with: "I say, Millie, if I had a lover who rejoiced in the elegant and euphonous title of Gustavus Adolphus, I'd just hate to have him abbreviated to Dolly. I wouldn't allow it," and off she went again, but not too quickly to hear Millie call after her "All right! When I have a lover by the name of Gustavus Adolphus, I'll see that he is called so in full."

By the time John came, Theo had entirely recovered her good humor, and John Gordon who had in reality loved her for years, way down in the bottom of his fickle heart, found her in her most charming mood.

When I say he had long loved her I mean this: When he liked her he felt more deeply for her than he had ever felt for any other woman, and though he was constantly falling in love with new people he always returned to Theo. He would have fallen into fevers over her long ago only she always kept him at a certain distance. Never had she seemed so dear to him as to-night, and, as they walked along, he wandered off into tender reveries of the fulfillment of the dream that had taken possession of his soul for the last six weeks. He had determined in that time to "settle down." He had also determined that he would marry Theo—a fact of which she was sublimely unconscious. He hadn't spoken to her

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because—well—because though they were the best of friends, he had never seen the exact time. Somehow she had never allowed him to approach near enough for that.

Of all the girls to whom he had been attentive, (and their name was legion) none had ever won from him a bona fide declaration. One of the most engaging of his ilk, he seemed more than ordinarily heartless, and yet he was not. He said that the trouble was that his heart was too large—it held too many people. To his credit be it said he never interested a girl in him for pure vanity's sake. He was always first himself interested, but always woke up from his "fevered dreams" in time to keep himself from engaging himself to the "object of his affections," (pro tem) if they might be worthy of that sacred name.

Theo had baffled him at every point. She always accepted his attentions as a matter of course, when he was attentive, but when he absented himself for six weeks at a stretch, she never inquired where he had been, and treated him precisely as if their daily intercourse had never been interrupted. John might be as unpleasant as he pleased and Theo could stand it with perfect equanimity, but let him approach "sentimental nonsense" and she snubbed him most unmercifully, and thereupon ensued a quarrel that left them at daggers points for a time.

"O, course it must be so," caught Theo's ear as she stood behind a curtain getting a breath of air. "You know he has been attentive to her for so long, ever since they were children, in fact, and just notice his attentions to-night to Millie."

"Yes, I see," and Mrs. Chambers nodded her head as she always did when she fancied herself particularly astute, till the green bows on her head-dress waved frantically in the air (now Theo hated those green bows). "Yes, I see," said she again. "Quite an 'elder brotherly' air. O, I've no doubt they are engaged at last. I'm sure I hope so," added she viciously, "he's dangled around long enough. It's about time for her to make up her mind. Though I dare say she'd had him long ago if she had the chance. I shall be real glad for Allan Hubert when it comes out. I do hate to see such an excellent young man absorbed in a girl that is such an outrageous flirt as she is. For my part I think those two are well matched. It would be a shame to spoil two couples."

(TO BE CONTINUED).

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE DOCTOR'S DAUGHTERS.

BY MARY ABBOTT RAND.

CHAPTER III.

It was a pleasant custom of the Drexell girls to leave the parlor curtains by night as they were by day;—that is, draped back, leaving free a chance to look out on the beautiful views for which Uplands was famed.

Then, by night, home comers or passing strangers had also "beautiful views" within. And thus, Mac Bennett had opportunity of seeing how pleasantly the evenings were passing for his rival.

He could have shot him many a time as he stood singing by Fanny's piano. But that was not enough for Mac.

It was the open fire;—the laughing, cheery, open fire that suggested to him ample means of revenge.

"If she had treated me decently," Mac reflected, "I could have been as agreeable as that is; but, 'fire is a good servant and a bad master.' So can I be! I don't care what becomes of the whole kit of them."

It was easy enough for Mac, who knew well the ways of the house, to slip into the kitchen and down cellar while the family were at evening prayers, right after tea. At that time, Peggy always left the back doors unlocked, so that the milkman might step in an exchange his full can for the empty one which she left on the kitchen table.

Mac then cautiously bored holes in the under part of the kitchen floor and applied a slow match. He was out again in less than fifteen minutes, moving with cautious steps through the back entry, while Peggy rattled the tea dishes, and Fanny was practicing the accompaniments for Captain Alf's songs.

He had fortified his bad feelings with the brandy bottle, else his conscience would have made it impossible for him to have risked so many lives to satisfy his revenge. But now, excited and maddened, he worked desperately, and would have enjoyed nothing better than the sight of the house in flames. Prudence counseled him to be off, and he was successful in catching the evening express for the West. Three days later, he found in a chance newspaper the item he had been looking for.

"An incendiary fire in Uplands, Mass., Wednesday evening, resulted in the total loss of Dr. Drexell's homestead. No insurance. Most of the furniture saved. A sad consequence of the fire is the loss of the doctor's sight. He was recovering from a serious ailment of the eyes, but the intense glare, exposure and excitement combined to produce the above unfortunate result."

"Poor old blunderbuss!" said Mac, with some compunction, for the doctor had been kind to him.

"If the fire had put out that red-headed Captain's eyes instead, it wouldn't have been more than half bad. And now, I've not prevented his getting Fanny, but hastened it, probably. The doctor can't earn anything more, and I don't believe he has much laid by. Fanny will have to marry to live, and she'll go off next voyage with that confounded Captain!"

Mac's surmises about the doctor's financial condition were not far from right. He was a man easily led by his wife, but on two points had been incorrigible. He would never have his life or his house insured. He was the leading physician in Uplands, and had a large practice outside, but more than half of it was in attendance upon patients who did not or could not pay.

What he did receive, however, had always been enough to live on in a generous, comfortable way.

The doctor, at fifty-five, considered himself a young man, with plenty of time to lay by money.

Now, his sight was gone, and, with it, he might as well admit, his profession. His home, too, was gone, and what was before him and his motherless girls!

Grandma Brown's cottage was, of course, open to the family; and hers was not the only doors that would have swung wide to receive them, but they must find a home of their own.

The doctor owned a block of tenements, put up for the accommodation of the operatives in a woolen mill in which he had invested all that he had ever invested in anything, and that was too little to support his family a year.

One of these tenements chanced to be vacant, and to this, the furniture that had been saved was carried, and arranged as pleasantly as possible by the girls, with faithful Peggy's assistance.

Beatrice and Fanny were so overwhelmed that they could hardly command themselves to do anything. Grief for their father's affliction, and the problem, "What can we do to earn our daily bread?" was ever present, and, as yet, unanswered.

Ella, feeling perhaps that her duty was principally to care for her blind father, did not waste her strength in idle worries. She was deeply thankful that they were all alive, that they still had a home quite their own, with the dear, familiar furniture in it. She rejoiced in taking care of her father with all the devotion and self-abnegation that is possible to some women.

"What puzzles me," said Captain Alf, a few weeks after the catastrophe, as the family were seated in the little dining room at No. 16, Drexell block, "is, who could have set that fire? I didn't know you had an enemy in the world, Dr. Drexell."

"Pooh!" said the doctor, with something of his old spirit. Since his blindness, a gentle resignation had come over him which was very touching.

"What reason had you to suppose I hadn't any enemies, Captain? Let me tell you there never was a doctor that amounted to anything but what had enemies. With some friends, too, some fool ones, that 'God bless you, doctor,' for what you are not responsible for; and more fool ones who curse you for what you are not in the least to blame. Why, not to mention names, I know a man who would shoot me with good relish, because he believes it was I, instead of whiskey that killed his son. Fact is, no doctor can cure a whiskey-soaked cholera patient, but Mr. What's his-Name don't believe that."

A wistful patience stole over the doctor's face, and he added, "Ah, well! My work and my enemies seem very far behind; I can only bide my time now."

While the Drexell's were on these stormy waters, a happy family were homeward bound on the Caledonia.

There's nothing, perhaps, so like heavenly transport as the giving back of our dead; or, those we had believed to be dead.

Fred Garrett had as little reason for remorse in regard to his treatment of his parents as ever a good son had; yet, the best son may find enough to regret, and may yearn with unutterable longing to comfort the dear ones forever beyond his reach.

And now this rare happiness was given back to Fred.

Standing on deck, watching the familiar landmarks as the steamer neared Boston harbor, no one could be happier than he.

The last drop of delight was Fanny's latest letter in his breast pocket.

"Well, my boy," said Mr. Garrett, deeply enjoying Fred's happiness, "You look as if your cup were brimfull."

A couple of sailors passing Fred at that moment heard what Mr. Garrett said, and one of them muttered: "That handsome feller better look out, then! When cups are brimfull is just the time they slop over!"

Fred did not happen to catch the sage remarks, and so lost a prophesy.

He had not heard of the disaster which had befallen his friends.

He was a little disappointed not to meet any of the family, yet there were plenty of parishioners thronging the wharf with eager hands of welcome, and Fred soon learned of Dr. Drexell's blindness, and the altered fortunes of the family.

He could not help a sudden hope that Fanny might consent to an earlier marriage in consequence.

He had secured a position as master of a high school, and could give her a cosy little home.

It was evening when he took the train out to Uplands.

Before going to the parsonage, which had been made ready for the reception of the minister's family, he bent his steps to No. 16 Drexell block.

He was so busy in his happy castle building that he almost ran into another young man, also heading for No. 16, and also castle building as busily as Fred himself.

This was our young sea-captain.

He was somewhat ambitious in his ideas, and although very much in love and engaged to be married, he had not expected to be married until he had a great deal more money in the bank or afloat on the seas,—enough to dress pretty Fanny like a princess.

But now could he leave her now!

She proposed to utilize her musical acquirements by giving piano and vocal lessons.

As her father's diseased nerves could not bear the sound of practicing, she would have to go to her pupils' houses.

"A beggarly way to do!" exclaimed the young captain, warmly. "She shan't do it!"

So, he was hastening to her changed home with his own ardent plan that they should be married without delay, and sail the seas over together.

As he sprang up the steps just ahead of Fred, it was Fred that recognized him, and said, with most apparent coolness, "Good evening, Captain Marston."

"You have the advantage of me, sir," rejoined the captain, in tones quite as frigid."

"Beg pardon, sir," said Fred. "You will remember bearing a note to me the day I sailed a few months ago!"

"Oh yes!" said the captain, in his usual hearty way. "Mr. Garrett, I believe. Dr. Drexell's friend."

"Miss Drexell's friend," corrected Mr. Fred, significantly.

The captain had no chance to reply to this, for little Ella opened the door in response to the bell, which Fred had jerked impatiently on reaching the topmost step.

"Why, Fred! Why, Fred!" said Ella, in tones divided between joy and distress.

The girl's agitation was very noticeable to the captain,—so much so that he said to himself, "Oh, I guess it's all right, and I won't have to shake this young man after all. To be sure, there's more than one Miss Drexell, but I never thought of little Ella as old enough for a lover." And, with a careless "How do, Ell," he was hastening on to his Miss Drexell whom he could see in the parlor beyond. But, what does this mean! Little Ella has disappeared! Mr. Garrett is evidently come to see the Miss Drexell, and Fanny, after one frightened glance at the young men, covers her face with her little hands, and flings herself on the sofa, burying her head in the pillows till there isn't much visible but a sobbed crown of brown curls.

The two heroes stood as if struck by lightning. How they could so soon apprehend the true state of affairs is more than I can explain.

The lover with the red moustache was the first to speak.

"Fan!" he commanded, more roughly than she had supposed he could speak. "If you have anything to say, now's the time to say it."

The frightened culprit raised her head, looking distractingly pretty, as well as scared.

"Oh Fred! Oh Alf!" she moaned, and down went her white face among the pillows again.

"Look here!" exclaimed the young captain, angrily, "We are not Siamese twins, I believe, this young man and I. It's got to be one or the other, and mighty quick, too!"

Fred was the most composed of the three, but the expression on his face was harder for the girl to meet than Captain Alf's stormy wrath.

"How could I help it," prayed Fanny, stealing one glance at Fred. "I was alone and frightened, and Captain Alf was so kind, I couldn't say no."

"Well, then, you shouldn't have yes to Mr. Garrett, too," put in the captain.

"But I had to," persisted the unreasonable beauty, "because I had always loved him."

"You said you loved me, Fanny," said the sailor, beseechingly.

"I know it," faltered the girl. "Oh Alf! Oh Fred! What shall I do?" She held out two small hands imploringly, but though one sparkled with the captain's diamonds, he did not touch it; and Fred, standing with folded arms, seemed quite unconscious of her dramatic appeal.

"Fanny," he said, at length, controlling his own feelings in a masterful way, "I shall not blame you,—poor, motherless girl, till I understand the facts. Think it well over and decide between us. I certainly shall not assert any claim if you prefer Captain Marston."

"And if you want the other fellow, take him!" said Captain Alf, wrathfully, but struggling to act as fair a part as his rival.

The two candidates simultaneously took leave and started for the door.

"Think it well over and let us know in the morning when we call," added Fred, giving Fanny a look that nearly broke her heart.

Captain Alf hadn't room for much tenderness just then, and closed the door with a bang that expressed his sentiments better than words.

It might be just as well to draw a veil over Fanny's remorse only that this "o'er true tale" is written to warn young girls what bitterness comes of untrue dealing.

She blamed herself all she deserved, and that was severely. When her burden was greater than she could bear, she would moan "Oh mother! mother! If you had only been here, I would never have got into such a dreadful trouble."

Then she would try so hard to "cry easy," lest she should waken Ella. All the while, Ella crouched motionless, making believe she was asleep. It was well for Fanny that she took that way of showing her sympathy.

Morning found the elder sister as far from a decision as ever.

With Fred was twined all the romance of her girlhood. He was as he had always been her ideal of goodness and good looks. It was a fact that she had never really been in love with anybody but Fred Garrett.

On the other hand, she could never forget her fright on the lonely road to Grandma Brown's, when she called on the young captain for help, and he responded so gallantly.

"And how kind and splendid he has been right along," reflected Fanny,—"The most generous fellow that ever breathed."

"But oh! to think of poor Fred." She sighed again. "Nobody like Fred, after all."

None of the household made any inquiries about Fanny's heavy eyes and pale face next morning. For that once, Fanny was glad her father was blind.

Beatrice was busy over her manuscripts, writing now, not because "genius burns," but for the sole and only purpose of making a little money.

Ella avoided her sister and Fanny had her wretchedness all to herself. She hoped and dreaded to have the door bell ring, but it did not respond at all, either to her hopes or fears.

At last, she buttoned on her trim little winter jacket and set her becoming fur cap prettily over her brown frizzes.

She couldn't have helped a coquettish air to her dress if her heart were breaking, and she tripped off to the post office with her usual quick step. Yet she had such a pathetically sad little face that winter morning that every acquaintance meeting her was struck with it.

There were two letters in the Drexell box that morning, and both were for Fanny.

She did not dare open them till she had locked herself in her room. The one directed in Fred's clear, finished hand, was the one she read first, and, after she glanced at it, she cried till there were no tears left.

"Dear Fanny, (his note began) for the last time I call you so, for it must be my task now to forget everything that has made you dear to me, and try and realize that it must have been a mistake on my part ever to have fancied that I could have been dear to you. Poor child! my heart aches for you,—poor, motherless girl. God keep you from all harm ever prays

"Your friend, F. L. GARRETT."

And this was the captain's epistle:

"MISS DREXELL:—No more at present or future either from

"ALFRED CARR MARSTON."

Fanny had got beyond tears, as I have said, when it occurred to her that she had not read her sailor lover's message.

It acted like a tonic, and, for a broken-hearted young lady, she showed a good deal of energy.

Her first act was to tear off her engagement ring, and pack it deliberately in its dainty, little box.

How she admired that box when she first opened it.

Now, she hurriedly wrapped and addressed it to the captain, as if she could not get it out of her sight quick enough.

The young captain's letter was like a glass that revealed all at once the difference between a passing fancy and a genuine attachment.

But it was of little use now that Fanny had learned her own mind.

There was never a more determined fellow than Fred Garrett, and he had renounced his first love utterly.

A night of reflection, in fact, left both heroes on much the same footing. They both felt that they had been made fools of, and were humiliated on recalling the scene of the previous night when their own individual Fanny could not decide between them.

There was, however, this difference. The hot-natured captain had experienced an entire revulsion of feeling. His love had changed to wrath. Take Fanny now! Not if she should crawl around the globe on her knees and beg his forgiveness.

While deep in Fred's heart, though unacknowledged, was a yearning pity and love for the unreliable little beauty, who was still as charming as ever in his sight. Still, pride had the floor, and Fred laid his plans for a hasty departure from Uplands, and every castle with Fanny for a corner stone was ruthlessly torn down.

The captain was soon off and away without a word of farewell, except a chance good-by to little Ella whom he met the evening before he sailed, as she was coming out of the druggist's with a soothing lotion for her poor father's eyes.

"Good evening and good-by, Ell," said he, gruffly, yet with a sympathizing glance of his blue eyes, in spite of himself. There was something very appealing in the slight figure, the mourning dress and the sweet, womanly expression of the young face.

"I hope you will have a pleasant voyage, captain," said the girl kindly.

"Pleasant! Well," rejoined the Captain indignantly, "I hope the old tub will go to the bottom. Good-by, Ell. Better luck to you."

"Dear, dear! What a pity!" thought Ella, as the wrathful young man walked off without more words.

The sailors who had known Captain Alf on former voyages, declared that he used to be called "the pious Cap'n" but now he swore like a pirate.

Fred Garrett was changed, too, from a gay, merry young fellow, to a grave, reserved man.

"Teaching is just spoiling him," declared some of his young lady friends. "He is so prim and sober now."

And Fanny herself was changed. She could not bear to stay in Uplands, and soon secured a position as teacher of music in a young ladies seminary.

She did not escape admiration, though it was of a kind that gave her no trouble. There was something irresistible about this Fanny. All the young ladies were in love with her; and in the usual, superlative fashion of school-girls, declared that "Miss Drexell was too sweet for anything."

She came back to Uplands for occasional vacations, always planning to avoid the times when Fred Garrett would be at home.

He was becoming famous as a lecturer on scientific subjects, and had attained a position as professor at Yale.

"It would be so much better for you, Fred," his mother would often say, "If you should have a home of your own. A professor, to be all that he can be to the students, should invite them to his own house. Society has claims which you can't meet as a single man. I used to think," continued his mother, cautiously, "that our doctor's oldest daughter would make such a nice, little wife for you, but I haven't heard anything about her this long time."

"That is out of the question," said Fred very gravely.

"But Fanny is not the only one in that family," continued his mother. "The next daughter, Beatrice, what a beauty she is! And very talented, too, I hear. I never seemed to know her, however."

"You never would, mother. She lives away up in the clouds," remarked Fred, taking a newspaper, as if he were weary of the subject.

"The youngest one isn't up in the clouds, though," persisted Mrs. Garrett. "Little Ella must be eighteen or nineteen now, and a very sweet girl she is. Nobody could manage a house better than she, even with three times her experience. And then, her patience with her poor father. I suspect he's a trial, Fred."

"I dare say," said the young man, throwing the paper down and leaving the room.

But his mother threw a parting shot.

"Just notice how pretty Ella has grown, next time you meet her, will you?"

"Oh bother!" muttered the professor, in a very un-professor like way, as he snatched his hat and went out for a walk.

It chanced at the first corner, he met the young lady in question, and he was provoked because his mother's words came back to him just then and made his usual self-poised manner quite embarrassed.

He could not help "noticing," though, that little Ella had wonderfully improved. Her eyes were bluer, her pretty hair more golden, and she was not quite the pale little thing he remembered. There was a rose flush in her cheeks that deepened as he spoke to her.

Now that he had banished Fanny, this was not an unworthy vision to place in the empty niche.

And so Mrs. Garrett's words had some effect, and Fred fell to contrasting Ella's golden locks with Fanny's brown ones, and Ella's quiet way with Fan's sparkle and vivacity.

Which would be have by his fireside supposing he could have his choice?

Fred knew well enough there was but one answer to that question for him. But Fanny? That could never be.

Well, then, why not Ella? The professor marked out his course exactly as if he were drawing a diagram.

He would renew his calls at the Drexell's, beginning the very next evening, with an offering of strawberries for the blind invalid.

Next time he would call directly on Miss Ella herself; and, so on, marching step by step, till his mother should have the satisfaction of visiting him in a home of his own.

But first, for the last time, he would dream that Fanny was the lady of the house.

Just this once.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

A beautiful complexion is one of the most charming attractions woman can possess; and, from time immemorial, toilet articles of various descriptions have been used to beautify the complexion. The PASTILLES DE FLORENCE, of various tints, made by Madame Lewenberg have met with great success, and have proved nearer perfection than any similar preparation, being used either as a cream or powder. It has the endorsement of the most eminent chemists, for purity and good effect on the skin, which makes it very desirable, as so many powders are poisonous and dangerous

A HOLIDAY OPPORTUNITY.

The advertisement of Cornish & Co's. well known organ in another column, offering the organ at $43.00, affords our readers one of the best opportunities of the season for securing for their friends or themselves, a valuable instrument at an exceptionally low price. We hope the advertisement will receive the widest attention.

10C. secures The Home Friend 4 MONTHS on trial. Size Youth's Companion. Full of home helps. HOME FRIEND, Plainfield, Conn.

VIRGINIA FARMS Mild Climate. Cheap homes. Northern Colony. Send for circular. A. O. BLISS, Centralia, Va.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

A MUCH MOOTED QUESTION.

"What shall we do with our girls?" has been so often discussed as to seem, it is feared, a rather trite subject for a homily; and yet did it ever strike you that one great reason for constant discussing and re-discussing certain subjects was that those subjects were many-sided and would bear it? What is soon settled is little talked about. But with all that is said upon the subject no one as yet seems to have struck upon one great evil in girl life, while many invite in holding up their hands in deprecations, shaking their heads w th the solemnity required of the occasion and remarking (forgetting the same remarks were made while they were still as the training age) "girls weren't so when I was young."

But the great source of the evils of the present day in girl training, is comprised in a few words of the matron who had trainable daughters:

"To what boarding-school are you going to send your daughter next year, when she graduates at the academy?"

"None."

"Not send her to boarding-school! What on earth are you going to do with her?"

"Keep her at home and get acquainted with her."

Aye! "Get acquainted with her." How few, how lamentably few women are "acquainted with" their own daughters. At an early age they are sent to school (and rightly and properly) and the mother's influence, as evinced in baby associations, begins to wane. There the mother has been the one to please and advise with, even in baby plays, companions of a similar age step in, and the mother and daughter slightly but surely grow apart. From twelve to eighteen the child develops into womanhood—a new light dawns upon her, a new thoughtfulness seizes her and she is no longer what she was. A mother sends her child to boarding school for three or four years, for what? Alack-a-day! "to be finished," (and too often is the finishing process complete in one sense of the word) and expects the principle to return to her the daugher she has voluntarily sent from her. She is grieved and disappointed that her daughter no longer comes to her as she should—that she seems reticent and disinclined to talk of things nearest her heart. But she forgets that she has turned her daughter from her at a time when her whole nature was developing, and when she, herself, should have been the one to watch the bud unfold into a blossom, should have watched the plant and, with her own tender watchfulness, her ever ready sympathy for the girl's mistakes and childish, womanly sorrows, have taught her to lean on her as her earthly counsellor. All this is not hypothetical, it has been done, it can be done, and there is no more sweet, more lasting bond than a truly sympathetic mother and daugher.

Boarding schools, in their effect on nine girls out of ten, are pernicious. Be the teacher ever so wise, ever so gentle, ever so judicious, it is impossible to give sixty growing girls, aye, or even twenty, the mother's oversight they should have. Regular hours are good, regular lessons are good, but all this is possible at home, and the herding together is bad, immeasureably bad.

Send your children to boarding-school in their very early days, if you will, or must, but after they get to be twelve years old, keep them at home, establish their health, physical and mental, and "get acquainted with them."

MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

EDITRESS OF LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I quite agree with "The Mother of Five" in regard to feeding children meats. For even if they could masticate it sufficient for assimilation, it is too stimulating. I have a reliable medical work—as every mother should have—in my library. The author avers that children should not eat meats till arrived in their teens. Since, from its stimulating nature, it causes early maturity; and early maturity means as we all know—early decay. This author claims that milk, and vegetables (to which I add, cereals) should constitute their chief diet. None can gainsay that milk is nature's food, for the young in the human, as well as animal world. I now recall a widowed mother with several children, that were always ailing, always attacked with prevailing diseases. At length she purchased a cow, and the children became notably healthy and tough. I have always heard that well fed children, were not liable to contract contagious diseases. It is now maintained that skim milk will cure that fell kidney disease, that we might call the American scourge; since it destroys so many of her able statesmen. Though milk is such a valuable diet, it often proves very disastrous to young babes. I found it so with my babe after weaning, trying milk from different cows; but with boiling, diluting, and fussing every way with it, he did not thrive. He had the whooping cough when but four months old, rendering him feeble. At length I tried with marvellous success, a food prepared from Baron Von Liebeg's formula—that most noted chemist of the world. The crowning act of his life was the discovery of a substitute for mothers milk. Many mothers are, you know, from various causes, debarred from nursing their offspring. This being the case, it is of vast benefit to them, this Horlick's Food. After using it my babe gained in strength. He has cut teeth all summer, cutting four double teeth in that hot July month. Since then, he has cut his eye teeth, without noosing, as we can see, a pound of flesh. Hence, do you wonder that I feel like recommending it to mothers. I make no doubt that it would prove very strengthening to delicate, complaining girls, when arrived at their critical age. It makes a drink pleasanter, to most people, than chocolate; not having any bitter taste. Try it then, mothers. Send to Horlick's Food Co., Racine, Wis.—stating if desired for infant or invalid—and they will send you a trial box, or pamphlets informing you more in regard to it than can I in such limited space.

P. S. I hear nothing but praise on all sides for the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

A MOTHER OF THREE.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

"HOME DOCTORING."

A short, pointed article on this subject in a late number of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, I hope we all shall heed.

Some of us, who have no knowledge whatever of medicine, and but a limited experience with disease, dare to prescribe for sick ones in our family, and recklessly dose them for symptoms which require the immediate attention of a skillful physician.

Warm packs, mustard pastes, and poultices of onion or flaxseed meal are safe and well, and no mother need fear to use them without consulting a physician, neither should we be afraid to give castor oil, ipecac, or like, safe, simple medicines, when the case in hand seems to require it, but to meddle with powerful drugs, of which we have no knowledge, or to let bad symptoms of disease develop into those still more alarming, while we lose precious time dosing and experimenting with our little, weak, home-brewed messes and teas, is unwise, and often has fatal results.

When bad symptoms do not yield to reasonable home treatment, or when those appear which we do not understand, then it is time to send for a physician upon whose skill you can rely, for we mothers have no call to prescribe or treat such cases.

A few weeks ago, my baby, then fourteen months old, woke one morning, vomiting. When baby vomits I know she is quite sick, and I watched her symptoms anxiously. In a short time the retching with vomiting was repeated, and thinking she or I had eaten something to which her little stomach objected, I gave her a large teaspoonful of castor oil, thinking it would clear her stomach and bowels of irritating contents. But it did not, for, after a full moving she continued vomiting and grew sick so fast—not feverish or as if in acute pain—but constant retching which soon exhausted her baby strength. I sent in haste for our physician, fearful the child had in some way obtained and swallowed poison.

On his arrival I told him of the oil she had already taken, and he said, "that was well, but in this case the child evidently needs something more searching, since the source of irritation is still there," and he gave her a powder which I suspect was calomel and rhubarb.

This more searching physic soon cleared her bowels of two large, raw beans which her fingers had somewhere found, and she had swallowed without so much as a choking laugh or cough, to tell us of her exploit.

Well was it for baby and me, that I did not depend on "home doctoring" that day.

Another instance comes to mind where too much confidence in home treatment resulted in the death of a bright little two years' old boy. His parents at that time, had recently moved to live with the child's grandmother, and his mother did not know that a tin box, which with other rubbish was in a stand drawer in the kitchen, was half full of rat poison, and without doubt the old lady had forgotten its existence, no rats or children having been about the house for years.

One day, the little boy's busy hands found they were strong enough to pull out the drawer, and then it was not long before the same eager, little fingers had pried open the box and put enough of the poison in his mouth to kill him, unless something was speedily done to relieve him.

But nothing was done of any merit, though the little one vomited almost constantly until his death the next night. The grandmother thought the little boy was having a "worm spell," and dosed him on tansy and pumpkin seed tea, and though the young mother felt troubled and wanted to send for a physician, the old lady, confident of her own medical skill, strongly vetoed it, saying she knew "more about roots and yarbs than a dozen doctors," and the child would be "all right in the morning." And without doubt the child was "all right" in the morning, for he had entered the beautiful Heavenly Home, to which I hope you and I will sometime find entrance, but the poor mother, crazed with grief, thought it all wrong.

One noontime last September, our little girl, Birdie, was dancing in and out of the open doors, singing from exuberance of health and happiness. At one o'clock she came to me and laying her head in my lap, said wearily, "Oh, mamma, I am so sick."

I was startled to find her pulse racing and her flesh burning with fever. She called for her little chair again and again, and movements told me what I had dreaded from her all summer, bloody dysentery, it being at that time an epidemic in the place.

A sharp, violent attack of bloody dysentery, and the teams and men all in the grain fields a mile from the house and none of them expected home till night! My heart sank with dread and anxiety, for I knew the child needed the immediate care of a physician. Before I had time to plan, and hardly to pray, there was a quick clatter of hoofs around the house corner and one of the workmen dashed past on his way to the workshop, some part of the mowing machine having broken in the field and he had been sent home for tools to repair it. I ran out and dispatched him, mounted horseback as he was, for our family physician. Providentially, the doctor's gig was at his door, and in less than an hour he stood by Birdie, who had grown so sick she was rolling her head and having almost constant movements, over which she had lost control.

As he measured for her a searching physic, he said, "I hardly think your little one can escape a run of dysentery, but she may, if the cause of this bowel irritation is something that can speedily be removed." That potion of powder shortly afterward cleared her bowels of a large pomegranate seed that she must have picked from the garden. A single, half-ripe plum, with its seed, had caused all this disturbance in her system, and I dare not think what the consequence might have been had I delayed, even a few hours, to potter and experiment with home-brewed messes, before sending for a physician.

One mother to whom I had told Birdie's alarming symptoms at that time, said a child of hers once had "just such a turn" and she cured her with black pepper tea, which I would not dare to give even to a cat that I loved,—and another mother claims she healed her little one of dysentery, by herself drinking freely of black table tea, and another depends on steeped raspberry root when any of her flock are threatened with diarrhœa or dysentery, and doubtless some of these things have virtue, but I think we ought not to venture to depend upon ourselves when aggravated symptoms appear, dilly-dallying with our catnip and elderbow teas. They are well enough for slight attacks of bowel complaint, but I do not dare depend on them or on my limited knowledge of the strength and properties of even such home-brewed potions, in any case that is not readily controlled by judicious dieting and simple astringents.

JOHN'S WIFE.

A WAY TO KEEP THE CHILDREN QUIET.

"I wish there was some way to keep those children quiet on a rainy day or when it is too warm for them to be out in the sun playing," said a weary mother the other day to her friend and neighbor. "I always notice what little trouble you have with your children, although you have three more than I have, and I thought perhaps you could tell me how you managed it."

"A very easy matter, my dear," replied her friend. "Children must be amused, or they will become cross and naughty; so would you or I. Suppose you were doomed to stay all day, or half a day, in one room, were not allowed to read, write or sew, could only sit on certain chairs and handle certain articles, there was no one to talk to or nothing but a game of solitaire for us to play. Why, we'd be almost crazy. Anyone, man, woman, or child, in good health, must have something to do during their waking hours. Yet how few mothers try to furnish this something to the busy hands and active brains of the little ones. You notice children out in the street or garden. Are they ever still or quiet? No. It is true, they find amusement in the most trivial thing. Now I have thought about all this, and have fixed up one room in the house, the play-room, exclusively for my children. The room is the large one on the top floor. It is all I had to spare, and as I could not afford good carpet, I painted the floor and left it bare. A poor carpet would be worn out in six months. In the winter the room is heated by a little circular stove, and over this is put a wire screen, so there is no danger of the children burning themselves. The walls are painted a delicate gray, with a pink border, and I have a wainscoting that is one of the chief charms of the room.

"What is it?" Well, I collected all the pictures I could out of magazines, illustrated papers, etc., and pasted them on the wall from the floor almost as high as the mantel. Pictures of animals and birds, and those of child-life, are, of course, the greater number. I put the colored prints down near the surface, so that the smaller children could enjoy them, and they are pasted on so nicely that tearing them is impossible.

"Then," continued this nice little mother, "I have five boxes in the room, all of different sizes. These boxes have covers that fasten down, and are padded on the top, with a flounce around the edge, so that when the box is closed they have the appearance of little ottomans. Each child keeps his playthings in the box, and it is their particular property. A nursery rug with all kinds of animals cut out of cloth, with the name embroidered underneath, is among the furnishings of the room.

"My children amuse themselves for hours in that room, with only excursions now and then to the kitchen for something to play 'tea party' with, and I flatter myself that they learn considerable from the pictures, as well as neatness and order with their playthings."—New York Morning Journal.

TRAINING HOUSEKEEPERS.

Dear mothers, you may think I am harsh when I say that you can hardly begin at too early an age to teach your little girls how to be housekeepers or home makers.

Have a box for the playthings, and teach the little boy or girl who has them, to put them away. Teach them that, by so doing, they are helping mamma, and they will do it willingly, for all children love to help. Have low nails for sacks, hoods, mittens, and rubbers, and see that each thing is put in the right place by the child that used it, and it will soon become so natural to her to put away her wraps, that she would sooner think of going out without them than to leave them out of place when she is done with them.

Have some bright cloth dusters, and just as soon as the little girl is old enough (and she will be quite old enough as soon as she can walk), commence giving her lessons in dusting, perhaps she will only need to have her own little chair to dust for a long time, but teach her how to dust that well, and she will never know any other way. You will be suprised to see how soon she can dust a room. Such little tasks will not hurt her but rather help her, for she will thus gradually and unconsciously learn the art of good housekeeping. As she grows older, teach her other duties, only a little at a time. After the dusting comes the dish-washing, but don't keep her too close to that; let her help you, or else take turns with her, being sure you do your half. Almost all children dislike dish-washing.

Begin early with the sewing, but don't begin with patch-work. Children like to make something—something which there is some prospect of finishing. Wouldn't it look like a great undertaking to you, to make a quilt all by hand? I think it would. Then how must it look to a child? A holder is more easily made than a square of patch-work, and when it is finished, it is something of itself. An apron for grandma or auntie or mamma, or even for the little girl herself, would not be such a very large piece of work, if mamma only bested it carefully, and took a few stitches on it now and then, when no one knew anything about it. One thing be firm about; after an article is begun see that it is finished. If the time spent in beginning three-fourths of the things which are begun, was devoted to finishing the other fourth, very many people would accomplish much more than they do.

Take my advice, mothers, and begin giving your little ones tiny tasks each day; perhaps not more than five or ten minutes' work each day, at first, but gradually, very gradually, increase the work time. Be systematic about it, and it will be a lifelong blessing to both mothers and daughters.

We call the attention of our readers to the advertisement of the well known F. P. Robinson Company, of Boston, Mass., who hold an enviable reputation for dyeing black stockings. Dyed by a peculiar process of their own, and warranted positively not to crock, the stockings are as pleasant to the wearer as white ones. The silk finish given to all goods adds much to the beauty of the hose, and is improved rather than diminished by washing. Any one giving their patronage to this firm will find all orders filled in a prompt and satisfactory manner.

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

Will any of the sisters having directions for wide lace, from 37 stitches, and upwards, please send them to the JOURNAL, and oblige

MATTIE WALKER.

Can any of the readers send correct directions for a crochet, or knitted house sack, how much materials, and what kind of needles? and oblige,

MRS. HELEN PIATT.

Directions for fagotting in knitting:—Cast up a few stitches, say 6, * knit 2, put thread over and narrow, knit 2. Next row, knit 3, thread over, narrow, knit 1. Repeat from *

M.

EDITRESS L. H. J.—A. T. M. in the Sept. number, asks for directions for gentleman's knitted scarf. I will tell her how I knit one last winter. It is called the Brioche stitch, quite easy and quick knitting.

Cast on any number of stitches divisible by 3, (I had 99 stitches). Make 1, and slip 1, by putting in the needle as if to purl a stitch, and knit 2 together; continue to the end of the needle. The rows are all alike. Use bone needle, and finish the ends with fringe. I hope these directions are plain enough.

M. T. McC.

Here is another pattern for gentleman's scarf, which is more open: Cast on any number of stitches that will divide by 4, allow 2 extra for each edge, (which we knit plain). Slip 1, thread over once, knit 3, draw the slipped stitch over. Every row is alike.

MRS. M. A. LUCAS.

SAN PABLO.

Sachet Case.

(By request.)

Take a piece of silk and cut it in two squares, and fringe it all round. Fold the squares together, having first placed inside some cotton or wool wadding, into which sachet powder has been sprinkled. Join the edges neatly. A row of white lace run on the edge on one side, and a row of feather stitch in silk of contrasting color, round the edge on the other side is a pretty finish. Have the case four inches square after it is fringed, or larger if one prefers.

M. F.

Palm Leaf Lace.

(By request.)

Cast on 10 stitches and knit across plain.

1st row. Slip 1, knit 1, over, narrow, over, narrow, over 3 times, narrow, over twice, purl 2 together.

2d row. Over twice, purl 2 together, knit 2, purl 1 in the next loop, knit 1, purl 1, (that is, after drawing the thread through in knitting, and before slipping off the stitch, bring the thread forward, and purl a stitch in the same loop), knit 1, purl 1, knit 1, purl 1, knit 2.

3d row. Slip 1, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 4, over twice, purl 2 together.

4th row. Over twice, purl 2 together, knit 5, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2.

5th row. Slip 1, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 3, over twice, purl 2 together.

6th row. Over twice, purl 2 together, knit 4, purl 1, knit 3, purl 1, knit 2.

7th row. Slip 1, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together.

8th row. Over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3, purl 1, knit 4, purl 1, knit 2.

9th row. Slip 1, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 4, over, narrow, knit 1, over twice, purl 2 together.

10th row. Over twice, purl 2 together, knit 2, purl 1, knit 5, purl 1, knit 2.

11th row. Slip 1, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 5, over, narrow, over twice, purl 2 together.

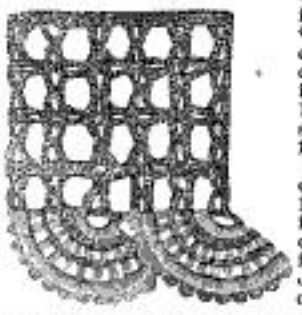
12th row. Bind off 3, then take the stitch on the right hand needle, and put back on to the left hand needle, then over twice, purl 2 together, knit 5, purl 1, knit 2.

J. S. HEARN.

Wide Crochet Lace.

Spool cotton No. 30. Make a chain of 32 stitches.

1st row. Turn, make 1 d c in 5th stitch of chain, ch 1, 1 d c in same 5th stitch * ch 2, miss 2, 1 s c in next stitch, ch 2, miss 2, 1 d c in next stitch, ch 1, 1 d c in same stitch, repeat from * 3 times.



2d row. Turn, ch 4, 1 d c in ch 1, * ch 4, 1 d c in ch 1, ch 1, 1 d c in same, repeat from * 3 times, 12 d c in loop at end of 1st row.

3d row. Turn, ch 2, put 1 d c in top of each of the 12 stitches, 1 d c in ch 1, ch 1, 1 d c in same, * ch 2, 1 s c in loop of 4, ch 2, 1 d c in ch 1, ch 1, 1 d c in same, repeat from * 3 times.

4th row. Turn, same as 2d row through the repeat from * 3 times, then ch 1, and put 1 d c in top of each of the 12 d c.

5th row. Turn, ch 3, 1 s c between 1st and 2d stitch, * 1 s c, 3 ch and 1 s c between next 2 stitches, repeat from * 10 times, then 1 d c between 2 last stitches, ch 1, and 1 d c in same, finish like 3d row.

6th row. Same as 2d through the repeat 3 times.

7th row. Turn, ch 6, 1 d c in ch 1, ch 1, 1 d c in same stitch, then finish like 3d row.

Repeat from 2d row.

Fasten the end of 8th row with s c in first edge scallop. Fasten the end of 10th row in 3d edge scallop.

Ch. means chain.

S. C. means single crochet.

D. C. means double crochet.

M. F. K.

Handsome Crochet Edge.

(For flannel skirt).

Make a chain of 5 stitches.

1st row. Miss 4, in the 5th loop work 3 trebles, 2 ch, 3 trebles; this forms one shell; turn.

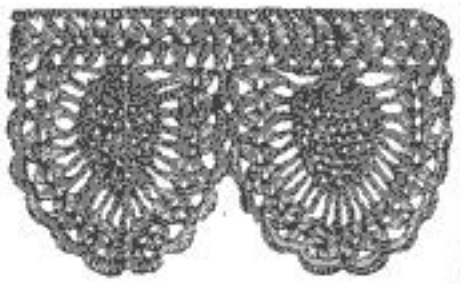
2d row. 3 ch, 3 trebles, 2 ch, 3 trebles all under the 2 ch of first shell; treble on last treble of shell; turn.

Repeat the 2d row until you have made a strip of 10 shells. Under this strip a scallop is worked, with the pineapple in the centre. This begins on the 11th row.

11th row. 5 ch, miss 2 shells, 3 trebles, 2 ch, 3 trebles (forming one shell), all under the 3 ch between 8th and 9th shells, 4 ch, miss 3, 3 trebles, 2 ch, 3 trebles, all on the treble between 4th and 6th shells, 4 ch, miss 3 shells, 1 shell (3 tr, 2 ch, 3 tr as before) under 3 ch between 2d and 3d shells, 5 ch, 1 s c (single crochet) under 1st treble of last shell; turn. There are now 3 shells along the edge of the strip of 10 shells. A row of shells is to be worked in the 1st and 3d of these shells, while the middle one forms the foundation for the pineapple.

12th row. 10 d cs under the 5 ch, 1 ch, 1 shell on first shell, 4 ch, 10 trebles under 2 ch of second shell, 4 ch, 1 shell on third shell, 5 ch, 1 s c on 1 ch after last shell; turn.

13th row. Work along this 5 ch in s c until the 1st shell is reached; then 1 ch, shell on shell, 4 ch, 1 d c between the 1st and 2d trebles, *2 ch, 1 d c between the next 2 trebles, repeat from*



until there are 9 d cs in all, the last being between the 9th and 10th trebles; then 4 ch, shell on shell, 5 ch, 1 s c under 1 ch after shell; turn.

14th row. 10 d c's under 5 ch, 1 ch, shell on shell, 3 ch, 1 d c under 1st 2 ch, *2 ch, 1 d c under next 2 ch, repeat from * until there are 8 d c's, then ch, shell on shell, 5 ch, 1 s c under 1 ch after shell; turn.

15th row. Work back along the 5th ch until 1st shell is reached, then 1 ch, shell on shell, 3 ch, 1 d c under 1st 2 ch, *2 ch, 1 d c under next 2 ch, repeat from * until there are 7 d c's, 3 ch, shell on shell, 5 ch, 1 s c under 1 ch after shell; turn.

16th row. Like 14th, except that there are only 6 d c's in pineapple instead of 8 d c's.

17th row. Like 15th, but 5 d c's instead of 7 d c's.

18th row. Like 16th, but only 4 d c's.

19th row. Work back along the 5 ch to 1st shell, 1 ch, shell on shell, 3 ch, 1 d c under 2 ch, 2 ch, 1 d c under next 2 ch, 2 ch, 1 d c under next 2 ch, 3 ch, shell on shell, 5 ch, 1 s c under 1 ch; turn.

20th row. 10 d c's under 5 ch, 1 ch, shell on shell, 3 ch, 1 d c under 1st 2 ch, 2 ch, 1 d c under next 2 ch, 3 ch, shell on shell, 5 ch, 1 s c under 1 ch; turn.

21st row. S c along the 5 ch to first shell, 1 ch, shell on shell, 3 ch, work along the 3 ch in s c, then shell on shell, 5 ch, 1 s c under 1 ch; turn. The pineapple is now completed and the two parts of the scallop are to be joined.

22d row. 10 d c's under 5 ch, 5 ch, 1 s c under the 1 ch beyond the 1st shell worked in the last row, or between the 1st two shells of the other half of the scallop. This joins the two sets of shells. Now, instead of working back along the ch, turn, work in s c on the first 3 trebles of the 1st shell and the last 3 trebles of the 2d shell, or 6 trebles in all, joining the 3d and 4th trebles together by putting the hook through both and working off the 3 loops as one s c. This brings you to the outer edge of the last named shell, where the last 5 ch started; turn.

23d row. 10 d c under 5 ch, 1 s c under 1 ch, 10 d c's under each of the other 5 ch along this half of the scallop, with a s c under each 1 ch between them. This finishes the first scallop. Now 1 ch, shell on the last shell of the upper strip. Turn, and continue as at first until there are again 10 shells, when you start the second scallop by repeating from the 11th row. The first four loops on the edge of each scallop are to be joined in the working to the last four loops of the previous scallop by working 5 d c's, then taking the hook out, putting it through the middle d c of previous scallop, drawing the loop through and finishing the 10 d c's as usual.

Infant's Crochet Sacque.

Make a foundation chain of 85 stitches.

1st row. 1 d c in second and third stitch of chain, 3 d c in fourth stitch of chain, 1 d c in fifth and sixth stitch of chain, chain 2, * miss two stitches of foundation chain, 1 d c in next two stitches, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 2, chain 2, repeat from * through the row; turn.

2d row. * 1 d c in top of each 3 d c in last row, taking up the back part of the stitch, 3 d c in the top of next stitch, 1 d c in each of next 3 stitches, chain 2, repeat from * to the end of row; turn.

3d row. *Chain 2, miss one, 1 d c in each of next 3 stitches, 5 d c in next stitch, 1 d c in each of next 3 stitches, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 3 stitches, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 3 stitches, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in second stitch, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in next stitch, chain 2, miss one stitch, 1 d c in next or sixth stitch, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in next, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in second stitch, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in next, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in next, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in next, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of second, third, and fourth stitches, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next three stitches, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in next three stitches, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 3 stitches; repeat from star to end of row; turn.

4th row. * Chain 2, 1 d c in second, third, fourth and fifth stitches, 3 d c in sixth stitch, 1 d c in each of next 4 stitches, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 4 stitches, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 4 stitches, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in second stitch, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in next stitch, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in next, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in next, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in next, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 4 stitches, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 4 stitches; repeat from star to end of row; turn.

5th row. * Chain 2, 1 d c in each of the second, third, fourth and fifth stitches, 3 d c in the sixth, 1 d c in each of next 4 stitches, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 4 stitches, 3 d c in next stitch, 1 d c in each of next 4 stitches, chain 2; proceed the same as in the last row.

6th row. * Chain 2, 1 d c in second, third, fourth and fifth stitches, 5 d c, in next, 1 d c in each of next 4 stitches, chain 2, miss one, 1 d c in each of next 4, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 4, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in next, 5 d c in next, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in next, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in next, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in next, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in next, ch 2, miss 1, 1 d c in next, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in next, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 4 stitches, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 4 stitches, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 4 stitches; repeat from star to end of row; turn.

7th row. * Chain 2, 1 d c in second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth stitches, 3 d c in seventh, 1 d c in each of next 5 stitches, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 5 stitches, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 5 stitches, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in next, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in next stitch, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in next, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in next stitch, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in next, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 5 stitches, 3 d c in next stitch, 1 d c in each of next 5 stitches, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 5 stitches, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 5 stitches; repeat from star to end of row; turn.

8th row. The same as the 7th row.

9th row. * Chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 5 stitches, 5 d c in next stitch, 1 d c in each of next 5 stitches, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 5 stitches, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 5 stitches, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 2 stitches, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 2, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 2, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 2, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 2, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 2, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 5 stitches, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 5 stitches, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 5; repeat from star to end of row; turn.

10th row. * Chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of the next 6 stitches, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in each of the next 6 stitches, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each next 3 stitches, 3 d c in next stitch, 1 d c in each of next 3 stitches, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 3 stitches, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 3, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 3 stitches, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 3 stitches, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 6, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 6, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 6 stitches; repeat from star to end of row; turn.

11th row. Just like the last row.

12th row. * Chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in next 6 stitches, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 6, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 6 stitches, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 6 stitches, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 3, 5 d c in next stitch, 1 d c in each of next 3, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 3 stitches, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 3 stitches, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 3 stitches, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 3 stitches, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 6 stitches, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 6 stitches, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 6, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 6, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 6 stitches, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 6 stitches, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 6 stitches, 5 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 6 stitches; repeat from star to end of row; turn.

13th row. * Chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 7 stitches, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 7, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 7 stitches, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 7, chain 2, (counting from the top of the sacque there are 15 rows of holes made by chain 2, now leave out 3 of those rows for sleeves) and pass on to the seventh point of d c stitches, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 7 stitches, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 7 stitches, chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in next 7 stitches, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 7 stitches; repeat from star to end of row; turn.

14th row. * Chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 7 stitches, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 7 stitches; repeat from star through the row; turn.

15th row. Proceed as in the last row, putting 5 d c in the middle stitch of each point; turn.

16 and 17th rows. Put 3 in middle stitch of each point; turn.

18th row. Put 5 d c in middle stitch of each point; turn.

19th and 20th rows. Put 3 d c in middle stitch of each point; turn.

21st row. Put 5 d c in middle stitch of point. In the next two rows, put 3 d c in middle stitch of point; turn.

24th row. Put 5 in middle stitch of point. The next two rows, put 3 d c in middle stitch of each point.

27th row. Put 5 d c in the middle stitch of point.

For the sleeve, join the worsted in the middle of the 2 chain, which we made in the 13th row, under the sleeve, or second row of holes, made by chain 2, now make * chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 5 d c, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 5 stitches; repeat from star to end of row; turn.

14th row. * Chain 2, miss 1, 1 d c in each of next 5 stitches, 3 d c in next, 1 d c in each of next 5 stitches; repeat from star to end of row; turn.

Make 9 more rows like the 14th row. Sew the sleeve together. For border, join the wool on, make 4 chain, miss 2 stitches, 1 d c in next stitch, 2 chain, miss 2 stitches, 1 d c in next stitch, and so on through the row, and join. Next row, put 2 d c, 1 chain, and 2 d c in every other hole in the row. Next row, put 2 d c, 1 ch, 2 d c in each loop made by chain 1 in last row.

Last row. 6 d c in chain 1, in middle of shell, catch with single crochet between the shells.

For the neck, make a row of holes of 3 chain, and 1 d c in every 3 or 4 stitches. This is to run the ribbon through, or chord and tassel. Finish the neck border like two last rows of sleeve border. For border of sacque, make two rows of shells down the fronts, and three across the bottom, having 5 shells across each point, and 1 d c between each point in chain 2; make one row of scallops all around the sacque, like last row of border for sleeve. For a collar, work the last three rows of sleeve border, turning the border of neck already worked, down inside, holding the wrong side of sacque towards you; make 20 shells. The ribbon or drawing string for neck, comes between the two borders in the row of holes. Run narrow ribbon in rows of holes running lengthwise of sacque.

A. S. K.

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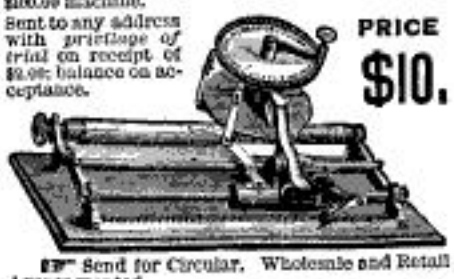

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(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

BRUSH STUDIES AND HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

NEW SERIES—NO. II.

BY LIDA AND M. J. CLARKSON.

Some General Hints Upon Fabric Painting—Kensington, Lustra, etc.—Its Adaptation to Household Decoration—Queries Answered.

[Copyright Applied For.]

The accumulation of queries the past month touching upon the subject of fabric painting, makes a chapter upon this topic a necessity, as it would be impossible to reply to them separately, either by letter, or in the space devoted especially to this purpose in these columns. The growing taste for rich embroidery upon velvet, plush and other fabrics, seems to have given rise to several styles of painting; that familiarly known as Kensington, because of its resemblance to the work done in the famous Kensington school of embroidery, with Lustra, or metallic painting, tapestry coloring, etc. Indeed, many beautiful effects may be produced by the brush which would be an impossibility to the needle. In painting, there is often wider scope for artistic taste, and we can warmly recommend these branches of decorative art to our readers. Perhaps Kensington painting has met with more abuse, not only from critics, but from those who have never seen any really good work of the kind, than any other branch of art. In fact it is sometimes set down as no art at all, scarcely worthy the name; a mere pastime for children, or invalids. It is frequently said, "Why, anybody can do Kensington!" and so they can, after a fashion, but the very inferior work often exhibited, does not necessarily prove that all Kensington work is of the same stamp. When we first took up the work, we had no expectation of the beautiful results to be had, but were somewhat imbued with the popular prejudice, and thought it but a passing novelty soon to be consigned to oblivion.

But the more we see of the work, the more convinced are we, that it supplies a want long felt by persons who cannot afford costly embroideries, and that, for decorative purposes, it rivals them in beauty and durability.

There are several other reasons which will recommend it to the general reader. It is simple, and yet the richest effects may be obtained with it. It is withal very cleanly work, requiring no turpentine, oils, mediums, or varnishes; is economical, too, for although it takes a great deal of paint, yet by a judicious selection of colors, unnecessary expense may be avoided. Kensington painting may be adapted to innumerable uses, and for all sorts, and styles of work within the range of embroidery. It may be purely conventional in character, by which term is meant that its use may be limited to designs not in anywise copied from nature, but more like the patterns generally used for embroidery. As a rule, however, the treatment of floral designs copied from Nature's own portfolio will give better satisfaction. In this way the work may have an artistic value, and be made as truly a study of form and color as other branches of painting.

In response to a very large number of requests we give in this paper a fuller explanation of the work, with instructions that should enable our readers to learn it readily without further teaching.

Those who have already made some progress in oil painting, will, we think, find no difficulty in acquiring the art.

The list of paints necessary is not a long one: Silver White, Yellow Ocre, Zinnober Green, Ivory Black, Chrome Yellow, Burnt Sienna, Madder Lake, Antwerp Blue, Vermilion, Chrome Orange, and Cobalt, may sometimes be needed. Any colors you may happen to have on hand may be used in this work. With this simple palette almost any design may be executed. These are the ordinary tube colors. If some of our readers find it necessary to economize closely, or the work is large, and elaborate, as for curtains, portieres, etc., the paints in dry powder may be ground for use at home. Any of the above mentioned colors may be purchased dry, and ground in oil, until nearly as smooth as the tube colors. It requires a good deal of time and perseverance, and is most successfully accomplished by the use of what is known as a slab and muller. A slab eight and one-half inches square will probably cost about one dollar; and the muller from fifteen to twenty-five cents. These are useful articles, especially where a quantity of paint is to be used, in large, bold work. Besides the colors you will require a good palette knife, a few sable brushes, No's 4, 5 and 6, a bottle of deodorized benzine, and a pen. The benzine is useful to remove all spots from your fabric, or to rub out any mistakes made. The best material for the work is velvet, or a good quality of velveteen. There are some brands of the latter, almost as handsome as the silk pile, and that take the paint much better than a poor quality of velvet. Other fabrics may be used. If plush, it should be chosen with a close, short nap. The color of material selected should harmonize with the subject. A dark green, suits almost any design unless it be blue, or purplish in the flowers. A deep red, or maroon sets off white, or pink flowers to advantage. Olive is good for red and yellow. A deep violet, or purple is especially rich for large white flowers, or for the pure fleur de lis, and an old gold or citron yellow enhances the effect of such subjects as the poppy, nasturtium, trumpet flower, etc. The design should be first stamped, or sketched upon the fabric, which is fastened firmly to the drawing board, and then you are ready for a first attempt. Suppose the subject to be water-lilies, which make a rich and elegant decoration for many purposes. You will first squeeze upon your palette a good quantity of silver white, without any oil, or medium, as the thicker the paint the better. If too thin it will spread, and will not take the mark of the pen. The paint is mixed upon the palette as in ordinary painting, for the general tone adding to the white, a little yellow ochre, ivory black, a trifle permanent, or Antwerp blue, and a little burnt sienna. Taking your brush lay this tint upon the petal of the lily, using the paint very generously. It is perhaps best to outline your leaf, or petal first to give distinctness of form. Now with your pen, an ordinary steel one will do, although a gold lacquered pen is rather better, make regular strokes imitating the stitches in embroidery. These strokes are generally made from the point of the petal to the centre of flower, just as the stitch would be taken in embroidery. Where darker shading is necessary add more burnt sienna, and lay on with your brush as before. The light and shade is best laid on with the brush before the pen is used at all, blending as in regular brush painting. The pen is used merely to give the work the appearance of embroidery.

There is one important rule—be sure to keep the pen point free from paint by wiping constantly upon a soft rag. Sometimes this will be found necessary after each stroke, to avoid dulling the high lights by your darker shades.

There are pens with from three to seven points, which are sometimes used to expedite the work. We have always preferred the plain gold lacquered pen with single point, either coarse or fine, as the subject demanded. The above method is the simplest in use, and we think the most desirable, it being much easier than the old way of applying all the paint with the pen alone. Sometimes the color may be taken up, on the inside point of the pen, and dislodged by pressing, or flattening it down, as it is drawn from the point of petal, or leaf towards the centre, leaving it in little rolls on each side of the petal. Sometimes it is necessary to take up the paint upon one side of the pen, and again upon the other, according to the side of leaf, or petal thus outlined.

This imitates embroidery very perfectly, but is stiffer and more conventional in style.

In making roses, daises, etc., the paint is taken up on the right edge of the pen, and rolled around the petals, by commencing at the middle of the flower, and following the edges around, until all the petals are thus outlined with a roll. Afterwards the petals are filled in, the work done in the manner first mentioned, the paint laid on with the brush, and scratched in with the pen, as already described.

Still another, and very successful method where it is desirable to imitate couching or embroidery, is to outline all the work simply with the brush, which is well filled with paint, and twisted as it is drawn along, which dislodges it in a continuous roll. The brushes used for Kensington, are either fine bristles or sables. Do not cut them off, as is sometimes advised, using the stub to lay on the paint. The better pointed the brush, the nicer the work. Flat pointed brushes are best for almost any work.

If any of our readers are interested in decoration for ecclesiastical purposes, they may be pleased to know that the most satisfactory results are to be had by pen painting. Within the past year we have painted an altar cloth, with large monogram in centre of frontal, with side panels of passion vine, and inscription with Greek crosses upon the super-frontal, all of which work, has been repeatedly taken for heavy embroidery. The cost was less than half what the embroidery would have been.

We find of late, that for many kinds of decoration, most beautiful effects may be produced by a combination of the different styles of painting, often more pleasing than any one kind alone. As for instance, Kensington and brush painting, Lustra and Kensington, Lustra and iridescent.

DECORATED CORNER FOR TABLE COVER.

We give this month, by special request, a design for table cover, which illustrates this combination in a very charming manner. The cover is of felting, a dark blue, upon which is applied in fancy embroidery stitches, corner pieces of blue velvet. The edge of the velvet is finished with a silver cord couched on with thread of silver. The design of autumn leaves and toadstools, is painted in Lustra and in Kensington. The toadstools in Lustra as follows: Paint first with silver, using a large quantity of color in the high lights, and afterwards touching up with sparkling silver. The shadows are put in with silver and steel mixed, the deepest accents with steel alone. The effect is very odd and pretty.

It ought to be more clearly understood that painting may be done as handsomely, as smoothly and effectively upon velvet, or other fabrics as upon canvas.

Where the nap is crushed, and the paint plastered on, leaving little hollows in the pile, there is undoubtedly ignorance as to the work.

There is really no more excuse for daubing upon these fabrics than upon canvas.

One of our correspondents asks "Does not painting on velvet with a brush, lay the nap?"

No, decidedly not, if it is properly done, and here we do not refer to what is known as dye painting, which is simply coloring, or dyeing the nap, by thinning the paint with turpentine, and rubbing into the pile, but to regular oil painting upon velvet, or plush.

Take, for instance, a design of apple blossoms. The flowers are painted in Kensington, the centres dotted on with a full brush, and the hard wood may be executed also most beautifully with the brush, as in any oil painting, only, that in purely decorative work, more latitude is allowed in the use of the pure bright color, and we need not follow nature so closely, but may heighten the brilliancy and effect, by bright touches of color that would scarcely be allowable upon canvas.

The palette for this work is Antwerp blue, white, yellow ochre, cadmium, or chrome yellow, burnt sienna, and black. With the exception of the white, blue, and black we do not blend these colors upon the palette, but dot, or dab them on roughly with the point of the brush, shading darker at the lower side of the branch, with black and burnt sienna. Now where the light is supposed to fall upon the branch, generally the upper side, we lay the color on very freely, using the blue, white and black mixed. Sables, 5, 6, and 10 are best for this work. Knots, or protuberances in the wood may be represented here and there with black and burnt sienna, margined with white and yellow ochre. Use the paint generously, as the rougher the appearance of the wood, the better the effect.

A correspondent asks how she may decorate and drape a door to hide its side casings, yet in a way that will not shut out the light thus admitted from an adjoining room, or closet. The secret of an artistic arrangement for this purpose lies almost wholly in the manner of draping. I there is stiffness no amount of work, or rich material will accomplish the object.

Within the past few years there has been a great change in the character of house furnishing in this respect, and it is not only a pleasure to visit some of the large establishments dealing in artistic furniture, but one may often bring away some hint as to simple decoration for home use. Superb and costly hangings may be very cleverly imitated by catching the grace of some particular adjustment of folds, or loopings. We have endeavored to show this in our illustration of hangings for door, and think inquirer will find this a very artistic and tasteful arrangement, more so than the double draped lambrequin she had thought of using.

SUGGESTION FOR DOOR DRAPERY.

Hangings of two shades of the same color are often tastefully combined in this way, while sometimes a decided contrast is preferred. Mosaic cloth, felt, billiard cloth, satin sheeting, or any material that will fall in soft, graceful folds make handsome hangings. There is also a figured, or brocaded canton flannel that comes in rich coloring and closely resembles plush, but a better material is always cheaper in the end. Canton flannel catches the dust, fades and roughs up, and after awhile gives a room a very shabby appearance. Some soft, rich material edged with a band of velveteen, decorated with Lustra, or Kensington will generally give the best satisfaction. A bold design of Virginia creeper, or trumpet flower painted in Lustra makes a rich and effective decoration. As for the color of the hangings, that must depend upon the furnishing of the room, wall paper, curtains, etc. Although they need not be the same shade they should harmonize with the prevailing colors.

A clever friend has just framed a ten inch plaque very handsomely, by having a carpenter prepare for her a beveled board, with a hole in the centre the regular size, which she has covered with garnet plush, gumming with mucilage, and using shade tacks on the back.

The plaque is fastened in with small screws, and the entire back covered with silesia, which gives a neat finish. The cost was less than two dollars, with as she says "a little paint and pleasant labor."

"A pretty whisk broom holder is made in the shape of a guitar, the strings of silver threads, and the cross piece, worked, or painted, and fastened at each side with a bow of ribbon, or other ornament. Daisy tidies of rick-rack, with strips of ribbon painted with daisies and wheat are very pretty. The ends of the ribbon, and the web of daisies are pointed and finished with tassels, balls, or brass ornaments."

A very handsome mantel lambrequin is made of violet satin, with bands of velvet the same color decorated with fleur de lis in paler shades of purple. These bands run up the sides and centre of the valence, and the finish is an edging of floss balls in old gold and violet.

One of our correspondents has kindly sent us some cross cut wooden section cards, which are very pretty for different decorative purposes. They are as thin as paper, showing the grain of the wood most beautifully, and may be painted in either oil, or water colors.

Dainty calendars may be decorated with flowers suggestive of the different months, and threaded upon satin ribbon makes a particularly attractive wall ornament.

These cards are also very useful as souvenirs, or may be used as birthday cards or mementoes.

***

ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.

A. M. A., Ohio:—The word palette is pronounced pal-et with accent on the first syllable. When we say "the palette will be so and so," it is meant that the colors given will be used for the subject in hand. Generally full directions follow as to how these colors are to be mixed, or blended.

The large tree trunk may be painted with white, permanent blue, burnt sienna, raw umber, and ivory black. If in the immediate foreground it should be rich and dark in tone.

The colors for water depend entirely upon the character of your picture, whether in sunshine or shade, morning, noon, or evening, etc. White, permanent, or Antwerp blue, cadmium, raw umber, and a trifle ivory black, with sometimes burnt sienna, or light red, might answer your purpose.

"Ignorance" asks if Briggs' patterns are suitable to use in stamping designs for decorative work.

Yes; upon anything which may be pressed with an iron. The perforated parchment patterns are best for plush, velvet, or similar fabrics.

As for the choice of painting, or dressmaking as a profession, that, we should scarcely be competent to judge. A profession means hard work, and in order to succeed there must be a thorough understanding of the particular branch chosen. To teach successfully, or sell one's pictures, the art of teaching and painting should first be mastered. "Ignorance" knows better than we her proficiency in either branch of work.

Mrs. F. L. C., Me.:—Properly speaking a dado is something intended to protect the lower part of the wall, against the wear and tear to which it is subjected, and may be made of wood, matting, Lincrusta Walton, or other material. A wall paper dado being somewhat darker than the main wall has also its use, as it shows soil less, and wears better.

"Lena:"—Red and yellow cherries would look best upon a warm gray, or fawn colored ground.

E. S., Mass.:—If you cannot paint, or embroider, and yet are handy with the needle in lace work, you can make a very pretty lambrequin of darned net trimmed with oriental, or hand-made lace, and lined with colored silesia. It will brighten up your room wonderfully.

***

We shall continue to rent studies for copying, flowers, landscapes, Kensington, Lustra, etc.

We will continue to rent hand-painted studies for copying, flowers, landscapes, Lustra, Kensington, etc., to subscribers to the JOURNAL. Send stamp for list and particulars.

We offer as premiums this month iridescent and brocade painting, for a club of six, or one full subscription. For a club of twenty the design in Lustra and Kensington described in this paper for table cover corner, and which may also be used upon clock scarf, or bracket valence.

For these premiums all names should be sent direct to our address. Money orders should be drawn on the office at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., but all letters addressed to

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AND

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A NATIONAL ILLUSTRATED FAMILY JOURNAL.

CONDUCTED BY MRS. LOUISA KNAPP.

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Errors.—We make them; so does every one, and we will cheerfully correct them if you will write to us. Try to write us good naturedly, but if you cannot, then write to us any way. Do not complain to any one else or let it pass. We want an early opportunity to make right any injustice that we may do.

Philadelphia, February, 1886.

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We now have over one hundred thousand paid subscribers on our books. These are all permanent, yearly subscribers, independent, and exclusive of any short term trial subscriptions, and have been secured within two years, our circulation having doubled twice, in 1885. To secure 200,000 the coming year, the JOURNAL will be made better than ever before. A decided improvement will be made in the illustrations, as the best engravers the country affords have been engaged. New writers have been secured. Rose Terry Cooke will favor us with domestic stories; Harriet Prescott Spofford will do the same; Christine Terhune Herrick will furnish several papers on the servant question, and Sarah Orne Johnson, (Daisy Eyesbright) will write a series of articles on etiquette.

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Now For Two Hundred Thousand Subscribers !

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TO THE SISTERS OF OUR JOURNAL.

"Is 'Maybelle' dead?" Over and over again these words have come to me since the day that the November number of our JOURNAL told its sad news to its tens of thousands readers.

Dear, true-hearted, helpful, sympathetic Maybelle, dead! I loved her. We all loved her.

To-day I have been looking over the copies of our JOURNAL, reading with tears her letters to us, and I find not one word but that is full of love and sympathy, and strong with earnest effort to help some one. To comfort and to smooth rough places for others seemed to be her life purpose.

And now this life has gone out and we no longer can look for her words and her help.

We shall miss her, oh, how much. I learned to watch for each word of hers, first, in Tribune and Farmer, later, in our own HOME JOURNAL.

Dear Heart, she little knew the comfort she gave and the hope she woke in sore, tired hearts.

From ocean to ocean, wherever our paper wings its way, she sent good will, sympathy, help.

I remember, a few winters ago, a little thing she wrote was so rich with cheer that I clipped it from its page and pinned it on our sitting room wall, that I might not loose sight of its comfort. Nearly all winter the bit of paper remained there, and then, sealed in a letter, it was sent out with the surety that it would comfort a sick, discouraged friend.

In one of "Maybelle's" letters she tells us of a baby boy now grown to be a bearded man. By this, we judge, the Reaper did not come for her till life's meridian was past, yet, her life seemed so full of activity and vigor we wonder just what called her home; if the summons came suddenly and unlooked for to this one of "us grey haired mothers."

We would that our editress had told us more of her life and of her death.

"Maybelle's" work is done, and well done, this we know. Sweet is her rest, great her reward, but for you and I, there is yet work for us to do, else we should not be here!

All our days are "days of grace!" Let us live so close to our Saviour that we shall live the remainder of our time as our Master would have us.

Only a few months ago "Maybelle" told us "the posts of time run swift," and what we do for the good of humanity and the salvation of our own souls—we must do quickly. "Too late," are words we do not want on our lips when we go down to meet the last enemy. They need not be there if we will only put ourselves in the keeping of the tender Care-taker, Jesus Christ.

Our sister has passed on into the "Great Unknown," if the realization of all the blessed promises, and the certainty of perfect rest and happiness, can thus be named. But her words shall live after. I glean a few of them from her late letters to us, though sure that her written thoughts and her memory will long be held in remembrance by the sisters.

"A lowering brow and a fault-finding tone have driven more men from their homes than the rum shop has ever lured away."

"Living within, or living without one's means, makes a vast difference in the career of any young couple."

"It is a consideration of far more importance than we are willing to admit, what our children really think of us. How do the little every day acts of our lives strike them? Are they forming a good impression of their parents, one that shall stand well the test of time and future experience in it el? Or are we losing ground with them and lessening our influence for good over them?"

"Even our tones are sometimes of a kind to make the little children think we do not love them. Pity it is for the little ones who imbibe this feeling with regard to mother."

"Many experiences, which seem very hard while we are passing through them, are not at all hard in the retrospect. Be of good courage, toiling, loving mother, and you will rejoice in a bounteous harvest."

JOHN'S WIFE.

SCRIBBLER'S LETTER TO JULIA.

NO. VII.

I am afraid my dear Julia, that you have imbibed a sort of fancy that Gustavus is always wrong and you always right.

This is a great mistake; nobody is always right, and I cannot help telling you that you were entirely wrong last evening in your disagreement. I've noticed two or three times that when you thought Bessie needed punishment you didn't correct her yourself, but said you would "tell papa" and he would punish her. That's all wrong—and "I'll tell your father," or "Your mother shall settle you, young man" system is the ruination of children. Any trouble you have with your own child settle for yourself, then and there, and then never allude to it again in the child's presence, lest the good you have done be turned to dogged, don't care-a-tive-ness. To refer to a matter that has been squared up is not only absolutely unkind, but causes a revolution of feeling.

Talk the matter over with Gustavus, by all means; all matters concerning the children of a household are the better for a discussion, in order to reach the best method of meeting difficulties, but talk it over when the child is not present.

Well, as I say, you have threatened to tell her father several times when Bessie didn't behave herself, and yet last evening, when the trouble which arose was strictly between Gustavus and her, you interfered. That was not only very silly but absolutely wrong. Just look at it, Julia, you leave your own correction for Gustavus, and then when he attempts to attend to what properly belongs to him, you interfere.

Perhaps you have not regarded it in that light, but you are inculcating in your daughter a disrespect for her father's authority (and your own as well) that may recoil on your head some day in the most unpleasant way.

Bessie is too young to punish? Not a bit of it. Severity is not necessary. If she is too young too punish, why threaten her with it? Why tell her an absolute lie?

If she is too young to punish, she is not too young to absorb the very decided element of untruth with which you are bringing her up. And a promise to square an account with a child, pleasant or unpleasant, is just as much a promise as any other promise—unfulfilled, it is broken. And if your child promises not to leave the doorstep and goes, she does no more than when you promise to correct her for her next offence and don't. Why, you are worse, for two reasons. You are older and should understand the responsibility better, and you stand in the light of an example to your child.

I can't wonder that Gustavus' patience has been considerably tried, lately, both with you and her. When she tried last night to cut with her knife upside down, and made up her mind it should do so in spite of everything, and set to work screaming like a wild Indian because it didn't, it's high time somebody took her in hand, and you were wrong to interfere with Gustavus. The case was between her and him. After a child can talk as well as Bessie can (and snap her black eyes as Bessie can when things don't just please her) the time comes to settle matters promptly, by reason and argument first if possible.

Another thing. You complained to me about having so much sewing to do, and your back ached, and your head ached, and you did, indeed, present a forlorn appearance.

If you will reflect, however, it was not the pile of stockings, nor the pile of other mending which caused all this, although they were "the straw that broke the camel's back" and seemed like the thing that had made you so miserable. Before you began to mend you made—and the dresses you made for Bessie last week were a disgrace to you. You open your eyes! Why, you thought you took so much pains with them? True, so you did; pains and aches, too. I will only take one for an example, and you made six.

The one I refer to was, I suppose, the worst one. First, you sewed on the machine sixteen fine tucks—then you inserted a puff, and sewed sixteen more tucks, hardly more than three threads deep. Sixteen and sixteen make thirty-two, and once and a-half times thirty-two is forty-eight yards of absolute sewing—unnecessary sewing. You like your child to look nice? So do I. But for a woman who has as little health and strength as you have, it is worse than folly, it is suicidal; and Bessie wasn't any cleaner, and sweeter and prettier in thirty-two tucks than she would have been in sixteen. If women have money to spend in quantities, and desire to put the work out to those whose living depends upon just such mothers, I have nothing to say, but, I repeat, you are worse than foolish.

They take time, and health and strength, and you might be about better business. And what did you do it for? You let the secret out. You said: "Mrs. Grundy's little girl had one like that on in church last Sunday." Mrs. Grundy's income and yours are two different matters. How many of those tucks did Mrs. Grundy put in? There are several ways I have noticed lately in which you are showing a very undesirable ambition. Dress your child nicely, but don't let it undermine your health nor form the topic of your conversation.

SCRIBBLER.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"A."—You will never make a success at literary work.—ED.

MISS LOWDEN:—Chicago Specialty Co. do business in Chicago, Ill.

MRS. A. M. C.:—We don't recommend any of the firms you mention in your letter.—ED.

CAN some of the ladies give a few hints on the making of good butter? and oblige C. C. Y.

"INQUIRY" will find directions for crocheted child's sack in this number of L. H. J.—ED.

F. A. W.:—Our subscribers have spoken in the highest terms of the Pearl rug machine.—ED.

LILIAN DAVIS wants a recipe for bologna sausage. The firms you inquire about, Miss Davis, we do not recommend.

"ARDENT ADMIRER:"—The purl stitch is the same as the old fashioned seam stitch, which any experienced knitter will describe to you.

WILL "Mrs. M. McO." in December number of L. H. J., please tell the subscribers where the stockinet can be purchased by the yard? and oblige ONE OF THEM.

CAN any of the readers of the L. H. J. tell me where I can buy tissue paper bed spread and pillow shams? And oblige a

CONSTANT READER.

EDITRESS L. H. J:—Will M. M. in November number please send her address to Ida M. Roberts, Germantown, Ky.

WANTED:—A receipt for making starch for mourning goods—lawns, muslins, and calicoes.

MRS. GEO. F. COOK.

FOXBORO, MASS.

MRS. KNAPP:—Can any of the sisters tell me anything of the Windsor hand sewing machine, and to whom I can apply for circulars? And oblige

MRS. M. BAHLER.

BRICK CHURCH, N. J.

"LOUIE:"—If you will send to Thurston's drug store, Buffalo, N. Y., for a package of Blush of Roses, it will remove the freckles and blackheads entirely from your face, as it has done from mine.

LAUREL.

DEAR EDITRESS:—Will some of the sister readers of the L. H. J. tell me what will prevent my canary bird from eating her feathers? And oblige

MRS. W. A. C.

WHITEVILLE, N. C.:—Brass chains are used exclusively for draping curtains this season. The transom is now placed above the door.—ED.

EDITRESS L. H. J.:—I would like to ask Mrs. John Tibbetts, of Chelsea, Mass., if the Florence Oil Stove she uses to heat her room with is the size advertised in the JOURNAL for $1.50, and if the smell of the oil is not offensive?

LAUREL.

IRENE:—Our readers will be glad of your directions for knitted boot, as soon as you can send them. We cannot give you the address of Mrs. Ellen Ammerman—perhaps some of our readers may be able to. Provide your boy with the Youth's Companion, of Boston, Mass. No paper is better for a boy to read.

EDITRESS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Can any of the subscribers of the HOME JOURNAL tell me how to start bread with what is called "Potato Ball?" how the potato ball is made and what it starts from in the first place? There are a few in a neighboring town using it, and I am anxious to know how to keep it.

MARY.

ALBANY, Oct. 18th, 1885.

EDITRESS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—In the September number of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, I saw a description of a rug made of cloth patches. I have tried to make one and don't succeed. If the lady will send a small sample I will gladly pay her for her time and the postage. Address MRS. J. A. BAKER.

289 CLINTON AVE.

FOR "MIGNONETTE"—(Remedy for gall stones.) Take a teaspoonful of sweet oil every night before retiring, for three nights, then omit three nights. Follow this plan until the oil has been taken nine times, then if relieved, leave off taking for a while. This oil, it is said, dissolves the gall stones. Where the disease is chronic it should be taken periodically. Its use alone will prolong life and save much suffering to those afflicted with this dangerous disease.

MISS L.

MRS. B. H. WILLIAMS:—The best health corset I have seen is Madame Foy's skirt supporter. They lace on the sides, are very short on the hips, narrow points in front, shoulder braces and a curved back to hold the weight from the back. I have worn them for nearly twenty years, but never lace them below the waist line. They are sold at all the leading dry goods stores of any large city. Try a pair. M. A. J.

DEAR EDITRESS:—When the neighbors come in to spend the evening we hardly know how to pass the time. If you would only suggest some good games suitable for any one to join. We have a few good games, but have worn them threadbare. Do you know one commencing "A good fat hen?" Each one in turn says it and then it is "Two ducks and a good fat hen." Then it goes on "Three squawking wild geese, two ducks and a good fat hen." Beyond that I could not go, and I should like very much to learn the whole of it. SUSIE M. HYDE.

JEWETT CITY, NEW LONDON CO., CONN.

"Pearl"—Give your bird a little cayenne pepper, sprinkled over his feed, or better still, a red pepper pod placed between the wires of the cage. They are fond of the seeds, and they are a certain cure for the wheezes or asthma, and you will find that after your bird eats a few of these, he will immediately recover his voice, and you will be repaid with sweeter and clearer songs than ever before. Please try it. J. F. B.,

PENNSYLVANIA.

EDITRESS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I am a reader of your very interesting and instructive paper. The Nov. number is particularly so to me, on account of "Mildred's Class in English Conversation." I am obliged to work from eight in the morning until six at night, allowing an hour for dinner, but I am anxious to be educated. I have been through school some years, still I feel so ignorant, and the older I grow the more I realize my inefficiency. The letter received by Mildred suggested an idea to me. I would like to correspond with an educated lady, for my own improvement. I will provide paper and stamps, and would esteem it a great favor if some one would help me to improve my grammar. Do you know of any one who would be willing to write to me?

JULIA L. THURSTON.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., BOX 673.

"A SUBSCRIBER" inquiring about necessary articles for baby's wardrobe should procure at least, the following: Three slips for night wear and seven for day wear, three flannel skirts, also two pinning blankets, made of one breadth of flannel each, open all the way for convenience in tending baby at night, three woven shirts, three strips of flannel catstitched on the edge, measuring eight inches in width and five-eighths of a yard in length, for bands, and three pieces of linen diaper. A square of canton flannel hemmed is very convenient to use in the lap while bathing baby, and two flannel shawls could be used as a wrap when carrying the little one through the hall from room to room. Three or four pairs of knitted socks are also needed. This is an outfit which will keep baby comfortable. Of course many other pieces may be added if fancy and pocket book can agree.—ED.

A subscriber writes: Can some one who has had experience in oiling floors, give directions? I have heard some say to use boiled linseed oil, but did not say whether it was to be applied hot or cold. How soon can a floor be used after oiling?

Will some one tell me what is the matter with my chickens? They have very little appetite, their tails droop, are somewhat drowsy, and lose greatly in weight.

How often do Pekin ducks have to be picked? Some say every new moon, others three or four times a year—also give general management.

My gums are very tender, especially next to my teeth, what shall I do for them?

POINT VIEW, KANSAS. MRS. IDA M. FRY.

[Use salt and water for a wash for your teeth. —ED.]

EDITRESS L. H. J.:—If any one troubled with ants (not aunts), whether they are red, black, or any other color, big or little, many or few, will lay fresh catnip around in the places infested they will soon find themselves well rid of these pests. Siege has been laid to my larder by a great variety of "the varmints" but catnip never failed to put them to rout. It will also prevent millers from getting into beehives, and will start roaches on the race sooner than anything else. If "John's Wife" will try it, she will not have to climb to the rafters with her sugar box and bags of sweets, nor sit guard over her meal bag, etc.

I have some excellent recipes I mean to send to the JOURNAL, and if I ever find time will tell a few of the many things I know about housekeeping, that I know will help some young wife and house mother who is having a hard time to keep the household machinery in good running order.

A dainty little maiden has come to live with us, and she so engrosses my time and taxes my strength that I have little of either left for writing.

ABERDEEN, D. T. D. D. E.

BANGOR, ME., Nov. 18, 1885.

EDITRESS OF THE L. H. J.:—After reading "Ida Belle Diserens'" letter, I cannot resist the temptation to add my mite, whether it meets with the approval of the editress, I hardly know, but I will trust to her generosity. Perhaps such an entire stranger will not be welcome to this bright, chatty and genial paper, but I must tell you how I happen to have a copy of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL in my hand.

I was a bright, lovely morning, some time in October. I had been ordered home from a visit by the doctor (had an attack of congestion of the lungs) and was feeling blue and decidedly disconsolate, when I happened to take up Zion's Advocate, and my eye fell on the advertisement of this paper. Amongst the numerous attractions was the announcement "Hints on Pastel Work," and other artistic information. I was interested at once, for I have just taken up that branch, under the Chautauqua Circle of Fine Arts, and every scrap is very acceptable, so of course I sent my name at once, and I am so delighted with the whole paper, advertisements and all, that instead of four months' trial, I shall send the subscription fee for a year, as soon as '86 commences.

If "Ida Belle Diserens'" is interested in art, perhaps I can offer her a few suggestions that will be new to her as well as to others.

As a wedding gift to a friend, I painted a commode set, without going to the expense of having it fired.

The design was wild roses, and I used oil paints, but thoroughly mixed the paint with a preparation that comes, called Amber Enamel, using it very freely. Then I proceed just as if I were painting any ordinary piece of canvass. After the work was finished, and very, very dry, I took a sable brush and went all over the design with the preparation. The effect was equal to china painting, and less expensive, the actual cost being thirty-five cents for the bottle of enamel as I had all the other material.

Just now (and the panel is on my easel in front of me) I am doing a clump of scarlet poppies on an elm panel. First oil the wood, and take a rag and rub very hard, that polishes the wood and brings out the grain to perfection, then take a lead pencil and sketch the design upon the wood, using oil paints of course. Don't cover up the panel any more than necessary for the beauty is the oddity of the bare wood, without any tuck-ground. When completed take a little gilt paint and gild the beveled edges. I have lots more to say, but I am afraid I have trespassed already upon the good nature of the editress.

Will Miss Clarkson give a few hints in regard to pastels, especially the foliage.

I did a moonlight view from nature, and had very good luck, but the foliage was much more complicated for me, and I just don't get the knack some way. MAUD F. BUZZELL.

For the benefit of our subscribers, who have frequently requested us to aid them in improving their complexions, we quote the following from an exchange: "Fashionable women and girls in New York always have their necks and arms 'polished' before going to a ball or other entertainment where they appear with very decollette dresses. The 'polishing' greatly beautifies the skin. First the arms and neck should be thoroughly covered with glycerine. After this has been thoroughly rubbed off, the arms and shoulders are covered with cold cream, which is allowed to remain on fifteen minutes. This is then rubbed off with a piece of soft white flannel, and the arms and shoulders are covered with 'baby' powder, and rubbed very thoroughly. This finishes the operation. When this is completed they look like polished marble, and the skin seems to take on a wonderfully fine and beautiful texture. Oatmeal and Indian meal water are both excellent for washing the face and hands in. The meal softens the skin and gives it a delicate flush which is very becoming. The majority of women will also find that salt water will help their complexions. Get ten cents worth of rock salt every month and wash in a basin in which a good lump of it has been placed. Rain water is an excellent thing for the skin, and there is as much truth as poetry in the saying that the "early dew of the morning will make like the face of an angel the woman who bathes in it."

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THE PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER

(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

WHOSE FAULT IS IT?

While the failings of our "help," sometimes lie tne us to the belief that they are made up with a disproportionate amount of original sins in their compositions, is is not upon their shoulders alone that all the blame should be laid. To take an unprejudiced view of the servant question one should always bear in mind the source from which they sprang, or, as we, in moments of extreme irritation with the entire class, are prone to say,—the pit whence they are digged. The peasant homes of Germany, the shanty of the Irish bog-trotter, the negro cabins of the South,—all furnish their quota of ignorant and untrained workers. They flood our cities and crowd our newspapers with applications for situations, for which, many of them, are totally unfitted.

It is, in these days of compulsory common school education, a comparatively rare occurrence to find a white person who can neither read nor write. The latter accomplishment is sometimes lacking and can seldom be said to be of a high order; but reading, after some poor fashion, is generally possible. Once in a great while, servants are met with who read books for enjoyment and instruction, but, as a rule, their literary efforts are confined to the perusal of the daily paper, and many do not look at even that from one year's end to the other. Hence, it happens that, almost the only opportunity they have of acquiring knowledge is from their associates,—those who have neither higher vantage ground of experience nor greater breadth of thought than themselves. In spite of this, the power of each over the other is wonderfully strong. No statement of master or mistress can, for a moment, hold place against the contradiction of one of their own race. And, very naturally, they consider themselves leagued together in opposition to the common foe—their employers. Judging others according to their own petty belief in human nature, they cannot grasp the idea that there may be men and women who would tell the truth, even to their personal disadvantage.

Some years ago, an upright statesman was nominated for Governor of a Southern state, by the Democratic party. His opponent was an unprincipled man who did not scruple to use any means to secure his election. A prominent citizen of the State capitol was the owner of large mills and employed many colored operatives. After the election of the (so called) Republican candidate, the manufacturer asked a negro, a man of average intelligence, what had persuaded him to vote the Republican ticket rather than the other.

"Well, you see, boss," returned the man, "colored speakers, dey tole us dat if de udder man war 'lected gubbernor, he'd take de free schools 'way from us an' send us off to Liberia."

"I could have told you that was not true," said the master.

"Ah!" rejoined the negro, "but den colored folks, dey onderstan' what suits we all better'n de white folks does. Ef de udder canderdate had been 'lected we'd 'a all been sent off down to Afriky—sho' 's you born."

As implicit, and often not less absurd, is the credence given by Irish servants to their peers. Their faith in one another is amazing, and only surpassed by their lack of confidence in their superiors. They may listen to the counsels of these, with a decent show of outward respect, but no impression is produced which cannot be utterly effaced by the dictum of a fellow-servant.

Nevertheless, the saying that a good mistress makes a good servant, carries much truth with it. Consideration from the mistress may not always be duly appreciated, but, the dearth of it is invariably felt. To many women might we address the protest uttered by Titania's husband, to Belle, in "The Strange Adventures of a Phaeton," when she loses all patience with a too-persistent lover:

"But, my dear, you must remember that he is, likewise, a vertebrate animal."

In the relations of employer and employed this fact seems frequently to have slipped into the background. No allowance is made for the human failings of the subordinate. The members of the family above stairs are permitted their pettishness and blues (a euphonious term for sulks), and the sharp speeches that escape them, under extreme provocation, are condoned. But, in the kitchen, a different scale of christian charity is in common use. Many women make a practice of rating their servants soundly for every trivial fault, and that in the presence of others. Is it surprising that a disrespectful answer occasionally follows such admonitions? The effect of this policy is constantly illustrated by the behavior of children in like circumstances. A child who will take rebuke patiently when alone, will be incited by the presence of another child to conceal his mortification at correction, by a "don't care" demeanor and saucy retorts. The temptation to show off is powerful in action upon human nature, and requires the aids of refinement and grace to enable one to resist it. Unfortunately, these qualities are not generally possessed by those who serve us in a menial capacity. The moral obligation of the strong to bear the infirmities of the weak is without exception. Not tha conscious impertinence should, for a moment, be tolerated, only, that provocation to it should be conscientiously avoided. A kindly bearing, a pleasant word, a firm but gentle reproof when reproof is needed, all have their effect in securing a corresponding courtesy of manner on the part of the servant. In cases where impertinence is inveterate the servant should be discharged. No mistress ought to lower herself to tandy words with an inferior. In such alteration the lady is at a terrible disadvantage, for her self respect prevents her from descending to the personal abuse which is the chief and familiar weapon of her opponent. If servants once understood that, while uniform kindness is the rule, disrespect would be followed by prompt dismissal, half the battle would be over.

Another evil to be deprecated is the habit indulged in by many women of discussing their "help" freely in their hearing, or in the presence of those who will carry the story to the servants' quarters.

"I suppose your cook never allows you to come into the kitchen?" said one lady to another.

The person addressed cast a quick glance at her friend's nurse who sat in the room, baby on knee.

"Oh, I have no trouble in that line," she rejoined, "My cook generally seems pleased to have me try new dishes."

"Mine doesn't dare object openly, of course," said the hostess. "Still, I am favored by remarks to the effect that real ladies don't put themselves out to hang around the kitchen when there's a competent person in charge. Jane told me the other day, that all the time she lived with Mrs. J—— she (Jane) had the ordering of everything that came on the table. During the two years of her incumbency there, Mrs. J—— entered the kitchen but once, and then to thank Jane for an elegant dinner she had sent up on Mr. J——'s birthday."

While this colloquy went on the nurse sat, apparently unobservant of what was passing, but doubtless treasuring up every word, to be retailed to the cook at the first convenient opportunity.

An excellent woman who,—to the bewilderment of those neighbors who were acquainted with her amiable disposition and genuine kindness of heart, was notorious for the numerous changes in her domestic corps,—gave a dinner party. Although incapable of intentional cruelty to a living creature, she kept up, throughout the meal, a running fire upon the waitress—orders, reproofs and criticisms.

"How can you be so awkward, Mary? No, no don't put that dish there. Do try to remember what I told you about only giving forks with salad." And, to a friend at her side,—"Did you ever see such a time as I have with my girls? I shouldn't think you could eat a morsel of a dinner put on the table in this helter-skelter fashion. You, who have such a good waitress. I find it just impossible to train mine."

Meanwhile the poor maid who was really trying to do her best became more and more uncomfortable, grew redder and redder, and half-a-dozen times seemed on the point of bursting into tears, while her mistress, not realizing the positive inhumanity of her strictures, and the discomfort she was inflicting on her guests, succeeded in spoiling a meal that would have done credit to her and her servant, but for her fault-finding and gratuitous apologies.

Another housekeeper is given to, what is popularly known as "nagging." When she has given an order to a servant she cannot let it alone, but follows it up with persistency that would be amusing were it not so exasperating. A sketch taken from life will best illustrate her ways and methods:—She interrupts the chat of an evening visitor, to call in a maid and order her to lock the basement door. (Her home is in a large city and she has a great dread of sneak thieves). Two minutes later she stays the flow of a lively anecdote:—"Excuse me, I must see about that door."

Going to the speaking-tube, she repeats the order, and returns, but not for long. Before another topic is broached she is at the tube again:—

"Maggie, have you locked that door?"

"Yes ma'am," comes back from the lower regions.

Still she is not content. She talks in an uneasy, fragmentary style for a few moments, then, rising, says: "If you will excuse me an instant I will run down and see to that door myself."

On her return she looks better satisfied.

"It was locked, after all," she says. "But you never know when servants are telling the truth. Not that Maggie does not do very well, as a rule, but I would not trust one of them out of my sight."

Yet this poor woman marvelled that she found it so difficult to keep servants. The work was not heavy, but the fault-finding was.

Another fruitful source of dissatisfaction among servants is delay in the payment of wages. This is not often caused by unwillingness to give the money, but more frequently by carelessness, or the thought that the postponement will do no harm. "It is only a few dollars." Let those women who dislike to ask their husbands for money put themselves, mentally, in the position of their employes, and judge if it is much less disagreeable for a hireling to make such an application. It is not uncommon to hear servants, in speaking well of a situation, add, as a final and unusual recommendation,—"And they pay regular every week."

A bright, pleasant kitchen is a prime requisite in a house. While all servants do not care for pictures or plants, it is well to try and see if they do not appreciate these additions to the sightliness of an apartment which is to them, eating, working, and sitting room. It is here that they spend most of their waking hours, here they receive their friends. It is an incorrigibly slatternly maid who does not feel some pride in keeping her environments neat and attractive. If the coat makes the man the kitchen often has much to do with making the cook. A few of the gay chromos which have been banished from parlor and bedroom walls, a rocking chair, a bright rug, and half-a-dozen plants in the windows, are an investment that will cost little and will be worth treble their market value if they make a good-natured cook and a cheerful kitchen.

CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

Nobody can value a good cook too highly.

The heaviest irons accomplish the best work.

Fresh mud applied to a bee sting will bring quick relief.

The ironing table and board should be covered with a coarse woolen blanket, over which a clean coarse sheet should be pinned.

Moisten a little hard soap, scrape it fine, and put upon a burning corn on the foot, covering with a piece of muslin, and you will thank the one who sends the remedy.

When a meal is finished put spoons in emptied cups, lay knife and fork in close parallels across the plate, the handles to the right; if the napkins are to be used again, fold and put in their rings, otherwise they should be thrown carelessly upon the table.

HOME COOKING.

ORIGINAL RECIPES CONTRIBUTED BY THE JOURNAL SISTERS.

WHITE MOUNTAIN CAKE:—Take six ounces of butter, one pound and two ounces of sifted flour, one pound and two ounces of fine sugar, six eggs, beat the whites to a stiff snow; one and a quarter cups of sweet milk, one teaspoonful of soda, two teaspoonfuls of cream tartar, a very little nutmeg. Bake in jelly cake pans. MRS. E. M.

NEGRO COCOANUT CAKES:—Take a large cocoanut, grate it with the brown rind on it. Then take one lb. of brown sugar, boil it with two or three tablespoonfuls of the milk of the cocoanut. Boil until a thick syrup, then add the grated cocoanut. Boil until stiff. Have a large dish well greased with butter. Make the cakes in small heaps. Set them aside to cool. MRS. E. M.

DEAR EDITRESS:—Cake recipes are plenty, but I have such a nice one, I think it better than angel food.

WHITE CAKE:—One cup white sugar, rolled, one-half cup butter, (washed) mix butter and sugar to a cream, whites of four eggs beaten to a stiff froth, two-thirds of a cup of sweet milk, two cups of flour, and two teaspoonfuls of baking powder. Put the powder in the flour, then sift four times, stir until you can't stir any longer, then put in a buttered cake dish and bake.

THE following recipe for Harrison cake, you will find fully as good as any fruit cake, not so expensive, or as hard to make or bake, and will keep as well and can be eaten with more impunity: Two cups brown sugar, one cup molasses, one cup butter, one-half cup milk, four cups flour, four eggs, three cups stoned raisins, three cups currants, spices to taste, one-half pound citron, one teaspoonful soda, two teaspoonfuls cream tartar (or three of baking powder). The currants and citron may be left out and double the amount of raisins used. Bake in rather a slow oven. ROYAL BAKER.

JUMBLES:—One pound of butter, one pound of fine sugar, one and a quarter pounds of sifted flour, three eggs, nutmeg to taste. Beat the butter to a cream with your hand. Beat the eggs very light, but do not separate the whites from the yolks; add them to the butter and sugar, then add the sifted flour by degrees; beat all well together with the hand. Then drop them on tins that have been buttered. Bake a light brown. MRS. E. M.

PUMPKIN PIES:—Peel and stew a medium sized pumpkin, strain through colander and stir up well, add one teaspoonful each of cloves, allspice and ginger, and two of cinnamon, little nutmeg, two eggs, two tablespoonfuls of flour dissolved in water, good sized piece of butter, sugar and salt to taste, and milk to make the proper consistency. ROBERTA.

LEMON PIE:—Juice and grated rind of one lemon, one cup of water, one tablespoonful of corn starch, one cup of sugar, yolk of one egg, butter size of an egg, boil the water, wet the corn starch with a little cold water and stir in, when it boils pour over the sugar and butter, stir together, after it cools add the eggs and lemon, put this in crust and bake. Make a meringue of the white of egg and a little sugar, when the pie is done spread this on, return to oven and brown. This is for one pie. LUCRETIA HAGAND.

CHARLOTTE RUSSE:—Have ready a glass dish lined with slices of sponge cake or lady cake, dissolve one-third of a box of gelatine in one-half pint of sweet cream or new milk, place in a vessel of hot water and stir occasionally until dissolved, in the meantime take one and a-half pints of rich thick cream, put in large bowl, place the bowl in crushed ice or snow, and when cream is well chilled, whip with Dover egg beater, until all is thoroughly whipped, pour the dissolved gelatine and milk into a shallow vessel, stirring to keep from getting lumpy, as soon as it begins to thicken stir in slowly the whipped cream, flavor and sweeten to taste, pour into dish containing sponge cake and set away on ice to congeal. LUCRETIA HAGAND.

SWEETBREAD CROQUETTES:—Boil two pairs of sweetbreads in salted water a few moments, cut up, cut also one-half can of mushrooms into dice. Make a roux, by putting one and a half ounces of butter in a saucepan, and when it bubbles sprinkle in two ounces of flour, mix and cook well; then pour in a gill of strong stock or cream; when this is also mixed add the dice, which stir over the fire until they are well heated; take them from the fire, add the beaten yolk of two eggs, which return to the fire a moment to set, without allowing it to boil. When cool form into croquettes; roll them in cracker crumbs, then egg, then cracker crumbs again, and fry in boiling lard. MRS. HENDERSON.

CROQUETTES:—Take any scraps of meat, all of one kind or a mixture—any cold bits—chop fine. To a pint of the chopped meat add a cup full of cooked rice, or a set of brains cooked in salted water, a small onion, juice and grated rind of a lemon, a little parsley, salt and cayenne pepper. Mix all together and chop very fine. Shape into rolls or pear shape, roll in beaten egg or browned bread and cracker crumbs, fry in hot lard as you would doughnuts, just a few moments. If they are cooked too much they are hard and crumbly. They are good hot or cold. Can be made during the day and heated up when wanted for an evening party, by just setting in the oven for a few moments, or in a steamer over boiling water. Garnish with parsley, or carrot tops or cress. Chicken or turkey croquettes can be made in the same way.

A comprehensive Cook Book, containing numerous valuable tested methods of preparing delicacies for the Festival Season, and all the year round, can be obtained by sending name and address with 10c. to "Housewife," LADIES' HOME JOURNAL office, 441 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

RIDGE'S FOOD FOR INFANTS AND INVALIDS.

Dr. Parker, of the Brighton (Eng.) Hospital, says, "Ridge's Food resembles the mother's milk so closely that infants are reared, and WELL reared, exclusively upon it." Another physician, at the head of an orphan asylum, says, "I have been using this preparation for five years or more, and have the most unbounded faith in it." Another says "I had long tried to procure for a pair of twins in my practice a food that would not scald, etc." Ridge's Food fulfills the conditions perfectly.

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An Incomparable Food. Ready for immediate use. Unequaled for children and invalids. A delicious diet. Unsurpassed for constipation and dyspepsia. Sold by Grocers. Box by mail, 25c. Our Home Granula Co., DANVILLE, N. Y., Manufacturers.

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Give away as premiums to those forming clubs for the sale of their TEAS and COFFEES, Dinner, Tea and Toilet Sets, Silverware, Watches, etc. WHITE TEA SETS of 46 and 68 pieces with $10 and $12 orders. Decorated TEA SETS of 44 & 56 pieces with $12 and $15 orders. STEM-WINDING SWISS WATCHES with $15 orders. GOLD BAND or Moss Rose Tea Sets of 44 pieces, or White Dinner Sets of 112 pieces, with $20 orders. Send us your address and mention this paper; we will mail you our Club Book containing a complete Premium & Price List. THE GREAT CHINA TEA CO. 210 STATE ST., BOSTON, MASS.

Don't go from a warm bed these cold winter mornings and kindle a fire. Blair's Automatic Fire Kindler will start the fire before you are up, and sound the alarm at the same time, making the room warm and tea boiling ready for an early breakfast. This ornamental time piece and Automatic Kindler sent to any address on receipt of of $10. Agents wanted.

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Silver Plated Butter Knife,

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A new, handsome, neat and stylish pattern, tripple-plated, on finest English white steel. Will wear for years. Almost as good as solid silver. All the objectionable qualities of German Silver and brass, which are known to have a disagreeable taste, and are, when a little worn, poisonous, will be avoided in the use of these goods. They are also stronger, and of greater durability than any goods produced.

Butter Knife given for only 4 subscribers. Price, 50 cents.
Set of Six Tea Spoons given for 12 subscribers. Price, $1.00.
Set of Six Table Forks given for 20 subscribers. Price, $2.00.

For a club of 30 subscribers at 25 cents each, we will send the Sugar Shell, Butter Knife, Tea Spoons and Forks, a good, serviceable present for a young housekeeper. Price, $3.00 for the set.

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CHILDREN'S CLOTHES.

Infants' Wardrobes—Garments for Girls in Late Winter—Materials at Half Price—A Few Fancy Dresses.

BY MRS. JAS. H. LAMBERT.

One of the most sensible freaks of fashion is illustrated in the present method of preparing the wardrobe for the expected guest. No longer is it necessary for the inexperienced young mother to worry herself into an injurious condition of nervousness, by thinking over what must be done before baby comes, or to really make herself seriously ill by using the sewing machine, or even sitting too constantly at her work, for at that period of a woman's life, it is best to take a great deal of open air exercise, and it is well in most instances, to use the eyes as little as possible.

If the mother is quite well, and really desires to do the sewing, she may then prepare all the little garments with her own loving hands, but in fact it is cheaper to buy a complete outfit of actually necessary articles, than it is to buy the materials, and make them up at home, or to pay for the sewing, for every furnishing store has an assortment of infants' garments in all grades, but very few ladies, even the most wealthy, now buy the expensive dresses and other fancy grades, until they know what sex baby is, and his or her size after the first month or two is past. An outfit recently selected at Sharpless Brothers, for a coming baby, only cost $25.00, and it contained every article of clothing the darling required for the first four months of its young life, including cap and cloak. By that time the baby has outgrown ever thing, and the sensible mother put him in short clothes, which she found in just the desired styles and size.

In dressing growing girls, a special point is now made in having the dresses made so that the weight is equally distributed, for often the shoulders and chest are not more able to support the garments than are the hips. The little corded under waists have armholes and wide shoulder pieces; they fit the form, but not closely, and have buttons placed on them at the waist line, upon which drawers and skirts are fastened up so that the waist gives equal support. These waists can be bought ready made, in sizes for children from one year old up to twelve.

It is between the ages of twelve and sixteen that the mother has the most trouble with her daughters; it is then their forms are "fashioned" and physically injured through ignorance. Waists are made to "fit" for school outfits, the girl goes away, to stay, perhaps a year, but in three months she has spread and developed so that the waists have become actually uncomfortable; however she goes on wearing them, and like the foot of the Chinese lady, the body of the girl is compressed so that it stops growing. This difficulty exists with ordinary corsets, for girls will not let out the strings or laces as they should, and until lately nothing has been created to supply this urgent demand for a waist support that would "give" according to the growth of the miss.

In searching for something for a growing girl of twelve, whose shoulders were rounded from a close application to her desk, and who outgrew waists in a few months, this corset was found.

As may be seen by the illustration it has a high centre section which supports the weak back, and in that place are elastic coiled springs, which respond to even the breath of the child, and "give" as the body grows, even if the girl is not sensible enough to let out the lacings which are placed on either side of the elastic section. The wide shoulder straps rest near the neck, so that the weight of the garments which are buttoned on to the set if desirable, is not felt in any one portion of the body. These Ball's health preserving elastic section corsets for misses, come in sizes from 18 to 25 inches, for girls of from twelve to sixteen years of age, and cost $1.00 each, postpaid.

Dresses for children are made now of any of the cloth goods, the tweed mixtures, suitings of all kinds, homespuns, cashmeres, plaids, poplins, smooth or rough surfaced fabrics, and indeed anything may be used, such as plush, velvet, Arcadia velveteen, silk, and the veilings, which are light and airy for evening wear. In some of our leading houses a general reduction in the prices of all manner of dress goods, and indeed everything introduced for fall and winter, will be made, so that the various counters can be cleared for the incoming novelties for spring and summer, which will be opened in March, April and May; hence if ladies do not care for extreme styles, they will find it greatly to their advantage to send for samples of reduced dress goods, or Paris novelties, marked down, and to buy what they need now.

Among the new toilettes for this year is a walking costume for a miss of thirteen. The skirt and plastron are of brown homespun, shot with copper color. The jacket bodice and tunic of the same cloth, all trimmed with brown velveteen, put on in bands. The hat of same cloth is trimmed with folds of velveteen, the crown is soft.

For a brunette, a becoming dress is made of garnet Francaise faille, the new French silk; the front of the skirt is of embossed terry velvet of the same shade, crossed by band of plain terry velvet; the bodice is trimmed to correspond, fastening half-way with enamel buckles and half-way with froggings of large garnet beads; the enamel buckles fasten the bands of velvet on the skirt. This dress is handsome for a young lady of seventeen or eighteen, while her sister of twelve may wear a dress of real serge, with jacket of rough irise cloth in dark blue, with collar, cuffs and revers in pin-striped corduroy; the fasteners down the front should be handsome. Blue felt hat trimmed with red velvet.

Some of the fancy ball toilettes made this season are pretty and quite inexpensive. The dress of a Florian Shepherdess is of floriated sateen, and is trimmed with lace and field flowers; with it is worn a white muslin apron trimmed with lace, and a straw hat decorated with rose colored ribbon.

For the Ancient Country dame, is a flowered print skirt with a tunic of blue and white striped print. Muslin edged with narrow lace trims the square bodice, and the ruffles of the sleeves and cap are to match.

The Little Waggoner is to wear fustian or rough cloth trowsers, smock frock of unbleached linen or cotton, honeycombed at the front, red handkerchief loosely knotted under the collar, and grey felt hat. And a Falconer has on doublet of brown cloth with gold buttons, hood and cape of green figured cloth, green cloth breeches and tan colored shoes and stockings.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Mrs. B."—Your letter came too late to be answered in last month's JOURNAL. The coat will cost you $10; price last month was $15.

"Anxious Mother:"—Thank you for the suggestion. Read above article, and let us know if the described corset is not just what you needed for Lida. Price by mail $1.00; send with bust and waist measure to Editor Fashion Department L. H. J., 441 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

"Wise Shopper:"—In writing to Sharpless Brothers for samples of Parisian dress goods, at reduced prices, please mention you were directed to do so by LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

A Profitable Investment

can be made in a postal card, if it is used to send your address to Hallett & Co., Portland, Maine, who can furnish you work that you can do and live at home; few there are who cannot earn over $ per day, and some have made over $20. Capital not required; you are started free. Either sex; all ages. All particulars free.

Progress is the spirit of the age, and we have never realized this more than when investigating the improvement in making flour, as illustrated in the mills of Charles A. Pillsbury & Co., at Minneapolis. In contemplating the advancement from the humble wayside mill, with a capacity for grinding enough grain for the wants of the few farmers in the vicinity, to the great mill of this firm, with its capacity of 7,000,000 bushels of wheat yearly, or 7000 barrels of flour daily, the genius of progress is truly exemplified. In this connection we will also say that as great improvement has been made in the quality of the produce, as in the facility of production, and "Pillsbury's Best" is now the most popular brand wherever known. It is made from selected Minnesota and Dakota wheat, and the claim of the proprietors that it "makes more, whiter, and better bread" than any other flour, has been proved by our best housekeepers, and wherever we have known it to be once used they invariably want to continue. Try it.

All lovers of flowers should note the advertisement of Samuel Wilson, of Mechanicsville, who offers 13 packets of choice flower seeds, in all the most desirable varieties, for the moderate sum of 30 cents. As all the seeds sold by Mr. Wilson are grown in his own nurseries, and the selecting of them personally superintended by himself, they are in every way reliable. Large pansies in every variety, and double roses a specialty. Illustrated catalogue, with full directions for cultivating, sent with each order. Send stamps for this prize collection of seeds, and in sending mention LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

BUY YOUR DRY GOODS IN NEW YORK.

Fifteen years ago it was not unusual for ladies posing as leaders of fashion to be at their costumes direct from Paris. This custom is now a most abandoned and, where visitors to Paris undoubtedly bring back many rich robes from the celebrated dressmakers of that city, very few residents of New York order their goods by mail from Europe.

It has been found that so great an advance in skill and taste has been made by the New York dressmakers, and such enterprise has been shown by the dry goods merchants of New York city in obtaining the fabrics that purchasers in this home market can be dressed in equally elegant materials and in better taste than by ordering direct from Europe.

In matters of ladies' fashions, New York is to day the Paris of the United States, and many thousands of ladies living at a distance from the metropolis avail themselves of the large and varied stocks of elegant materials, and are clothed in the latest and most approved styles, both as to cut and materials, and yet they rarely pay a visit to the city.

This is accomplished by ordering through the mails. While all mercantile houses will not take the trouble to send samples of their choice fabrics by mail, and rather discourage the solicitation of trade, yet some of the foremost of New York merchants make a specialty of it. Prominently among them is Le Boutillier Brothers, Broadway and Fourteenth street, a house which was established in 1841. This house keeps a large force of experienced clerks whose sole duty it is to fill mail orders with care and promptness. Residents out-side of New York find it greatly to their advantage to deal with this house, for in addition to their willingness to send samples of their latest novelties, they have adopted a plan of reserving portions of such lots of goods as they buy much below the market rates and which are frequently retailed less than they cost to import. Heretofore they have allowed their city customers to take all of these bargains. Le Boutillier Brothers, Broadway and Fourteenth street, have a very large establishment and do a very active business in all kinds of dry goods.

They have recently added three new departments, viz.: haosiery, corsets and suits, and ladies' and children's boots and shoes. They invite you to communicate with them in regard to anything in their line of which you may stand in need. The advertisement in another column can be referred to.

Our lady readers will do well to send to Mr. John A. Salzer, Lacrosse, Wis., for his elegant catalogue for 1886. Mr. Salzer has over 2000 acres devoted to the growing of NORTHERN GROWN SEEDS, and dozens of greenhouses for the production of blooming plants. The list of tropical plants and novelties is unusually large. Send 10 cents in stamps when you write for his catalogue, and receive in addition a specimen package of grand Pansy seeds, (40 sorts). Mr. Salzer is the western Pansy specialist.

SHARPLESS BROTHERS

HAVE MARKED MUCH BELOW VALUE, ALL FALL AND WINTER GOODS, SUITABLE FOR LATE WINTER AND SPRING.

Special Inducements in Every Department.

Table Linen 50 cents and 75 cents a yard worth 75 cts and $1.00.
Imported Hats and Bonnets, Stylish Trimmed $5, $7, $9, $10, and $15; worth $8, $10, $15 and $20.
Jackets and Coats, $5, $8, and $15; worth $12, $12, and $25.
Reliable Guinet Black Silk, $1.35 a yard, worth $1.75.
Paris Novelties, all colors, 75 cts. and $1 a yard; worth $1, $1.25, and $1.50.
All Wool Serges, useful colors, 25 cts. a yard.
Cashmeres, for Spring Costumes, in colors, 31½ cts. a yard.
Black Cashmeres, splendid grade 20c a yard.
New Scotch Plaids, for Ladies and Children, 40c. a yard.
Infants Wardrobes, $15, $20, and $25.

ALL GOODS SENT FREE OF COST FOR TRANSPORTATION.

Information and Estimates given, and any mentioned samples sent, upon application to MAIL ORDER DEPARTMENT.

SHARPLESS BROTHERS,
CHESTNUT AND EIGHTH STREETS,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Read Fashion article in this number of L. H. J., and [illegible] JOURNAL in letter of advice.

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We employ a large force of experienced clerks, whose sole duty is to attend with care and promptness to

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It pays to buy Dry Goods in New York. You get the lowest prices, the latest styles and largest stock to select from. New York prices are 20 to 40 per cent. lower than those of any other city in the United States.

Write to us for samples, catalogue or information. Your letter will be answered; not thrown into the waste paper basket.

Complete Stocks of **Silks, Velvets, Dress Goods, Cloakings, Hosiery, Underwear, Table Linens, Blankets, Laces, Embroideries, Passementaries, Ladies' Shoes, Upholstery, Suits, Wraps, Gloves,** etc., etc.

Cut this out and put it in your scrap book.

ESTABLISHED 1840.

BLACK STOCKINGS

THAT POSITIVELY
Will Not Crock!

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

The Vallota, often called Scarborough Lily, and sometimes Agapanthus, is one of our most pleasing bulbous plants for house-culture. It throws up leaves of a rich green, about a foot in length and an inch and a half wide. These are evergreen, as the plant is, like the Agapanthus, with which it is sometimes confounded, a continual grower. The The Agapanthus has larger leaves and many more of them, produced from very thick, fleshy roots, while the Vallota is a true bulb. It belongs to the Amyrillis family, and its flowers greatly resemble in size, color, and shape, some of the finest Amyrillises. These flowers are borne on stalks about a foot, or a foot and a half tall, and are generally in clusters of from three to five. They are trumpet-shaped, and of a rich, intense scarlet. They last for a long time, and a large bulb will generally produce from two to four flower-stalks in its season of blooming, which is usually August or September. This plant increases very rapidly by small bulbs which form about the old plant. I find that most persons are in the habit of removing these young plants, as they generally do those of the Calla, leaving one large plant in the pot. I prefer to let at least a half-dozen grow, because each plant will produce flowers, when it attains proper age and size, and thus you get several times the amount of bloom that you will when but one plant is left. The Vallota does not like to be shifted. I dig out as much soil, every spring, as can be removed without disturbing the roots, and fill in with rich compost procured in the barnyard. Treated in this way, the plant does not require re-potting. The Amyrillises often fail to bloom, because it is necessary to give them a season of rest, and one must understand their wants, and the proper culture to give them, in order to succeed with them. But the Vallota requires no more care than a Geranium. Keep it growing moderately, and when the time comes for it to bloom, you will have flowers from it. As a decorative plant, when in bloom, it is not easy to find anything that excels it.

VALLOTA.

A correspondent writes to ask about Lilies. She wants some for her garden—something fine and hardy. What shall she get? One of the finest, perhaps the finest, of all, is L. auratum, the great gold-banded Japan Lily. This produces very large flowers of ivory white, each petal banded down its center with gold. It is magnificent. I find that it does well at the north, if planted deep—say seven or eight inches—in a well drained soil, and covered in winter with a heap of litter or leaves. I have always practiced putting a good deal of sand in the soil immediately about the bulb, surrounding this with rich earth from the barnyard. S. roseum, a rose-colored variety, is very beautiful and fragrant. It should be given the same treatment as L. auratum. The old Chalcedonicum is a splendid flower, of spotless purity. Any of the lilies catalogued by most dealers can be grown successfully if protection is given in winter, and the soil is drained well. But in a heavy, undrained soil they will be pretty sure to become diseased.

LILIUM AURATUM.

Mrs. T. V. V. writes to ask if there is such a thing as a striped Geranium. She has been told so by a friend, and she wants to know where to get one. Yes; the variety called New Life has flowers in which scarlet, white and salmon are blended. Sometimes a bloom will a have a stripe of pure white in each petal. In others one petal only will be striped. Often the flowers will be entirely salmon. Occasionally a flower will be splashed with these colors. No two will be alike.

NEW LIFE.

It grows well, blooms profusely, and is very desirable as a novelty, but really is not as attractive to me, at least, as those kinds in which there is no varigations. Very requently a branch of the plant will produce nothing but scarlet flowers, showing a tendency to revert to the type from which it obtained part of its blood. You can obtain it of any dealers in plants. It is sold at the same price as other Geraniums now, but it was held at a high figure, at first.

John M. asks about the care required by a fernery. In the window of a room in which this is written, I have a fernery which seems to be doing very well with no care at all, beyond that of giving water about once a month. It is stocked with Ferns and other plants procured in the woods, planted in the soil in which they originally grew. When I set them out, I watered well, and kept the case in a cool room until the plants began to grow. Then I brought them to a west window in which they have grown ever since. The only rule I go by in watering is this: As long as the glass is covered with moisture, in the morning, I give no water. When this moisture diminishes, and but little is to be seen, I give more water—just enough to thoroughly moisten the soil all through. If, after watering, the glass is too much obscured by moisture, I open the top slightly, for an hour or two, and give the outside air a chance to enter. This soon causes the moisture on the glass to disappear. Of course, when any of the leaves turn yellow, I cut them off, and leave no decaying matter to taint the air in the case. This is really all the treatment my fernery gets, and I think it is all that is needed, as my plants look healthy and vigorous.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A subscriber asks for the most effectual remedy for red spiders on plants. In reply, I would say, water—and plenty of it. Syringe the plants daily, all over. The spider will be found mostly on the under side of the leaves, and there is where you must be sure to get plenty of moisture. If the plant is badly infested, dip it in water heated to 130 degrees, and let it remain submerged for a minute. This will kill most of the spiders, and not damage the plant any. After doing this, shower the plant often, and keep the air in the room moist by evaporating water on the stove. Water, and water only, will keep the red spider away. If the air in the room is kept moist, he will not be likely to attack plants in it. A dry, warm air suits him exactly.

"Sadie C.:"—If your violets are healthy, and grow well, I am at a loss to understand why they do not bloom. Tell me the conditions under which they are grown, and I may be able to suggest a plan by which you can secure flowers. In asking questions about flowers with which you have had trouble, always give particulars. If you say, "Why doesn't my Rose bloom?" and I know nothing at all about the treatment you have been giving it, how am I to even guess what the difficulty is? Tell how you have tried to grow it, and that will enable me to see where the trouble is, in most cases. This will apply to nine out of ten who ask advice about their plants.

"A Lover of Flowers" wants to know how to cultivate Chrysanthemums and Dahlias, and if they will grow in the house. The Chrysanthemums can be grown in the open ground during summer, or in pots, as is most convenient. About the best and easiest way for the amateur is to set the plants in the ground in May or June, and let them remain there until the middle of August. Then lift and pot them. They will grow in any good soil. When potted they must be watered every day. Do not allow the roots to get dry. They will begin to bloom in September, and the later varieties will last till Christmas or New Year's. After blooming, cut the tops off and put the roots in the cellar. Leave them there till April. Then bring them up. Dozens of suckers will be sent up from the roots. Each one can be cut off with roots attached, and will make a good plant.

Dahlias are out-door plants for summer and fall use. The tubers can be potted in March and started into growth. Do not plant them out of doors until all danger of frost is past. Give them a good, rich soil to grow in, and water once or twice a week with suapsuds, from the wash tub, or with manure water. Tie to stakes, as they grow, for the stalks are brittle, and easily broken. They will begin to bloom in July and continue in flower till frost comes. Take up after the tops have been killed, put the tubers in the sun, until the earth rattles off, and then keep in the cellar where it is dry and cool, but does not freeze. Each tuber with an eye, will make as good a plant as a whole cluster of them. Neither of these plants are troubled by the red spider, I am happy to assure this inquirer.

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And a very pretty climbing plant it is. Perfectly hardy, the stem dying down every autumn but growing again so rapidly in the spring as to completely cover any trellis or arbor very early in the season. Is as easily cultivated as the Madeira Vine, and is produced from tubers which will make from ten to twelve feet of vine, and with its beautiful heart-shaped leaves, bright green peculiar foliage, and clusters of delicate white flowers sending forth a delicious cinnamon odor, render it by far one of the most desirable climbers in cultivation. A tuber planted near a door or window, and the vine trained over and about it make an ornament worthy the admiration of all. The tubers will stand our most severe winters without any protection, and when well grown will measure two feet in length, and they are fully equal to the best potatoes for eating, either baked or boiled. J. P. Reno, Tyrone, Pa., says: "The vine has grown about eighteen feet and was very full of bloom, with a delicious odor, scenting the air for a long distance. The foliage is very much admired, and is withal, a desideratum in the way of vines." When first introduced here from Japan the tubers sold for ten dollars each. We learn that Frank Finch, of Clyde, N. Y., has made a specialty of this vine, and will send two vines or tubers free to any of our readers who will send 35 cts. in stamps to cover cost of digging, putting up and mailing. We advise our readers to send to Mr. Finch and give this wonderful vine a trial, not forgetting to mention this paper.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MUSICAL STUDIES.

NO XII.

BY MARGARET B. HARVEY.

Do you understand how to count time, in Kohler's exercises? Turn to the first in Book 1, Op. 50. You see that it is written in 4-4 time, which means four quarter notes, or their equivalent, to each measure or bar. Accordingly, in the first measure, you observe one half note and two quarter notes in the base, and sixteen sixteenth notes in the treble. These sixteenth notes are arranged in groups of four, each group of four united by two horizontal bars, which merely indicate that the hooks on the separate notes have been drawn together. To each measure, count regularly, 1, 2, 3, 4. In practicing, always count aloud. Make your notes literally depend upon your counts, and do not fall into the common error of striking the notes first and allowing the counts to follow at their leisure. This is the origin of lagging, irregular, or uncertain time. Again remember that the voice must lead, even the voice occupied in such mechanical employment as counting beats. But the notes must not follow so distantly that any pause can be perceived between count and note—let them be as one. And never, no matter how expert you may become as a performer, neglect to count—aloud in practicing, mentally, in playing before others.

Generally speaking, the base must be in perfect time, even if the treble be a little "out"—but don't get it "out." This rule is not invariable, of course, but it is a very good one for beginners, that is, until they know when to discard it. Count, then, in the base, 1, 2, while holding the half note, at the same instant, run the first four sixteenth notes on the count 1, and the second four on the count 2. Then count 3 on the first quarter note in the base, and also play on the same count the third group of sixteenth notes in the treble; now count 4, on the second quarter note in the base, and run the last group of sixteenth notes in the treble. You finish the bar in the base and the one in the treble simultaneously—but the base contained only three notes, while the treble contained sixteen. Every group of sixteenth notes, then, is required to be played four times as fast as a quarter note, which was taken as the standard for the measure.

Now, this isn't hard. You can grasp the principle in the first bar, and find it carried out through all the succeeding ones in the exercise. That is, that every bar, in base or treble, contains the equivalent of four quarter notes, which must be evenly divided upon four regular counts. If the fingers are just as active as the mind, practicing these studies would be no more difficult than simply counting 1, 2, 3, 4. You will find in some bars, chords, meaning that two or more notes are to be struck at once; in some, four quarter notes, each of which requires a count; in some, two half notes, needing two counts upon each; in some, a whole note, requiring the four counts. But the principle can still be seen, through its thin disguise. It is the same in all the exercises.

In the second study, the base contains four sixteenth notes upon one count. It is so in the sixth, eighth and tenth studies, also, while the third, fifth, seventh and ninth, resemble the first. The object of this arrangement is to stretch the fingers of each hand, and rest them alternately. You have practiced scales and arpeggios, and so need not be frightened—have the time all right, and the battle will soon be won. Could you not soon learn to count 1, 2, 3; or, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6; or, 1, 2; just as well as 1, 2, 3, 4?

Don't forget what you have learned about chords. Observe that the notes in the base harmonize with those in the treble; or, rather, that the single half and quarter notes chord with the first note of a group of four, which is always accented a little more strongly than the rest. These latter, then, lead to another accented note, chording with a single note in the other staff, treble or base—the intermediate notes, also, sometimes chord. It is well to begin the habit of tracing out chords, as early as possible in your musical career. If you do not, you will probably find that you have left it very late indeed, when you try to render sonatas, and despairingly confess that you cannot appreciate them. And, this is just why the general public cannot—simply because they did not at first understand what a chord is—which, you ought to know by this time, is nothing very abstruse. (I am now speaking of the practical, technical side of music—not its æsthetical and spiritual.)

Now you are prepared to understand something about accompaniments. A song, particularly if intended to be sung as a solo, is generally arranged with three staffs. The upper one contains the notes of the air, to be uttered by the voice alone. The middle staff, the instrumental part for the right hand, the lowest, the base, to be played of course by the left. This is just the place to correct some popular errors on the subject. Many persons seem to think that the instrumental part is the real composition, while the vocal is only a secondary ornament. But the direct contrary is the truth. The voice leads, while the piano or organ is merely an attendant—the voice does not positively need the instrument after the first note, which determines the key. The accompaniment sometimes repeats or imitates the air, sometimes it is merely a succession of chords or arpeggios harmonizing with the air, sometimes it is quite an elaborate composition of itself—but it is always subordinate to the voice.

Many persons, including very often musical beginners themselves, imagine that a singer's ability is tested by his or her power to play an accompaniment. "I could sing," sadly muses a sweet-voiced girl, "but I feel so ashamed when I undertake to play—the accompaniments are so hard." What would she think if she knew what I have to tell her! It is, that a great singer usually disdains to play—it is beneath the dignity of one who has a fine voice. Let such mechanical work be for those poor unfortunates who cannot sing. That is the German idea—children who cannot sing must be made to play. When difficult accompaniments are given with a song, it is understood that the assistance of an accompanist is necessary. The leading singers in a concert have enough to do to render their vocal parts artistically—accompanists are hired, like servants. If they volunteer as friends, appreciate their kindness all the more, in proportion as you realize the humble office which they have undertaken. They are useful, of course, an accompaniment does blend, and support, and heighten the effect of the various portions of a composition; but, after all, the accompaniment is but the root of the tree, the vocal ornaments, its blossoms.

Accompaniment playing is not easy—if you play for another, you are absolutely bound by the will of another, and must regulate your time strictly by the singer's voice. So, never say, "I don't play much—only accompaniments." If you can play an accompaniment well, the chances are that you could play anything else well. But, for home singing, or if you play for yourself, a difficult accompaniment is unnecessary. Any one, with a good ear, and a fair knowledge of chords, ought to be able, with a little practice, to extemporize a satisfactory accompaniment. The first book of Kohler's exercise contains material enough for fifty or more. Take care to have your vocal and instrumental parts in the same key, and that the principal notes in treble and base harmonize. Don't try to follow the air too closely—a note here and there, an arpeggio or two, now and then a chord, with the key note at the end, will often be quite sufficient. Then you need never be at a loss when suddenly asked to sing.

I feel quite sure that, some fine day when you are getting along swimmingly, an old lady will suddenly pop in on you, and say, "That's all wrong, Miss Jones! What you're singing ain't a bit like what you're playing!" Don't try and explain, for she'll flare up indignantly, and say, "You think because I'm old, I don't know anything! I've got a better ear than you, even if I never did study music—I can tell, right away, when you don't sing and play alike." But there is no more need for you to "sing and play alike," than there is that the background should be like the picture. The background, however, should not stand out before the picture—so, keep the accompaniment somewhat subdued.

But, you say, in hymn books and school song books, the vocal part is not printed alone, separate from the other parts. I know—but these compositions are not intended to be sung as solos; this arrangement provides for a full volume of sound. Still, the accompaniment idea is there—every part is subordinate to the highest, called treble or soprano. You will find it, also, in compositions of a higher order—some imitate the human voice and its instrumental accompaniment; while, in others, one or more instruments lead inferior ones. If pupils only understood all this earlier than they generally do, what mountains of difficulty would be smoothed out of their way.

Composers do not multiply notes merely to show off their own "smartness," or to puzzle amateurs—but because, to them, notes are means by which to imitate the wonderful, varying phases of the human voice, and the instruments which also imitate it.

Now that you have been so good, I will give you a "piece." Take that charming musical poem, "The Shepherd Boy," by Wilson. "Oh, that's too simple!" exclaims somebody, "our little Sallie had that at the end of her first quarter!" If she had, I am sorry. The composition is not so simple as it looks, and considerable artistic skill and feeling are required to do it justice. The manual dexterity necessary may not be great—but dexterity, remember, is sometimes little more than trickery. You know that the idyl contains imitations of the shepherd boy's pipe, and the resulting echoes, so that your own imagination will supply you with all the hints necessary for the expression.

The piece is written in 6-8 time. That means, count 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, or six eighth notes in a bar. In the first bar given there is but one eighth note,—begin, then, on the last count, or 6. Allegretto, you know, means moderately quick. Ped means, put your foot on the loud pedal, and hold it so, until you come to the star, when the foot is to be raised. In the second bar, you see a group of three grace notes in the treble, which are to be run as quickly as possible, so as to give part of count 1 to the first eighth note. The corresponding notes in the base form an arpeggio. As its notes are dotted, one-half its length is added, so that it endures for 3 counts. 4 and 5 come on the next quarter note in the base, and six on the eighth note.

In the treble, the 3 grace notes and the eighth note endure for 1 count. 2 comes on the dot after the eighth note, which dot is worth one-half of an eighth, or a sixteenth note. A sixteenth note follows this, to complete the broken value, and upon this, say, and. The other notes are counted regularly 3, 4, 5, 6. The second bar is also counted 1, 2 "and" 3, 4, 5, 6. Throughout the piece, whenever a count is divided, put the figure on the dot, and the "and" on the short note following. Give to each rest a count, as for a note. The expression "8 va" means, play an octave higher than written. The treble clef before a chord in the base, means, pass the hand over to the treble side of the piano and play it. A group of three notes, with the figure 3 under it, is a triplet, requiring the same time that two notes of the kind ordinarily would—these are all rendered upon one count. The abbreviation rit. stands for ritardando, or in English, retard; it is followed by a tempo, which means, go back to the original time. A small acute angle over a note indicates, accent it. A waved line over a note or notes, preceeded by tr, means, trill all the notes under the line. This you can do with your first and second finger, if you have faithfully followed the "hammer exercise." The abbreviation brill, before a running passage of small notes, stands for brilliant, which need not frighten you, if you have practiced your scales. These are all the points in the composition requiring detailed explanation.

How soon can you learn it? I cannot tell you—that depends altogether upon how faithfully you have practiced, and how closely you will follow directions given. But I know that you cannot master it in a day—and you need not despair if you do not get it for six weeks. The fingering may present some difficulty—but this you must deduce from your scale and chord practice. You can always find a leading finger, and the others will naturally follow. Avoid, as much as possible, putting thumbs on black keys. In the second bar of the composition before us, I would put my right thumb upon the first grace note, to lead the others. In the passage marked brill, I would take the two little grace notes with my third and second fingers, then put my first finger upon C sharp, and thumb on D, and so forth. You understand that in this piece, the shepherd boy's pipe is supposed to be the leading part—the rest is merely the piano accompaniment.

With the scales, the finger exercises, Kohler's studies, and "The Shepherd Boy," to practice daily, from one to three hours, I have no doubt that you will be able to report a gratifying degree of practice at the end of the month. Don't be discouraged if you cannot play from memory—some of the best players always use notes, while some of the worst insist that they can do without.

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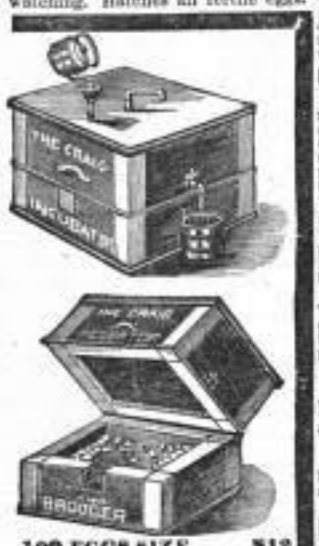

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MILDRED'S CLASS IN ENGLISH CONVERSATION.

NO. IV.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

"Well, Edith," was Sara Tasker's greeting to Edith Stocker, at the next meeting, "I wonder how much there will be left of you when we are done with you."

"Girls, I'm so scared, oh so scared, you don't know," replied that young lady."

"Don't I just!" from Phillippa, emphasized with an expressive nod, "Why I felt that small you could have put me through a knot-hole when mine came."

"Phillippa, that is too bad of you. You said you were going to try to give up slangy expressions."

"Good gracious! Haven't I tried? Goodness knows I've tried hard enough. If I haven't succeeded in becoming perfect in one short week, why that is my misfortune more than my fault," exclaimed Phillippa, in a tone of injured innocence. "Think not, oh my friends," she declaimed tragically, "that I am the same reckless girl I was a month ago. Indeed, I'm worn to the bone—there it goes again—excuse me, ladies—I am, I am—almost exhausted, trying to be good; but it seems to loom up before me as such a hopeless task that I am almost persuaded to enter a convent, where my faults if not cured, will at least be hidden from the gaze of a more perfect and more critical world."

"O Philippa, stop your nonsense! You're always making fun of things."

"Nonsense! Has it come to that? I, Phillippa Rowland, accused of nonsense."

"The letter! the letter!" exclaimed the rest in a chorus at this juncture, and accordingly, the letter was opened.

"My dear Miss Stocker," it ran, so you would like to have written me before but you had not the courage. In reply I will say that I should have liked to hear from you before; and that glad as I am that the required courage has come to you, I must, I am afraid, correct the opening clause of your letter."

"Dear, dear!" and Phillippa shook her head in comic solemnity, while Edith looked mortified and distressed.

"For my part," said Sara, "I've gone beyond the stage when I dare to find fault with anything or question anything Miss Wilson asserts or says. I am reduced to a state of perpetual amazement, closely bordering on imbecility, as I see the traditions of my youth rudely destroyed, one by one. But if I might venture to make such a remark, that first sentence of Edith's hardly seems long enough to subject her to criticism."

"You should have said 'I would have liked to write' not 'would like to have written.' The idea you mean to convey is that some time ago if you could have found the requisite courage you 'would have liked to write'—at that moment some time ago—you felt like writing then. Is it not so? I have even received letters in which the writer has gone so far as to say 'would like to have done' such or such a thing. This however is a mistake, betraying such a positive lack of education that I feel sure none of you could possibly fall into the error. You 'would have liked' to do anything, not 'would like to have' done it.

"Then you say 'I am one of those kind of people who require a good deal of coaxing.' Now the mistake 'those kind' is one of the most common of 'genteel errors.' Do you know the difference between singular and plural? Well, then, is kind singular or plural? Singular, you say. But if I ask you to parse 'those' you will tell me it is a pronominal adjective and must agree with its noun in numbers. Very good, but does it agree with it? 'Those' (plural) refers to the noun 'kind' (singular) which is manifestly incorrect. Say that always 'those kinds' or 'that kind' whichever you may happen to mean."

"That sounds reasonable, to say the least," interrupted Mildred, who drank in every word of the instruction eagerly, and practiced in public and in private all the improvements made possible by her extending knowledge.

"Just here," continued Edith, "I will speak of a very common fault, without knowing of course whether it belongs to any one of you. It is a very common thing to say 'that high,' 'that tall,' 'about that long,' 'about that wide.'"

"There! I'm done!" exclaimed Phillippa, "I'll never in the world say 'those high' or 'those wide' for all your Miss Wilson's."

"You probably will tell me," went on Edith, without heeding the interruption, "that 'an adjective is a word used to describe a noun or pronoun' and that, an adjective pronoun (and a pronominal adjective as the case may be) refers to some noun expressed or understood; also that adjectives qualify verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs.' Now then, as the case stands, we will start out with 'that.' We know it to be a pronominal adjective—but it refers to 'long'—is 'long' a noun? No, manifestly, 'long' is an adjective. Do pronominal adjectives qualify adjectives? No. Is 'that' an adverb? What is the matter then? The matter is that 'long' must be changed into the noun 'length' or the pronominal adjective 'that' must be changed to an adverb—the adverb 'so.' The sentence must run, 'so high' or 'so wide' or 'about that length' 'that width' 'that height.'

It is not hard to remember if one once sees the sense of it, and fixes it (this is a case where the use of 'fix' is legitimate) firmly in one's mind.

Now, one more little thing—the use of the pronominal adjectives 'each' 'every' and 'no.' They are essentially singular in effect, (I should have added 'any' to the list). All grammar books will tell you that 'each' 'every' 'no' and 'any' are singular in construction. And yet how often does one hear such sentences as this: 'Every one took a chair in with them as they went.' It should read: 'Every one took a chair with him as he went in.' Why 'he'? Because, unfortunately, we have no word in our language to express indefiniteness of sex when applied to the human race. So we borrow the French idea, and assume that everything which is not essentially feminine must be masculine, and whenever both sexes are spoken of, in a singular sense, the masculine pronoun must be used. It is awkward and oppressive to say 'he' or 'she' every time one wishes to express this idea. It is also a common fault to say 'A person, they,' 'If a person commits a crime they must expect punishment,' for instance 'If a person, etc., he must, etc. These mistakes may seem to you uncommon, but I beg you to listen and discover for yourselves how very far from rare they are.

"Did you ever have any one speak to you of 'unravelling' and 'unripping,' and did not the absurdity strike you? Think of it! 'Unrip' and 'unravel' each express the direct opposite of that which is intended to be conveyed. Do people say that? Plenty of them—and not only that but really well educated people, the fault being one of pure carelessness.

"If at any time I do not make my explanations sufficiently clear I will gladly rectify the mistake, if you will notify me to that effect.

"Yours sincerely,

"AMANDA WILSON."

"Ladies!" exclaimed Phillippa, "Mildred found fault with me in the beginning of this session because I said something she did not consider proper. I take it all back. I did not feel 'that small' that you could put me through a knot-hole, I felt 'so small.' I hope this apology is received in the same generous spirit in which it is made."

"Phillippa, you are incorrigible," and Mildred closed the door on the laughing five.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. M.:—Your definition of the word "graduate" as a pure definition is doubtless correct, but one, unfortunately, cannot always depend upon the definition as contained in the dictionary, for pureness of diction. For instance, in the dictionary is to be found the word "like" given as either adjective or adverb. Rhetoric positively forbids its use in the latter capacity. To "perform an act 'like' another does it" is in form both inelegant and improper.

Secondly:—Rhetoric strongly advises the use of unequivocal terms—strongly advises against the use of such terms as may have two meanings. "To have been graduated" is of the former class. Its application is unmistakable. "To graduate" may mean to grade or to be graded—the teacher may graduate or the pupil may do so.

Thirdly:—If you will kindly reread that particular portion of "Mildred's Class" you will find that Miss Wilson does not recommend the latter form of the verb (though she might safely do so as being the one most highly approved of by reputable authorities at present) she merely prefers it for her own use.

M. B. H.:—Your objection to the word "enthused" is no doubt legitimate, the word being a bad one, though not the outgrowth of "newspaper slang," being, I think, coined by a well known author years before slang was so popular in daily journalism as at present.

It would hardly be worth while to go again over the arguments in favor of "would better." The words stand for themselves. Grammar and rhetoric are in a great degree "exact sciences" and with their certain rules must not be violated. Supposing, however, for the sake of argument, that your premise be correct. The idea that the girls "had to learn" grammar, was not the one to be conveyed. That sense would imply that there was a necessity—to have to do anything is to be obliged to perform that act. Miss Wilson advised its performance. The learning of the grammar was to be a thing of the future. Supposing again, for the sake of argument, that that was the sense, it would have been inelegant. It is always much better "to be obliged" to do anything than "to have to do" it. The sense is "to attain what you desire you should study grammar," the potential mood, imperfect tense, "might, could, would, or should study grammar."

The grammar used is that of one of Philadelphia's most ardent students, and most successful teachers of that study, and has in it no tinge of "Boston affectation."

Custom sanctions many inelegancies, but, while the rule, that popularity makes right applies to pronunciation and definition, even custom cannot fail to be in the wrong when in glaring violation of set rules. It is the custom in some large, well educated communities to say "you look good in that bonnet," but, until that community writes a special and individual grammar for that place, and lays down that particular law, the expression "good" used instead of "well," in that sense, continues to be incorrect, even though thousands of people say it.

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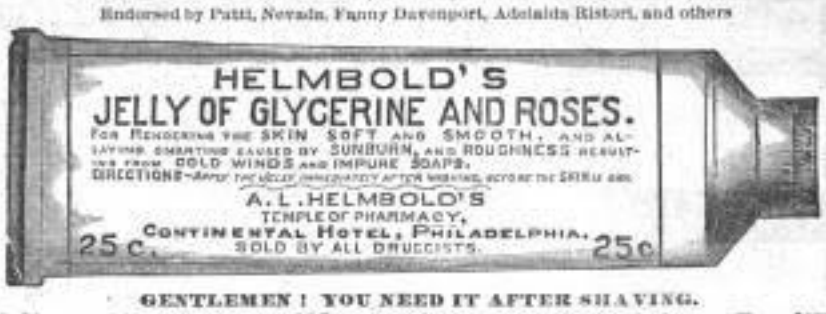

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(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

TOO LATE.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

Theo didn't want to hear all this, that is, she wasn't anxious that any one should express such opinions of her within her hearing, at the same time as she had already been there some time when the others came, she did not at all consider it encumbent upon her to notify them of her presence. Her look was one of intense amusement as she took in the situation. There sat John Gordon, fanning Millie, and paying her all sorts of little attentions in a sort of taking-care-a-tive manner, a sort of brotherly oversight, as it were, that threw little Dolly Perkins in the shade, and annoyed Millie extremely, for she had been conscious for some time that she was the observed of all observers, who knew that John "looked upon young girls as a pest to society," and wondered what he was "up to" now.

For once, he was "up to" nothing. He simply acted as he felt. He knew that he loved Theo beyond anything else in the world, to-night, and that fact caused a tenderness new to himself for all that belonged to her. He was at his best to-night. Never had he been so natural, never had he so little studied effect; and yet to-night of all nights, when all his best feelings were about hi[illegible] and all his actions spontaneous, to-night [illegible] everybody misjudge him—Theo most of all [illegible] thought the mood had seized him to give [illegible] town something to talk about, and as [illegible] favorite amusement of hers, now she w[illegible] feebly willing to fall in with his mood. So [illegible] said, "John, there's the loveliest [illegible] the conservatory. Do take Millie in there to see it, but don't stay long—our waltz comes next, you know," and then seated herself on the sofa to entertain Dolly Perkins, who by the way had a secret fear of her, and was not entertained at all.

"Miss Theo," said John, when they found themselves in the night air again, "Do you know I've been away from Stillingford for three weeks!"

"Have you, John? Was it really so long?" asked Theo coolly, scenting "sentimental nonsense" in the air, and determined to "nip it in the bud." John bit his lip, vexed, and replied rather impatiently, "I be leve Miss Theo, if I was not to put in an appearance at your house for a year, you'd never ask me where I'd been nor what had kept me away. I doubt your even wondering what had become of me."

"I might wonder what had become of you, my woman's curiosity would lead me to that, but ask you—never! I accord to everyone else the privilege I take to myself—to visit where I please. If people come to see me, I am glad to see them. I take it it for granted they come because they want to. If they don't come, I equally take it for granted that it is because they don't want to. And would I ask them why they had not been and force them to lie, or myself to receive the humiliating confession that they did not care to come? I get awfully tired of people, sometimes, and I dare say they do of me—why shouldn't they? So, my dear child, you need never expect me to ask you where you have been. Just fancy how I should feel upon such an occasion to hear you say (for you know you have agreed to be very candid), 'Well, Miss Theo, I got kind of tired of your society. You may rest assured that had I wanted to come I should have come.' Why, John, I should never have survived the mortification! Sometimes," she concluded, looking up into his face with a provoking smile, "I have fancied I knew why you didn't come. When we didn't exactly—a—agree, for instance. So you've been away from Stillingford, for three weeks, have you?" A pause for a moment.

"Yes, I have, and as long as you won't ask me where, I shall tell you."

"That's right! Now you are a man after my own heart. If there's anything I do enjoy it is having confidence reposed in me."

"Is that intended for sarcasm?" demanded John, stiffly, drawing slightly away from the young girl. "If you really don't wish to hear, I certainly shall not force my confidence upon you."

"Nonsense, John! If I hadn't wanted to hear couldn't I have said so? When did you ever find me backward about telling you the most unvarnished (though at times unflattering) truth. You know that wasn't intended for sarcasm. See here!" stopping short in the street and looking at him most threateningly, "are you going to be disagreeable? Come now, don't," the threatening changed to pleading as they walked on slowly again, "because I'm in a lovely mood to-night. I don't want to quarrel one bit. I haven't no strength of mind for a tussle."

"I sure I don't wish to quarrel," replied John, softening, "only you answer me so strangely sometimes that I never know how to take you. And yet you can be very charming, Miss Theo."

"Can't I. I just know I can," replied Theo, slowly, (for she was in her most elfish mood to-night) as if she were wrapped up in the contemplation of her own charms, "I wonder why I am not always so."

John bit his lip with vexation, but declined to form a theory, feeling that he could do nothing in her present mood. So on they walked in silence for a few moments.

"John Gordon," she demanded, finally, "are you going to be sulky? Oh, fie!" and she looked so altogether bewitching in the moonlight that the temptation to kiss the saucy mouth was almost irresistible.

Gordon laughed, and promised to be just as nice as he knew how to be.

"Ah! that is so good of you, how you shall be rewarded for virtue," cried she. "Where have you been, and what did you go for?—not that I can't help feeling its none of my business, all the time."

"I went on business, replied John, slowly and seriously. I went to see a firm in Boston who want me to come and settle there. Miss Theo," he continued earnestly, "if I were to get this position and be obliged to go away from Stillingford, could you—would you——"

"Certainly, John," interrupted she. "I'd like to ever so much. You know I told you long ago that you might count on me at any time. I'd be only too glad to have——"

"What!" interrupted John, dazed and dumbfounded at her ready acquiescence to an unspoken request.

"Why, don't you know," innocently and blandly, "don't you remember last summer when you expected to go to Cincinnati you asked me then if I would take care of Dandy for you. Of course I will. You need not have hesitated a moment. You might have known I would. Thanks! you needn't ring. I have a latch key, but I must hurry in, for I'm dreadfully cold. Won't you come in?"

"Not to-night," replied he, shortly, with something like an oath way down in the bottom of his heart.

"I'm sorry. Well, depend on me for Dandy. But when do you go? Come round and tell us all about it."

"Next week I'm off. Tuesday morning. I'll come round Monday evening—and bring Dandy," he added, determined to die and give no sign. "It is ever so kind of you to care for him for me. Good-night!" and with a cordial handshake he went down the street, outwardly whistling, inwardly swearing. They were certainly, in many ways, a match, these two. They were not such dreadful hypocrites either, good people, but while they show their hands to each other to a great extent of apparent candor, they were very careful to hold their cards so that neither could get a glimpse of the trump in the others hand.

"Well, I have made a damned fool of myself there in Boston. To think that I, John Gordon, should have been such a consummate ass. But there!" and alternately muttering and cursing his luck he turned the corner. It wasn't nice in him to swear so? No, I know it wasn't, but then he did, and there is no earthly use in trying to deny it. And I fancy you will discover lots of your gentlemen friends who would not be nice in this respect if they found themselves in John Gordon's predicament.

Theo closed the door with a sigh of relief. "That's over! O dear! I just know he was going to be sentimental, ask me to write to him [illegible] like as not. I'm so glad I didn't let him. I'm not a bit brave to-night. I'm afraid I'm a little sentimental towards him myself to-night," and she laughed a little pathetic laugh to herself. O dear! won't Stillingford be lonely without him. Oh, why isn't he good and true and earnest. Why must I be on my guard against him all the time? Sometimes his unspoken tenderness is more than I can bear. Theo Campion, you are not in love with that flirt, I hope?" she suddenly demanded, looking at her image fiercely in the glass. "No, madam, I am not!" replied the image with slow intensity, "but oh how I wish I dared to be. If it had been most any other man I should have gone over to the enemy, or sent him off long ago, but I do not dare, I do not dare. His words, his looks, his tones mean nothing. He shall never have it to to say he won me, and cast me off," and she drew herself up proudly. "Upon my word, there's a tear. Well, you're a nice young person," looking at herself scorfully. "A full grown woman of twenty years of age crying, yes! actually weeping and wailing because the biggest flirt in Christendom is going to leave town. The biggest flirt in Christendom, you wretch!" and with this fierce apostrophe she undressed and went to bed to cry herself asleep. Cry! What for! Nay! that is what she asked herself in utter contempt and received the reply that she had a headache and sore throat. If she was satisfied with the answer why should you not be?

"Lix Barton," said she, about six weeks after, "Can you tell me what is the matter with the people to-day—are they crazy?" Alicia Barton was her "alter ego," and she had rushed up to Miss Barton's bedroom with her head full of what she had seen.

"Why?" asked Alicia, looking a little frightened.

"Why, first I met Mrs. Chambers, and she came up very smiling, and looking very arch, made some ambiguous remarks about young ladies thinking they were very sly, etc. Of course I did not deign to ask her what she meant, and left her as soon as I could after having entirely ignored her remarks. And then—— But how queer you look Lix, what ails you?"

"Nothing, nonsense! I'm not very well to-day, that's all. Go on. And then ——"

"Well then, I met Aunt Mary Vandusen. She simply shook her head at me in a melancholy way, way as she hurried by on her way to market. But she is such a lachrymose and melancholy female anyway that I don't know that that is any guage—and so on and so on. I never met quite such a variety of expressions on the faces of my casual acquaintances as to-day. Some I ok triumphant (but these I secretly believe to be my enemies) some melancholy, some sympathetic, but all significant. Then to crown my mystification, just outside the door here I met old Miss Nippins and she looks more significant than all the rest, if that could be. I just detest that woman and I fancy she knows it too from the persistency with which she gushes over me. So she rushes at me with 'My dear Miss Theo. This news seems to be very startling to the general public, don't it? But I tell them they must have been blind. Peoples' opinions are very much divided though. Not worth while to question you about it though, I suppose?' 'Not the slightest,' replied I. 'Pray excuse me for declining to be pumped this morning, but I have not time, really,' and I turned on my heel. "Now Lix, if you can explain this, do, for goodness sake. I believe my heart Alicia Barton, you do know!"

"Yes I do."

"And you never told me!"

"No I never told you—simply because I [illegible] you had not told me."

"Are you as crazy as the rest? You can't be sane and accuse me of deliberately knowing anything that I did not tell you.

"This morning I received a letter from Minnie Branson in Boston, and she says that John Gordon is engaged," Lix replied, looking Theo in the face steadily.

"John Gordon engaged! I don't believe it."

Lix looked odd but continued, "and not only that but that he himself told it."

"He told it! Never!"

"And still further that he told it when he first went to Boston."

"You can't make me believe that. That John Gordon, with his flirting propensities should deliberately go to a new place and give it out that he was engaged, is something that I'll never believe."

"Theo! Theo! Is it really so, all you are saying? You really are not engaged to him and keeping it from me? cried Lix, imploringly.

"Engaged to him? Can you think such a thing Lix! Have you no more faith in me than to think that I would engage myself to any one and not tell you first of all? O Lix! Lix! and she turned her back on her friend and strode to the window to stare out in hurt and angry silence. Alicia knew better than to speak to her just then. Presently she ventured to lay her hand upon her, but she was angrily repulsed.

"Theo," she plead, "listen to me, won't you?"

"If you speak I can but hear, I presume," was the icy rejoinder.

"Indeed dear, I feel you are unjust. Telling of his engagement as John Gordon did, just at a time when he was most attentive to you, and when I believe you were yourself in one of your most amicable frames of mind," (to my certain knowledge you hadn't quarreled for three weeks) she parenthesized, with a sly twinkle in her eye, "how was I to know. I have always felt that John Gordon was more deeply interested in you than in any other girl he knows, and is inclined to be truer to you than to any one else to whom he has ever paid attention, or as true, we will say, as it is in his power, mental or moral, to be to any woman. And I simply thought that, coming as it did from himself, that you must be the one. Can't you forgive me, Theo?"

"As to your theories of what John Gordon is or is not, you perceive that in this instance they have fallen rather flat," and she laughed a sarcastic laugh that showed Alicia she was far from forgiven. However, according to their custom of feuds she said nothing more, feeling that Theo would hastily repent her injustice if she let her alone. Oh! how Theo's heart raged during that bitter silence. She swiftly recalled the evening of the party—all the "sentimentality" to which she had nearly succumbed, all the attentions he bestowed upon her until people smiled significantly, all the—oh well,—everything. And now he had told he was engaged and most people thought it was to her. And when they found out it wasn't they'd pity her. Bah! how she hated it all. Just as if she cared who he was engaged to. But oh how thankful she was that she hadn't been sentimental that night, and how still more thankful she was for her dramatic powers now. Nobody should not know that she did not know it all the time and who it was. Because everybody should think that he had told her himself (as he ought to have done when they were so intimate). All but Alicia—she wouldn't attempt

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any of her dramatic arts on her. Suddenly she wheeled round. "Alicia, I have been an unjust, quarrelsome wretch. Forgive me!" and she put forth her hand, in which the other laid hers, and each knew the forgiveness was complete, for these women never went into heroics over each other.

"I don't wonder you were a little hurt Theo, at my doubt of you."

"And I can't wonder much at your doubt of me. But come, let us reason together. You see I think I was more hurt at John than I was at you."

"Why?" asked Alicia, with a little anxiety in her voice that the other perfectly understood and entirely ignored.

"Because I think he ought to have told me himself before he went.

"Oh," said Alicia, relieved.

"Yes, we have always been so intimate, John and I, that I feel he should have told me. Why he has always told me everything, and he never told me he was smitten, as he has a hundred times before, and I don't think it was kind of him. To go tell it to perfect strangers that way while his friends are left out of his confidence. I shall have a good chance to prove my assertion however," and she laughed a little laugh of annoyance "that I wanted everybody to feel at liberty to confide or suppress any confidence in me that might seem good."

So the question was discussed and rediscussed with no practical result, and Theo left with the same remark on her lips that she had made at least half an hour before and as often as fifteen times since, "Well I don't understand it. It seems as if there must be a catch som where."

Some two months now passed and no one had found out one thing from Theo Campion as to John Gordon's private affairs. She said but little, but what she did say was perfectly non-committal. Meanwhile she was as merry as a cricket, and flirted and danced and played croquet, and laughed and sang and had a good time generally, till one evening as she sat by herself in the large old lastt ned parlor she heard what she felt to be John Gordon's step on the sidewalk, followed by his peculiar ring at the door bell.

"Why John!" she exclaimed, moving quickly forward and holding out both hands. Where did you come from? I'm awfully glad to see you. How long have you been in town?"

Gordon stepped quickly forward, taking both her hands in his with a glad smile at her pleasant greeting. His lips parted to speak but no words came. Swiftly the smile died away and was replaced by a look so different from anything she had ever seen upon his face, that she was filled with a vague discomfort. After a second's search of her wondering face, he bent a little and silently kissed the upturned mouth.

(TO BE CONTINUED).

(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

THE DOCTOR'S DAUGHTERS.

BY MARY ABBOTT RAND.

CHAPTER IV.

A proud spirited young fellow never felt more abject and less at home with himself, than did Fred Garrett, the next evening, when the rosy, summer twilight had merged into that soft period of shadow that we call dusk.

He was dressed with more than usual nicety, and carried a dainty basket, filled [illegible] ing intended for Dr. Drexell.

When he reached the door, old Peggy answered the bell, and, to his inquiry for Miss Ella replied; "Well! I thought that all Uplands knew that she was gone. The poor doctor has been getting cranky of late, and his physician in the city said that maybe a change of scene would save him."

"Save him? Is he so ill as that?" asked the young man.

"Oh, he is strong enough,—likely to outlive his poor girls, every one of them—but he isn't just right here," and Peggy tapped her forehead significantly. "But it's a sin and a shame for that delicate young thing to have all the care of him," continued the old servant, "and they're going to Chicago Excuse me, sir, won't you come in! Miss Beatrice is up stairs."

Fred thought he wouldn't.

He was not interested in seeing Miss Beatrice, and, in his inmost heart he was thankful that Ella was gone.

He carried his strawberries home, and presented them to his mother, feeling, as the Irishman observed, "that he had escaped a great mercy."

Certainly, he wanted a home and a wife, and Ella Drexell was as unexceptional a young lady as one could imagine; but, all the same, he didn't want her, and he was never more convinced of this than when he walked homeward.

And, just at this time, as Ella was in the train, westward bound, her thoughts flew back to the evening before, to the brief, chance meeting with the young professor whom she had always admired and could have loved readily enough, if she had ever had the least intimation that he loved her.

She knew well enough that she was only "little Ella" to him. Still, this last night, the young girl, shy and modest though she was, did not fail to notice the look of surprised admiration that came over his face when they met so suddenly.

But Ella had too much dignity and common sense to dream over that one look. In fact, she had little opportunity to dream. Poor Dr. Drexell was very exacting. The irritated state of his nerves made him hardly responsible for all his demands.

The physician who had charge of his case was an old friend of the family. He felt that now was a critical point, when his patient might recover the tone of his nerves, and general health, or else sink into dementia. This physician, Dr. Gray, felt indebted to Dr. Drexell for some old favor which a trip to Chicago would not begin to cancel, and prescribed this trip as a remedy that must be taken.

Accordingly, with but a few hours' notice, Ella had packed her slender wardrobe and the numerous drugs, lotions, etc., which her father required, and had set out with him for the west.

But the journey seemed rather to develop than allay Dr. Drexell's malady.

By the time they reached Chicago, poor Ella found herself not only perplexed by the strangeness of the place and the responsibility of her situation, but her father seemed wholly irrational, —not violent, nor unmanageable, but so sadly unlike himself that Ella was nearly heart-broken.

They reached their hotel in safety, had tea in their private sitting room; then, Ella having seen that her father was quietly sleeping, hurried to make inquiries of the hotel clerk, respecting a physician, for she felt wholly incompetent to have charge of her father in his present state.

As she hastened across the marble hall like a frightened shadow, she was gently detained, and a respectful voice inquired:

"I beg your pardon, Miss Drexell, but cannot I be of assistance?"

Ella at once recognized the face. Surely, there was but one such homely face in the whole world, —that of the "boot and shoe man" as she had always remembered him.

His honesty and kindness were undoubted, and Ella freely explained her situation,—her fears with regard to her father.

Mr. Claybourne watched by Dr. Drexell's bed that night, and Ella was sent to her room with an injunction so kind, yet so peremptory that she must stay there if she would be helpful the next day, that she obeyed, and was surprised in the morning when she realized how unbroken and refreshing had been her sleep.

The good, homely face of the "boot and shoe man" was bright with the encouraging news from the invalid. Since midnight, the doctor had slept like a child. He did indeed seem better, and yet there was about him that strangeness which Ella could perceive better than a stranger.

Mr. Claybourne consulted a good physician and it was thought best for Dr. Drexell to return home, as soon as he was sufficiently rested.

During the few days Ella stayed in Chicago with her father, their old, chance acquaintance proved himself a friend. Everything he could do for their comfort and happiness was done, and when they decided to go, Ella was greatly relieved to find that Mr. Claybourne's business obliged him to leave that day for Boston also. Ella did not suspect that Mr. Claybourne accommodated his business to the situation.

As they drove up to the Grand Central Depot, and Mr. Claybourne assisted the doctor's trembling steps into a car, Ella distinctly heard a familiar voice accost her escort and inquire:

"Good heavens! Is that old man Dr. Drexell?"

Mr. Claybourne replied indignantly, "Yes sir. Stand aside!"

When they were aboard the train, Ella ventured to inquire who that person could be, she was sure she knew the voice, but Mr. Claybourne replied shortly, "It is no one you should know, Miss Ella."

The homeward journey was everyway pleasanter than the trip to Chicago. Dr. Drexell's spirits were good, and that shadow of insanity which had for a short time darkened his mind was lifted, and the keen intellect flashed as bright as ever.

There was, however, an air of mystery and anxiety about the doctor. He would occasionally draw from his pocket a letter, which had come to him while in Chicago, in the care of Mr. Claybourne, and bearing the Uplands postmark, and ask Mr. C. to read it again.

Ella asked her father if she had heard bad news from home.

He replied evasively with a troubled face, yet soon after he laughed as if something amused him very much, and exclaimed: "Well, womenkind are more than I can understand!"

Ella was content to leave this mystery unsolved so long as her father was plainly all right mentally.

In order to say what this new trial was we must devote a little space to Beatrice. She was really a girl of superior ability, but unbalanced and misguided.

[illegible] have done in already [illegible] good, [illegible] and she expressed her feelings to Ella in this wise:

"It's my 'pinion that when young gals take to moonin' round as if they saw things other folks didn't, and take to writin' poetry and such unprofitableness, they should have a long sleeved tire put on 'em and be set to washing dishes."

"Oh, hush!" said Ella, afraid her sensitive sister would overhear the remark, "Beatrice is talented, you know, and she is studying and preparing for some great work bye and bye."

When Dr. Drexell and Ella left home, Beatrice had parted from them in a sort of dream. Her mind was all occupied with an unwritten poem. Live people moved about her with far less of reality than the creatures of her imagination. The "Helena" of her rhymed romance had become her intimate friend, and far more dear to her than her own sisters, while with the "Bernard" of her dreams, she was dead in love.

She was just in that sentimental state, not uncommon to less gifted girls—a morning glory period when one is in love with an ideal and embodies it in the very first being that offers himself. Sometimes, he may prove to be a real hero, sometimes a creature unworthy the name of man.

The day after Dr. Drexell and Ella left home, the door bell of No. 10 rang with a business-like jerk. Peggy was on her knees at the time, scrubbing the kitchen floor. Beatrice happened to hear the vexed sound of the brush in response to the bell and called pleasantly, "Don't mind, Peggy. I'll go."

She ran lightly down the narrow staircase, her cheeks flushed with the excitement of composition.

On opening the door, she started back and almost exclaimed "Bernard."

It was a sewing machine agent, who had called simply on his business of machine selling or exchanging, and he stated his errand in as brief and practical a way as possible.

Beatrice replied as briefly. "Yes, they had a machine,—it was out of repair,—they would like to exchange it for a newer make."

All the while, she hardly knew what she was saying. This was only a stranger to sell machines, yet he looked and spoke exactly like the Bernard she had been describing,—a dark, rather sad looking, middle-aged man, yet with a romantic air which Beatrice observed or imagined. The stranger stepped in to examine the machine. It was necessary to come again, several times, before Beatrice had learned to operate the new machine. The man would have been blind indeed not to have seen that Beatrice, though so modest and reserved, was greatly interested in him. In fact, she had made over all the romance that properly belonged to the Bernard of her dreams to this Nathan Blair,—a widower of thirty-five!

The result of it was they had exchanged hearts as well as sewing machines before the business was over.

Mr. Blair sincerely admired the beautiful young girl, and proposed awaiting Dr. Drexell's return, formally ask his daughter's hand and be married with due regard to the usual formalities.

But Beatrice was nothing if not romantic. In her poem, Bernard and Helena had eloped at midnight. She was possessed to do the same, although she had not the slightest reason to suppose that her father would object to Mr. Blair—a kind and honorable man as ever lived.

Beatrice was determined to elope, though there was nobody to elope from but Peggy and the old white cat.

One would have supposed that a sedate man like Mr. Blair would not have agreed to any such scandalous proceeding, but he was so bewitched by Beatrice that he was entirely willing to assist her down a ladder at midnight, as she preferred that way of egress to the usual one of walking out the front door.

It must be said, however, that while yielding to Beatrice's extraordinary whim, Mr. Blair satisfied his own ideas of propriety by writing Dr. Drexell the whole state of affairs and asking his consent to this sudden and unusual marriage. He addressed the letter in care of Mr. Claybourne, of whom Ella had written to Beatrice. He sagely concluded that it would be best to confer as directly as possible with the doctor himself, and that as some one must of necessity read the letter to him, it would be better to have a disinterested acquaintance than a sister for the reader. Especially, as Beatrice had expressly said that Ella was the one, above all others, that she could not tell, and whose opinion she most dreaded.

Mr. Claybourne did not hesitate to condemn the absurd affair, and urged the doctor to put a stop to it at once; but the doctor, to Mr. Claybourne's surprise, expressed his approval.

"It happens, strangely enough, explained the doctor, in support of his opinion, "I know Mr. Blair as a downright, reliable man. He has been unfortunate in business through no fault of his, and is now doing the best that offers in an energetic way."

"So I should judge!" exclaimed Mr. Claybourne, scornfully.

"Oh, I know all about the family," pursued the doctor, not replying to Mr. Claybourne's ejaculation. "They are a good stock, and one of these days Blair will come into possession of a snug little fortune, from an uncle. As for my Beatrice, neither of her sisters can hold a candle to her!"

"Beg pardon," interrupted Mr. Claybourne impatiently, but the doctor would not permit him to go on.

"My Beatrice shall do as she likes. If she wants to climb down a ladder to get married, she shall."

This conversation took place before leaving Chicago, and the subject was often alluded to, sotto voce in the cars. Ella could not help divining that there was something kept from her, yet it was a far less trouble than the definite distress she felt on her outward journey concerning her father's mental condition.

Now, he seemed quite like his old self, always excepting his sad infirmity of blindness.

It was such a relief to have every care of the journey taken off her mind. Mr. Claybourne proved to be one of the most agreeable and considerate of escorts. Not one of those officiously social companions that keep up a tiresome flow of talk, explanatory of the scenery, or otherwise, forcing one to assent, no matter how tired the heavy eyes, nor how cinders and weak the aching throat.

Several mornings before Dr. Drexell and his party reached home, Peggy rang in vain for Miss Beatrice to come to breakfast.

"Poor thing," said Peggy, "she is all worn out with that miserable writing. I do believe the postage costs more than she ever gets in return from those editor men. But she never was quite as late as this."

Peggy [illegible] the stairs and then knocked at [illegible] door. [illegible] into the vacant [illegible]

A letter addressed in very big characters to Peggy made that faithful woman hold up her hands in indignation, even before she had mastered the contents.

She hardly needed to read them. She suspected the state of things at once, and was as wise at first as she was after laboring through the high-flown note in which Beatrice bade adieu to her "childhood's home" in dramatic style.

It was a cruelly thoughtless thing to inflict upon any creature the suffering that Peggy endured till the master of the house arrived.

She had planned a thousand different ways of breaking the tidings to him, and was not prepared for his brusque "Good evening. You needn't say a word about Miss Beatrice. She went away with my full knowledge and consent, but it is a little surprise for Ella."

"Surprise for Ella," indeed! She waited for an explanation. Peggy felt too hurt and indignant to offer any, and disappeared into the kitchen regions.

Dr. Drexell felt, though he could not see, how alarmed and troubled Ella was, and he hesitated how best to tell her. Really, he was glad and relieved to have Beatrice so well married, and as she was coming home to board, after a short journey, he would not miss her presence in the house.

It was Mr. Claybourne, at last, that told as well as he could the story of Beatrice's sudden attachment for Mr. Blair, his proposal of marriage, and her ridiculous plan of elopement.

It was hard to tell, whether, at that moment Ella felt more grieved or humiliated. Whichever were the uppermost, she was determined not to make a scene.

Saying as few words in reply as possible, she excused herself and waited until she reached her now lonely little room, to sob out her wretchedness as she had so many times before in the cery: "Oh, mother, mother! Why were you taken away from us!"

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

NAILS.

Once upon a time there was a man who came limping into a shoe store, and remarked to the proprietor thereof, "Mr. Crispin, I wish you'd take this confounded nail out of my shoe, it pretty nearly drove me wild yesterday—wife's been talking about it for three weeks—said it wore the heels of my stockings out, and she hated to mend such big holes—never could remember it though, (facetiously) but I tell you, yesterday I didn't have a chance to forget it, and I made up my mind that to-day I'd have it out." He seemed to think all this very brilliant on his part. Maybe it was, but Mr. Crispin didn't appreciate it as it was intended, and the joke fell flat.

There are so many folks, men, women, and children, that are not by any means intentionally selfish, who never attend to anything until the inconvenience becomes personal, as in this gentleman's case; until the "iron enters their own sole" (to make a very poor joke). You see a woman feeding her children upon the most indigestible food in wanton defiance of any physical law. The child, having a good constitution, does not become immediately sick, but later on the mother is kept up a night or two with feverish, over-fed, and under-fed children, and she begins to have a dim perception that perhaps it is not just exactly the thing to feed children on food that has the effect of keeping the mother awake all night. Nothing could have convinced her before that she was doing the slightest harm.

Jemima has a habit of leaving the doors open, and allowing the draught to blow on Grandma's back, greatly to the old lady's discomfort—and she secretly considers herself abused when her mother obliges her to return and close it. But one day her own kitten, (just large enough to crawl away but too small to crawl back again) gets out and is never more seen, and then Jemima is convinced that she has not done right to allow the draught to blow on Grandma's back, or at least, that the proper thing is to close the door.

And so it goes, one thing after another, one person after another, one instance after another. We go on and on till some sad day we are brought up all standing by results, and these results we call experience. If we could only do as the little boys at school do, copy the "result" from off some one else's slate, profit by the example as it were, how much more easily we could get along —but unfortunately the problems of life have a separate and individual result for each human being, and each one must work them out for himself—not by force of circumstances, because there is much profit in another's experience, but by force of human nature. Humanity is fond of experiments, and gains thereby unlimited, profitable experience that might have been gained at a much less cost; in fact entirely at another's expense, if humanity had only been willing to try the experiment of learning from another. This experiment is carefully avoided, however, by the race at large. SCRIBBLER.

Burpee's Farm Annual for 1886, advertised elsewhere, is a very handsome and complete catalogue of Garden, Farm and Flower Seeds, Bulbs, Plants, Thoroughbred Live Stock and Fancy Poultry. It contains 128 pages, two colored plates, hundreds of illustrations, and is beautifully bound in an illuminated cover. It contains much information of value to every farmer and gardener, and will be sent free on application to W. Atlee Burpee & Co., the well known seedsmen of Philadelphia, Pa.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

SHALL MAMMA TROT, OR BABY?

"Mamma, me want more tea."

A plump, healthy little girl of three years was playing with a doll's tea set at her mother's feet. It was old Santa's last gift to her, Clara Watson, and she was very proud and happy in its possession.

Aunt Sophia sat in the window, sewing, and as her sister rose to refill the dainty pink urn, she snipped her thread with a savage clank of the shears, mentally exclaiming: "That's the thirteenth time that woman has dropped her work this afternoon, to wait on Clara. Why can't the little brat be taught to wait on herself, occasionally?"

"Peeze, mamma, my sugar's gone. Me want more sugar."

"Yes, dearie, mamma will get it for you."

Mrs. Watson's work had hardly been settled in her hands since the last interruption, but without a trace of impatience, she again laid the sewing aside, and trotted into the pantry for a half teaspoonful of sugar, to refill the tiny, china bowl.

"Mamma, me want a knife to peel my apple," and a moment later, "me want a button hook to button dolly's boots."

"Fourteen, fifteen, sixteen," aunt Sophia counted with a bit of snappishness in her voice.

"Sixteen what?" Clara's mother asked, rummaging a bureau drawer for the hook.

"Sixteen times since you sat down to your sewing this afternoon, that you have been interrupted to wait on that child. My count is right, for here are the scratches, by which I marked them on the cover of my spool box."

"Well, Sophia, what of that? Isn't my dear little girl worth waiting upon?"

"Certainly, Matilda, when it is needful, but I do think a three years' old child, bright and healthy as is Clara, is old enough to wait upon themselves. You fill half your waking hours trotting for her. Why not teach her, Matilda, to trot for you and herself?"

"Why, Sophia, she is too little to work. What can a tiny child like Clara, do?"

"Take steps for herself and save many for you. Instead of this she expects and demands more waiting on than when she was a baby. Possibly you are not conscious of annoyance, but this constant interruption which you allow little Clara to cause you, must have its wear on your nerves and strength as well as claiming your time, which is too precious to spend hopping from your work to meet the incessant demands of an impulsive, little busy body. You often say Clara has a restless, active nature, and cannot be happy unless occupied; then, why not occupy her uneasy hands and feet with these little errands and tasks which so break your time?"

"It would be a great help if Clara could wait on herself more. I never have an unbroken half hour when she is awake. My sewing hours are frittered away meeting her wants and hunting up misplaced articles of sewing," Mrs. Watson answered, settling herself for another stitch on the dainty apron she was ruffling. "However carefully I may drop my work, thimble and scissors, and spools and needles will disappear, and by the time all are hunted up, there comes another interruption. Sometimes, Sophia, I wonder what I did find to do before Clara came to claim my time."

"She claims altogether too much of your time. You have fallen into the way of not expecting any help from her, and she bids fair to ripen into a helpless, dependent young lady who looks to 'mother' for her meals, and clean clothes, and mended stockings."

"Where did that pocket ruffling disappear?" Clara's mother asked, searching her lap and work basket for a missing bit of the garment. "I am sure I had it a moment ago."

"On the sink board, Matilda, exactly where you dropped it when Clara called for a drink of water," Sophia answered, her range of view from the sitting room's open door, revealing a corner of the kitchen. "Clara, please run and get mamma's work for her."

"She cannot reach it, Sophia, the sink is too high. You expect too much of a little three years' old girl."

"But she can reach the sink and water pail when she is bent on mischief—to dabble in them. Why not require Clara to wait on herself when thirsty? She can easily do so with the help of her old mischief partner—a chair—and it will occupy her time and teach her self-reliance."

"She could, of course she could," Clara's mother answered thoughtfully. "I had never thought of it. I always have waited on her, and——"

"And thought you always must. Just the mother to make of her girl babies, great, helpless dolls, in the home and society. Self-reliance has to be taught children, as much as their letters, and the younger they receive their first lessons, the easier they learn it. Little mites, like Clara, ought to be required to wash their hands, button their boots and bibs, pick up litter and playthings, keep their everyday wraps hung in place, and save their mother hundreds of steps by trotting for needed articles. There would not be so many dependent, doll women in society if self-reliance had been taught them from babyhood."

HELEN AYRE.

WILL some one please tell us ably how to wean bottle babies? And greatly oblige

M. K. C.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

WHAT SHALL MY CHILDREN PLAY?

"What shall my children play?"

Well really, my dear madame, that is a question a little difficult of solution at this end of the line without being in any way cognizant of your personal means or your children's surroundings. But there are a few things they should not play, at least they should not if they were mine.

"What, for instance?"

Well, first I would erase from their list anything and everything that had the slightest tendency towards vulgarity. It is far better that a mother should discover her child to be profane, than find that same child vulgar. Profanity may arise from two causes—temper and association. Association may be broken up, or the temper controlled, and the profanity done away with. But vulgarity is the direct outcropping of a diseased morality fed by a morbid imagination, and as such is very hard to be combatted with; and every avenue leading in that direction should be closed at once on discovery.

Secondly, they should be cut off from anything bearing towards brutality; teasing animals or insects; fastening crickets or grasshoppers, or humble bees or butterflies to little wagons made for the purpose; catching fire-flies and putting them under tumblers, etc. In the former case the insect nearly always loses a leg, (a thing which the child coolly grows to regard as an accident over which he has no control) and in the latter case, out of the hundreds caught by children yearly in their cruel sport, hardly one comes out unscathed—hardly one is able to fly as it was before it was crushed between careless, thoughtless, ruthless little fingers. The children do not mean to be cruel, they "are only playing," but the fact of the cruelty remains the same. Still, if parents will point out to the little ones the wrong of it all, their little hearts will be moved to pity and repentance, and the cruel sports discontinued. Not long ago a very tender hearted little fellow came to his mother and said, sobs in his voice and tears in his eyes: "O mamma, I saw some boys playing ball with a poor little bird. It was dead, but you don't know how perfectly nasty (great emphasis) it looked. It just made me feel awful."

Was the child hypersensitive? Not at all. The child who can deliberately kick a cat, dead though it be, out of his way, with a laugh, has in his make-up, an element dangerous to the comfort of those around him; an element of brutality that will make his companionship a doubtful boon. Don't misunderstand! I do not say that such a boy is bound for the gallows, but such little acts as these show a want of finer feeling, to say the least; well, to come back to first principles, a certain amount of brutality.

Thirdly, I would expunge from the category anything that tended in any way towards irreverence or making light of sacred things. Now you hold up your hands in holy horror. "Who would let their children do such things?" Now wait a moment. A good many people do. Children play go to church, have pretended prayers, sing pretended hymns, and in one instance, (the case is no fiction) the children were absolutely allowed (it was not done surreptitiously) to play communion with gingerbread and water.

Then in some houses there is a grand time with doll's weddings—the doll has a new outfit, a groom is provided, etc. [illegible] the irreverence to which the [illegible] give scope, by such plays [illegible] to believe that the grand [illegible] wedding, the kiss and [illegible] the bride's veil, and the number of new clothes purchased for the occasion.

Now is it in accordance with propriety that a funeral should succeed the demolition of a doll, with all the children pretending to cry, and all the rest of the dolls in mourning, with a mock ceremony at the grave. All these things make impressions that years of training sometimes fail to eradicate.

"Dear me, your certainly too particular. What is there left?"

Perhaps so, madame, perhaps so. Remember, I said in the beginning these were what they should not play if they were mine.

Is there no innocent play you can think of for a strong, healthy boy? No play but to torture animals? Can he not run, jump, leap, climb? If you are at a loss what to do with your children, provide them with some amusement that shall tend towards the useful. Give them carpenter's tools, or a hammer, some nails, and some wood, and tell them you want a box. See if they don't take great interest and pleasure in making it. Give your girls dolls and plenty of them; let them play "auntie come to see," or anything else that is innocent. Give your boys toys, but always with a view to something good. A child's tastes are much earlier of development than most people believe, and a microscope is often as much a source of amusement to a boy as a toy engine; will cost no more, and be an everlasting good.

MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TEACHING CHILDREN TO DOUBT MOTHER'S WORD.

You may deceive the little one, once; possibly twice, with the bitter, nauseating dose that you poise for him to swallow, assuring him that it is "good," "sweet," "sugary," but the third trial will convince you that that expedient is played out. The child has learned to doubt your word. He will be suspicious of cheats even when you are sincere; and a long time it will be before you can restore yourself in his confidence.

It is a temptation, when a little one is very ill, and delay with a trying parley or struggle in giving medicine, dangerous, to resort to any expedient to persuade the little patient to quietly and promptly take medicines offered him; but, anxious mother, don't be tempted to resort to an untruth to gain your ends. Its the poorest of policies. When your little patient's confidence in you is shaken, as it will be if you attempt cheating him, you lessen his chance for recovery, for these wearing, prolonged haggles over doses and poultices, tell for the worse on a little child's vitality, perhaps, already fearfully lowered.

"Because mamma says so." Have you not heard children silence their little playmates' arguments and disputes with this convincing, challenge-proof logic? ring out with such confidence and perfect faith in mamma's word, you wish your children had a like confidence in you.

It is so natural for these little people to trust us, that if they do doubt and question our word, our own tendrings must have brought about such a pitiable state of affairs.

"Don't do that again. If you do I shall whip you!" The little fellow glanced up inquiringly into his mother's face. Only three years old, but he had already learned to read his mother's moods; when she "really meant it," and when her face and words backed sincerity.

"All right! Go ahead!" his bad angel whispered, and with a gleeful laugh and comic leer, repeated the forbidden caper.

"Oh! you rogue, you! If you do that again, I shall slap you!" But she didn't, and the child knew she wouldn't, and thus this little fellow was taught to have little faith in, or respect and love for his mother.

We must watch ourselves even closer that these babies watch us, that we do not heedlessly and unintentionally tell them untruths, for their sharp little eyes and ears you cannot long deceive, and we would rather the whole world would lose faith in us than these innocent, trusting little ones.

"Burn! Burn!" was the warning note we sounded to turn our baby's little, toddling feet from the open fire, and she quickly learned to steer her stubbing steps in another direction, or to stay them the instant she heard the note of warning.

It was so very convenient having her obey the word without question or hesitation, we thoughtlessly, without the intent of practicing deceit, used the same term to warn her from outer, open doors from which there was danger of her falling.

Her loving, trustful, little nature, but observant eyes, kept faith in us just as long as she could: then, one day, stowed straight for the open door, shook her bright little head at us wisely, as she heard the old, warning cry, answering with laughing confidence: "Burn, burnie, no! no!" and stepped fearlessly over the sill, and a sorry tumble and a blue-black forehead was the result.

"To think my darling baby believed I told her lies!" her mamma exclaimed, caressing her sobbing little girl.

"Well, we did tell her lies," was pater-families comforting rejoinder. "We told her the open doors would burn and she believed the cheat as long as she could, but seeing us touch them unharmed, she tried the sill for herself."

But baby's lesson we heeded, and after that, used right words for every ill that threatened the little one, and "burn," "fall," "cut," "bite," etc., warned her from different sources of danger.

One other hurt my baby received because of an unintentional untruth I told her. She had climbed into a chair by the sink, where I was washing lamps. Leaving my work for an instant, I noticed she had reached the basin of suds and was about to plunge her little hands into it.

"Burn! Burn!" I sharply called the old warning words from across the kitchen, believing the water was sufficiently hot to burn baby, and instantly she caught her hands away from the dish. But the little thing must have noticed that on my return to the sink I put my hands into the water without harm, for a few moments later when the suds basin had been refilled with hot water, she laughingly poised her little palms over the dish as though to risk a bath of them. I was close beside her and said firmly as before, "Burn baby! water burn!" expecting prompt obedience; but this time, she believed I was cheating her, and with her little laughing, upturned face, and trill of "burn baby! no, no," she plunged her tiny hands into the water, and then there were screams of pain, and sobs and tears, and all because a dear little baby had lost confidence in her mamma's word.

JOHN'S WIFE.

ECONOMY.

[illegible] will serve to "lighten and [illegible] seems almost a godsend. [illegible] hold economy is a great one, and one that [illegible] fail to solve; and it must be solved in a great degree by the women, not ladies, but the common sense women, the working men's wives that struggle from day to day, from week to week, and looking forward into the dreary future see nothing but the same hopeless struggle. To you my sisters, I would speak a few words of cheer. You remember in an old song this refrain:—"There is never more night than day." Let us have an experience meeting and I will relate my own experience. In my early married days, the doctor's carriage was oftener at our gate, and the bills grew and grew as rapidly as Jack's bean stalk. We were poor and discouraged, and that, with poor health, kept the black cloud hovering over us much larger than a man's hand. Then our baby boy came, a weak, puny, and consequently a very fretful baby. The doctor was a daily visitor, we lived beyond our income, and could not help it. I then thought. But after many days the cloud lifted, not all at once, but it began to show a silver lining. I learned that when tired and nervous if I took a sitz or (sitting) bath, warm enough to be pleasant, that I was rested and my nerves soothed. When baby was cross and feverish a warm bath was much better than powders and pills. I learned that eating graham bread, oatmeal porridge, vegetables and fruits well cooked, kept that sociable, affable, but seldom welcome visitor away. The baby began to increase in stature and weight, and to look as a baby should, when one cold night never to be forgotten, he awakened us with that dreadful bark. Not a moment to spare, two miles to a physician, fires out, and our baby gasping for breath! What did we do? Pater-families rushed to the kitchen, got some lard and held it in a spoon over the lamp to melt; while he was doing that, I was wringing, not my hands, but a towel out of cold water and laying it on his throat and lungs. When the lard was melted we gave it to him. While we were working I sent up a silent prayer to our Father for our little one's life, and in fifteen minutes I was the happiest mother on God's earth. Our boy said "Oh, mamma!" We could talk and breathe. Soon Mr. J. bought a goose, and now I have plenty of oil for my neighbors and myself. I don't wait until I hear the croup bark, but hard breathing and hoarseness always causes the "goose grease" bottle to come forth, and then the soles of the feet, nose, chest and back are oiled, and now I am not afraid of croup. When our boy was three years old, a darling girl baby came to bless us with her presence. I had been preparing for her by dieting, bathing, and morning naps. Was careful not to overwork, tried to keep good natured, cast my corsets aside, forever, and when she came, a good natured, healthy baby I felt fully repaid. I never rocked her to sleep, just laid her on her bed and she went to sleep without any trouble. Of course I had to let her "cry it out" a few times, but that did not hurt her, and as I did all my work I could not spare the time to rock her to sleep. I often played with her and never neglected her, but did not spoil her. She cut her teeth easily, has never been sick, never taken a drop of medicine, and is over three years old. She is the light of the home. By studying, but mostly by experience, we have learned to use the water cure for simple disorders. Have cured the ague and bilious fever with it, and we feel very independent of the doctor. Of course there are times when he is needed, but not often, and when that no small item of expense is shut off, you may feel sure that better days are dawning. There are other ways of lessening household expenses, viz.: dress plainer, furnish home as you need not as you want, food that is plain, wholesome and well cooked, but will not touch upon them in this article. If I can help you in any way by advice or suggestion, write me enclosing stamp for reply, and I will gladly aid you if in my power. Address MRS. H. E. J.

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

MAY.—Puri is another word for the old fashioned seam stitch.

I wish you would give me an address where I can get directions to make zephyr flowers.

MRS. NANCY EASTERLY.

RADERSBURG, N. Y.

"Luello Haskell" can use most any of the patterns of knitted edging given in the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL for trimming children's clothes. —ED.

THOSE ladies requesting directions for crocheted shoulder cape will find a very desirable pattern in LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, of January, 1885.

MRS. DR. H.—To make skeleton leaves, have the ferns thoroughly pressed and dried, then put a few at a time in a solution of Labraque's chloride of soda, which can be obtained at the druggists. Put them in a covered dish, so as to keep them dark and clean, let them stay until they are bleached, then take them off on paper, and put them into cold water for twenty-four hours, then float them off on letter paper, and pick them out with a pin, cover them with another piece of letter paper, and put them in a book and press them, and let them stay ten days, until they are thoroughly dry, then take them off the paper, and make them up into bouquets.

The best cement for sticking shells, and ore, is made with common putty mixed with red lead, or litharge. Make it soft, so as to spread with a case knife, put it on about half an inch thick; the lead will harden it. M. F. K.

There seems to be a mistake in the 16th row of Handsome Deep Lace, given in November issue. It should read thus: Knit 27 stitches, make 6 stitches out of the loops, by knitting 1, purling 1, knitting 1, purling 1, knitting 1, purling 1; knit the rest plain. In the 17th row, knit 1, narrow, thread over, narrow, knit 9, narrow, thread over, knit the rest plain. In the remaining rows, after narrow and thread over 12 times, knit the rest plain. Knit 33d row plain, then repeat from first row. I have knit this from directions. In fine cotton it is very handsome. M. F. K.

SOME one asks how to sta np on dark goods, so I'll give her the benefit of my experience. Having something to do in a hurry, and not wishing to spend very much I got a tube of Winsor & Newton's silver white oil, used a new mucilage brush, and had no trouble. The tube cost eight cents, and I have used it at least a dozen times, it being so much cheaper than the ordinary stamping paint. I used it on plush, velvet, etc., [illegible] 45 and 50c. [illegible]

Deep Knit Edging.

Cast on 28 stitches; knit across plain.

1st row. Knit 3, narrow, knit 2, over, knit 1, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 2, narrow, knit 4, narrow, knit 2, over, knit 1, over, narrow, over, knit 1.

2d, 4th, and even rows, purled.

3d row. Knit 2, narrow, knit 2, over, knit 3, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 2, narrow, knit 2, narrow, knit 2, over, knit 3, over, narrow, over, knit 1.

5th row. Knit 1, narrow, knit 2, over, knit 5, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 2, narrow twice, knit 2, over, knit 5, over, narrow, over, knit 1.

7th row.—Knit 6, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, over, knit 1, over, knit 1, over, knit 2, narrow, knit 2, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, over, narrow.

9th row. Knit 5, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 3, over, knit 2, narrow, knit 2, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, over, narrow.

11th row. Knit 4, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 5, over, knit 2, narrow twice, knit 2, over, narrow, over; repeat.

SISTER MARY MCC.

ST. CHARLES, MO., Oct. 13th, 1885.

DEAR EDITRESS:—I send for the benefit of the sisters directions for knitting a very pretty skirt for a child. It is to be knit in widths, sewed together, and finished at the bottom with a narrow knit trimming. My mother has just finished one, and it is pretty and warm. The directions were given to her by a friend who is also a subscriber to the JOURNAL.

Cast 135 stitches.

1st row. Knit 2 and purl 1 all the way across.
2d row. Knit 3 and purl 7 all the way across.
3d row. Knit 6 and purl 3 all the way across.
4th row. Knit 4 and purl 5 all the way across.
5th row. Knit 4 and purl 5 all the way across.
6th row. Knit 6 and purl 3 all the way across.
7th row. Knit 2 and purl 7 all the way across.
8th row. Knit 8 and purl 1 all the way across.

This pattern is to be repeated until the skirt is as long as is necessary. It is intended either for a girl or boy. If for a boy, it can be used as a kilt skirt, with a waist. The one my mother knit was of maroon colored Saxony.

EMMA B. WALTON.

Corrections in Handsome Crochet Lace, Dec. No.—In the first row put 1 single crochet in 13th stitch of foundation chain, (instead of in the 10th) then proceed as printed.

4th row. Ch 4, 10 l t c in last place you fastened the thread, 1 single crochet in centre of top of 1st shell, 10 l t c in next single crochet of last row, 1 single crochet in next single crochet of last row, ch 5, 1 single crochet in next single crochet of last row, ch 5, 1 s c in next s c of last row, chain 5, fasten at end of row; turn.

7th row. Ch 5, single crochet in 5th stitch of chain 10, ch 5, fasten in single crochet, ch 5, single crochet in top of 5th stitch of shell, ch 5, 1 single crochet in single crochet, ch 5, single in 5th stitch of chain 10, ch 5, single crochet in single crochet, ch 5, single crochet in 5th stitch of shell, ch 5, single crochet in last stitch of shell; turn.

9th row. 5th stitch ahead means every 5th stitch in the row.

Lace Collar.

Cast on 28 stitches.

1st row. Knit 3, narrow, knit 2, over, knit 1, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 2, narrow, knit 4, narrow, knit 2, over, knit 1, over, narrow, over, knit 1.

2d row. Seam back as on all even rows.

3d row. Knit 2, narrow, knit 2, over, knit 3, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 2, narrow, knit 2, narrow, knit 2, over, knit 3, over, narrow, over, knit 1.

5th row. Knit 1, narrow, knit 2, over, knit 5, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 2, narrow twice, knit 2, over, knit 5, over, narrow, over, knit 1.

7th row. Knit 6, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, over, knit 1, over, knit 1, over, knit 2, narrow, knit 2, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, over, narrow.

9th row. Knit 5, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 3, over, knit 2, narrow, knit 2, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, over, narrow.

11th row. Knit 4, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 5, over, knit 1, narrow twice, knit 3, over, narrow, over, narrow.

12th row. Seam back, and begin at first row; knit about thirty patterns; then take up all the stitches of the upper edge, after which knit 6, narrow, knit 6, narrow, and so on till all are knitted.

Knit twelve or fourteen rows, back and forth; knit back every time plain. Last row, knit six, make 1, knit six, make 1, etc., then bind off.

I will also give directions for knitting the narrow lace that I use for a ruffle on the collar. Sew this on as full as you like. It is called Wheat Ear lace.

Cast on 5 stitches, using same number of thread as for collar.

1st row. Knit 2, over, knit 1, over twice, purl 2 together.

2d row. Over twice, purl 2 together, knit 1, purl 1, knit 2.

3d row. Knit 3, over, knit 1, over twice, purl 2 together.

4th row. Over twice, purl 2 together, knit 1, purl 1, knit three.

5th row. Knit 4, over, knit 1, over twice, purl 2 together.

6th row. Over twice, purl 2 together, knit 1, purl 1, knit 4.

7th row. Knit six, over twice, purl 2 together.

8th row. Over twice, purl 5 together, knit 3; repeat.

This is the collar I promised to send some time ago, but neglected to do so. I received notice from several, stating that they would very much like to have it. So now I send it. Please pardon me for not sending it sooner, and report how you like it. And oblige ZONA H. DIEHL.

PANERA, IOWA.

Rose Leaf Lace.

Cast on 29 stitches.

1st row. Slip 1, knit 3, over, knit two together, knit 1, over, knit 1, knit 2 together, purl 1, knit 2 together, knit 1, over, purl 1, over, knit 1, knit 2 together, purl 1, purl 2 together, knit 1, over, knit 3, over, knit 2 together, make 2, knit 2.

2d row. Slip 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, over, knit 2 together, purl four, knit 1, purl 3, knit 1, purl 6, over, knit 2 together, knit 6.

3d row. Slip 1, knit 3, over, knit 2 together, knit 1, over, knit 1, knit 2 together, purl 1, purl [illegible] over, knit 2 together, knit 4.

4th row. Slip 1, knit 5, over, knit 2 together, purl 4, knit 1, purl 2, knit 1, purl 2, knit 1, purl 6, over, knit 2 together, knit 2.

5th row. Slip 1, knit 3, over, knit 2 together, knit 1, over, knit 1, over, knit 2 together, purl 1, knit 2 together, purl 1, knit 2 together, purl 1, knit 2 together, over, knit 1, over, knit 3, over, knit 2 together, make 2, knit 2 together, make 2, knit 2.

6th row. Slip 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, over, knit 2 together, purl 5, knit 1, purl 1, knit 1, purl 1, knit 1, purl seven, over, knit 2 together, knit 2.

7th row. Slip 1, knit 3, over, knit 2 together, knit 1, over, knit 3, over, knit 3 together, purl 1, knit 3 together, over, knit 3, over, knit 3, over, knit 2 together, knit 7.

8th row. Cast off 5, (or slip and bind), knit 3, over, knit 2 together, purl 7, knit 1, purl 9, over, knit 2 together, knit 2.

9th row. Slip 1, knit 3, over, knit 2 together, knit 1, over, knit 5, over, knit 3 together, over, knit 5, over, knit 3, over, knit 2 together, knit 2.

10th row. Slip 1, knit 3, over, knit 2 together, purl nineteen, over, knit 2 together, knit 2; repeat from first row.

Purl means seam.

MRS. HELEN PIATT.

NUNDA, ILL.

Fan Wall Pocket.

Take a large palm leaf fean, and cover it smoothly with silk serge, pretty satteen or cretonne. The pocket part is made large enough to admit of being gathered or box-plaited, and to have a heading above or below it. Fasten it securely to the fan, and sew fluffy silk balls round the edge. Suspend it by a silk cord fastened securely to the point where the handle joins the fan, and sew a ball on each end of cord. I have made them plain with satin, the back faced with cambric, and the handle covered plain, and a bow of narrow ribbon just where the handle joins the fan. I hope this will be acceptable.

GIPSEY.

Deep Crochet Lace.

(This is handsome done in Saxony yarn.)

Coats' spool cotton, No 20. Make a chain of 23 stitches.

1st row. 3 d c in 3d stitch of ch, ch 1, 3 d c in same st, ch 2, skip 2 st, 1 d c in each of next 13, ch 2, skip 2, 3 d c in next st, ch 1, 3 d c in same, ch 2, skip 2, 1 d c in next, ch 3, 1 d c in same; turn.

2d row. Ch 2, 7 d c in loop of ch 3, ch 2, *3 d c in shell, ch 1, 3 d c in same, ch 2, 1 d c in top of next 4 stitches, ch 2, 1 d c in top of 7th, ch 2, skip 2, 1 d c in next 4 stitches, ch 2, 3 d c in shell, ch 1, 3 d c in same; turn.

3d row. Ch 2, 3 d c in shell, ch 1, 3 d c in same, ch 2, 1 d c in top of next 2 st, ch 2, 1 d c in loop, ch 2, 1 d c in next loop, ch 2, skip 2, 1 d c in top of next 2 stitches, ch 2, 3 d c in shell, ch 1, 3 d c

in same, ch 2, skip the loop, 1 d c in top of next st, ch 3, 1 d c in same stitch, ch 3, skip 6 st, 1 d c in top of last st, ch 3, 1 d c in same; turn.

4th row. Ch 2, 7 d c in loop, skip 1 loop, 8 d c in next loop, ch 2, 3 d c in shell, ch 1, 3 d c in same, ch 2, *1 d c in top of next 2 st, 2 d c in loop, ch 2, 1 d c in loop, ch 2, 2 d c in loop, 2 d c in top of next 2 st, ch 2, 3 d c in shell, ch 1, 3 d c in same; turn.

5th row. Ch 2, make a shell, ch 2, 1 d c in top of next 4 stitches, 2 d c in loop, 1 d c in top of stitch, 2 d c in loop, 1 d c in top of next 4 st, ch 2, make a shell, skip a loop, 1 d c in top of 1st stitch, ch 3, 1 d c in same, ch 3, skip 6, 1 d c in last st, ch 3, 1 d c in same, ch 3, 1 d c in 4th st, ch 3, 1 d c in same; turn.

6th row. Ch 2, 7 d c in loop, skip a loop, 8 d c in next loop, skip a loop, 8 d c in next loop, ch 2; repeat from * in second row.

7th row. Ch 2, 3 d c in shell, ch 1, 3 d c in same, ch 2, 1 d c in each of next 2 stitches, ch 2, 1 d c in loop, ch 2, 1 d c in next loop, ch 2, 1 d c in top of last 2 stitches, ch 2, 3 d c in shell, ch 1, 3 d c in same, ch 2, 1 d c in top of 1st stitch, ch 2, 1 d c in same, ch 3, 1 d c in top of 8th stitch, ch 3, 1 d c in same, ch 3, 1 d c in top of 4th stitch, ch 3, [illegible] scallop, ch 3, 1 d c in same; turn.

8th row. Ch 2, 7 d c in loop, skip a loop, 8 d c in next loop, skip a loop, 8 d c in next loop, skip a loop, 8 d c in next loop, ch 2, repeat from * in 4th row; turn.

9th row. Ch 2, make a shell, ch 2, 1 d c in top of next 4 stitches, 2 d c in loop, 1 d c in stitch, 2 d c in loop, 1 d c in top of next 4 stitches, ch 2, make a shell, ch 2, 1 d c in 1st stitch, ch 3, 1 d c in same, ch 3, 1 d c in 8th stitch, ch 3, 1 d c in same, ch 3, 1 d c in 4th stitch of scallop, ch 3, 1 d c in same, ch 3, 1 d c in 4th stitch of scallop, ch 3, 1 d c in same, ch 3, 1 d c in 4th stitch of last scallop, ch 3, 1 d c in same; turn.

10th row. Ch 2, 7 d c in loop, *skip a loop, 8 d c in next loop, repeat from * 3 times, ch 2, proceed like 2d row; turn.

11 row. Ch 2, make a shell, 1 d c in each of 2 stitches, ch 2, 1 d c in loop, ch 2, 1 d c in next loop, ch 2, 1 d c in top of last 2 stitches, ch 2, make a shell, ch 2, 1 d c in top of 1st stitch, ch 3, 1 d c in same, ch 3, 1 d c in 8th stitch, ch 3, 1 d c in same, *ch 3, 1 d c in 4th stitch of next scallop, ch 3, 1 d c in same; repeat from * 3 times; turn.

12th row. Ch 2, 7 d c in first loop, skip a loop, *8 d c in next loop, repeat from * 4 times, ch 2, proceed like 4th row. This completes one point. Repeat from 5th row.

3 d c, ch 1, 3 d c makes a shell; st., stitch; ch., chain.

By leaving off the point you have a lovely insertion. M. F. K.

Afghan Stitch—Crochet Tricotee.

For the benefit of those who may not happen to know the afghan stitch, I will give directions. The crochet needle must be a rather long one, of bone, the same size from end to end. Make a chain as for any crochet. Suppose we say 17. At the 2nd turn, and work back on the chain thus: Put your needle through the 15th loop, the one next but one to the last of the chain, and drawing the wool through, leave the stitch on the needle; with this and the 17th stitch of the chain, you will have 2 stitches on the needle. Put the needle through the next stitch of the chain, and drawing the wool through, leave that loop also on the needle. Go to the end of the chain, thus, and you will have 16 stitches on your needle. In making a chain for crochet tricotee, you must always make one more stitch than the number which the work is to have, so as to have a neat turn at the end. At the end of the first row, having all the stitches on the needle, take up the wool with the hook, and draw it through the first stitch only, then catching the wool up again, draw it through the stitch just made, and the next stitch on the needle; then through the stitch just made and the next stitch, and so on to end of row, when only one stitch is left on needle. Next row—Put the hook through the first perpendicular stitch of the preceding row, and draw the wool through, leaving the stitch thus made on the needle. Go to end of row thus, drawing the wool through each perpendicular stitch of the preceding row, and leaving all stitches thus made on the needle; then work back as in the second row. This is crochet tricotee, called so because it resembles knitting.

M.

Will some of the JOURNAL subscribers please tell me how to crochet a watch guard?

MRS. J. WHITE.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

BRUSH STUDIES.

NEW SERIES—NO. III.

BY LIDA AND M. J. CLARKSON.

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Many of our readers ask for instruction in landscape painting, while others as earnestly urge the continuance of flower studies. We trust that the course we intend to pursue the coming year will please and instruct both classes. We propose to take up, in this and subsequent papers, some simple studies of still life, one illustration of which is given in this number.

This will be found very helpful to those desirous of working from solid objects, while at the same time it will serve as a flat copy to the less venturesome. There are amongst our readers two distinct classes. One, only wishing to copy for recreation, or the adornment of home; the other, anxious to improve, and ambitious to excel in the art. When we began the first series of Brush Studies, it was more intended for the former class, but as a plea comes for more liberal instruction, we shall hereafter seek to gratify all our readers, while we beg of them to patiently await their turn, as sometimes studies will be more suited to the wants of one class, sometimes the other, without partiality.

There is no better practice for the pupil, than sketching in black and white, teaching as it does so clearly, the rules of light and shade. For, although copying in color from a flat model will assist you much in acquiring a certain amount of knowledge, and the principles involved in all good work; what is gained in this way is apt to be superficial, and the learner cannot give any reason for the methods he adopts. It is well to understand as far as possible, the why, and the wherefore of what we do, even though our object be mere pastime; for when we work understandingly, it is always to better advantage. Now if you will take the pains to arrange a simple study of solid objects, or in the phraseology of the studio, a study of still life, a very little practice will convince you of the advantages to be derived from it. We give in our illustration a mere suggestion. First efforts in this direction should be very simple, perhaps but one object at a time.

If you understand color well you have already a knowledge of drawing, perspective, etc. In fact, to those who are really in earnest as to this work, the knowledge of drawing and of form should be a first consideration. While we do not urge this branch of study, to the exclusion of color, as do many teachers, we would insist that you do not neglect it in your haste to make fine pictures. Indeed your pictures can never be more than mere copies, until you acquire a certain freedom in sketching as well as in coloring. The practice in charcoal drawing is excellent, but doubtless many of you will enjoy better the use of the brush. Painting simply in black and white, is a good way to train the eye to the true value of color.

Arranging a simple study suggested by our illustration, sketch your outlines correctly. Correct drawing is so essential to the success of a picture that we cannot urge its importance too forcibly; especially to those who would paint directly from natural objects. For here you will be unable to resort to the means used in working from flat copies. Transparent, or tracing paper is unavailable, for the sketching must be done at sight, and to be able to do this with either pencil, or brush, is a great step gained, and introduces the amateur into a new field of ever increasing delights. We have often spoken of the high lights, in our studies, that is to say, the spot, or plane in our picture where the light strikes most directly. You will see this clearly illustrated in our sketch. The light is supposed to fall from the left, upon the vase, or jar, the table and fruit in the foreground, as also across the curtain. It strikes these objects at the same angle with equal intensity, because it is a rule, "that planes at equal angles to the light take the same amount of light," and in this simple study we have strong contrasts of light and shadow; and contrast it is that renders a painting effective. In the dark, heavy curtains back of these objects with the middle, or half tints, as contrasted with the strong light of the foreground.

All these things must be carefully noted, and faithfully portrayed with the brush. Every tint you make in coloring should contrast with another, but these contrasts of light and dark would be too intense, and violent, were it not for the intervention of the middle accents which blend them together, making the harmony of your sketch. It is this study of light and shade which we give you for careful analysis and consideration, and painting some such simple objects, in black and white alone, will give you an understanding of shadow, half, or middle tones, and high lights; terms which occur so frequently in our lessons, and give rise to so many queries on the part of puzzled correspondents. It is our intention in next study to give explicit directions for painting study of hollyhocks for long panel, briefly mentioned in No. 15 of Brush Studies. This, at the request of many readers. As a rule it is best to paint flowers in their season, when we may have them to look at, yet we trust that having carefully observed the natural flower, with a good copy at hand, we shall be able to give all the needed information.

There is at present much comment as to the different methods of painting, and much diversity of opinion as to which is most desirable, or what is, or is not, the correct thing. Is it finical, or is it broad? By which it is intended, is it precise and minute as to detail, form and finish, or is it bold, coarse, indistinct as to form, showing well only at a distance, which lends an enchantment, that nearer view dispels. The two styles in the extreme, and extremes are always to be avoided, are so widely apart, that some have very naturally jumped to the conclusion that one, or the other must be correct, or vice versa; whereas each has its excellencies, and its peculiar adaptation to certain subjects. For instance, if Nature presents us with a flower with exquisitely colored petals, and a delicacy of texture rivaling the finest satin, does not good judgment show us, that in order to represent Nature's inimitable productions upon our canvas, we need skillful touch and delicate coloring. In order to gain this effect, some artists give a roughness and coarseness to their backgrounds, which by comparison, aids in imitating that fineness of texture seen in the natural flower. We hear much of "ideality" as being "the soul of art," but an ideal painting need not necessarily be an exaggerated one. Breadth is good, and a bold subject requires bold handling, but daubing and muddy colors are bad, and to label such subjects as "broad" does not redeem them.

Very few artists go to work in the same manner, or use identical methods, just as no two individuals ever report a conversation, or an occurrence in the same mode of expression, and yet many arrive at exactly similar conclusions. It is therefore quite impossible to lay down inflexible rules for guidance. It were well for us to make up our minds, at the very threshold of this delightful occupation, ere we step into the charmed precinct of the studio, or the class room, or in the seclusion of our homes, cultivate a taste for art, that we will not be opinionated, or narrow in our views of it, jealous of our own conceptions, or methods, or even of what we receive from some one else we deem an authority in the matter. An opinonated person never learns as much as one ready to get all the good he can whenever, and wherever he has opportunity. So, dear readers, whether your work be of one method, or another, matters not so much as whether it is really good, and possesses real merit. We should never have the ill nature to condemn what our neighbors may prefer, or what we may be unable to appreciate or understand. As the ear becomes educated to sweet sounds and harmonies, by practice and culture, so the eye is trained to artistic appreciation of beauty in art. The broad style has its advocates, and its good points, and just so work of the opposite class commands its admiration and extravagant prices. It is always our aim to give our readers the advantage of the best methods in use, as approved by good artists and teachers, not confining ourselves to any special theories of our own, or of any one individual. We shall ever strive to help those especially whose limited means debar them from an expensive course of study. The two styles of painting to which we have alluded, are undoubtedly the outcome of the Dutch, and the French schools. The Dutch with their passionate fondness for flowers seemed to think they could not portray them upon their canvas too faithfully. No wonder they painted each leaf and petal with such painstaking care, when whole fortunes were at one time sacrificed in flower speculation, which ran as high as ever did stocks in Wall street. So while the Dutchmen of the seventeenth century painted with such minuteness of detail, the French of to-day aim rather at general effect, believing that details mar the beauty and spirit of a picture, and that the main object is to get delicate color and form in masses of light and shade. A skillful French artist will so blend his color, and handle his brush, as to obtain most charming effects in this way. There is exquisite bloom on his flowers, and poetic refinement in the misty indistinctness with which they seem to melt away into the background. There is sentiment and subtle feeling expressed in this rare charm of tone and color. But alas! for monsieurs artistic fancies as interpreted by the average Yankee amateur. Instead of the living beauty of nature, with the softness and harmony of delicate tones and suggestive form, we have coarse, muddy, slack-finished daubs, needing a placard attached to tell us what they represent. There is really but one thing to recommend them, they can be hung either way up, without materially injuring the effect.

Let our aim be to learn what is really good, from the most reliable sources, and so make use of what we learn, as shall give us the best results.

The subject chosen for our next lesson,—hollyhocks, is a flower rather coarse in texture, bold in effect, and almost always viewed at a distance. We do not pluck it for corsage bouquets, or to grace our tables. It would follow, therefore, that a very bold handling is necessary if we would obtain the best effects.

If you will give the subject presented in this paper your careful study, it will serve as an index to the next lesson, and will the better enable you to understand it. Practice sketching with your brush, or pencil prominent outlines, then putting in the light and shade broadly. Afterward you may proceed, if you like, with smaller details of form. In studying from solid objects, this plan of using black and white only, is a most excellent one, as it saves the time lost in obtaining requisite tints, as well as the expense of paints, and yet gives powerful effects as to light and shade. One of our art journals gives a formula for preparing color which is perhaps preferable to the ordinary tube paints. "Grind up zinc white with a muller and slab, mixing with gum arable and glycerine the latter in just sufficient quantity to keep it from cracking, as it would with the gum arable alone. A very little is necessary, as it would prevent the color from drying. Test it on a piece of paper before using. With this color it is possible to obtain a brilliancy, and crispness of touch, not to be had with the oil paints, and without the shiny appearance so apt to characterize a painting in black and white."

In a late number of Harper's Weekly, appears a sketch in browns instead of black and white, with charming lights, half tones, and shadows. Burnt umber, yellow ochre, and white, will give this combination, and some artists seem to prefer it to the other. Whatever color you may use, study your subject carefully, and do not consider time lost, which is devoted to this pursuit.

Some teachers advise the partial closing of the eyes when analyzing a subject, squinting at it, you might say, in order to get the effect of color in masses. A north light upon the easel is always conceded the best, at all events let the light fall over the left shoulder, and from above. It is a good plan to darken the lower window sash, if you do not work in a regular studio, with some dark material. Never try to paint in a poor light, if you do not wish to get thoroughly discouraged, and to blame yourself for what may be in no wise your fault. Remember, too, your eyes are worth every consideration and care, and that nothing is more important in this work than good sight, which may be lost by imprudence.

"We cannot paint" say many of our correspondents, "what shall we do in lieu of this fascinating art? Embroidery is so expensive." Why not try appliqué work, which may be made both artistic and rich in execution, and like either of the above mentioned arts, applied to the decoration of screens, lambrequins, table scarfs, and various articles for home decoration. In our next paper we will give some hints as to this branch of work, which will prove of interest to many unskilled with the brush, or whose means are too limited to admit of the purchase of expensive material for embroidery. It is also a pleasure to be able to present our readers with hints from time to time as to the use of the lustra colors, brocades, and iridescent flitters, a work that has delighted many of our "shut ins" and invalids, who find it easy and fascinating employment. The work, when nicely done, meets with a ready sale in the cities, and any one with eyes, and the ability to hold a brush, can easily learn with no other help than the directions already given in these papers. It is capable of such endless variety, and combinations, as make it particularly interesting, and where good taste is shown in color and design, very beautiful decoration may be given to numberless articles at a small cost. At first we only thought it suitable for birds, butterflies, and bright insects, but experiment has shown that it may be used with very rich effects for certain flower designs. A very handsome decoration for scarfs, lambrequins, or hangings, is the calla lily, done in iridescent and brocade colors upon a band of plush, or velvet. If plush is used the paint is laid on very heavily, or the nap will take the flitter only upon the surface, and good effects cannot thus be had in shading, or in obtaining the brilliant lights so necessary in white flowers. For this reason it is perhaps best to lay a heavy coat of white paint over the entire design, letting it dry before proceeding to use the iridescent colors. We have just completed this design upon wine plush, and gives an illustration of it for the benefit of our readers. This, however, fails to convey any adequate idea of its richness. It must be seen upon the fabric in the lustrous colors to be appreciated. To do this work we proceed as follows: The centre of the flower must be shaded to give it depth. Paint the cup-shaped hollow of the calla with dark gray made by mixing black and white paint. Then while still wet, dust over it either the steel Lustra color, or brocades which come in that shade. This gives the deepest shading. Next, the point of flower with the shading underneath the calyx, which defines it clearly, is painted a lighter tone of gray, and covered with silver lustra, or brocade. Then the stem is painted a dull green, and covered with bronze green brocades. The high lights are now put in with pure white covered with silver iridescent, or sparkling silver in lustra. Either lustra, or iridescent colors may be used, or the two combined, with good effect. The stamen in centre is put in last with chrome yellow, shaded with orange, and covered with gold and orange iridescent. Grasses may now be interspersed here and there, to relieve the stiffness of the design, which is however intended to be conventional. These grasses are in bronze, grass green, terra cotta, and a few tiny spires of pale violet iridescent.

A specimen of the work will be given this month for one full subscription, or a club of six.

DECORATED STRIPE,—CALLAS AND GRASSES.

SIMPLE STUDY OF STILL LIFE.

ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.

"Mrs. C. L."—Your query is already answered in this paper. Apple blossoms are very pretty in iridescent carmine and silver, with green centres, for the leaves and stems using chrome green brocades.

"Sue M. N."—We should advise a simple palette for the beginner. Silver white, ivory black, burnt sienna, raw umber, vermillion, madder lake, chrome yellow and orange, Antwerp blue, permanent blue, madder brown, terra vert, and yellow ochre, ought to suffice for practice.

***

We continue to rent studies to subscribers to the JOURNAL.

Send stamp for list of hand painted landscapes, flowers, fruit, and studies of still life.

For a premium this month we offer a felt tidy, or clock scarf stamped with artistic design ready for painting, or embroidery, with butterflies in iridescent. These are given for one full subscription, or six names at club rates.

For a large club the work in Kensington painting will be commenced. Money orders must be made out on the office at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., but enclosed in a letter plainly addressed to either

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Finely Illustrated. Contains full directions for this beautiful and popular work. KENSINGTON PAINTING is done with Pens instead of brushes. This book tells what Pens and Paints to use; gives a Description of the Terms and Materials used; tel s how to mix paints in the Preparation of Tints and Shades; a so has an illustrated description of colors to use in painting Roses, Pond Lilies, Golden-Rod, Pansies, Cat-Tails, Clematis, Azalias, Fuschia, Sumac, Wheat, Japan Lily, Forget-me-nots, Thistles, Leaves, Birds, Owls, Storks, etc. The Instructions for LUSTRA PAINTING were written by the well-known artist, LIDA CLARKSON, and it is needless for us to add that the directions given are full and complete, and so plain that it will be readily understood how to do this fascinating work. The Instructions for HAND PAINTING gives Directions for Painting on Silk, Satin, Plush, Velvet, Felt, Bolting, etc. This book is FULLY ILLUSTRATED with artistic designs.
Price only 25 Cts. 5 for $1.00. Circulars free.
Kensington Painting Outfit, $1.50. Lustra Painting Outfit, $1.00. J. F. INGALLS, Lynn, Mass.

A LOVELY piece of hand-painted Satin or Velvet, 12c. I do Kensington and Lustra painting. Circulars free. MRS. LIVIE BRIGGS, Ottawa, Ill.

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Novelties for Decorating; Glass Shades below cost; Wax Flower Materials at greatly reduced prices.
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I will send, sealed, the best recipe there is for Fluid Stamping, and a table for mixing tints for KENSINGTON and Decorative painting.
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THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL

AND

PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER.

A NATIONAL ILLUSTRATED FAMILY JOURNAL.

CONDUCTED BY MRS. LOUISA KNAPP.

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PHILADELPHIA, PA.

THE CURTIS PUBLISHING COMP'Y,

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PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Renewals can be sent now, no matter when the subscription expires, and the time will be added to that to which the subscription is already entitled.

Notice is always sent of expiration of subscription. If not renewed it is immediately discontinued. No notice is required to stop the paper, and no bill will be sent for extra numbers.

Receipts.—The fact that you receive the paper is a proof that we have received your remittance correctly. If you do not receive the paper promptly, write us that we may see that your address is correct.

Errors.—We make them; so does every one, and we will cheerfully correct them if you will write to us. Try to write us good-naturedly, but if you cannot, then write to us any way. Do not complain to any one else or let it pass. We want an early opportunity to make right any injustice that we may do.

Philadelphia, March, 1886.

CURRENT NOTES.

When a woman is too busy to laugh, she needs a vacation.

Friendship and criticism are like oil and water—they will not mix.

Trust that man in nothing who has not a conscience in everything.

To find every one acceptable to you is to make yourself acceptable to every one.

Nature will lie buried a long time, but will revive on the occasion or temptation.

Harriet Prescott Spofford is engaged on a new story for the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

How can we expect another to keep our secret when it is more than we can do ourselves.

"How Could He?" a splendid domestic story by Rose Terry Cooke, will occupy our first page, with illustration, in the May number.

"Every one of those spots," frankly said a distinguished oculist, pointing to a distinct lace veil, "every one of those spots is worth $5 to me."

Christine Terhune Herrick has promised us an article on "The Tea Table and How to Make it Attractive," to appear in the May number. Next month she contributes another article on the servant question.

We intended presenting to our readers this month, three or four pages of Premium Offers, but our advertisers have crowded us so that we must defer it to another month. Our December number contains nearly four pages descriptive of premiums. Send for it if you get up a club.

One of the meanest occupations in which a reputable druggist can engage is to stand behind his counter on Sunday and receive the pennies of little children for candy. In the aggregate, a very large sum is received in our large cities in this way on Sundays, and in many cases it is money given by parents to their children for Sunday school contributions. Many of our drug stores are, on Sunday, little more than confectionaries and cigar stores. There is not the slightest apology for such sales on the Sabbath, and they should be suppressed.

Subscribers who fail to read advertisements make a great mistake. The amount of curious and interesting information to be found in the columns, of this issue, is astonishing. If you want to keep posted on what is going on in the world, the new things constantly brought to public notice, do not neglect the advertisements. Look this paper over and see if you do not learn of something of peculiar interest to yourself. Advertisements in this paper have our endorsement, and are known to us as first class, reliable houses. None others are admitted. If you send to any of them, be sure you mention the JOURNAL. This is of more importance than you may think.

POSTAGE TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

A discrimination in the rates of postage to city subscribers is made between weekly and monthly periodicals, to the great disadvantage of the latter; for, while the weeklies can be mailed to city subscribers for one cent per pound, monthlies can not be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent each, except where the subscribers go to the post office for their mail. We are, therefore, obliged to ask Philadelphia subscribers twelve cents extra for postage, unless the paper is addressed at the post office to be called for, or to any P. O. box.

A WORD TO ADVERTISERS.

Advertisers will please understand that it is useless to write us for lower than our regular published rates. We have never inserted a single line of advertising for one penny less than our established rate, and never will. Our space is always in demand at full price, and always occupied by the best class of advertisers, a fact proof in itself that it is worth all we ask for it. We have no space to give away, or let at half price, therefore do not send us any offers under our regular rate, as they will have no consideration. Not one line goes into the JOURNAL for one cent less than the regular rate. There is positively no deviation in price under any consideration whatever, to anyone, or for any amount of advertising, or any length of time. Any correspondence looking to a reduction will prove futile.

200,000 !

Of this number of the JOURNAL, we print not less than two hundred thousand (200,000) copies.

As we send this number to press—January 28th—we have over one hundred and fifty thousand paid subscribers on our books, and are receiving over 1200 new yearly subscribers daily, or 35,000 per month. By the time the March number is printed and ready for mailing, we shall need not less than 200,000 copies to supply subscribers.

Advertisers will find on file at all advertising agencies, an original affidavit, of the business manager of the JOURNAL, the Scott Paper Co., who supply us with paper, Ferguson Bros. & Co., who do our press work, and John F. Busch & Son who do our folding and binding, all of Philadelphia, said affidavits verifying our claims to circulation. We tell the exact truth concerning our circulation, and offer advertisers every opportunity to satisfy themselves thoroughly that they get all we claim, and all they pay for, when they use our columns. Our post office receipts, bills for paper, press work, and all subscription books are open to the inspection of any interested person who will take the trouble to call upon us.

But two other publications in this country—the Youth's Companion and the Century—are believed to have a larger circulation than the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, and we think we can surpass them both inside of a year.

Our advertising rates will be advanced April 1st to 75 cents per agate line each insertion.

TIME FOR BEAUX TO GO HOME.

Many a young man wants to know when to end his evening visit to a lady. That, of course, depends on circumstances. If, while standing on the porch, he should hear, through the window, a gentle exclamation of: "Oh, what a shame!—there's somebody else!" and on being ushered in, finds the object of his call bolt upright on a chair in the corner of the room, while a young man, with a stern frown on his noble brow, sits at the centre table, earnestly contemplating the family photograph album, perhaps he might as well take his leave in less than ten minutes. He is not very likely to enjoy himself much. If, on the contrary, he waits alone awhile, and hears a smutting of drawers overhead, and the young lady shortly after enters with a smile on her lip, a blue ribbon at her neck, and a rose in her belt, wearing, besides, her best earrings, and her sister's bracelets, he can stay quite a while. She would like to have him stay, and if he says something about "calling again," why, she will probably say: "I hope you will, Mr. Smith."

In fact many a man has lost his lady-love by staying too late. The girl is laughed at, perhaps scolded, and finds herself sleepy besides. It takes a very intense love affair to keep a girl who arose at seven o'clock awake until midnight. Yes, and it takes a very entertaining young man, too. Another thing to be considered, especially if Aunt Amelia or Uncle Samuel happens to be visiting in the family, is the size of the house.

"A queer thing to think of!" do you say? Oh, no! People do transform their parlors into spare bedrooms at times, and it is enough to make a hasty-tempered old gentleman disinherit his niece to see the young man who is "her steady company" sitting by the hour on the sofa-bedstead, which he is longing to turn down and turn into.

A sleepy visitor, sitting with half-shut owl's eyes in the next room, and members of the family occasionally peeping in at the door, ought to warn any moderately intelligent young fellow to say, "Good-night," even on Sunday evening, the privileged time for lovers in America.

If "she" yawns, I should say it was time to go—and one would fancy that the dining-room clock, striking twelve with a creak between each stroke, would be an awful warning to depart at once to any man; but we know it is not always so. Some men are so stupid and selfish that they stay on, and on, till their bored entertainers begin to think it is time for the milkman to rattle his his cans before the door and whoop in the area.

Come girls. We believe if you will interest yourself in us—we're very handsome—you can give us more subscribers in one week than half-a-dozen men. Try it. How would you like a half-dozen Roger Bros. best silver plated fruit knives? We give them for a club of only 20 subscribers.

"The very women who want their skirts trimmed most heavily," said a fashionable dressmaker, "are the ones whose backs ache so that they cannot stand long enough for me to try on their dresses."

SCRIBBLER'S LETTERS TO GUSTAVUS.

NO. VIII.

Now Gustavus, there are one or two things that I must talk about, because they weigh upon my mind, and I never could bear an unnecessary weight upon my mind. Thursday night you had the sulks; and for what? Because Julia didn't feel as if she could drop everything just where it was, and go off on a trip for a week, on Friday morning. Now, my dear, when you got a nurse for Bessie and the baby boy, you thought your whole duty was done, didn't you, and that you could sit back with a mens conscia recti feeling, and feel good. Now, far be it from me to depreciate any good move on any one's part, but hiring a nurse wasn't any special cause for self-glorification on your part. You wouldn't feel especially set up, would you, if you had hired another clerk to fulfill duties that there wasn't another soul in your place of business could undertake for want of time.

Julia was always wanting a nurse, and you did think perhaps, she'd be satisfied for once." But, Gustavus, you certainly have not reflected—it was a question of ability, not of satisfaction. "She was crazy to go somewhere last year when you couldn't go." Ah! indeed—you couldn't go! Why? Was it a question of expense with you? "No—but you couldn't leave at that rate. There were some things you had to attend to yourself that no other mortal could attend to, and Julia ought to realize that, but women never do have any head for business." Now, stop just there, my dear, for there you have the whole thing in a nutshell.

A house is a woman's "place of business," and a man ought to realize that. A woman can no more start off unexpectedly Monday morning to be gone a week, simply because her liege lord announces on Saturday night that he is ready, than she can fly. That is, most women can't. You would be the first to complain at want of system in your household, and how is system to be maintained without system. A man wants his wife to drop everything and go off for some days, and "can't see why packing a few winter things should interfere." Well, perhaps you can't, but if, when winter came, your elegant new overcoat was resurrected, devoured by moths, would you think of blaming yourself for the calamity? No, not by any means. "Julia ought to have done it before" would be your opinion.

Now, Gustavus, there are certain seasons for everything in housekeeping as well as in stock broking or storekeeping, and the sooner men realize this as a fixed fact, the sooner harmonious daily life will be restored. There are certain duties that every mother and head of a house must herself perform to be true to her position, and until she has these done, or has put them into such a shape that they can conveniently hold over till her return, she is not only right to remain at home, but she would be wrong to desert her post. I am willing to admit that Julia is foolish about children in many respects, (though I notice she isn't quite as foolish about George as an infant as she was about Bessie) but there are some points on which I am glad to see her firm. You think it is dreadful because she will put the children to bed herself, and will never go out anywhere till she has done so. You think her a dunce because she is not willing to trust them to any one else. You know that isn't so, for when I was at your house, she was perfectly willing to trust them with me.

Why? Because she considered me a responsible person.

"You are sure the nurse is well recommended."

By whom? I can tell you if you can't tell me. By a woman who never attended to the niceties of her children's bringing up at all. Do you know the manner of the recommendation? "You will find her invaluable. In all the two years she was with me I hardly saw the children. She kept them so nice and clean, and I never bothered my head about them. I was sorry to part with her."

Now, that sounds well, don't it, for the girl; but how does it sound for the mother? I think it looks especially ugly on paper. A woman who "never bothered" herself about her children for two years, in all probability did not trouble herself much about the nurse either, providing she kept the children clean and out of the mother's way. I happen to know that that same woman used to send the younger ones away with that same nurse, for three weeks at a stretch, to the seashore.

Do you consider such irresponsible mothers' recommendations worth much? I don't. I'm not saying anything against the girl, but I do say Julia is right to have an eye to all that goes on. The best nurse in the world never took the place of a good, honest, conscientious mother, and never will. We have been enabled to do everything almost by patented machinery, but there is no patent extant, as yet, that can take the place of mother love and mother supervision. And let me tell you one thing that I have learned, that a nurse can do more harm by injudicious talking, by telling a child frightful or improper stories, can inculcate more slackness of principle in the hour or so she has the children to herself, while putting them to bed, than a mother can undo all the next day. Think of this, Gustavus, and give Julia credit for her sacrifice, (for sacrifice it must be these hot nights) instead of blame for her foolishness. She is saving both you and herself a great deal of future trouble.

SCRIBBLER.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Mrs. Wm. H. W. would like to know what to put in the diamond dyes to keep the color from rubbing off.

"Inquisitive."—A really good article always finds a ready market with us as other publishers.

S. M. J., LEXINGTON, KY.—Send to Partridge & Richardson, Philadelphia, Pa., for the pansy pattern.

MRS. C. K. MARSHALL will find either of the rug machines very reliable, and both give perfect satisfaction.

INTERESTED MOTHER can obtain good safe reading for her children from the circulating library connected with the American Kindergarten, 70, Bible House, N. Y. Address Mrs. E. Coe for particulars.

CAN any one send me a sample of what is called "crackle work" or stitch? It is irregular stitches to imitate the crackle glass. Will pay postage.

G. B. P.

Box 1200, New Brunswick, N. J.

CAN you tell us through the JOURNAL where one of those little hand looms for making rugs, etc., can be obtained?

Respectfully, MRS. M. E. COLLINS.
CALDWELL, KAN.

JENNIE will find the Pearl Rug Maker very reliable. They can be obtained at LADIES' HOME JOURNAL office, for one dollar.

JACK.—Consult a competent physician for the erysipelas, and do not trifle with the disease by using remedies different people might suggest to you.

T. R. J., WASHINGTON, TY.—Plenty of sleep, and exercise that is not too violent, in the open air, are the greatest helps for nervousness. The compound syrup of phosphates, prepared by most any druggist, will often give great relief also. I have known it to succeed when all else failed.

BLUE EYES.—I killed my corns by shaving off all the hard dry skin with a razor, and afterwards wearing shoes one size too large for my foot.

M. J. V. C.

[If "Blue Eyes" would wear a hand made shoe after shaving her corns, she would have no further trouble.—ED.]

THE best remedy for a burn is to mix cat-tails with fresh lard, and bind on the burn. It acts like a charm.

M. J. V. C.

WILMINA REED, OHIO.—We admit no swindlers' advertisements to our columns. J. F. Ingalls is a reliable man. For Kensington patnts we would recommend R. H. Bragdon, New York, N. Y.

BOSTON, JAN. 11th, 1886.

EDITRESS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.—If "Hetty Marshall" will send her address to 6, Auburn Court, Boston, Mass., she will receive the directions she has asked for.

S. H. S.

MRS. IDA M. FAY will find by using Utile Dulci with a soft brush, she can heal her tender gums.

ONE WHO HAS TRIED IT.

[The address can be found on the third page of the February number.—ED.]

A SEPTEMBER correspondent wants information upon bee culture, and I obtained the following from a gentleman who had been some years in the business. She asks if any hive will winter bees on the summer stands. My informant says that in the fall they congregate in the centre of the hive, to preserve life, for if they get to the outer apartments they get chilled, and die. And since they lie dormant in the winter, and eat little honey until spring, it would naturally be better to purchase at that season.

A NEW SUBSCRIBER wants information on the care of her hands and finger nails, being a person who has her own work to do. We leave it to our readers to suggest some hints to her, and will just mention here that many people find the addition of corn meal to the water used for bathing the hands has a softening effect on the skin. Who will tell her how to prevent her nails from splitting?

DEAR EDITOR:—Here is something to prevent mice, which are very troublesome in the best of peoples' houses. Take mint,—either peppermint or spearmint—we used peppermint, and lay it around on shelves and cloths presses; in fact any place where mice frequent; renew it when it gets real dry, or once in two or three weeks. It is perfectly clean, and you can lay it in most any place you like, and it is a sure cure for mice. Camphor gum and sulphur, are also good to prevent the red or black ant. Lay it around wherever they bother. This little information I hope will be of good to the readers as it has been to me.

Yours respectfully,
BLACK EYES.

A NEW SUBSCRIBER will find it careful work to polish her piano properly. If the case is not a very old one, piano dealers tell us to ring out dry a soft sponge in clear cold water, and rub across the woodwork in one direction only, and only for one time. Then in the same way wipe off with a moist chamois skin. No hard rubbing however, must be done, and the wiping must be most cautiously done. If your instrument is an old one, it can be polished correctly by sending off to the manufacturer or dealer in pianos.—ED.

CLIFTON RANCH, SARATOGA, CAL., OCT. 21ST, 1885.

EDITRESS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I would like to make a few suggestions in answer to the parent who asked what books to give children to read. This is a question of much importance; children's brains crave nourishment as well as their bodies, and care must be taken to supply the want with wholesome brain food.

This is a good time, now that the long winter evenings have set in, to organize little home reading clubs. It is well to have method, and not read at haphazard. The best course, I think, is to begin with ancient history and follow it to our own times. In this way a more intelligent idea is formed of the gradual change and progression of the world, and the impressions are more easily retained when received in a continuous, instead of a disjointed manner.

Charlotte Yonge's "Histories for Young Folks" are excellent. Commence with her History of Greece, and after that of Rome. Do not fear that they will be dull. Children cannot fail of becoming interested in Greek and Roman history, for it is very fascinating. It is a good plan to stop at stated intervals in the reading (say every two or three chapters) and ask a few questions in review, to see how much has been remembered, and have a general conversation concerning the characters and customs just passed over. Many teachers prefer to teach history in this way, instead of having the pupils learn it by rote. They argue, that though at first, the pupils can answer but a few questions, after a month or so they will repeat almost all that is read to them; and that this method so accustoms them to remembering all they hear and read, that it becomes a habit of lasting benefit to them through life.

Then, as a dessert after the History of Rome, the "Zig Zag Journeys in Classic Lands," and Hawthorne's "Wonder Book," and "Tanglewood Tales," consisting of Classic Myths and Legends. Then the histories of Germany and France. After these, "Napoleon and his Marshals." If the children be twelve years, or over, old enough to understand Dickens and Scott, I would insert here after France, Dickens' "Tale of Two Cities," as it leaves such a vivid picture of the French Reformation.

Then, "A Family Flight Through France, Germany, Norway and Switzerland," by Rev. E. C. Hale and Miss Hale; and "Three Vassar Girls Abroad."

Then Dickens' "Child's History of England," Strickland's "Queens of England," the "Wars of the Roses," by J. G. Edgar; Scott's "Ivanhoe," and "Kenilworth," Scott's "Tales of a Grandfather," "Scottish Chiefs," "Our Young Folks Abroad," by J. D. McCabe; "Story of a Journey through Europe and Constantinople," "Zig Zag Journeys in Europe," and "Zig Zag Journeys in the Orient," "Young America in Japan," by Edward Greey; "Rolin's Tour Through Europe," by Abbott.

Then, to come to our own country, Higginson's "Young Folks History of the United States," "Washington and his Generals," Charles Coffin's histories, "Old Times in the Colonies," "The Boys of '76," "The Boys of '61;" Hawthorne's "True Stories from History and Biography," and "Grandfather's Chair." These of Hawthorne's can be bought in the Riverside Literature Series (Nos. 7, 8, 9, 10,) for fifteen cents each. Miscellaneous; J. G. Edgar's "The Boyhood of Great Men," "The Footprints of Famous Men," "History for Boys," and "Sea King and Naval Heroes," "What Mr. Darwin Saw in his Voyage Round the World in the Ship Beagle," adapted for youthful readers. "A World of Wonders, or Marvels in Animate and Inanimate Life," Miss Buckley's "Fairyland of Science," and "Life and her Children," should be read by every child, and also Gray's "How Plants Grow." Of the Science Primers, Geology and Physiology are as interesting to young readers as they are to older ones.

These primers are, I think, only forty-five cents a piece. For older people interested in music, the one on piano-forte playing is well worth possessing.

Those thinking of buying books should send for the catalogues of J. B. Alden, 393 Pearl St., New York, as his publications are wonderfully cheap.

The nicest present that can be given to a child is a year's subscription to the St. Nicholas, Harper's Young People, or the Youth's Companion. The first two are preferable to the last one, I think; but, be that as it may, the St. Nicholas stands at the head of all periodicals for children; it is unrivaled.

I hope this outline will be of use to some one; it can be enlarged and filled out as the wisdom and means of the parents suggest.

I. B. DISBRENS.

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THE PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER

DOMESTIC JOURNALISMS.

HINTS FOR HOUSEKEEPERS, CONTRIBUTED BY JOURNAL SISTERS.

Mrs. C. C. York will find recipe for sweet tomato pickle in December number of LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

If any of our readers have used the Arnold's Automatic Steam Cooker, will they please give a JOURNAL sister information concerning it, and oblige MRS. T. S.

CAN some one tell me how to make flour paste that will not spoil by keeping?
TACY KELLOGG.
GENESEE, ILL.

A CURE FOR ASTHMA AND LOSS OF VOICE IN CANARY BIRDS:—Burn clam shells until you can pulverize, then grind together, equal parts of brown sugar, and soda crackers. Have tried this for many years.

WILL some one of the JOURNAL sisters who has one, tell me where I can get a stove for heating irons, which burns charcoal, and which can be moved from place to place? I am anxious to buy one, but do not know where to send.
MRS. E. B. JONES.
POPLAR CREEK, MISS.

Do the JOURNAL sisters know that Glycerole, made by Restoff & Bettman, New York, is almost without an objection as a shoe polish? This is not an advertisement, but never having found a preparation before that would not crack the leather, I desire the sisters to know of this one.

DEAR EDITRESS:—What do you get for dinner on wash-day,—you that do your own washing—that will not require much of your time and attention, and yet be palatable? I usually bake potatoes for one dish, so that I can have the top of my stove for the boiler, as I do not get my washing out until after dinner, having two little ones to look after. INQUIRER.

EDITRESS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—The best thing I know of for an evening's entertainment is bouillon (beef tea). It is strengthening, invigorating, and does not affect the nerves like coffee, or unsettle the stomach for next day. In summer it can be iced. The best way to make it is to cut up lean beef into dice, put in a big dish pan or large pail or soup kettle, cover with cold water and let stand one hour. Then put on stove and just at the first boil remove. Skim, strain, and salt to taste. Can be made any time in the day, and heated when wanted. Serve in large coffee cups or tea cups. At some of the most pleasant parties this winter, all we had was bouillon and sandwiches of some kind, and it was enough. I wish I could impress your readers with the value of bouillon for an evening beverage. SUBSCRIBER.

EDITRESS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I want to tell the young housekeepers how I make jug yeast. I thought it was a great deal of trouble to make yeast when I first went to housekeeping. When I am ready to prepare a meal, I pare enough potatoes to allow a dozen more than I will want for the meal, boil and mash them fine, take out the extra dozen and put them in a jar. While the potatoes are cooking, I boil a handful of hops in a quart can filled with water, (I keep an old peach can on purpose, as the hops leave a taste in the vessel they are cooked in) strain the water (after it has cooled) in the jar of potatoes, add one teacupful of sugar, the same of salt, the same of jug yeast, or one cake of any kind of dry yeast that you know is good. Let it stand until it begins to work, and you will have good bread. Use one teacupful to set your sponge. I write this for the ones just beginning to do their own work. The ones that have been in the habit of asking mother how to do everything.
COUSIN DOX.

When your wood is damp do you fill your oven with it after a meal is over, so it will be dry for the next fire? If not, try it.

To blacken a stove easily shave a little soap into the polish, and moisten with boiling water. A little turpentine added is an improvement.

Have a row of hooks at the top of the inside of your closet door in the kitchen. You will find them handy.

Tack two chintz pockets to the lower part of the same door, to hold wrapping paper, strings, etc.

A Scotch housewife tells me that she has reared a family of twelve children, and that she never has a blanket or bit of flannel shrink. She does not leave the work to the servants, as it is hard to convince them that cold water does the work, so she sorts out all the flannels and blankets the night before, shakes well, and puts them into a good strong cold suds, next morning, they are washed through that, and another, rinsed in cold water, and hangs them out to dry, without wringing. If it rains, let them lie until fair weather.

WHAT SHALL WE HAVE FOR DESERT?

is a question asked daily in thousands of homes. Messrs. Burnett & Co., 27 Central Street, Boston, Mass., will send you, on receipt of your address and five two-cent stamps, their book of "Household Receipts"—72 pages of choice receipts. It is a most satisfactory answer. Be sure you mention the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. This is important.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

A FEW SUGGESTIONS FOR A TEA-PARTY.

BY G. B. B.

First let me recommend small tables; you will find them less formal and much less trouble. For the kitchen you can use the large table as a butler's pantry, and on it place all the cups and saucers, plates, etc., you will need, besides tea, coffee, meats, salads. I should, in fact do, use the sitting room for my tables, and entertain my friends in the parlor till tea. By doing this I can use the dining table instead of the kitchen. Each small table should be covered with a pretty towel or napkin, and the knives, forks, spoons, napkin, and glass put at each plate, and on each napkin a card bearing the name of the person who is to occupy the seat. In the centre of each table put a vase with a few flowers. You can arrange your tables early in the day, and can assist in serving in a manner impossible at a large table where you are obliged to sit and eat with your guests. Now for our tea.

To begin with—bouillon!

I think the best way, certainly the easiest, is to get a can of Liebeg's extract of beef. Mix one can in about three quarts of boiling water, and salt to taste. Let it just come to a boil, pepper a little, and your soup is ready. However, if you cannot get this, put on to boil in the morning of the day before your tea party, four pounds of the lean, cheap parts of a leg of beef. Let it boil very slowly until well done, in fact in rags; skim out the meat and strain. Let it stand till next day, when remove all the grease; heat it to almost a boil, salt and pepper to taste. This should be served in cups with saucers and a teaspoon. Pass bread, but no butter with it. A Julienne soup is made like the above, except when the soup is first put on you add one large carrot, one-quarter of a cabbage, one-half an onion, and one turnip, all well chopped. This is either served in cups or small soup plates, and bread alone served with it. An oyster stew, and we are done with the first course, for these three are the soups for a tea, and whichever you choose will find favor.

Oyster Stew:—One quart oysters, three pints water, three pints hot milk. Drain the oysters, and put the liquor on with the water, and salt to taste. As soon as it boils hard add the oysters, and let them come to a good boil, then skim them out and place where they will keep hot but not cook. Now add the hot milk and salt to taste, when boiling put back the oysters in the broth and take at once from the fire. Put in a good lump of butter, and four tablespoonfuls of cracker crumbs, and serve from soup plates at once. The next course of fish, I leave out as this tea is informal, though any fish that may be boiled, any preparation of clams or oysters will be suitable. If you use oyster stew don't let them come on again in this course; choose some other fish. But now I do not know where to begin or where to end my recipes. Scalloped and fried oysters I take for granted you have made, but one more preparation of oysters is very fine, and I must give it to you. It is fricasseed oysters. Two quarts oysters, one cup butter, one-half cup cream, whites of two eggs well beaten, two tablespoonfuls of chopped parsley, pepper and salt to taste. Let the butter come to a boil and in it put the oysters. Let them boil ten minutes and add the other ingredients. When very hot serve. Devilled salmon can be made with either canned or cold boiled fish. Pick up the fish in good flakes, not too large, and over it pour the following dressing: Yolks of three hard boiled eggs, one tablespoonful of salad oil or melted butter; rub with the eggs till a smooth paste, add two teaspoonfuls of sugar and mustard, cayenne and salt to taste, one teaspoonful of Worcestershire sauce and a little vinegar. Arrange celery tops or lettuce leaves on your plate, and over the salmon pour the dressing. Cut the white of the eggs in rings and garnish the dish with them. Broiled or fried chicken are both very nice. Another mode of preparing chicken is to cut the meat from a cold boiled chicken, chop it fine and add enough broth to moisten well. Heat and press in a mould, and when cold cut in slices. Turkey, chicken or veal scallops are very nice, and are easily made. Put in your dish a layer of bread crumbs, and season with a little salt, next a layer of the meat you are using, which must be cold roast or boiled and chopped fine; this layer should be quite thick, and seasoned with salt and a little cayenne. Proceed in this way until the dish is full, having the top layer crumbs, with butter cut over it. Moisten well with broth or milk, and bake one hour, half the time covered. Patés are always nice. Line patty pans with puff paste, and fill with bread crusts. When baked a rich brown remove the crusts, and fill with oysters prepared as follows: One quart oysters, place in a large baking dish with butter, pepper and salt, and bake until the oysters curl. In the meantime put in a saucepan one pint of milk, and as soon as it is scalded add one large teaspoonful of cornstarch wet in a little cold milk, when it boils season with salt and a large piece of butter. This gravy should be quite thick. Now to this add the oysters, but do not let them boil. Spread a napkin on a platter, a red napkin is pretty or a pretty doylie, fill the paté shells and serve at once. Chicken, veal or turkey can be chopped, enough broth or milk added to moisten well, seasoned and boiled up well to use in place of oysters.

But I have, as you see, found no end, and so I must leave with no hint of tea biscuit and rolls, of salads, jellies, custards, cake, coffee, and many other dainties for these teas. If you want more just tell me so, and my book is at your service.

COOKING AS AN ACCOMPLISHMENT.

A girl who deliberately marries without understanding the art of cooking as well as elocution, is a veritable nuisance. Especially is this true of those in modest circumstances, and who cannot afford to employ efficient cooks. Burnt fingers, sour bread, scorched roasts, leathery steaks, washy-washy coffee, and disordered stomachs are not conducive to the happiness one imagines will fill to repletion the honeymoon. There are so many reasons, logical and philosophical, why cooking should be taught young girls, not only as an accomplishment, but as the means of happiness, health, and success in life, that it is useless to enumerate them. One may thoroughly understand art, music, architecture, science and philosophy; be familiar with astronomy, mythology, the mysteries of evolution, politics and literature, yet if the chemistry of a loaf of bread has been neglected, the education is sadly incomplete.

Have you read W. H. MAULE'S Seed Advertisement on 9th page? If not, why not read it?

HOME COOKING.

ORIGINAL RECIPES CONTRIBUTED BY THE JOURNAL SISTERS.

CHILDREN'S FRUIT CAKE:—(very nice). 1 cup butter, 4 cups flour, 1 lb. sugar, 1 cup milk, 3 eggs, ¾ lb. currants, ¾ lb. raisins, ¼ lb. citron, ¼ grated nutmeg, ¼ teaspoonful baking powder; flavor with lemon.

NUT CAKE:—1 cup of sugar, ½ cup of butter, ½ cup of milk, 2 eggs, ½ teaspoonful of cream tartar, and ½ of soda, 2½ cups of flour, and 1 cup of chopped walnuts or almonds. Beat well. The following will make a nice frosting for the same:

Icing:—Soak 2 teaspoonfuls of gelatine in 1 tablespoonful of cold water. Set on the stove for twenty minutes, and then add 2 tablespoonfuls of hot water, and 1 cup of sugar. Beat until it foams, and put on after the cake has cooled a little. Cocoanut or chocolate makes a nice variation for this frosting.

KISSES:—Whites of 2 eggs, 2 cups sugar, 1 teaspoonful vanilla. Put the sugar in a basin on the stove, with about three tablespoonfuls of cold water. Cook until it hairs. Have the eggs well beaten, and turn the sugar little by little into the beaten whites. Let the sugar boil until all used. Keep stirring until stiff. Have a very hot oven, and on a piece of hard wood, lay a greased paper, and drop by spoonfuls the mixture on said paper. Bake until a light brown. They may be filled with jelly, whipped cream, or otherwise.

NUT MACAROONS:—½ lb. powdered sugar, whites of 3 eggs, well beaten, 1 tablespoonful of flour, ½ tablespoonful of nut meats (hickory). Mix together, and set in a cool place for half an hour. Grease your pan, put in one-half spoonful, and bake in a slow oven.

CHARLOTTE RUSSE:—1 pint of rich cream, 1 tumbler of currant jelly, 1 cup of white sugar, 1 teaspoon of vanilla. Line a quart mould with sponge cake or lady fingers. Whip cream, sugar, and flavoring until very stiff, then fill the mould first with a layer of cream, then a layer of jelly, cream last. Cover and set away to harden.

CHOCOLATE BLANC MANGE:—½ box gelatine, 1 pint cream or rich milk, 1 cup grated chocolate, 12 tablespoonfuls of sugar. Boil milk and stir in chocolate. Let come to a boil again, and add gelatine previously dissolved, sugar and vanilla to taste. Mould and put in cool place.
V. L. W.

PRESERVED GINGER PUDDING:—Take 3 eggs, 3 ozs. of sugar, 3 ozs. of butter, 3 ozs. of flour, ½ pint of cream, 4 ozs. preserved ginger, a small pinch of salt. Put butter, cream and sugar into a stew pan, and the moment it begins to simmer take off fire, and add flour, stirring well; put back on fire and stir a few moments, then add eggs, and mix well; then put in ginger, cut in small pieces. Pour in buttered mold and steam for an hour. Serve hot with sauce made from syrup of ginger, a little cream, and a few blanched and pounded almonds, with sugar, if needed.
V. L. W.

HARD SAUCE:—½ cup butter, 1 cup powdered sugar. Work the butter till like cream, and then stir in the sugar. Stir till white and creamy, then flavor as you choose. A cup of washed strawberries is a delicious addition to this sauce.

VANILLA SAUCE:—½ cup butter, 2 cups sugar, whites of 2 eggs, 1 cup boiling water. Cream the butter and sugar as for hard sauce, add the whites of the eggs, one at a time, stirring them in well. Put this in a bowl, and just as it is to be served, place the bowl in boiling water. Now add the cup of boiling water, and stir till the sauce is dissolved, but not a moment longer. Flavor highly with vanilla, and if you have beaten the sugar, butter, and eggs to a white cream, the sauce will be white and foamy, a delight both to eye and palette.

SANDWICHES:—Chop ham very fine, season well, and place between two slices of nicely buttered bread. Then with a sharp knife cut off the crusts, and cut diagonally across the rest, making two little three-cornered sandwiches. These are very dainty looking.

SCALLOPED TOMATOES:—Strain the liquor from a can of tomatoes and set aside to add to soup. Butter a pie or pudding dish; sprinkle the bottom with fine crumbs; pour in the tomatoes, pepper, salt and sugar to taste; stick bits of butter among them, cover thickly with crumbs, and bake quickly to a light brown.

PRESSED CHICKEN:—The chicken should be nicely jointed, and put into a kettle with just enough water to cover. Cook until the meat will slip from the bone. When done, take out all the bones. Spread a napkin over a cake tin, and lay in the pieces of meat, alternating the dark and white meat. Fold the cloth over the top, and place over it another pan which will fit in to press upon the chicken. Place a heavy weight on the pan, and let it stand until cold.

ORANGE SHELLS:—Take a half dozen oranges, cut them with a sharp knife through the middle to form a cup-like shell, take a silver spoon and extract all the juice and pulp from each shell into a bowl or dish, then remove all the cells and stringy part, and throw it away; have dissolved in water one-third of a box of gelatine, stir sugar enough in orange juice to make it palatable, then add dissolved gelatine and set on back part of stove until melted, don't allow to get too hot, have the shells arranged on ice, level, then fill each shell with the mixture, and allow to congeal, serve each one with a shell with geranium leaf on top.

A good way to serve cold meat is to chop it fine, and add to it a bunch of finely chopped celery, and one tablespoonful of home-made mustard, one tablespoonful of melted butter, one teaspoonful of salt, half a teaspoonful of pepper, two hard boiled eggs, rubbed fine with a spoon, and lastly add half a cup of good vinegar.

HOW TO PREPARE SAUSAGE FOR SUMMER:—Grind and season as for present use; have a jar ready by the stove, then make into cakes and fry until the water is thoroughly out, then turn all into the jar, carefully adjusting the cakes, and so continue until done; then let it stand until cold; then melt fresh lard and pour over until it stands two inches above the cakes; now cover and put away as you do your lard. When using from the crock the grease that you take out with the cakes must be heated and returned to the jar, always keeping a smooth surface to prevent penetration of air, which will cause the fat to mold and thus become strong. This is not only a rare dish, but one that is always handy. It will keep a long time. I had some this morning as sweet and fresh as when prepared last January. When I get a surplus of grease in the jar I use it to fry chicken, potatoes, mush, etc. I like it better for these purposes than clear lard. Try it and I am sure you will not regret it.
LIB M.

RIDGE'S FOOD FOR INFANTS AND INVALIDS

The contrast between a healthy, laughing, romping child and one that has all the movements of a grown person are painful to the student of nature. If your child is lacking in these elements of perfect childhood, try Ridge's Food. It is perfectly safe. More children have been successfully reared upon Ridge's Food than upon all the other foods combined. Send to WOOLRICH & CO., Palmer, Mass., for pamphlet for rearing children. Sent free to any address. Its perusal will save much anxiety.

CLUB ORDERS

We have made a Specialty since 1877 of giving as Premiums to those who get up Clubs or purchase Tea and Coffee in large quantities, Dinner and Tea Sets, Gold Band sets, Silverware, &c. Teas of all kinds from 30 to 75 cents per pound. We do a very large Tea and Coffee business, besides sending out from 60 to 90 CLUB ORDERS each day. SILVER-PLATED CASTORS as Premiums with $6 and $8 orders. WHITE TEA SETS with $10 orders. DECORATED TEA SETS with $13. GOLD-BAND or MOSS-ROSE SETS of 44 pieces, or DINNER SETS of 112 pieces with $20 orders, and a host of other premiums. Send us postal and mention this publication, and we will send you Illustrated PRICE and PREMIUM LIST. Freight charges average 75 cents per 100 lbs. GREAT LONDON TEA CO., 801 Washington St., Boston, Mass.

CRANULA

An Incomparable Food. Ready for IMMEDIATE USE. Unequalled for CHILDREN and INVALIDS. A delicious diet. Unsurpassed for constipation and dyspepsia. Sold by Grocers. Box by mail 50c. Our Home Granula Co., DANSVILLE, N. Y., SOLE Manufacturers.

TEA CLUBS

THE GREAT CHINA TEA CO

Give away as premiums to those forming clubs for the sale of their TEAS and COFFEES, Dinner, Tea and Toilet Sets, Silverware, Watches, etc. WHITE TEA SETS of 46 and 68 pieces with $10 and $12 orders. Decorated TEA SETS of 44 & 56 pieces with $12 and $15 orders. STEM-WINDING SWISS WATCHES with $15 orders. GOLD BAND or Moss Rose Tea Sets of 44 pieces, or White Dinner Sets of 112 pieces, with $20 orders. Send us your address and mention this paper; we will mail you our Club Book containing a complete Premium & Price List. THE GREAT CHINA TEA CO, 210 STATE ST., BOSTON, MASS.

For Bakings of All Kinds
—USE—
FLEISCHMANN & CO.'S
UNRIVALED
Compressed Yeast.

SUPPLIED FRESH DAILY TO GROCERS' EVERYWHERE.

Special attention is invited to our YELLOW LABEL, which is affixed to every cake of our Yeast and serves to distinguish our goods from worthless imitations.

Fleischmann & Co.'s
Compressed Yeast

Is really the only leaven that will enable a cook to make first-class

BUCKWHEAT CAKES.

But be sure that you get OUR Yeast and not a spurious article.

FACTORY-DEPOT:—
1221 Race Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

DOTY'S NEW WASHERS $6

The original inventor of the famous "Doty Washing Machines," has just brought out a Washer on an entirely new adaptation of the suction principle that quickly and easily takes out any "streak" in any garment without injuring a thread or button. It is called "DOTY'S YANKEE CLOTHES CLEANER," and to introduce it the first order from any town will be filled for only $6. We also have the sole manufacture of his great improvement on the original principle, called "DOTY'S LIGHTNING WASHER."

LABOR SAVERS, CLOTHES SAVERS! WOMEN SAVERS!!

Great inducements to Agents. Get our circulars.

DOTY WASHER CO., LA CROSSE, WIS.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

NEW FASHIONS.

A WORD TO MOTHERS ABOUT BABIES.

Facts of Household Interest—The Best Wearing Shoes for Romps—Novel Lace Braid Trimming—Some new Materials and Styles for Making them Up.

BY MRS. JAS. H. LAMBERT.

In the past it has given great pleasure to the editors of this journal to comply as far as possible with the requests of all correspondents, and now we venture to ask a favor of our readers, in whom we take a special interest. So often we wonder about their homes, and envy those who live in quiet, restful country places away from the rush and confusion of great cities, and frequently the mental question arises, if a genial writer has any babies, for be it known, we are specially fond of those lovable, troublesome atoms, that sorely perplex us, and yet bring so much brightness into our homes and our hearts.

We want a grand family picture gallery, and would so much like to receive photographs of the children of our subscribers; so please send pictures of all babies, say those of a month old, if they have been taken, up to boys and girls of five years of age. Send name of child in full, also of both parents, with address to Mrs. James H. Lambert, Fashion Editor LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, 441 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

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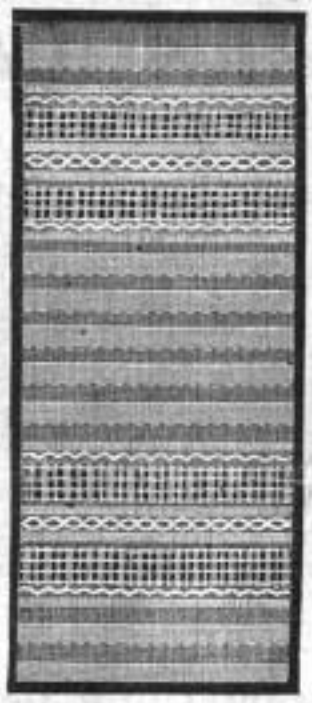
The chief attraction in some of our first-class dry goods, stores just now, consists of complete lines and full assortments of novelties in cotton goods; and never were sateens, cambrics, percales and foulards, more beautiful than they are this season, with their rich or delicate grounds, and novel figures. Some are exceedingly odd, and the more costly sateens are so beautifully finished as to be mistaken for silks.

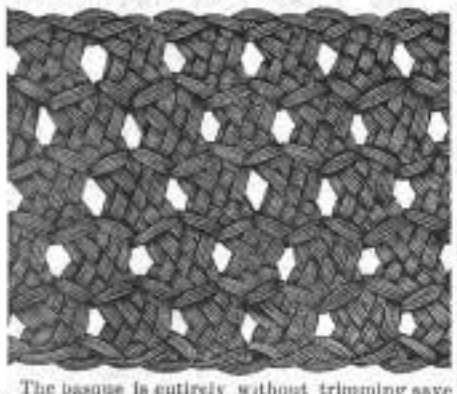
In white goods the all-over lace and tuckings are particularly adapted to the family necessities, as these Kursheedt novelties have the lace figures and tucks woven in or on the same grade material which is to form the other parts of the garment.



These goods are labor-saving as they are self-decorative and not only form entire garments, but are much used for such portions as we once formed of inserting and tucks, such as yokes, panels, cuffs, and babies dresses. Sharpless Brothers will send samples and prices of new dress fabrics and all-over lace and tuckings.

***

A very convenient fashion is going to be exceedingly popular this season; it is that of having the costume made entirely of one material, the suit to include skirt with over drapery, basque, and jacket for outside garment, or wrap. A most stylish specimen of such a toilette is made of Khayyam serge in navy blue. The skirt is finished at lower edge with side plaitings of material, while the gracefully arranged over drapery is bordered with Kursheedt's lace braid, which comes in all fashionable colors.



The basque is entirely without trimming save on sleeves, but the edges of the loose front jacket are all bordered with the attractive novelty. The clasps and buttons are of antique silver in quaint design.

If a lady desires to make her costume up without trimming, she can attain most satisfactory results by using the new boucle suitings from the G. H. Gubert mills, which have the cloth body and a surface dotted with curls, so that being self decorative no trimming is needed. These goods can be bought for 75 cents a yard, although they were manufactured to sell at $1.25. Still another useful fabric is the new braid cheviot, which comes in all the new colors and sells for 50 cents a yard.

In our article for next month we may venture to promise some decided novelties in dress fabrics, but they will not be any more serviceable, nor half so reasonable in price as those we note to-day.

Black goods are always handsome, and many ladies who are not in mourning, wear black in preference to colors. In silk and wool, and all wool dress fabrics, no goods have attained such popularity as Priestley's, and this manufacturer has just introduced eight lighter weight fabrics than the celebrated Henriettas, the material scarcely warmer than silk muslin, being intended for mid-summer wear, as are some of the other veilings.

In order that our friends may know what to ask or write for, we give some of the names of Priestley's black goods. Clairette is a firm handsome goods with a deep mourning effect, and can be used as a substitute for the crape veil, without fear of injury, as dust brushes off from it, and dampness will not affect it. Princetta cloth is a fine light Henrietta and Convent cloth has a Momie surface, while Imperial twill, and Royal serge, both have the effective diagonal cord. Gipsy cloth, a fine soft etamine, yet with a firm texture is suitable for children or young girls, who should not wear crape, and then there are the Feather and Pansy cloths, which are specially intended for summer wear.

***

A constant complaint of mothers is about the wearing out of shoes. Have they ever tried John Mundell's Solar Tip shoes, which are said to be so long wearing that mothers are always requested by dealers to get a size too large for the child, so it will not outgrow the shoe. Of course it is not to the dealers' interest to keep such indestructible shoes, for they spoil the trade in foot gear; however as they are sent everywhere, mothers may be able to find them in some of the near by stores.

***

The inquiries lately received concerning the various styles of Ball's corsets are certainly indicative of the great interest taken in any article of apparel which combines the meritorious qualification of adding to the grace of its wearer, by allowing ease of motion, with attributes which tend to promote good health. In their elastic section corsets, there are dozens of styles, made of the various materials used for such purposes, from the durable jeans, and pretty sateen, to the handsome quality of satin, in all colors. Ladies who desire further information about these flexible supports can, by sending name and address with stamp to mail order department, Sharpless Brothers, obtain, and illustrated circular and price list of some of the most noticeable of Ball's elastic section corsets for ladies, nursing mothers and misses.

***

Another labor-saving novelty has just been introduced by Strawbridge & Clothier, Market and Eighth streets, Philadelphia, Pa. It is an an odd looking miniature sewing machine, to be worked by hand, with a compressive motion, similar to that used in cutting out garments with large shears. While complete and perfect in its mechanism, it is so simple in construction that it cannot easily get out of order. Its lock stitch adapts it to all kinds of plain sewing, and it has decided advantages over the large table machines, in two special points; first, its price, which is only $5.00 for the machine with box, which can be left on table or mantel, without being in the way, and second, being worked by hand it cannot possibly prove injurious to the health of the seamstress, as are the heavy table machine, which are run by foot. A ready worker at Strawbridge & Clothiers made a complete pair of pants with this hand sewing machine in just forty minutes.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Mrs. P."—Your letter came after article for last month had gone to press, so sent your information by mail.

"Mrs. J. P., Ohio."—Either Demorest or Butterick will furnish patterns for complete outfits. It is Demorest who has the sewing machine for $19.50.

"Constant Reader."—Khayyam suitings or serges come in a number of rich colors, such as garnet, blue, green, maroon, wine, ecru and drab, price $1.25 a yard. You can get samples by writing to James McCreery & Co., corner 11th street and Broadway, New York. Front width and front breadth means one and the same. The redingote described was taken from an imported model seen at Sharpless Brothers, who import and design their leading styles.

"Country Millinery."—Write direct to the Kursheedt Manufacturing Co., 194 South Fifth Ave., New York, according to directions in their advertisement in this issue of L. H. J., and you will receive prompt attention to your request.

"Mrs. Lester."—We much prefer that you write direct to such stores as Sharpless Brothers, Le Boutillers, and others advertised; however, we will give you any desired information, if stamps are enclosed in letter of advice.

"Mother."—Write to mail order department, Sharpless Brothers, for misses corsets. Send 90 cents, which is 10 cents cheaper than you can get them, even through us. Send measure of waist, and age of child, and write for Ball's misses elastic section corsets.

Have you read W. H. MAULE'S Seed Advertisement on 9th page? If not, why not read it!

SHARPLESS BROTHERS

HAVE OPENED COMPLETE LINES OF

COTTON DRESS GOODS

—FOR—

SPRING AND SUMMER.

Sateens, Foulards, Cambrics and Percales; In New Ground Colors and Choice Effects.

SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR THE MONTH.

For Stylish and complete Costumes, ALL-WOOL BOUCLE SUITINGS, 42 inches wide, in navy blue, green, and four shades of brown; 75 cents a yard, worth $1.25.
New Cheviots, in useful colors, 50 cents a yard.
Kilberon Velveteens, New Colors, 75c. $1.00, $1.25 a yard.

FOR HANDSOME DRESSES.

Guinet and High Life Black Silks, $1.00, and $1.25 a yard.
All-Silk Lyons Ottomans, various colors, 95 cents a yard.
Colored Gros Grain Silks, 50c., 75c., and 95c. a yard.
Hamburg Embroideries, new designs, all widths at all prices, from 5c. to 50c. and 75c. a yard.
Misses Elastic section Corsets, 95c. a pair.
Ladies Muslin Night Gowns, $1.00 each, worth $1.50.

ALL GOODS SENT FREE OF COST FOR TRANSPORTATION.

For Information, Estimates, and Samples, write to **Mail Order Department,**

SHARPLESS BROTHERS,
CHESTNUT AND EIGHTH STREETS,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Read Fashion Article in this number of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, and please mention paper in letter of advice to Sharpless Bros.

TURKISH RUG Patterns. Catalogue Free. R. S. FROST & CO., 22 Tremont Row, Boston, Mass.

Le Boutillier Bros.,
Broadway & 14th St. New York.
ESTABLISHED 1840.

DRY GOODS.

We employ a large force of experienced clerks, whose sole duty is to attend with care and promptness to

Mail Orders.

It pays to buy Dry Goods in New York. You get the lowest prices, the latest styles and largest stock to select from. New York prices are 20 to 40 per cent. lower than those of any other city in the United States.

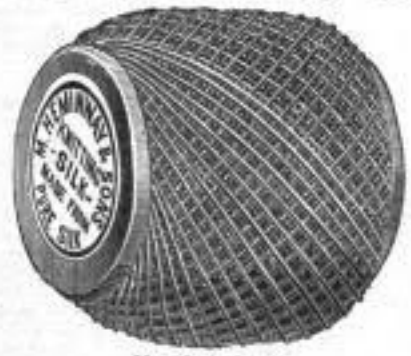
Write to us for samples, catalogue or information. Your letter will be answered; not thrown into the waste paper basket.

Complete Stocks of **Silks, Velvets, Dress Goods, Cloakings, Hosiery, Underwear, Table Linens, Blankets, Laces, Embroideries, Passementaries, Ladies' Shoes, Upholstery, Suits, Wraps, Gloves,** etc., etc.

Cut this out and put it in your scrap book.
To avoid delay, address all Mail matter to

Broadway and 14th St., New York.

M. HEMINWAY & SONS,
Pure Dye Knitting Silk.



Manufacturers of

JAPAN WASH SILK, JAPAN FILO FLOSS,
And PURE DYE CROCHET SILK.

To introduce our specialties in silk, we will, for the next 60 days, mail our book on Art Embroidery, for 4 cents in stamps. Address:

M. HEMINWAY & SONS,
78 Reade St., New York.

INFANT'S OUTFITS.

A bonnet, yoke dress, barrow coat, or skirt, etc., 10 patterns in all, 50c. First short clothes, Hubbard dress, bonnet, stockings, etc., 10 patterns in all, 50c. For 50c., patterns coat and kilt skirt, age 4 yrs. Full directions for each. LILLA BROWN, box 780, Brattleboro, Vt.

STATEN ISLAND
FANCY DYEING ESTABLISHMENT.
Barrett Nephews & Co.,
47 NORTH 8TH ST., PHILADELPHIA.

5 and 7 John Street, New York.
1199 Broadway and 248 West 125th St., N. Y.
279 Fulton St., Brooklyn.
43 North Charles St., Baltimore.

DRESSES CLEANED AND DYED WITHOUT RIPPING.

Goods received and returned by mail and express. Send for Circular and Price List.

Our Black Stockings
Positively
Will Not Crock!

Misses' Ribbed Stockings.
Ladies' Silk Finish Lisle Hose
Gentlemen's Half Hose

Unbleached Stockings Dyed for 25c.

THE F. P. ROBINSON COMPANY,
49 West Street, Boston, Mass.

KOCH & SON'S
Celebrated Fashion Catalogue
SENT FREE For Spring and Summer, 1886, ready March 20th, to any address. Illustrates and lists every thing for Ladies', Gents', Childrens' and Infants' wear and Housekeeping Goods, at prices lower than those of any house in the United States. **Complete satisfaction guaranteed, or money refunded. H. C. F. KOCH & SON, 6th Ave. & 20th St., N. Y. City.**

Ladies FOR VALUABLE INFORMATION Address: **Mrs. A. Fletcher, 6 EAST 14th ST., New York.**

SHOPPING IN NEW YORK.

Miss EDITH LITTLEFIELD, 47 Lafayette Place, N. Y., makes purchases of every description for ladies and gentlemen. Send for circular. Best of references.

LADIES' ELASTIC BELT,

A necessary article of toilette. Price, 50 cents. Send waist measure.

G. W. Flavell & Bro., 248 N. 8th St., Phila., Pa.

LADIES!

Hanover's Merchant Tailor System of Garment Cutting,

Is the very latest; superior to any in the market, and the only work that can be used successfully, without a teacher. Consists of a Square, Curvatures, Book, and 36 Diagrams. It instructs how to cut, draft, stitch, baste, drape, and finish ladies' children's and men's garments. Price, $5. To introduce, if ordered before an agent is appointed, will send sample by mail, on receipt of $1. Send for terms to agent.

JOHN C. HANOVER & CO.,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

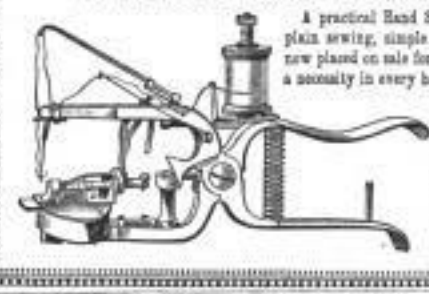
WARREN'S

(Made from Quills).

The best Elastic Bone in the world for dresses and waists. Will not break, warp, or split. Perspiration or laundrying does not injure it. Made in Black, White, and a variety of colors. Sold by the yard. For sale by the Wholesale and Retail Trade. Ask your merchant for it, and, if he does not keep it, any amount desired, will be sent you, postpaid, on receipt of of price, 15 cents per yard. Address:

WARREN FEATHERBONE COMPANY, Three Oaks, Mich.

A SEWING MACHINE FOR FIVE DOLLARS.



A practical Hand Sewing Machine (lock stitch) adapted to all kinds of plain sewing, simple in construction and not liable to get out of order, is now placed on sale for the first time; and it is believed will speedily become a necessity in every household. It is not used with a crank or fastened to a table, but its operation is similar to that of shears. It is easy to operate and can be used with entire safety by ladies whose physicians forbid them the use of other machines. Bobbin-winder, 50 cents extra. The complete machine and bobbin-winder will be sent prepaid anywhere for $5.50. Circulars free. Sold exclusively by STRAWBRIDGE & CLOTHIER, Eighth and Market Sts., Philadelphia.

KURSHEEDT'S STANDARD
FASHIONABLE SPECIALTIES.

—ADAPTED TO THE—

METROPOLITAN FASHIONS.

EVERY LADY who regards **FASHION** and **ECONOMY**, should send three cents in postage stamps for specimen number of DESCRIPTIVE ILLUSTRATIONS, which are issued quarterly, or twelve cents yearly subscription.

"Embroideries," "Laces," "Tuckings," "Braids," "Ruchings," "Appliques," Etc., Etc.

IMPORTANT!!

Ladies who desire to procure our Illustrated Fashion Sheets and Supplements, have only to cut out the following, and enclose stamps, (3 cents if for one issue, or 12 cents for a year's subscription) and send to the KURSHEEDT MANUFACTURING CO., NEW YORK CITY.

THE KURSHEEDT MANUFACTURING CO., NEW YORK CITY.

GENTLEMEN:—Please send me your Descriptive Publications containing the Illustrations of your Specialties and Novelties, for which, find enclosed, cents in postage stamps.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

Plants for Baskets.

A fine plant, if suitable in style of growth, can be very effectively displayed on a bracket. I prefer to grow most drooping plants in ordinary pots which stand on brackets, rather than to use the

MESEMBRYANTHEMUM.

baskets or hanging vases sold for plants of this class, because it is so much easier to take them down when it is necessary to do so. Hang up a plant, and, because of the trouble it is to climb up after it, it will very often suffer neglect. Have it where you can get at it readily, and you will generally give it the attention it needs. Most hanging plants suffer from drouth. A little water soon evaporates, and if you apply much it is likely to run over the basket or vase, and the ground does not soak up enough to do much good. If pots are used, they need not be filled with earth to the top, as the shallow baskets must, if you would furnish the roots enough soil to grow in, and in potting "low" as florists say—that is, not filling the pot with earth clear to the top, you can apply enough water to thoroughly wet the soil, without having it run off.

One of the prettiest variegated plants for growing in a pot for a bracket is Mesembryanthemum varigatum. This plant has thick, fleshy leaves, edged with white. The old Ice Plant is a member of this family. The branches extend over the pot, and droop gracefully.

IVY-LEAF GERANIUM.

Another fine plant for this purpose is the Ivy-leaf Geranium. This variety has foliage of a pea-green, edged with white. Some of the growth is often suffused with pink and pale rose. The leaves are closely set along the drooping stalks, and if you pinch off the top and force it to grow bushy, the pot will soon be completely covered with branches and leaves. It is a moderately good grower, but not as vigorous as the ordinary Ivy-leaf Geranium with plain green leaves. Sometimes a plant shows an inclination to grow up in a spindling, branchless fashion. Cut it back, and keep it cut back until branches start. Patience and perseverance, and kindly treatment will accomplish what you undertake. I do not use a very rich soil for this class of plants. They are not as robust and healthy as the unvarigated kinds, and cannot bear the stimulation a rich soil would give them. Be sure to sprinkle,—or, better, syringe, the underside of of the leaves to keep the red spider in check.

TRADESCANTIA MULTICOLOR.

Another good plant is Tradescantia multicolor. Every one is familiar with the old green Tradescantia, and most have seen, or grown, the variety in which the leaves are marked with olive and brown. This variety has stripes of pink, white and red running through the green of each leaf, and the effect is very bright and pleasing. It is a rapid grower, and requires the most ordinary care only. Give it plenty of water and keep the dust off its leaves, and that is all you need to do. It roots readily from branches.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Mary W." asks what to do with her Coleuses. She has a window in which Geraniums and Carnations grow well, and bloom well, but her Coleuses "just manage to live, and that is all." My advice would be, to throw them out of doors. The Coleus must have a warm, moist atmosphere in winter, and the window in which a Geranium flourishes is too cold for them. Give them the right temperature to grow in, and they are splendid additions to a collection. Unless you can give them such a temperature, they are nuisances, and the room they occupy might better be given up to other plants which will grow under the conditions in which you have attempted to grow them. If you wanted to winter them as stock from which to grow plants for next summer's use, you will find that it costs more, counting time given, and "fussing with them," than it would to buy all the plants you want, in spring, from a florist.

"Mrs. John McH."—This correspondent says her Geraniums bud, but the buds turn yellow, when half grown, and drop off. What ails them? I can't say, as she does not tell me anything about the treatment she gives them. Sometimes she may neglect to give them the water they need. This would be likely to cause the buds to blast. Perhaps the soil has been exhausted. Perhaps she over-waters them. If she grows this plant in a good soil, gives water, regularly, only when the surface of the soil has a dry look, and then in a sufficient quantity to thoroughly saturate the earth in the pot all through. I see no reason why she should fail to have flowers. It may be that the air of the room is too hot and dry. If so, set a vessel among them containing water to evaporate slowly, sprinkle all over daily, and keep a dish of water on the stove.

"Clarissa Potter" asks how to rid a Calla of a slug which she says is something like a fish scale. I have never seen anything on these plants which could be called a slug, but they are sometimes infested with the scale bug, which is probably what she refers to. This pest must be removed forcibly. On hard-wooded, firm-leaved plants I use an old tooth brush. On her Calla she can use a sponge. Dip it in soapsuds, and rub the leaves with sufficient force to dislodge the scale. After having cleaned it thoroughly, leaf by leaf, shower or syringe with clean water. There is no need of cutting off the leaves, as she was advised to do. Keep watch of the plant, and as soon as you see a scale, remove it. If it is given an occasional washing with soapsuds, I think she will find it easy to keep the pest away. If the slug is anything like those on Roses, dry hellebore dusted on them and the leaves will soon rout them.

For a covering to her arbor playhouse I know of nothing that will answer her requirements better than some of the climbing Gourds. They are vigorous growers, have large leaves which will furnish sufficient shade, and will, I think, stand the sun better than her Morning Glories did, though I do not see why she failed with these flowers if the ground was not allowed to get very dry. I have never known them to wilt in the afternoon, as she says hers did, except in cases of drouth.

"Lizzie."—Give your Calla warm water daily—as warm as you can comfortably bear on the hand—and I think you will coax it to bloom.

"E. S."—Thanks for the article entitled "Concerning Roots and Stems." You begin by saying that you "take it for granted that persons interested in the practical culture of plants would like to know something about them," which is as much as to say that you take it for granted that they really know nothing about them, and then go on to tell that "roots might be thought to be designed solely to hold up plants in the soil, but such is not the case." You presume too much on the ignorance of the readers of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. I hardly think any of them are ignorant enough to think that roots merely "hold up" a plant.

"A Lover of Flowers."—If you want the best plants, of all kinds, at very reasonable rates, you can get them of Peter Henderson & Co., New York. Their bulbs are quite equal to those furnished by the agents of the foreign firm of which you speak, and are cheaper.

I would like to have every correspondent who writes to know what to do with a plant which does not flourish as it ought to, tell what sort of treatment it has had. Generally the fault is to be found in this, and knowing what care it has had, a diagnosis of its case can be arrived at, in most instances, without being obliged to guess at it.

Wm. Henry Maule, the enterprising seedsman of this city whose advertisement occupies half of this page, has recently taken possession of his five story warehouse, which he has had especially erected the past summer to meet the requirements of his rapidly increasing business. It is said to be the handsomest, as well as the most complete warehouse for conducting the mail order seed business, in the country, the entire five floors, as well as the basement, being occupied in supplying Maule's Seeds direct to market and private gardeners. Some idea of the immense proportions of Mr. Maule's business may be inferred from the fact that in 1885 over 220,000 copies of his Seed Catalogue were mailed to gardeners in every section of the country. We can cordially recommend Maule's Seeds to all our friends desiring to purchase either vegetable or flower seeds of superior quality.

HOW TO KEEP FLOWERS FRESH.

The great secret of keeping flowers fresh is to keep them moist and cool. The heads of sweet-scented flowers should not be sprinkled, as that causes them to lose their perfume. Those who wish to carry flowers any distance should wrap them in wet paper and pack them in a box. The heads of carnation pinks and delicate white flowers should be covered with oiled paper. Florists send flowers hundreds of miles by taking these simple precautions, and those receiving the lovely blossoms are delighted to find them apparently as fresh as when taken from the plants.—The Household.

MAULE'S New Invincible Strain of Half Dozen SUPERB FLOWERS.

MAULE'S INVINCIBLE ASTERS. — Saved from a magnificent collection of the very best known varieties by one of the most careful growers in all Europe. Flowers of unusual size and most varied coloring Price per packet of 100 seeds, 15 cents each.

MAULE'S INVINCIBLE DOUBLE CARNATIONS. — From prize flowers, and with such a remarkable range of colors as to surprise every lover of this beautiful flower. Pkt., 15 cts

MAULE'S INVINCIBLE PETUNIAS. This equals in all points of general excellence any stock of this beautiful and showy flower ever offered. Pkt., 15 cts.

MAULE'S INVINCIBLE DOUBLE ZINNIA.—Should be included in every order received by me this season. Wonderful in size of flowers and magnificent colors. Packet, 15 cts.

MAULE'S INVINCIBLE SWEET WILLIAM.—Embraces a truly choice selection of brilliant colors, flowers of unusual size. Pkt., 15 cts.

MAULE'S INVINCIBLE VERBENAS.—Remarkably select and saved from the best varieties in existence. Unsurpassed, if equalled. Pkt., 15 cts

All the above 15 cts. per pkt. of 100 seeds, or 1 pkt. of each sent postpaid for 60 cts.

Address all Orders (Stamps Taken) FOR SEEDS OF THESE SIX SUPERB FLOWERS, to **Wm. Henry Maule,** 1711 Filbert Street, Philadelphia.

$350 A DOZEN OF MAULE'S SPECIALTIES FOR '86

MAMMOTH IRON-CLAD WATERMELON is in every way the most desirable of all Melons. LARGEST; MOST DELICIOUS; BEST SHIPPER; MOST PRODUCTIVE. In the last two years I have offered $200 for largest grown from my seed. Last year E. S. Mercer, Lawrence, Kan., secured the prize, ($100), with a mammoth weighing 108¾ lbs. This year I will pay November 1, 1886, $50 for largest grown from my seed. In addition to having as fine large melons as have ever been seen in your neighborhood, if you send me an order you will also have the chance of securing $50 November 1st. Don't lay down this paper before making up your mind you will try this famous watermelon. Packet, 15 cts.; oz., 25 cts.; lb. $2.00, postpaid. Among my other specialties for 1886 I would also mention MAULE'S EARLIEST OF ALL DWARF BEAN. I guarantee this bean to be earlier than any you have ever had. Matures a crop in 40 days from planting, and besides is wonderfully productive. I offer $50 for vine containing greatest number of pods raised in 1886. If you want beans long before your neighbors this is what you want. Pkt., 15 cts.; pint, 30 cts. MAULE'S PERFECTION MUSKMELON leads all in luscious flavor, while flesh is so thick that there is scarcely room for the seeds. I also offer $50 for largest grown in 1886. No words of praise can be written that would recommend Perfection too highly. Pkt., 15 cts.; oz., 25 cts. POTISON PUMPKIN. The largest grown. If you want to secure the prize at your county fair next Fall, this is what you want to plant. J. H. Branson, Manilla, Ind., received $100 from me in 1885 for raising one weighing 190 lbs. This year I offer $50 for largest pumpkin from my seed. Pkt., 15 cts.

MAMMOTH SILVER KING ONION. Largest and finest, weighing 2 to 4 lbs. first year; from seed. Have supplied 25,000 gardeners with seed of this onion in the last two years. C. J. Ostranda, Salmon City, Idaho, secured $50 for raising one last season, weighing 3 lbs. 10 ounces. I again offer $50 for largest raised in 1886. Pkt., 15 cts.; oz., 40 cts. MAULE'S GENUINE SURE-HEAD CABBAGE. Absolutely the best. Always heads even when others fail. $50 for largest grown in 1886. You neglect your own interest should you fail to sow it. Pkt., 20 cts.; oz., 40 cts.; lb., $4.00. NEW CORY SWEET CORN. The earliest of all. 5 to 10 days ahead of Marblehead. Pkt., 15 cts.; pint, 40 cts., postpaid. GOLDEN POP CORN. Surpasses all others, especially in remarkable tenderness when popped. Pkt., 15 cts. GOLDEN SELF-BLANCHING CELERY. Needs no banking, and ahead of every other variety at present cultivated. Pkt., 15 cts. STAMPES CABBAGE. 10 days earlier than any other; heads every time. Pkt., 10 cts.; oz., 30 cts. MAULE'S IMPROVED HANSON LETTUCE. Absolutely best of all. $25 for heaviest head grown by one of my customers in 1886. Pkt., 15 cts. each. IMPROVED STUTTGART RADISH. Produces fine radishes 5 weeks from sowing. $25 will be paid November 1, 1886, for largest sent me. Pkt., 10 cts.; oz., 15 cts.; lb., $1.25.

One Packet of each of the above will be sent postpaid to any address on receipt of $1.00, or one packet each of any 5 varieties sent postpaid for 50 cents. (Stamps Taken.)

My new Seed Catalogue, of which over 225,000 have been already mailed, will be sent with each order, whether ONE PACKET or A DOZEN are taken.

Address All Orders to **WM. HENRY MAULE,** 1711 FILBERT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

Mrs. H. has a small bay-window, she writes, in which she wants to grow some vines less rank than the Ivy. She wants to know what to get.

LYGODIUM SCANDENS.

One of the best slender growing vines is Lygodium Scandens, a sort of climbing Fern from Japan. It has very neat, pretty foliage, borne on small, wiry stems. It will run from fifteen to twenty feet, and is a most charming, delicate-leaved plant. It likes a rich, light soil, in which a good deal of sand is incorporated, so that plenty of water can be given without any danger of its retention, as would be the case in a heavy soil where much water is given,—the consequence of which would be "souring," which would result in diseased roots. This plant should be given good drainage; if this is done, and the soil is light and porous, water should be given every day,—enough to run out at the bottom of the pot. It is not a plant requiring direct sunshine. In fact, it will grow finely in complete shade. It should be given a wire, bent in irregular twists and shapes to cling to, and twine itself out and in among, in order to produce the best effect. The wire will hardly be detected among its branches, which, as I have said, are wiry in appearance, and the plant will seem to be self-supporting, and will have none of the stiff, firm look it would have, if trained on strings, or fastened up as vines usually are. When it reaches the top of the window, it can be allowed to droop, or be festooned across the ceiling. Sprinkle all over daily.

Another delicate-leaved vine is Campsidium Filicifolium. This is closely allied to the Fern family. The leaves are finely divided, and freely produced all along the branches. The treatment should be the same as that given the Lygodium. These two vines will, I think, answer all requirements. They are more airy and delicate in appearance than any other vines I can recommend, and they are easily grown.

CAMPSIDIUM FILICIFOLIUM.

T. H. G. writes: "I have a narrow window about which I have trained English Ivy. It has a northern exposure. I want some plant which will do well in shade, to grow in a vase, by itself. What shall I get?"

I would advise the Maranta. This plant does better out of the sun than when exposed to it. It has large, oblong leaves, produced from a fleshy root. These leaves are beautifully variegated. M. Zebrina is the most robust and healthy variety. This has dark, rich green markings, extending from the mid-rib to the edge of the leaf. These markings are velvety in appearance, and give the plant a charming effect. In a good specimen, there will be dozens of these leaves, standing up about a foot from the pot, with smaller leaves at the base. It propagates itself by suckers or offshoots from the crown of roots, and if these are allowed to grow, there will soon be a large cluster of them. The leaves spread out from the center, thus producing a very fine appearance when the plant grows by itself, and has a chance to develope without crowding. The leaves can be washed readily with a sponge or soft cloth. It likes a rich, loamy soil to grow in, and in order to grow it to perfection, the pot or vase should be large, as the roots are strong.

MARANTA.

May S.—You may succeed with the Neapolitan Violets, if your window for them is cool, but it must be very cool, indeed, to have them do well. They like a temperature not much above freezing, doing much better in it than in a warmer air. In this respect they are like the Pansy, which always gives its finest bloom in spring and late fall. In a dry air, the Violet will be almost sure to be troubled with the red spider, but you can keep this pest down by dipping the plant in water, daily. You might succeed with it if you kept the plants in some room opening off the sitting room, where the air could be kept moderately cool. If cold enough, at night, to freeze them, they could be placed somewhere over night where they would not be in danger of freezing, and replaced in the cool window in the morning. If you do coax them to bloom you will be amply repaid for all trouble, by the wonderful fragrance each flower gives out. I have tried them in the house, invariably without success, as the plants would make a rapid, weak growth, and the buds would blast. A pit, or cold frame, suits them exactly. In any of these they can be kept in bloom the greater share of winter, but it is too late to construct anything of that sort now. Another season you might try it, if your trial with them in the house proves a failure, as I fear it will.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Mrs. M. E. Simmons."—In answer to your inquiry about growing the Salvia, I would say that I am unable to make out, from your query, whether you refer to house or out-door culture. If the former, I reply: The Salvia is not a good house plant unless you keep the red spider down by frequent syringings with tepid water. The under side of the leaves must be wet. In living rooms the air is generally so dry that the spider will attack the plant before you are aware of its presence, and the first you know the leaves turn yellow and fall off. Give a light, rather sandy soil, with plenty of drainage. With these attentions it makes a good plant for the window. Out door it requires very ordinary treatment. I never try to grow it from seed, preferring to buy small plants. Let the soil be rich, mellow and warm, and the plants will make rapid growth and bloom well. I presume the difficulty you have had has been because you have tried to grow your plants from seed, and the season has not been long enough for them.

☞ All letters of inquiry intended for Floral department should be addressed to Eben E. Rexford, Shiocton, Wis.

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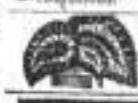

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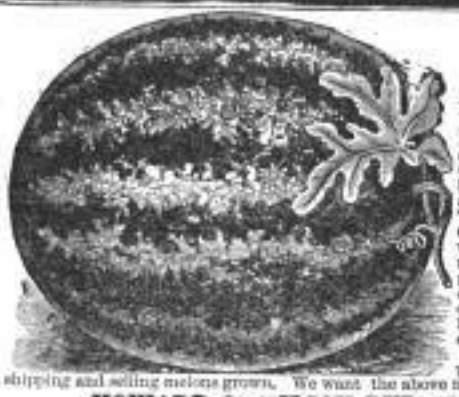

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HINTS UPON ETIQUETTE AND GOOD MANNERS.

NO. I.

Etiquette is defined as "the ceremonial code of polite society." But good manners cannot be obtained by the mere observation of conventional rules which prevail in society. The chief value of pleasing manners is their sincerity, and if they are not the truthful expression of the heart, they will soon fail to please. To be sure Lord Chesterfield taught his son, that fine manners were of such great importance in the market of life, that they must be most carefully cultivated, even if they were worn merely as an outer garment in society, and not evolved from the goodness, sweetness, and purity of the heart. And, even at this later period, this idea is still instilled into the childish heart, and what are called "company manners" are worn in society, as an accompaniment to the full dress of the occasion; and frequently they are laid aside with company attire, and churlishness and ill breeding will prevail in the innermost circles of home life.

Miss Cleveland says in her "Essays" that "Manners are not the character, but they are the dress of character. Character does not, at once show for itself; manners show for it. How have we clothed our character? Does its dress do us justice? If not, then we are unfair indeed, with a double dishonesty—injustice to ourselves—and injustice to others. Others invest in what they believe to be ourselves, according as our manners present us to them; and whether they are deceived in their investment or not, is our responsibility in the dress we give our characters. Our manner may cheat other people to our advantage, or disadvantage, but they should yield us a good income. Manners are of the surface and of the moment. They do not have to do with the depths, and the long run; yet, it is by the surface, that we enter the depths, and the moments make the long run." We are all apt to take much care and thought about our dress, but, we should take more care and thought in regard to our manners, not only in society, but our everyday manners at home—those we wear at the fireside. For there is where they are tested—there is where their true quality is made known; and if you would learn the innermost character of any man or woman, youth or maiden, study it in the home circle. And if the parents are not kindly, polite and courteous to each other, we cannot expect their children to possess good manners, for they come of an imitative race. Even before a baby speaks, it can be taught to kiss its hand to a visitor; and with the first lisping speech good manners can be inculcated. The mother who will teach her baby to say "please" for anything that it desires, will have laid a good foundation for courtesy in the after relations of life. Gentleness, and sweetness of manner are taught from the cradle, much easier than from the school desk; and the mother who leaves this most essential part of her child's education to the school teacher, has done him a great wrong. Every one appreciates a well bred child, but it is not every one who possesses such a treasure, and therefore children are styled nuisances at the present day, and landlords object to renting their houses to those who possess a number of these precious gifts. American children have become proverbial for their rudeness and ill bred ways, because their mothers neglect to train them in the way in which they should walk, and let them not only indulge in great rudeness and insolence toward each other, and their nurses, but also allow them to speak insolent words to themselves, and to disobey them in many ways, without systematic reproof and wise punishment being administered.

Before your little baby can speak, he can recognize the harsh and unkind words you speak, the rude tones of your voice, and his little lip will curl over, and the tear drops roll down his cheeks at once. But if you smile, and speak in kind, caressing tones, he shows his delight and tries to articulate his joy. It is true that

"'Tis only man can words create,
And cut the air to sounds articulate
By Nature's special charter."

And therefore he should show himself worthy of this heavenly gift, and banish from his lips the discourteous words which strike upon the ears of his victims with as much violence as heavy blows. So if we would desire to learn the secrets of etiquette and good manners, we must commence at the heart, and the lips, and train them to acts, and speech, which will show forth our desire to be kind and gentle, pleasing and attractive to all, rich and poor, high and low. For, surely, you cannot permit the man who labors for you in stable, or shop, on farm or in garden, to be more courteous and gentlemanly than yourself. And the mistress of the mansion cannot afford to receive more courteous manners from her maids and washerwoman, than she is able to bestow in return. If she does not say "please" when she demands service at their hands, can she train her children to well bred speech and manners? If the father will give his orders without kindness of speech, and will reprove disobedience with oaths and ill temper, can he reprove his son when he overhears him speaking to the servants in the same words that he uses?

A dear little girl of five years was heard using words that astounded her mamma, who closely questioned the servants from where she could have obtained them. They denied all knowledge of their source, and fearful of speaking to the child herself about them, she asked her husband to question her concerning them. When he asked his darling from whom she had learned to say "damn it!" she replied, "Why, from you at the stable, and, dear papa, if you won't say so any more, then I won't."

Imagine that father's amazement, when he learned that the words had been learned from himself, whom he considered the pink of courtesy and good breeding!

In Europe, good manners are met with in all classes of society, because they are most carefully cultivated from the table to the grave, and the children of all classes, are assiduously taught to bow to their superiors, and to be always kindly and courteous to their inferiors, and to each other. Punishment always following any breach of reverence and unkindness; and praises being duly given to those who excel in politeness, and well bred actions. When foreigners come to our shores, they are, therefore, at once struck with the rudeness and roughness of the masses, and even in what is called "society" the manners of brothers to their sisters are open to their criticisms. The young gentlemen and ladies may possess a fine varnish of outward manners, and appear well trained in all the rules of etiquette, but their speech, to those of their own family, betrays their ill breeding, and shows how superficial are their attainments in this most essential branch of education.

Half a century ago our district school teachers taught their scholars etiquette, and made them enter their presence with a bow or courtesy, and be kindly in their acts and speech, as well as cleanly in their persons. But now, few teachers consider it a part of their duties. Yet, if they teach them order and system, they may be laying a good foundation upon which to construct "the dress of character," the pleasing manners that will always attract friends.

Etiquette is given to us as a protection in society, a safeguard for men and women, therefore, its laws should be as strictly heeded, as the civil laws of the land; and we propose to give them to our readers in simple dress, with few furbelows, and to teach those who have failed to receive these valuable instructions in childhood, in the Etiquette of the Home, Visits of Ceremony, Friendship, Congratulations and Condolence, How to give Dinner Parties, Evening Entertainments, Receptions and Balls, Introductions, Letters, etc., etc.

And we hope that our readers will observe that

"Speech can make a shrewd discrepance twixt
man and man;
It doth the gentleman from clown discover,
And from a fool the grave philosopher;
As Solon said to one in judgment weak,
'I thought thee wise until I heard thee speak.'"

SARAH ORNE JOHNSON.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive, and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French, or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing, with a stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYES, 149 Power's Block, Rochester, N. Y.

To our readers who are interested in fancy work, and home decoration of every description, we would recommend the new book advertised by S. W. Tilton & Co., of Boston, Mass. Illustrated with nearly one hundred designs, and containing full and explicit directions for making many kinds of fancy articles, this book will prove of great assistance to those who may not be able to obtain professional instruction. Circulars sent free to all who will send their address, and the book promptly forwarded on receipt of price.

At last we have found it! Brassoline is the very thing that has long been needed for securing and polishing metals of all kinds. Being easily applied it is in universal favor, and in every case where it is properly used, will give the metal the brightness of new ware. Entirely free from grit, it can be used with good effect upon silver, and is the one thing needful in cleaning stair rods and brass ware of every description, giving them a brightness equal to new. Ask your grocer for it, and if he does not keep it in stock, send through him to Cushing Bros., of New York, manufacturers agents, and they will send you a sample package free.

Insist on having PAYSON'S indelible ink, remembering that any substitute is offered for the advantage of the seller. It is the cheapest and best.

Have you read W. H. MAULE'S Seed Advertisement on 9th Page? If not, why not read it?

10 CENTS PER COPY. SHEET MUSIC! FULL SIZE, 11x14. Best paper, sold everywhere at 30c. to $1.00 per copy. We sell it for only Ten cents per copy, or 15 pieces for $1.00. Two large cata'gues free. F. Brehm, Erie, Pa. Box 804.

PANSIES Woodbury's Select (Cream of all the Pansies). A Specialty. 300 Seeds mixed, 25c. DAVID B. WOODBURY, Originating Florist, PARIS, MAINE.

And a very pretty climbing plant it is. Perfectly hardy, the stems dying down every autumn but growing again so rapidly in the spring as to completely cover any trellis or arbor very early in the season. It is as easily cultivated as the Madeira Vine, and is produced from tubers which will make from ten to twelve feet of vine, and with its beautiful heart-shaped leaves, bright green peculiar to itself, and clusters of delicate white flowers sending forth a delicious cinnamon odor, render it by far one of the most desirable climbers in cultivation. A tuber planted near a door or window, and the vine trained over and about it make a fragrance worthy the admiration of all. The tubers are tender and must be carefully housed over winters without any protection, and when well grown will measure two feet in length, and they are fully equal to the best potatoes for eating either baked or boiled. J. P. RUNG, Tyrone, Pa., says: "The vine has grown about eighteen feet and was very full of bloom, with a delicious odor, scenting the air for a long distance. The foliage is very much admired, and is withal, a desirable one in the way of vines. When first introduced here from Japan the tubers sold for $5 each. We learn that Frank Finch of Clyde, N. Y., has made a specialty of this vine, and will send two vines or tubers free to any of our readers who will send 25 cts. to a name to cover cost of digging, putting up and mailing. We advise our readers to send to Mr. Finch and give this wonderful vine a trial, not forgetting to mention this paper.

W. C. WILSON, FLORIST.

My Descriptive Catalogue of choice Roses, Palms, Orchids, Greenhouse and Bedding plants mailed free to all applicants.

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Everyone knows that **NORTHERN GROWN SEEDS** produce finer, earlier and larger Vegetables than any others. We have bought 65,000 $1.00 lots of Garden and Flower Seeds, grown in **Minnesota** and **Dakota**, right under the **North Star**, and want you to try them. We publish **THE HOUSEKEEPER, 85,000** circulation and in its **ninth year** ("no chicken," you see). We are ambitious to bring this **Home Paper** up to 150,000 circulation. Hence the offers we make you:

1st OFFER—THE HOUSEKEEPER is a **monthly, $1.00 per year.** If you send your subscription for 1886 and $1.00, we will send you $1.00 worth of garden or flower seeds. For every two additional subscriptions **secured by you** at $1.00, we will send you $1.00 in seeds as above, and **will also send $1.00 in seeds to each subscriber** secured.

2d.—If you send your subscription to THE HOUSEKEEPER for 6 months at 50 cents, we will send 50 cts. in seeds as above. For each two subscriptions for 6 months secured by you at 50 cents we will send 50 cents' worth of seeds as above, and same amount to **each subscriber**.

3d.—To any lady who sends her address for a specimen copy (free) of THE HOUSEKEEPER, and 6 cents postage, we will send a 25 cent (retail price) packet of the new and beautiful **Giant Pansy** (imported **Trimardeau**, flowers 2¾ to 3 inches in diameter).

On receipt of subscriptions, we mail catalogue of the well-known seedsmen **Northrup, Braslan & Co.**, Minneapolis, Minn., with an order for amount due in seeds, which order will be filled immediately when sent with your selection, to Northrup, Braslan & Co. *The leading specialties of this catalogue will be advertised in March Housekeeper and selections may be made from that list by all subscribers.* Address **BUCKEYE PUB. CO., Minneapolis, Minn.**

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Off with the tariff on seeds! - - - - - Relief for the people!

GREAT SUCCESS TO OUR NEW DEPARTURE IN THE SEED TRADE

SEEDS AT YOUR DOOR AT WHOLESALE PRICES.

In order to sell our seed crop—1886—direct to the planter, we make the following PROPOSITION: ☞For **60 CENTS** in postage stamps or money, we will send by mail, postpaid, **19 PACKETS** one each, of the following new and improved seeds—**Bastian's Early Blood Turnip Beet**, the earliest and best for table use. **"BEST OF ALL" BEANS** most remarkable snap short bean in the world. Pods as tender and buttery in winter as in summer. **Hawaii Sugar Corn** from the Sandwich Islands; the sweetest sugar corn that grows. **Early Etampes Cabbage**, best and earliest of all early varieties. **sure Head Cabbage**, best winter cabbage in cultivation. **Wilson's Early Green Cluster Cucumber**, good for early cucumbers or pickles. **Golden Self-Blanching Celery**, needs no banking up; excellent quality; keeps all winter. **Perpetual Lettuce**, tender and crisp all summer. **Pride of Georgia Watermelon**, same sweet or better; ripens earlier than any other variety. **THE SPANISH NECTAR** A new watermelon from the south of Spain. First premium at Penna. State Fair. Pronounced the best-flavored watermelon in the world. **New Red Roman Onion** from Italy. Grows large onions from seed first year. **Tennessee Sweet Potato Pumpkin**, superior for pies or custards. **Abbott's Improved Sugar Parsnip.** **Ruby King Pepper**, the largest and finest sweet pepper ever seen. **Improved Long Scarlet Radish**, best for early use. **Half-long Strasburg Radish**, good for spring or summer. **New Brazilian Sugar Squash**, sweetest and best-flavored for summer or winter. **Livingston's Favorite Tomato**, large, smooth as an apple; productive; solid. **Early White Egg Turnip**, sweetest and best for table use. In all 19 PACKETS for 60 CENTS; TWO COLLECTIONS for $1.10; FOUR for $2.00. **ANOTHER PROPOSITION** To adorn your homes and make life pleasant, as we grow flower seeds by the pound, bushel and by the acre, to give our lady friends the benefit of the wholesale trade, we will send by mail **18 PACKETS** one each, of the following, for **30 CENTS**: **Asters**, fine, double, mixed. **Balsams**, extra large, double, mixed. **Double Rose-flowered Portulaca**, nearly all double; all bright colors. **Pansies**, finest strain. **Petunias**, large-flowering; **Phlox Drummondii**, all bright colors. **Verbenas**, ten beautiful colors. **Zinnias**, large, double, bright colors. **Chrysanthemum** (Paris Daisy), very fine. **Mignonette**, sweet scented. **Double Balsam Apple**, fine for arbors. One splendid **Climbing Plant**. One beautiful **Everlasting Flower**. In all, 18 PACKETS for 30 CTS.; TWO COLLECTIONS for 50 CTS. Directions for cultivating on each packet. ONE COLLECTION OF FLOWER SEEDS AND ONE OF VEGETABLE SEEDS FOR 50 CENTS, OR TWO OF EACH FOR $1.00. ☞Your beautiful Illustrated Catalogue accompanies each order. ☞No changes. Address **SAMUEL WILSON** SEED & FLOWER, MECHANICSVILLE, BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

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A remarkable and interesting curiosity. The cucumber grows curled up like a snake with the head protruding, and sometimes are SIX FEET IN LENGTH. The illustration well represents their shape, and although they attain such a great size, the quality is generally fair. I will send one packet FREE to any reader of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL who will send a 2 cent stamp for return postage.

Russian Sunflower—heads 12 to 18 inches in diameter. **Mammoth Cabbage**, 30 to 50 lbs. each; **Mammoth Pumpkin**—have been grown to weigh 150 lbs.; **Nest Egg Gourd**—will run 15 to 20 feet; covered with fruit exactly the shape and size of hen's eggs; **Conover's Asparagus**; **Early Blood Beet**; **Golden Wax Bean**; **Triumph Sweet Corn**; **Long Orange Carrot**; **Curled Cress**; **Cluster Cucumbers**; **Silesia Lettuce**; **Nutmeg Musk Melon**; **Nut Sweet Watermelon**; **Sweet Spanish Pepper**; **Long White Parsnip**; **Scarlet Radish**; **Round Leaved Spinach**; **Acme Tomato**; **White Dutch Turnip**. SELECT FLOWER SEEDS—**Petunia**; **Japan Cockscomb**; **Sweet William**; **Perilla**; **Portulaca**; **Phlox Drummondii**; **Sweet Peas**; **Gilia**; **Fragrant Candytuft**; **Acrolinium**; **Marigold** and **Double Zinnia**.

The above list comprises 33 varieties of the choicest Seeds ever put up and sold for one dollar. I have sold over Ten Thousand collections, and they have always given perfect satisfaction.

☞ **A SPECIAL OFFER** ☜

I will send the above collection (33 packages) to any reader of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL who will send 60 cents; or for $1.00 will send two Collections. Only think. Just half price, and half what I am getting for the same from my customers. **REMEMBER**, this is a special offer to the readers of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, and I expect to hear from hundreds who are wise enough to appreciate my LIBERAL PROPOSITION. Do not delay, but write at once; remit by postal note, or enclose stamps. Address plainly, **FRANK FINCH, Clyde, N. Y.**

Mr. F. Finch will do what he says.—LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

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This variety is distinguished from all others by its short, stiff stalks, as shown in the engraving, standing up like a tree without support of any kind. It bears very abundantly of fine, large, bright red tomatoes, of good smooth shape, and fine flavor. The leaves are very early and of a very dark green, almost black, making the plant very ornamental, as well as useful. (Sold last season at 25c. per packet.) I will send one packet, also pkt. of Phlox Drummondii, a Beautiful Brilliant Flower, with my Illustrated Catalogue FREE for 5 cts. in stamps to pay postage. Mention this paper. Address **FRANK FINCH, Clyde, N. Y.**

ANY LADY can earn $5.00 per day selling flower seeds. New method; grand success; no competition. Address F. N. LANG, Baraboo, Wis.

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By 6 Hardy Climbing Roses, or 3 Fine Moss Roses, or 6 Single Geraniums, or 6 Double Geraniums, or 3 Fancy leaf Geraniums, or 6 Fuchsias, or 4 Chrysanthemums, or 3 Hibiscus, or 6 Carnation Pinks, or 4 Fancy Leaf Coleus, or 5 Begonias, or 3 Sweet scented Violets or 3 Tuberose Bulbs, or 6 Gladiolus, or 15 Packets either Flower or Vegetable Seeds.

For $1.25 I will send any 3 of the above collections, or for $2.50 I will send 3 of these collections, my selection of sorts, but all strong plants for immediate blooming, labeled, delivered safely by mail. Choice new Roses and other plants given away with each $1.25 order. **Illustrated Catalogue of Seeds and Plants free.** Address

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This new and valuable variety for field culture is the most prolific bean yet known; it is what its name indicates, a Tree Bean; grows to the height of 18 to 30 inches, branching out in all directions, bearing its grain so high that the pods do not touch the ground, enabling it to stand a wet spell without injury to the crop. They yield from 150 to 250 pods to the vine. G. P. BANNIGAN, Esq., of Massillon, Ohio, grew a plant on which were 32 FULL-SIZED PODS—or over TWO THOUSAND BEANS FROM ONE! The average yield is about sixty bushels per acre, while they have yielded on small plots of ground at the rate of 116 bushels to the acre. Quality excellent; will give perfect satisfaction.

$50 IN PRIZES GIVEN AWAY.

I have put up exactly seven ounces of the Prolific Tree Beans, in a bottle, which will not be opened until May 1st, 1886. They will then be counted, and the person who will guess the number of beans contained in the bottle, will receive $25 in cash; the person who will guess next nearest will receive $10 worth of choice Seeds; next $5 worth of Seeds; next $3 worth of Seeds. Due bill will be sent giving every one a chance to make their own Selection of Seeds from my Catalogue. For 25 cts in stamps I will send a package of beans enough to plant three hundred hills; for $1.00, will send 5 packages—by mail, post-paid. Every person sending 25 cts. for a Package is entitled to compete for one of the above Prizes. Do not delay, but enclose 25 cents and make your guess. And be sure and remember EVERY PERSON answering this advertisement will receive a PRESENT worth at least 25 cents, and a chance to win one of the above Prizes. Address at once, **FRANK FINCH, Clyde, Wayne Co., N. Y.**

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HOW SOME LITTLE PEOPLE MADE THEMSELVES USEFUL.

PART I.

Rob Livingston had just returned from a visit to his Aunt and Uncle Beverly's, and had had a happy time with his cousins, Johnnie and May.

When Rob's sister Mabel coaxed him to tell her of his visit, as they sat a few minutes together soon after his arrival, he declared that he couldn't tell her anything about it until his papa came home.

"For I've a plan, Mabel, and papa must hear it, too. I will tell you altogether, after supper. It's something cousin Johnnie has been doing, and he earned enough money to buy all of his school books for this year. That's what I'm going to try to do; but papa must hear, for I shall need his help.

Mabel was very enthusiastic over what Rob had to tell, for, she said, "What cousin John can do brother Rob can do, and it will help papa so much. School books for both of us costs a great deal." The children had, from their earliest childhood been taught to help their parents in every way they could, and many, many steps they saved their mother by running errands willingly and promptly whenever asked; and although their parents were in very comfortable circumstances, and could provide their children with everything they needed, they had taught them the truth of the old saying "What is worth having is worth working for."

Mabel, so full of Rob's plan that was to be unfolded to them all that evening, ran down to the gate as her father came home, saying:

"Oh Papa! Rob's come home; he is going to entertain us this evening by telling us of some work cousin John has been doing, by which he made money enough to buy all his school books. Rob wants to try it. Wouldn't it be nice if he could do as well?"

"It would, indeed," answered papa. "But what did Johnnie do?"

"Rob wouldn't tell me, but made me wait until after supper, when he could tell us altogether; for, he said, he needed your help," said Mabel.

"Well, wait and see, little daughter," said papa, as they were joined by Rob himself, who was very glad to get back home again, and glad to see his father.

After the supper had been cleared away, and the family had sat down for a quiet evening together, Mr. Livingstone said:

"Well, my son, Mabel tells me that you have something to say to us about some work cousin

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 13.)

A treasure of interesting matter—the new LADIES' BOOK. Beautifully printed with illustrations on cream super calendared paper, all sent postpaid, with pretty picture card and other interesting enclosures, for only four cents in stamps, by addressing the old reliable house of R. H. McDONALD & Co., N. Y. City.

ETCHERS AND ETCHING.

It is not unusual among the uninitiated to hear the term etching applied to pretty little vignettes drawn with the pencil or pen. This is incorrect; etching is not an effect, but a process. To produce an etching the artist takes a plate, usually of copper, and coats it with a preparation of wax and other ingredients. Upon this ground he draws his subject with a sharp-pointed instrument in such a manner that each scratch will expose the copper, and in exactly the same manner as if he were making a pen-drawing. He then immerses the plate in dilute nitric acid, to the end that the uncovered portion or scratched lines may be bitten or eaten into by the acid. This is a rude description of the process, but there are many modifications and peculiar methods used by individual artists. The most important of these is what is known as Dry Point, the effect of which is to give a velvety richness, when printed, to certain portions of the work.

The printing of an etching is an operation requiring much artistic skill, as the plates depend largely for their effect upon the manner in which they are inked. It is for this reason that many etchers print their own plates.

The prints are made on drawing paper and vellum paper, but proofs are usually drawn on paper imported from Japan, made principally from the cocoons of the silk-worm.

Etchings, unlike steel engravings, can not be printed in very great numbers, and have a commercial value of from ten to one hundred dollars, and even more.

While we must admit that we have no names to put into competition with the two or three great reproductive etchers of Europe (that is, those who reproduce well known paintings by means of etching), perhaps in no country in the world has more original, free, creative etching been produced than in the United States. Among the number of men who have done good work in this direction is J. A. S. Monks, the etcher of several well-known plates, such as "In an Old Pasture," "The Hillside," "The Mountain-Top," etc.; the premium plate for the Magazine of Art, and plates in the published collections named respectively "American Etchers" and "Recent American Etchings."

Mr. Monks' last work is a plate, 11 x 8½ inches, made for Messrs. Procter and Gamble, and printed on Japanese paper. The subject is a flock of sheep in an old pasture, with farm buildings in the distance; the time of day in the gloaming, just before nightfall. There is an air of expectancy about the sheep as though they awaited the coming of the shepherd, and felt some anxiety on account of their offspring.

Mr. Monks is well and favorably known for his excellent drawing of sheep. The plate is full of poetry, and the movement and grouping are both alike, excellent.

White's Self Adjusting Toaster and Broiler is a new and complete improvement over the old method. Placed over the fire in such a manner that it is constantly level with the coals, and yet all the smoke and fumes arising from the cooking are carried off in the draught, thus all unpleasant odors are kept from the kitchen. Constructed from the very best of material, with the bars fastened in such a way that it is impossible for them to slip or become loose, this toaster will prove one of the most durable, as well as useful utensils ever placed in a kitchen. It is self-adjusting, and so simple in operation that a child might use it, and yet the work be done as well as by experienced hands. These broilers can only be purchased of G. S. White, of Danbury, Conn., who is sole proprietor, but all communications sent to him will receive prompt and personal attention. Send for a descriptive circular. (See advertisement in another column.)

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Suitable for Presents for all occasions. Illustrated with nearly One Hundred Decorative Designs.

BY

Lucretia P. Hale and Margaret E. White.

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HOME DECORATION,

A new illustrated fortnightly journal, devoted to Artistic House Furnishing and the Minor Branches of Decorative work; 16 pages (13 1-2x10 1-4 inches.) Questions answered, and Directions given in the paper; schemes of color for house interiors; criticisms of work; new decorative work; floral effects, etc. Lowest in price:—one year, 26 issues, only $1.50; single copies, 10 cents. Sent three months on trial FOR 50 CENTS. Address,

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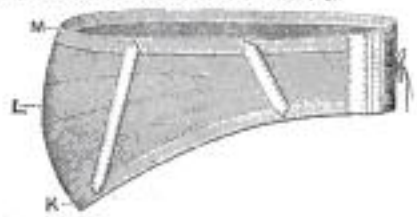

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ELASTIC STOCKINGS, ETC., for Varicose Veins, weak and swollen limbs. Send for directions for measurement.

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248 N. 8th St., Philadelphia, Pa.

BABIES BORN IN 1882.

We will send "Our Little Ones and the Nursery," the most beautiful magazine in the world for little people, absolutely free and postage paid, for six months, to any child born during the year 1882, provided the parent or guardian of such a child, will write us, giving its name, address, and date of birth. This offer only holds good for one year. Address,
Russell Publishing Co., 36 Bromfield St., Boston, Mass.

EVERY LADY SHOULD SUBSCRIBE TO

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ISSUED THE 15TH OF EVERY MONTH.

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GEO. A. MACBETH & CO.
PITTSBURGH LEAD GLASS WORKS.
FOR SALE BY DEALERS EVERY WHERE.

WE SELL DIRECT TO FAMILIES—(avoid Agents and Dealers whose profits and expenses double the cost on every Piano they sell) and send this First-Class UPRIGHT Cabinet GEM 7½ Octave Rosewood Piano, Warranted 6 years, for $193! We send it—with Beautiful Cover and Stool—for Trial in your own Home before you buy. Send for circulars to

Marshal & Smith, 235 East 21st St., N. Y.

The IVORY Soap

· SOUVENIR FOR 1886 ·

IS THE ETCHING Referred to in another column under the head of "Etchers and Etching." The only lettering on it is the impression of Mr. Monks' signature and the small fac-simile of a cake of IVORY Soap in faint outline as shown here.

IVORY

We will send the etching by mail for fifty-four cents, to cover expense of packing and postage.

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Write your name and full address as plainly as possible.

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Good Agents WANTED

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Samples of three sizes of Shears and one pair Button-Hole Cutters sent to any address on receipt of $3 00.

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IMPROVE YOUR TIME.

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Address:
A. A. POMEROY,
Section L, 220 Asylum St., Hartford, Conn.

25 Gold Fringe Chromo Cards (something new, with this fringe) with name, 10c. CELLULOID RING FREE with each pack. TUTTLE BROS., North Haven, Conn.

"FLORENCE" LAMP STOVE.

PRICE, $2.00.

Weight 4 3-4 lbs. No glass to break. Will boil a quart of water more quickly than a boiling can be found to generate a fire in a range. For dress makers' use they are invaluable. Sent to any address in the U. S., express prepaid, on receipt of $2.00.

Send for catalogue of larger "FLORENCE" OIL STOVES.

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By its aid the hair, beard or moustache can be curled any desired style in from one to two minutes. For ladies it produces the "Langtry Style," the "Patti Bang," the "Montague Curl," and any other form desired by ladies wearing their hair in the fashionable "loose and fluffy" mode. Gentlemen's moustaches and beards curled for the day in a few seconds. A beautiful article; handle of rosewood, other part nickel-plated.

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Dr. SCOTT'S ELECTRIC TOOTH BRUSH. The finest Tooth Brush ever made, constructed by a new patented process which renders it impossible for bristles to come out in use. Each of above articles guaranteed and sent on trial, postpaid, on receipt of price, 50 cts., or both for $1. They may be returned if not satisfactory. CANVASSING AGENTS WANTED for Dr. SCOTT'S ELECTRIC CORSETS, BRUSHES, BELTS, Etc. No risk, quick sales. GEO. A. SCOTT, 842 Broadway, New York. Sold at Drug and Fancy Stores. Mention this publication.

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How Some Little People Made Themselves Useful.

(CONTINTED FROM PAGE 12).

Johnnie has been doing. Tell us about it, Rob. What is it?"

"It's expressed in two words, Papa, and they are, 'Walnut Traffic.' That's what cousin John calls it. I'll tell you what he has done."

"Last fall, just after the first heavy frosts, when the nuts were falling right lively, he took a big farm wagon, and went out into the woods, prepared to stay the whole day and gather walnuts. These he hulled out in the woods. He took a hatchet along, to knock the hulls off easily. He told me that they are more easily hulled if you work with them soon after they fall, than if you leave them a few days."

"After they were hulled he hauled them home and spread them out upon the ground, and left them until they had been thoroughly washed off by a good rain. After the rain the sun came out, and in a few hours the outside of the nuts were dry enough to handle without staining the hands."

"It wouldn't have made much difference if he had stained his hands a little more, for they must have been as black as night, anyway, after hulling a wagon load of walnuts," said Mabel, who was inclined to treat the affair as a joke.

"I forgot to say that he wore a pair of heavy gloves while he was hulling them, and his hands were as clean as mine are," answered Rob, showing his hands.

"Might have been that, and yet not been very clean," replied Mabel.

"Hush Mabel, and let Rob go on with his story," said mamma. "I, for one, am interested. But Robbie, walnuts are so plenty here, that the grocers seldom pay over fifty cents a bushel for them, and it is so much work for so little."

"But, Mamma, I'm just coming to the interesting part."

"It's time, surely," put in Mabel.

"When they were dry enough to handle, he gathered them up, and carried them to the barn. I can't tell how long he was gathering them, but he had two bushels when they were dry.

"He then cracked them; picked the kernels out as nicely as possible; looked them all over carefully to get out all bits of shell; boxed them up and sent them to a confectioner in Chicago. He had eighty pounds of kernels, and he got fourteen cents a pound for them, which made him about eleven dollars."

"Eleven dollars!" echoed Mabel. She was becoming interested.

"Eleven dollars!" said papa. "Why surely, my son, that is a bright idea. But would you find ready sale for them? What do the dealers use them for?"

"For the walnut candy we all like so well. It's quite fashionable in the city, Johnnie says."

And Johnnie was right. In almost all cities and towns this candy is exposed for sale at a very high price, and the walnut kernels are always in demand.

Johnnie's walnuts yielded only a fair quantity of kernels, and sold for only an ordinary price. They will, sometimes, go as high as twenty cents a pound, and sometimes as low as ten cents.

Suppose some of my little readers try Johnnie's plan, too, and see what they can do towards buying their own school books, or a Christmas present for papa, mamma or sister.

PART II.

"Papa," said Mrs. Livingston to her husband, as they sat at dinner one day a few weeks before Christmas, "Suppose we get Mabel a pair of canaries for a Christmas present. Since Rob has done so well with his walnuts, Mabel seems quite impatient for some kind of employment. I have thought ever since my visit to cousin Anna, two years ago, when I saw how well she was doing with her canaries, that as soon as Mabel became old enough to attend to them she should have some too; and I believe she is old enough now. You know cousin Anna makes quite a little sum of money every year by raising birds. I know Mabel would like the work, and it would be so interesting to watch their development and growth; besides it would encourage self-dependence in the child, by placing money in her own hands."

The result of this conversation was that Mabel received on Christmas day a handsome bright yellow male bird, and a dark green female, who carried herself with a style which indicated that when the proper season came she would be ready and willing for business.

A letter written by Mrs. Livingston to cousin Anna a week before, asking her to give Mabel some instruction upon the care of canaries, brought the following answer:

DECEMBER 25, 18——

"MY DEAR LITTLE COUSIN:—Your mamma writes me that you are to receive a pair of canaries

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 15.)

THE CHRISTMAS ROSE.

This plant, though rare here, is commonly grown in England. The calyx of the Christmas Rose consists of five large white sepals, which are delicately tinged with pink, and are very handsome. We know of plants in a city garden that bloom in winter, about the holidays, as profusely as do the Petunias in Summer, and all the care they get is a soap box with a pane of glass on the top.

The frame is put over the plant about the first of December, and a little dirt thrown around the sides, which is all the care required to produce flowers of the greatest beauty, at a season when they are, or should be, greatly appreciated. It will grow in any soil or situation; but it prefers a dry soil and a situation open to the sun.

As a window plant it is very ornamental and should be in every collection. You can get one of Frank Finch, of Clyde, N. Y., for 50 cents, or three for $1.25. When writing to Mr. Finch always mention LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

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It is acknowledged by thousands of ladies who have used it daily for many years to be the only preparation that does not roughen the skin, burn, chap, or leave black spots in the pores, or other discolorations.

All conclude by saying: "It is the best preparation for the skin I have ever used." "It is the only article I can use without making my skin smart and rough." "After having tried every article, I consider your Medicated Complexion Powder the best, and I cannot do without it." Sold by all Druggist and Fancy Goods Dealers, or mailed free upon receipt of price, 50 cts. per box. Address **J. A. POZZONI, St. Louis, Mo.**

T AND COFFEE A handsome VASE LAMP given with a $5 order for Tea and Coffee. An Iron Stone Chamber Set, 50 pieces, or a TEA SET, 44 pieces, or a handsome BRONZE HANGING LAMP given with a $10 order. A CHAMBER SET of 10 pieces, with blue, maroon, or pink band, or an Iron Stone CHINA TEA SET of pieces, or a GLASS SET of 50 pieces given with a $12 order. Handsome Presents, consisting of Decorated China Ware in Tea Sets, also, Dinner and Tea Sets combined, and Chamber Sets, etc., etc., given with orders for $18, $20, $25, $28 and $30. Send for circular, which will give you full particulars GRAND UNION TEA COMPANY, 25 Court street Binghamton, N. Y.

Headquarters, 60 Front street, New York City. **CLUB ORDERS**

SEEDS Large Garden Guide Free to all. You should have it. Best varieties, all tested, at low prices. COLE & BRO., Seedsmen, Pella, Iowa.

SPECIAL MARCH OFFER!

To introduce our select list of New Goods, we offer, during March, to send the following, at one half their usual price:

Ladies Initial Lace Pin, any initial, in fine Rolled Plate, Nugget Gold, **37 cts.**

Gents Initial Scarf Pin, Rolled Gold Plate, Chased Roman Letter, **27 cts.**

The above sent in Satin-lined cases.

Ladies fine Rhine Stone Collar Button, solid Silver or Rolled Gold Plate, **47 cts.** Also, in heavy Silver Plate, **12 cts.**

All goods guaranteed as represented. Illustrated circulars sent to any address.

ADAMS & HOWARD,
63 Bunker Hill St.,
Boston, Mass.

WE WANT EVERY LADY

TO send for our New Illustrated Circulars of Stamping outfits, Fancy Work Books, Felt and Linen stamped Goods, Materials, etc., before ordering any of these goods from other firms. Circulars Free.

We will send a FANCY WORK BOOK FREE to any person who will send us the FULL ADDRESSES of ten persons who are interested in Fancy Work.

Address J. F. INGALLS, Lynn, Mass.

SEND NAME AND ADDRESS for Cut, Sample & New Illustrated Book on Dress Making, New Dolman and Mantle Cutting sys. Agents sell 10 a day. Prof. MOORE, Clinton, IA.

10C. secures **The Home Friend** 4 MONTHS on trial. Size Youth's Companion. Full of home helps. HOME FRIEND, Clinton, Conn.

See Dec. Number for list of Premiums!

HATCH CHICKS BY STEAM

With the Most Perfect and Successful Imitation of the Hen.

THE CRAIG

FOLDING INCUBATOR.

Simplicity itself. No batteries, clockwork, regulators, egg-drawers, or other contrivances to get out of order. No cost or experience, and very little labor and time in operating. Needs no watching. Hatches all fertile eggs. The upper portion folds back like the lid of a trunk. The eggs are placed in a nest on natural soil in the lower portion and receive the necessary heat from a tank of warm water in the lid. Proper heat is maintained by drawing off a part of the water twice a day and replacing with boiling water, about **10** quarts at a time for smaller size.

100 EGGS SIZE	.....	$12
200 " "	.....	22
300 " "	.....	30
500 " "	.....	50
1000 " "	.....	100

EARLY HATCHED CHICKS Sell at from 50c to $1 per Pound.

It is also a Brooder and will care for the chicks as long as they need artificial heat, thus saving expense of special brooder. Both as an Incubator and as a Brooder it is unsurpassed by any machine, no matter what the cost, and is the **safest, cheapest** and **most easily managed** candidate for public favor. The Craig Incubator can be run with profit at any season. Any person should have a paying hatch the first time. It hatches in from 18 to 24 days, and equals the best work of the hen.

LADIES.—Independence will find artificial rearing of poultry a most profitable home industry. It requires the least possible capital. Does not interfere with household duties. The same fire that prepares the meals can heat water for an incubator.

42 ROBINSON STREET, MEMPHIS, TENN.—From 200 eggs I hatched 187 chicks in the Craig Incubator. I know it is the best one made. Your plans for brooder are unexcelled.
D. C. HATCH.

HOPEDALE, ILL.—Third trial, out of 78 eggs hatched 65 chicks. Had very good success for a trial. Never had a finer lot of chickens.
HELEN ORNDORFF.

SHANNON, ILL.—Your incubator beats all the hens for hatching. I set 145 eggs under hens and have 30 chicks. I set 105 in Incubator and have 97 good, healthy chicks as a result.
C. W. MAYS.

RIVERTON, NEB.—Hatched one brood to get my hand in, fully 80 per cent of all eggs put in. No trouble to keep an even temperature. Shall run it all winter.
E. VAN DEUSEN.

ELIZABETHTOWN, N. Y.—By using the Craig Incubator I consider my first attempts at artificial incubation a complete success.
A. WALTER DURAND.

F. D. CRAIG, INVENTOR AND MANUFACTURER, **North Evanston, Ill.**

SEND 4 CENTS IN STAMPS FOR CATALOGUE.

Contains more useful poultry information than any 42 book. Describes all breeds, diseases, cures, hen-houses, brooders, incubators, etc. **TELLS HOW to MAKE 1000 per cent. profit on 50 hens**

A SPLENDID

Cook Book Free

A NEW, BRIGHT, SENSIBLE, VALUABLE BOOK.

Of the "making of books there is no end." The names of authors and titles to their works makes a large volume every year, but very few of these ever sell their first edition of 500 copies. Fewer still sell their second edition, and not one out of every thousand printed ever see the third edition. A book must possess unusual merit to reach 100,000 copies, but works of value soon become known, and the value of the **Housekeeper's New Cook Book** is evidenced by the

Sale of 250,000 Copies.

The publishers of the **Farm and Fireside**, by means of their paper, made it known all over the broad land that recipes of known merit were wanted for this new Cook Book. Over **20,000** recipes came from every State in the Union, and were given to **Ladies of Skill and Excellent Judgment**, and by them were tested, and only those proven to be **extra** good allowed a place in the **New** Cook Book.

1,000 RECIPES and SUGGESTIONS

were chosen, and the results of years of experience grouped into our New Cook Book, and it will save any old housekeeper much needless expense and annoyance, and it is a positive **necessity** to any new housekeeper. The names or initials of the contributors, with their post-office addresses, is given, and you doubtless know some of them. It tells how to make all kinds of Bread, Biscuit, Rolls, Waffles, Fritters, Puddings, Pastry, Pies, Dumplings, Tarts, Sauces, Salads, Soups, Preserves, Jellies, Desserts, Creams, Pickles, Beverages, Soda Water, Lemonade, Chocolate, Coffee, Tea, Candies, Butter, etc.; also how to cook all kinds of Meats, Fish, Oysters, Eggs, Grains and Vegetables. It also gives many Practical Suggestions on a variety of subjects of the utmost importance to every housekeeper. In short, it is just the **complete** and **practical** Cook Book that every housekeeper should have.

HOW TO GET THE COOK BOOK. When once known in any locality, subscriptions to **FARM AND FIRESIDE** increase very rapidly. In order to introduce our paper where not known, we will send free by mail, postpaid, one copy of the **Housekeeper's New Cook Book**, bound in heavy paper cover, to any lady who will mention this Journal and remit 30 cents for 6 months subscription or 50 cents for one year's subscription to Farm and Fireside.

Or, for $1 we will send the **Farm and Fireside** for one year and the **Housekeeper's New Cook Book in Cloth Binding.** The usual price for such a book is from $1.50 to $2.

FARM AND FIRESIDE

is a large 16-page, 64-column illustrated journal, published twice a month at Springfield, Ohio. It is the handsomest, best, and cheapest agricultural and **home journal** in the United States, leading all others in circulation and influence. **FARM AND FIRESIDE** should be on every farm and at every fireside.

SPECIAL DEPARTMENT FOR LADIES.

For years the Household Department has been enriched by articles from "Maida McL." "Christie Irving," "Hope Holiday," "Helper," and other ladies familiar with every part of a well-kept house, from the kitchen to the parlor, and they will continue to give in their departments, attractive articles, illustrated by clear, easily-followed engravings. The December 1st issue had among other illustrations,

Bangle Boards, Thimble Boxes, Scrap Basket, Towel with Rick-Rack and Crocheted Borders, Waved Braid Lace, Spool-Holder, Match-Safe Banner, Match-Receiver, Clover-Leaf Lace, Pineapple Lace.

Hints in cooking, nursing, bright stories by our best novelists, the best of foreign miscellany and stories, together with careful selections from our own writers, to *attract* new and *keep* all old subscribers. It will amuse, instruct, entertain and interest every member of the household. Our paper is a welcome visitor in every family, gives a greater amount of reading matter and is worth more than most journals costing **eight** times as much.

TO AGENTS and Club Raisers. **FARM AND FIRESIDE** offers the most liberal cash commissions and premiums to those who get up clubs. **OUR NEW PREMIUM LIST** of 96 large columns is sent free to anyone. It contains descriptions and prices of many new and novel articles; also many staple goods, which we offer as premiums for obtaining subscribers, and also offer for sale. You will find the prices lower on many of the articles than they can be bought for in your local markets.

Address all letters plainly to

MAST, CROWELL & KIRKPATRICK, Publishers, Springfield, Ohio.

A New Book on **FANCY WORK FREE**

To anyone sending 25 cents for a trial subscription of six months to **FARM AND HOME**, we will send **free and postpaid** "HINTS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR FANCY WORK," a new book containing **80 double pages fully illustrated** and the **most practical work** of the kind ever published. The instructions are so plain that anyone can understand them.

PARTIAL LIST OF THE CONTENTS: Terms used in Knitting and Crocheting, Descriptive lists of the Foundation Fabrics used in Fancy Work, also of the materials used in working, etc. **Illustrated Description of Stitches:** Including South Kensington, Outline, Satin, Feather, Cross, Plush, Persian, Tent, Tapestry, Star, Renaissance Stitches from Paris, Including Diamond, Pearled Diamond, Milan Point, Spanish Point, Feather, Twisted Wheels, Rosette, Wicker Stitches; also Point Russe and Snow Flake Stitches, for crazy patchwork. **This feature alone is worth the cost of the whole**, as one can easily make any kind of embroidery if the stitch is understood.

The book also gives **Instructions for Kensington Painting**, Hand Painting and Stamping, including instructions for making the paint and powder used. Among the large variety of Fancy Work patterns shown are designs for Antique and Grecian Crochet Edging, Patchwork Patterns, Fan, Pin Cushion, Piano Cover, Tidy, Mat, Ladies' Work Bag, Table Scarf, Whisk Broom Holder, Banner Lamp Shade, Fancy Stitches, Thread and Needle Case, Sachet and Pin Cushion, Toilet Set, Applique Horse Shoe, etc. With this book as a guide, any lady can embellish her home equal to the best in the land and at a trifling cost.

We make this **very liberal offer** to introduce our paper into new homes, being confident that once a subscriber you will not do without it. **Nearly 100,000 families read FARM AND HOME** each month, which shows how it is appreciated by those **who know its value.**

The Household Department with its Household Hints, Illustrated Fancy Work, Knitting Patterns, Practical Recipes and chatty correspondence will help and please every woman in the land.

New Illustrated Knitting and Fancy Work Patterns, a special feature in every issue.

$500 GIVEN AWAY each year in prizes in the Puzzle Department. **If You** are interested in the Farm and Garden, Live Stock, Fruit, Poultry, Bees, Plants and Flowers, the practical hints and suggestions in any one number will be worth to you more than a year's subscription.

Book and paper sent to separate addresses if desired. **For $1** we send five books and five copies of **FARM AND HOME** six months. Money refunded if you do not find everything exactly as advertised. Postage stamps taken; one cent denomination preferred. Address, mention this paper.

THE PHELPS PUBLISHING CO., SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

To Beautify the Complexion.

"WITCH HAZEL" TOILET CREAM

Is the name of a new preparation for imparting to the skin, particularly the face and hands, that beautiful appearance so much desired by ladies of refinement who prefer a natural to an artificial complexion. Contains no metallic poisons so much used in the cosmetiques of the present day, imparts to the skin that soft, velvety appearance, rendering it soft and strikingly beautiful; it acts medicinally upon the skin dispensing lasting and enduring charms, **effecting a complete transformation.** A short trial will convince the most skeptical of its untold merits; its equal does not exist in the whole range of cosmetiques. Away with those poisonous washes which after a time produce dangerous effects. Accept no other. For sale by all druggists or sample sent postpaid on receipt of 25 cents. Address WITCH HAZEL EXTRACT CO., Clintonville, Conn.

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A MOST EXTRAORDINARY OFFER !

One Dollar's Worth of Flower Seeds

WILL BE GIVEN ANY ONE SENDING US A CLUB OF ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS PER YEAR EACH.

Comprising the following varieties:

Phlox Drummondii, all colors, mixed.		Portulaca, all colors, mixed.	
Carnation Poppy,	" " "	Petunia,	" " "
Double Zinnia,	" " "	Balsam,	" " "
Globe Amaranthus,	" " "	Amaranthus, all	" "
Sweet William,	" " "	Sweet Peas,	" " "
French Marigold,	" " "	Ice Plant,	" " "
Japan Coxcomb,	" " "	Acrocolinium,	" " "
Fragrant Candytuft,	" " "	Perrilla,	" " "

☞ These flower seeds are put up in well-filled packets, and wrapped in bundles, each containing the sixteen varieties; they are guaranteed to be first-class in every respect; the same that seedsmen sell for more than $1.00. On the whole the consist of a careful selection of the very best varieties for ordinary garden culture, and will make a superb and brilliant display from June until long after frost. With but little attention you can produce all the cut flowers and bouquets desired, during the Spring, Summer and Autumn months. They are what our conviction and experience tells us will result most acceptably to all. Last season we sent out thousands of premium flower seed packages, every one of which gave the greatest and most unalloyed satisfaction, which we can prove by innumerable testimonials at present on file in our office. Remember, these seeds are sent only to those who send us four subscribers, at 25 cents each per year.

THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, Philadelphia, Pa.

BEAUTIFUL ROSES FOR ALL !

By a special arrangement with one of the largest and best rose growers in the country, we are able to offer our readers some splendid Premiums in Roses, for subscribers to the JOURNAL; and as this is a plant that interests every lady in the land, we hope our friends will rally at once, and help us secure our desired circulation of 200,000. Let every one who now is a subscriber, endeavor to get at least a dozen new friends on our list, and we will guarantee you some of the finest and best of Queen's Queen—the Rose. These plants are all well grown, and are in the best of condition, and will be sent, postpaid, with directions for care, with every package. Thousands of Roses have been used in this way, and we have reason to believe that our Roses will do for you all we claim for them. By following the directions which the florist sends with each package, you may have beautiful rose buds cut from your own plants next summer without any cost to you. Get up your club at once, as big a one as you can, and just as soon as possible, and very soon the mail will bring you a package of the best roses ever sent out for the money. Don't delay, but do your share to swell our list to 200,000. This number we want very early in the New Year. Christmas and New Year's are over, and everybody is ready to get down to active work again, and soon the mail bags of Uncle Sam will be burdened with thousands of packages of lovely Roses destined to give light and cheer to many, many homes through out our land. How many roses do you want? How many subscribers can you send us? Just see these splendid offers. None of our lady readers can afford to lose this opportunity to add to their stock of flowers.

For a club of 4 subscribers at 25 cents each, we will send to each the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL 1 year, and to party sending us the club, Two Lovely Roses.

For a club of 6 subscribers, at 25 cents year, we will send 4 choice Roses, all different.
For a club of 8 subscribers, at 25 cents a year, we will send 6 Roses, all labelled, and no two alike.
For a club of 10 subscribers at 25 cents a year, we will send 8 roses.
For a club of 12 subscribers, at 25 cents a year, we will send 10 Roses.
For a club of 16 subscriber, at 25 cents a year, we will send 12 Roses.
For a club of 20 subscribers, at 25 cents a year, we will send 15 Roses, all different, and all choice kinds.

These are the best offers we have ever made, and we want every friend of the JOURNAL to do their best. Send in your lists NOW. Here is what the florist says of the rose he will send you: "We guarantee our plants to be the best you have ever had from any establishment in the country for the money. We guarantee safe arrival and satisfaction in each and every case. DIRECTIONS FOR CARE AND CULTURE sent with every order."

Here is one of the many testimonials the florist has received from his many patrons: M. J. Shepherd, Eldon, Mo., writes: "It would require the evidence of seeing to believe that roses or plants could be sent in the condition the package you sent me was received. They were as fresh and green as if just taken from the ground, and although sent in February, and in the mail, they came in first class order, and grow right along. Many thanks."

Go to work now, and very soon we will be able to tell you that we have our Two Hundred Thousand Subscribers, and what a grand lot of roses are blooming all over our land in the homes of our readers. Show this offer to your friends.

Momie Cloth Splashers.

☞ **GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR ONLY 15 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS PER YEAR EACH.**

The illustration above is of a Splasher of a very much better quality than the one we have heretofore offered as a premium. It is made of very fine Linen Momie Cloth, fringed on three sides, and has a row of beautiful drawn work all round, and could not be bought at the stores for less than $1.50.

We think every one of our subscribers will want this beautiful piece of work, and they can easily get it without cost of a cent, by simply showing this paper to fifteen of their friends.

We will give this elegant Splasher, with 2 skeins of Persian dyed wash Etching Silk, for a club of only 15 subscribers, at 25c. each.

☛ A SPECIAL OFFER !

JENNY JUNE'S book given for only 6 subscribers at 25 cents per year each, or given for only 4 subscribers and 10 cents extra in silver or stamps.

Knitting & Crochet.

Edited by Jenny June.

Knitting and Crochet.—A guide to the use of the Needle and the Hook. In arranging this work the editor has taken special pains to systematize and classify its different departments, give the greatest possible variety of designs and stitches, and explain the technical details so clearly, that any one can easily follow the directions. There are a large variety of stitches and a great number of patterns fully illustrated and described, which have all been tested by an expert before insertion in this collection. The aim of the editor has been to supply women with an accurate and satisfactory guide to knitting and crochet work. This book is printed on fine paper, bound with a handsome cover, and contains over

200 Illustrations.

The knitting stitches illustrated and described are: To Cast On with One and Two Needles—To Narrow—To Widen—To Purl—To Cast Off—To Slip a Stitch—Round Knitting—To Join Together—Edge Stitch. PATTERNS.—Peacock's Tail—Vandyke—Looped Knitting—Cane Work—Leaf and Trellis—Triangular Kilted—Gothic—Coral—Knotted Stitch—Diamond—Wave—Cable Twist—8 Plaits, etc.

MACRAME STITCHES.—Solomon's Knot—Simple Chain—Spiral Cord—Waved Bar—Spherical Knot—Slanting Rib—Open Knotting—Picot Heading—Cross Knot—Fringe—Tassels, etc.

CROCHET STITCHES.—Chain Stitch—Single Crochet—Double Crochet—Half Treble—Treble—Double Treble—Cross Treble—Slip Stitch—Tricot—Mosaic Tricot—Shell Pattern—Basket Pattern—Raised Spot Stitch—Ring Stitch—Hair-Pin Crochet—Crochet Lace, etc.

DESIGNS AND DIMENSIONS are given to Knit and Crochet—Afghans—Underwear—Shirts—Petticoats—Jackets—Shawls—Insertion—Trimming—Edging—Comforters—Lace—Braces—Socks—Boots—Slippers—Gaiters—Drawers—Knee-Caps—Stockings—Mittens—Clouds—Purses—Counterpanes—Quilts—Rugs—Infants' Bootees—Hoods—Caps—Shawls—Dresses—Bed Quilts, etc., etc. Every lady will find this the newest and most complete work on Knitting and Crochet published.

Given for 4 subscribers at 25 cents per year each. Price, when sold separately, 50 cents.

Stamped Pieces of Satin, Silk,

Ribbons, etc., for Crazy Patchwork.

Stamped ready to be worked, with quaint designs, sprigs, etc. Each package contains 12 pieces, worth, singly, 8 to 10 cents each. Given for 6 new subscribers, or 50 cents.

Drawn Work.

This branch of Fancywork is growing in favor very fast. This is the most explicit directions for doing the work, and a large number of beautiful illustrations and patterns. Sent for 4 new subscribers, or 25 cents.

☞ OUR NEW 1886 KENSINGTON ART Embroid'ry Stamping OUTFIT.

GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 12 SUBSCRIBERS, AT 25 CENTS EACH.

With this outfit ladies can do their own stamping for embroidery, Kensington, or Lustra painting, or they can do stamping for others at a profit.

The patterns in the outfit are made of the best quality of vegetable parchment, and can be used a thousand times before they are worn out. With them the designs can be transferred to Felt, Velvet, Plush or any other material, so they cannot be rubbed off.

SEE WHAT IT CONTAINS ! 47 ELEGANT PATTERNS AND ONE COMPLETE ALPHABET !

Besides all these beautiful designs, we send Powder and Distributor, with which to do the stamping; and a book of instructions teaching how to do every branch of the work.

ONE HANDSOME TIDY made of the best quality of Felt, stamped with pretty flower design, with silk and need le work to work, worth altogether, 40c.

ONE BOOK OF STITCHES which teaches the Outline and Kensington stitches, Ribbon Embroidery, Arrasene and Chenille work, Plush Embroidery, etc. Also, instructions in Crazy Patchwork, with illustrations showing finished blocks, and over 150 new stitches for ornamenting the seams.

BESIDES all the above, we are going to give away with each Outfit, a book of KNITTING AND CROCHETING, giving instructions for knitting all the latest novelties; also a FANCY BRAID AND CROCHET BOOK, giving directions for making edgings of Feather Edge and other more fashionable.

We have ordered an immense number of these Outfits from the maker, and, by so doing, have procured them at a price which enables us to announce

The Best Offer Ever Made !

We will send the above Outfit complete, postage paid, to any address, for a club of only 12 Subscribers—new or old—at 25 cents a year each.

Price of Outfit, including one year's subscription to the JOURNAL, $1.00 postpaid, to any address. This is the VERY BEST Outfit ever offered for $1.00.

Table Scarfs.

Given for a Club of only 8 Subscribers at 25 Cents each.

Special offers in table covers, scarfs, and square covers made of felt and embroidered on each end or in each corner, to be thrown over tables, work stands, &c.; are now among the most popular pieces of fancy work. They are very ornamental and easy to finish. These table covers are sold at the stores at from $1 to $2 each, but by a special arrangement we can make the following great offer: We will send a table scarf 18 inches wide and 50 inches long, made of any color felt desired, stamped on each end ready to be worked, with designs of your own choosing, either for Kensington embroidery, Ribbon work, Tinsel or Outline embroidery. Given for only 8 subscribers, or 60 cts. For 15 cents extra we will send 25 skeins of silk, assorted colors, with which to work the designs.

HANDSOME

Silver-Plated Sugar Shell

Or Butter-Knife

Given for Four New Subscribers at 25 Cents Each per Year.

A new, handsome, neat and stylish pattern, tripple-plated, on finest English white steel. Will wear for years. Almost as good as solid silver. All the objectionable qualities of German Silver and brass, which are known to have a disagreeable taste, and are, when a little worn, poisonous, will be avoided in the use of these goods. They are also stronger, and of greater durability than any goods produced.

A Butter Knife will be given instead of the Sugar Shell, if preferred.

For 12 subscribers we will give a set of Tea Spoons, same quality, and for a club of 20, a set of forks.

At 25 cents per year, in clubs of four or more, every lady in the land can afford the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. Send for sample copies to distribute among your friends and neighbors. Address:

LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, Phila., Pa.

LINEN TIDIES No. 9.

Given as a Premium for a Club of Only 6 Subscribers at 25 Cents Each per Year.

These linen Tidies are a better quality than we have ever offered before. They are made of fine linen Crepe or Momie cloth, 14x18 inches in size, fringed on all four sides with heavy fringe two inches deep, and stamped as desired. We bought several cases of these tidies direct from the importing house, and procured them at a wonderful bargain. They are sold at the stores at 20c. to 25c. each; we will **give you one of them** if you will procure only 6 subscribers.

TIDY NO. 10 is the same as No. 9, but has a row of Drawn work on all sides. We will give you this tidy all stamped, for only 5 subscribers.

Bureau or Sideboard Scarf.

Given for only 20 Subscribers at 25 Cents per Year Each.

This is a very popular, useful and pretty piece of fancy work to throw over the side-board or a dressing case or bureau. It is made of the finest quality of crepe linen, 16 inches wide and 65 inches long, with fancy woven border all round, and fringed ends. We send this scarf stamped on each end similar to the illustration, for a club of only 20 subscribers.

TIDIES STAMPED

READY TO BE WORKED.

Given as a Present for a Club of Only 4 Subscribers, at 25 Cents Each per Year.

These elegant Tidies are 14 x 18 inches in size, are made of the very best quality of Felt, and the same as are sold in all the stores at from 40c. to 50c. each. You can select the color of felt you like, and have it stamped with any design you wish, either for Kensington or Outline or Ribbon Embroidery, all ready to be embroidered.

With these Tidies we give a book which teaches the stitches used in Art embroidery,—giving such clear and explicit descriptions as to be easily understood; and also a lesson in Kensington and Lustra painting.

We will send one of these Tidies and the Book of Stitches, for a club of only 4 subscribers, or 35 cents.

Bracket Lamberquin.

GIVEN AS A PREMIUM FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.

These Lamberquins are made of felt, the same as the Tidies, stamped on any color you may choose; they are 12x20 inches in size, and are exceedingly ornamental when finished.

We will send one of these Lamberquins and book of stitches, for only four new subscribers, or 35 cents.

LADIES SILVER BAR PIN

Given for only 4 new subscribers at 25 Cents per Year.

SILVER BAR PIN.

A Silver Bangle Lace Bar Pin, with four bangles handsomely engraved. One of our best premiums for ladies. They are very fashionable, and cannot be bought in any store for double the money we ask, for 4 subscribers at 25 cents each.

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VERBA, the most interesting game of the age. Always in season, and adapted to young and old of both sexes. Can be enjoyed by any number of persons at once, and is absolutely unobjectionable. Sent with a valuable package of books, picture cards, and other matter on receipt of ten cents in stamps.

NO OTHER BUSINESS in the world has ever offered so large a return for so small an amount of money. Address R. H. McDONALD & Co., (established 1849) 528 to 536 Washington St., New York.

How Some Little People Made Themselves Useful.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13).

for your present to-day. She asks me to give you some help in taking care of them, as she considers me an authority upon such points. You will agree that I ought to be, when I raised about two dozen little birdies during the past season, and received for them over seventy-five dollars.

"In the first place, Mabel, buy the best seed. It should consist of canary, rape, millet and maw seeds. The canary is a whitish, oblong seed; the millet and rape are much alike in size; the rape is a bright brown; the millet about the color of the canary; the maw seed is a very small bluish black seed. The mixture should be bright and glossy, indicating that it is fresh and healthy. Select a time in the morning when you can attend to them with the least trouble to yourself. Let it not be later than eight o'clock. First, give them a bath dish of water, (it should have the chill taken off at this time of year). After they have used this remove the damp paper on the bottom; replace by a clean one; wash the perches; put a teaspoonful of fresh seed in the seed cup; wash thoroughly the water vessel; fill it up again, and hang the cage in its accustomed place, which should be near the window. Keep a piece of cuttle fish bone in the cage constantly, and a vessel of red gravel, which can be bought from your dealer in birds. Once a week give a piece of good juicy apple. Don't feed them with cake, sugar, or candy. If you treat your birdies as I directed you will keep them in perfect health, your male bird will sing sweetly all day long, and they will both be ready for the business of raising a family, by the middle of February. At that time I will write you further how to proceed.

"I do hope, Mabel, you will do well with them, for bird raising is my hobby, and I wish every woman and every little girl could know how much they could make at it if they would but try. Many a poor child could enjoy a pleasure that they are now deprived, and many a poor mother could provide for suffering children, if she knew of this light work to be done at home, which takes so little of time from other employment and makes such a liberal return. Wishing you success, I am your cousin, "ANNA."

(TO BE CONTINUED).

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MILDRED'S CONVERSATION CLASS.

NO. V.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

"Well, here we are again, ladies and gentlemen!" exclaimed the incorrigible Phillippa Roland, as the class met for "Conversation" at the appointed time. "Now, I'm not going to wait for any nonsense. I'm going to begin right at once," said Georgia Garrett, to whose turn the letter had fallen this week.

"I think you would better," spoke up Mildred, "and then if we want to do any talking we can do it afterwards."

"Miss Wilson advised us in the beginning to read some book," said Ida Gleason, "but for my part I don't just see when we would find time to put it in."

"We have about all we can do to get Miss Wilson's letters read and digested, as far as I can see," answered Mildred.

"I have a faint suspicion that I don't digest all mine. I'm afraid doses of English Grammar don't agree with me. I'm dreadfully afraid I shall suffer from a mental dyspepsia," said Phillippa, "too much good things you know, are bad."

"Oh, I guess you won't be hurt, Phillippa, but whether you are or not, I'm about to give you another dose," and Georgia Garrett proceeded to read.

"MY DEAR MISS GARRETT:—I feel as if I were growing very well acquainted with all of you. You cannot know what pleasure these weekly letters give me, and I am pleased and flattered to know that you feel yourselves instructed.

"Now then to business. Yes. I did mean just that kind of sentences when I spoke or wrote, rather, (It is hard for me to feel that I am not talking to you). It is incorrect to say, 'If one should fall over that stone, they would hurt themselves.' Say either 'If one should fall over that stone he would hurt himself,' or if you prefer the plural, say 'If people, etc., they would hurt themselves.' 'Are contractions admissible?' Yes, to a certain extent, but there is a choice of contractions. You should never use 'ain't' under any circumstances—it is absolutely beyond the pale. There are many little words that are omitted or contracted, which a little practice will render easy of use. 'I am not going,' one can soon learn to say, but 'I'm not going' is quite legitimate, but never 'I ain't going.' 'Ain't' is no contraction or omission, it is merely a word substituted instead of the proper one. 'Aren't you' is legitimate for 'Are you not,' or 'Are not you,' but never use 'Ain't you.' 'Ain't' for 'Are not' is quite as vulgar as 'Hain't' for 'Has not,' but I believe it is used more freely. There is no contraction for 'Am I not,' or 'Am not I,' they must be used absolutely pure. Use contractions as little as you can. Puns? Well, do not fall into a habit of punning. Some good puns have been made, and often a bright quick pun has been the keenest form of wit. But the habit, as a habit, is pernicious. And among people who converse really well, a habitual punster is considered a bore, to say the least. Punning may, if used sparingly and with exceeding judgment, brighten a conversation, but if indulged in too freely may overreach itself, and brighten conversation to the point of dullness. There are few people who have humor sufficient to the making of a good pun, and as for the bad ones!

"Now for another thing. Little words—prepositions I mean. You use the expression 'A lady I read your letter to, etc.' In arranging a sentence avoid in all cases putting a small word, especially a preposition, at the end. The sentence which I have just written, for instance, (I see it now the moment it is on the paper, but prefer to let it stand, to illustrate a point) would be better arranged so. 'In all cases, in the arrangement of a sentence, avoid putting at the end a small word, especially a preposition.'

"This remark belongs more especially to the province of rhetoric.

"You say 'A lady I read your letter to.' It should be 'A lady to whom I read your letter.'"

"That's funny," from Sara Tasker. "I wonder why?"

"You should also say, not 'The house I was staying at,' but 'The house at which I was staying.' The sentence is rhetorically stronger so arranged. Avoid as much as possible using prepositions. One can very often so arrange a sentence as to make the use of prepositions needless. For instance, 'The house at which I was staying,' might under most circumstances be rendered 'The family (people, friends) whom I was visiting.' It seems a small thing, but the sentence is really more elegant with little expenditure of trouble, and no impression upon the hearer of affectation on the part of the speaker. When, however, the use of these particles is absolutely necessary, arrange and rearrange your sentences if writing, (and practice the same habit mentally as well) until you have your preposition anywhere but at the end. 'The boat in which I sailed,' 'The man to whom I wrote,' 'The child for whom I bought it,' etc., etc. The examples are unlimited in number.

"There is one more very much abused word of which you made use, in your letter to me—the word 'like.' 'Like' properly, never qualifies an active verb. One may be 'like' another but may not act like another. One must act 'as' another acts. 'I would like to sing as she does,' not 'like she does.' The rhetoric will tell you to never use 'like' unless you can follow it mentally with 'unto.' 'I would like to sing like unto the——' You might readily say, 'I wish my method was like (unto) hers.' The difference is obvious.

"One more. You tell me you 'attended a female academy for two years.' Now, my dear, 'academy' has absolutely no sex in our language. This form of expression is growing to be considered one of the most vulgar of genteel errors. While the terms of sex apply to all manner of animal life, the word 'female' conveys no evidence as to the nature of the animal which attends the academy, even in that sense. But think of it! The idea of one brick building being of one sex while another building is of another sex. What shall you say? Use the simplest form, and say 'An academy for girls,' 'A school for boys,' or 'A girls' academy,' 'A boys' school.'

"One more little thing. You say 'Fourth of July is on Sunday this year.' Fourth of July is not on Sunday, because it is not at all as yet. It 'will be' on Sunday. Try to be a little more careful of your moods and tenses as used to express your exact meaning. You ask me about 'Any body else's' and 'Any body's else.' You will find it a mooted question, some grammarians contending for the former, on the hypothesis that the expression 'Anybody else' is taken as a compound word; others, equally good authority, contending that 'else' means 'other' and is a simple adjective. For myself, I am much inclined to the latter opinion, and decidedly prefer 'anybody's else.' As 'any other person' and 'any person else' are interchangeable terms, it seems to me reasonable that 'Any person's else' is more sensible than 'Any person else's.'

"I thought I was done, but I must say one more little word. Avoid using the pronoun 'I' whenever you can. When one's individual opinion is desired and asked, the use of 'I' is quite proper. 'I think,' 'I know,' etc. But a conversation bristling with 'I's' becomes very tiresome. If the conversation be general, and the opinion you desire to give be that held by many others, instead of saying 'I doubt,' 'I think,' etc., say 'Such a thing is doubted by many,' 'Many think,' etc. You will express the same idea, convey the same amount of information, and avoid thrusting your individual opinion on people who do not care for it as such.

"But I will detain you no longer now, closing my long letter rather abruptly, I fear.

"Yours sincerely,

"AMANDA WILSON."

"I suppose, Mildred, you think everything is right because Miss Wilson says so," asked Phillippa meditatively.

"Yes I do," answered Mildred valiantly. "No, I don't mean that. Nothing is right just because one person says so, but I do believe that Miss Wilson has reason for all she says."

"Come girls, I am going home. (Strong emphasis on the I). There, Mildred, don't look so hurt. Way down in my heart I'm being real converted. May go out in time as a grammatical missionary."

"I don't believe that's right. You would be a grammatical missionary if you were a good grammarian, even if you said nothing about grammar, it seems to me," said Sara Tasker timidly.

"Well, what shall I say—ungrammatical missionary? Come, rearrange! rearrange! exclaimed Phillippa defiantly.

"I can't," confessed Sara frankly, "but I feel it is no more right than 'female academy,' but I can't fix—arrange it."

"I can," said Mildred, who had been thinking, "but it makes the sentence longer. 'A missionary in the cause of grammar.'"

"That will do. I'll give in." And off they went.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"C. B. T., Vallejo, Cal.:"—Your communication was duly handed to me. While I do not agree with you on many points, and, though your letter itself contained innumerable errors, I am willing to believe in your kindly intentions. Should you desire me to write you personally, and point out the errors which I claim to have discovered, I will cheerfully do it, if you will address a line to me in care of the L. H. J., to the effect that you desire me so to do. I am willing to discuss your whole letter with you personally, but such a communication as such a discussion would necessarily be, would occupy too much time and space for insertion in the columns of the L. H. J.

I am sorry that Amanda Wilson has inadvertently admitted that she uses "midnight oil." It is, unfortunately, a necessity with her. It grieves me that you should take exception to it. But do you think, candidly think, that it makes any difference to the general public whether she write all day or all night? Are you not hypercritical?

Have you read W. H. MAULE'S Seed Advertisement on 9th page? If not, why not read it?

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TOO LATE.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

A sudden vivid red shot over her face, and with a wrench she tore herself from his grasp.

"How dared you?" gasped she, confronting him.

And looking at her as she stood there, he, too, wondered how he had dared.

"There remains," she continued, in a low, intense voice, "but one thing for you to do. Leave me at once, sir, and never let me see you again. I hate you, oh, how I hate you."

"You asked me a moment ago, how I 'dared!'" he replied, in a voice as low and intense as her own, (with such a ring in it that she could not but choose to hear) and entirely ignoring the fact that he had been dismissed. "You asked me how I 'dared,' and while I own that I was entirely wrong, I would 'dare' a great deal for a woman whom I loved in my heart of hearts, as I do you. Nay!" he continued, "growing more earnest and hurrying impetuously on, "as I have loved you ever since I can remember. Within the last year you have been to me more than I ever thought any woman could be. You wondered that I 'dared' to kiss you just now. So do I. And yet, Theodora Campion, did you but know how near I have been to it a hundred times before, the wonder would be greater to your heart, that I had refrained so long. If you could know the times and times that I have longed to take you to my heart, and tell you what you are to me; if you could know the times that the devil has urged me to put my arm around you and kiss you, then and there, in defiance of everything, yourself included. I have learned to love you deeply, tenderly, truly. I have tried to banish you from my heart, over and over again, because I felt unworthy of you. And yet I am impelled by an irresistible power to tell you this to-night. You have said you 'hated' me. I repeat, I 'love' you. You have my future in your hands. What will you do with it?"

Theo had stood perfectly silent during this torrent of speech, growing if possible a shade paler. What a horrible combination of feelings rent her heart—contempt, mortification at the insult, anger at herself and him, everything that could possibly tend to make him hateful to her, or her hateful to herself.

"You ask me what I will do with it?" she inquired slowly, at last, looking him straight in the eye, with such deadly defiance and withering contempt that he quailed before it, while he failed to understand it.

"When you—you—kissed me a moment (was it a moment? it seems hours) when you kissed me a moment ago," she continued, nervously inter locking her hands together, "I told you I hated you. During your remarks which followed that hatred turned to detestati on, to loathing. Oh, how I wish for one moment you could comprehend how I despise and detest you—how I loath you." It was terrible to see such ugly passion scorching and withering a young face as hers was marred.

John Gordon was stung to the soul. "By Heaven!" he exclaimed. "I am a man, and I hope, a gentleman, but I don't think even a gentleman is called upon to swallow such a thing as that, though it come from a woman. I offer to you all that I have—my life, my love, my devotion, and you speak as if I had insulted you. Is a man to be covered with epithets and hard words because he offers his body and soul to a woman who is dearer than all else in the world, simply because she don't happen to love him? And yet you speak as if I had deliberately insulted you."

"Insulted me! And is it no insult, John Gordon, think you," she demanded fiercely, going a step nearer, "Is it no insult, I say, to have a man come to you and offer himself as you have done, when three months ago he has made no secret of an already contracted engagement, but has himself told it as you also have done."

"I told that I was engaged! When? Where?"

"To your employers in Boston."

John colored to the roots of his hair, and Theo seeing this sign of guilt, triumphed.

"You can't deny it," she continued, "because it came to me very directly."

"No, I can't deny it. I did and I did not," he replied, in an embarassed way. "And yet I can explain it, I think, if you will only give me permission to do so. I certainly shall not force another explanation on you."

"Oh," she answered, as he paused for her reply, "I presume the veriest criminal has a right to a hearing,"—and she took no pains to conceal the contempt she felt for the man before her.

But in the face of this very ungracious permission John Gordon explains.

"As I said a little while ago, it has been a long while since I first commenced to love you," (a sarcastic smile curled Theo's lip which John chose not to see) "but I never spoke for various reasons. The idea of deliberately trying to win you for my wife, took firm and settled root in my mind a year ago. Since then I have done many things, (and tried to do many more) that I should never have done without that goal in view. So that while you may reject my love now, you have made of me during the past year, a better, stronger man." (Theo tapped her foot nervously on the carpet.) "Last winter when I went to see the Boston firm, they told me they wanted a married man, and I told them——"

"You don't mean to say you had the audacity to tell them that you were engaged to me?" interrupted Theo, her wrath blazing forth again.

"No, I did nothing of the kind. You may have many things to lay at my door, Miss Campion, that don't seem to you honorable, but I think that even you, in your sober senses, with all the hard things you may think of me, would never dare to really think that."

"What did you do?" demanded she haughtily.

"It seems to me a rather strange proceeding, anyway, to take a position where it was distinctly understood they wanted a married man, upon the foundation of a hypothetical engagement," and she laughed scornfully. There is certainly a great mistake (with a bitter emphasis on the mistake) somewhere. Either you were engaged or you were not. If you were not, you told them you were. If you were, you have told me you were not. Perhaps you will be kind enough to explain this—a—paradox."

"I have attempted to 'explain this paradox' several times, and each time you have interrupted me with some conclusion you have chosen to draw, until you have almost quenched my desire to make an explanation, and come off at least honorable in your eyes," responded John, with a haughtiness equal to, if not excelling her own. "If it were not that I feel that something is due you as a woman, I should certainly go no further. Shall I proceed?"

An icy bend of the head was all the reply vouchsafed.

"I said, and said truly," he went on in a slow, even tone, "in the beginning, a thing that you seem to find it hard to believe. I said that I did and did not. They asked me, or told me rather, what I have stated, and I told them that I was not married, but that I hoped to be. I did hope it. I hoped for that consummation as devoutly as I hoped for Heaven, and more so I am afraid. Do not think that I am again striving for your favor. I am merely 'explaining my mistake.' I had learned to think with you. You had been to me a main-spring so long, that I could not help hoping some day to see you my wife. My circumstances had never been such that I would ask you to share them. But here was a chance. With this position before me as a permanency, in all human probability, with the advantages and opportunities which were placed before me, I could not only make my wife comfortable in a worldly way, but I could give her a position in society. So when they asked me I said I hoped to be married before another year went by. I did not tell it in order to get the position for myself in an underhand way as you have insinuated. I did it in order that I might have a position for you. Heaven knows if I ever did an unselfish act it was that one, at least it was not selfish in the common sense of the term, though I suppose it was, indirectly. Am I absolved from everything but the presumption of 'daring' to hope for acceptance at your hands?" he finished with studied politeness, looking steadily in her face.

Theo's feelings had undergone a complete revulsion, but as she strove to express herself no words came. Her lips parted and she tried to speak, but to her utter amazement, as well as his, (for she was not a lachrymose female by any means) she burst into a perfect passion of sobs. Now John hated "crying women," but he thought of nothing of the kind now. With all she had said, with all the hard words she had used, he could see how her heart had been bruised, how her sense of dignity had been wounded; and while he felt sore, exceeding sore, at her injustice to him, he felt as well, the most unutterable tenderness and pity for her as she sat there, a perfect picture of misery, with the bitter sobs racking her frame. What should he say? What should he do? He didn't know really. So he concluded that silence and inactivity was the surest course. He felt sure that if he attempted to soothe her in any way he should be again tempted to conduct himself as he had done on his arrival.

"Don't, Miss Theo," he ventured finally, "You will make yourself ill."

"Make myself ill! I deserve to be ill," sobbed forth the repentant Theo with vicious emphasis. "If I were sick for the next six months it would serve me right. O John, John, I have been so hard on you! I have felt so bitter at you, because I believed you had gone and engaged yourself and never told me, me your old friend, one word about it," and she wiped her eyes vigorously, determined that the shower was over.

"Your common sense should have told you that I would not do such a thing," he replied quickly.

"It did tell me so over and over again, and I always said to myself and Alicia Barton, that I knew there was some mistake. I couldn't believe it, there was some catch somewhere. And then it would come to my mind again that you yourself had told it. Can't you see how I felt? Can't you understand why I was so hurt? O, John! John! Can you ever forgive me the way I have talked to you? I cannot think you did right when you—when you first came this evening," (and she crimsoned at the recollection.) "I heartily ask your pardon for all I have said that was in any way derogatory of you, and that is pretty much everything I have said since you first came. Can you, will you forgive me?" plead she, holding out her hand to John, who grasped it heartily, knowing how to take this girl with all her humors.

"Miss Theo," he asked, without letting the hand fall, "tell me something."

"Well?"

"Have I any chance with you now that matters are explained? Have I [illegible] permission to make for you this home for which I have spoken?"

She hastily snatched her hand away as if she [illegible] that [illegible] answered quickly:

"No, no, no!"

John caught his breath but said nothing.

"Last evening I accepted Will Delamayne," she said in a low voice, in answer to his unspoken question.

Gordon started. "Theo," said he, in a strained intense voice, "do you love him?" and he gazed eagerly at her.

She raised her eyes and met his proudly but not defiantly. "You know me well John," she said, in the same low steady voice, "do you think me likely to give my hand to a man I did not love?"

"No, no! a thousand times no. Forgive me for speaking so, but let me ask you one more question and then I am done; and remember I mean nothing at which you can take offence. If this story had not come out, if I had spoken before I went away, before you considered me not only engaged to some one else, but false to my friendship for you, would matters have been any different between us?"

"No, I think not, John, I did not trust you entirely then. But it is your due to tell you that there was at that time a great danger of my learning to love you. I have learned to love Will Delamayne with all my heart and strength, and I intend to make him the best wife I know how to be. I had cast you entirely from me as unworthy of all thought, and I found in Will such a contrast to what I believed you to be, that I could not but learn to love and value such a man. We will be married very soon, and sail for Europe immediately."

Gordon started and paced the floor without a word. Finally he flung himself down upon the sofa, looking at her and saying: "Then there is no hope for me?"

For answer she rose from her chair, and going over to him silently leaned forward and kissed him twice upon the forehead. Whatever wild hope he might have had died at that moment. He knew she never would have done such a thing, had she regretted in ever so little a degree, that Will Delamayne had been accepted, before John Gordon had a chance to explain himself. He rose quickly, seized his hat, and without even so much as a "good-night" passed out the hall door, jamming his hat over his eyes as he passed down the steps.

PARIS, Feb. 2d, 1879.

"DEAR PAPA:—Yours of November 20th came all safe and sound, and I wish I could say, found us all well and happy. Not that my dear Will isn't the best of husbands in spite of his two years of married life; the same kind, gentle, thoughtful fellow, perfectly devoted to me in every way; but I fear for his health. He has a steady cough now, and at nights it seems as if he would suffocate. He calls it a bad cold, and assures me that he will be better when spring opens, but I see he is weaker now than he was three months ago. I cannot tell whether the dear fellow sees it and knows it and tries to keep it from me, as part of his universal thoughtful love, or whether he is really deceived. I have asked the doctor privately, and he says that while the case is not desperate it is very serious. On Wednesday next we go to Nice. Address us there.

"What you tell me of John Gordon pleases me beyond measure. I always knew he had quantities of good stuff in him, and the firm must have known it or they would not have advanced him as they have done.

"Forgive the want of material in this letter. I really do not feel that I can write what is called

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"a letter" in my present state of anxiety.

"Ever your loving daughter,

"THEODORA C. DELAMAYNE."

FEB. 3d.

"I open my letter to add hastily that Will had his first hemorrhage last evening. O papa! papa! What shall I do? The doctor treats the matter lightly, but I cannot but feel the great at solicitude. I will write later. Direct to Paris till further notice. Of course we cannot get off now, just yet. "In haste,

"T. C. D."

"Any letters for me, Jane?" inquired Gordon, looking up from the fire as the chambermaid entered his room with coal.

"No sir, nothing but a paper."

Without other remark he thrust his hands further in his pockets and fell into deeper meditation than before.

"It's no use," he thought. "It's pretty nearly three years now since—— What's the use of a fellow going along single in this style just because he couldn't get the girl he wanted. I've no business to think so much of Theo anyway. I'm sure I've tried hard enough to drive her out of my mind, and I'm sure Will Delamayne needn't grudge me the little comfort I have in the recollection of the good times we used to have together. Hang it all!" exclaimed he aloud, starting up, "I'll put an end to this thing. I'll go out and have just as good as time as I know how. I don't presume I've entirely forgotten the sublime art of flirting," (this with an approving smile at himself in the glass) "though I have got my hand out a little, in the last two years that I have been so 'attentive to business' that I couldn't go out much. How like a blasted fool I felt two years ago when I had to come back to Boston and say that my 'hopes were withered,' now didn't I?" again addressing the mirror. "Fortunately it passed for a broken engagement. Bah! is it possible that it is but about two years, no, it's three, since I made such a consummate ass of myself! Well, well, well!" (with a sigh) "such is man—and—occasionally woman. Here goes, anyway. I'm off for Lawrence's party. I'm going to begin to 'relax my unremitting attention to business' and go out into society, and the first jolly little girl I can induce to accept me on trust, I shall be glad to have, and say 'thank you,' too."

"Now you see, Fred," he says some five hours later, as he and Fred English sit together before the grate, smoking away for dear life, "you're no doubt surprised (puff) at what I have just told you, (puff, puff,) but upon my word, you could hardly be more surprised than I am myself. (puff). If any one had told me when I went out this evening, (puff, puff, puff) that I should ask Lucia Lawrence to marry me, before I came home, I should consider him or her a fit subject for the insane asylum. But it's done, and I'm very glad. I think I am certainly to be congratulated."

"How on earth did the thing happen?"

"Oh well, I can't entirely my dear fellow, tell you all the 'says I' and 'says she.' But it rose out of a conversation we had in regard to Will Foster, (you know he jilted her about a year ago) and then somehow or other we got off on Theo—Mrs. Delamayne, and then—oh I can't bother to tell you all of it, but we concluded to unite our two 'shattered wrecks of existence' and see if the pieces would combine to make a happy future for both of us. I am proud and happy at what I see before me, and I think I deserve hearty congratulations."

"Well, you [illegible] if you want [illegible] night, I'm off."

"Have another cigar?"

"No, thanks."

A driving snow storm as well as a frightful sore throat greeted the waking fancy, the next morning at eight o'clock.

"Well if this isn't beastly," gazing disgustedly out of the window. "If I don't hate a March snow storm. Well, there's no going out for me this day, and I suppose I've got to stay at home and read the papers. Hello! What's wanted there?" (in response to a vigorous knock at the door).

"Please, sir," said Jane's voice, "Mrs. Plummer says are you sick, sir, and will you have your breakfast upstairs?"

"Yes. Any mail?"

"No sir."

"Jane, just hand me that newspaper, please. I read and eat my breakfast at the same time. You needn't wait, I'll ring when I want you."

So he settled down in his arm chair prepared to make the best of circumstances.

"I wonder what can be in this paper old Mr. Campion has directed to——" the color left his face and he became silent as his eye fell upon the marked paragraph.

"DELAMAYNE.—Died, at Paris, France, Feb. 25th, WILLIAM DELAMAYNE, of Stillingford, Connecticut, aged 27 years."

And on another page, similarly marked, among the list of passengers: "Mrs. William Delamayne, infant and nurse."

So she was a widow—free at last; and his heart gave a bound, he could not help it. He had not grudged Will Delamayne his happiness, but here there might be a prospect of the same happiness for him. But Lucia! He had forgotten her. O blind fool that he had been, why had he not waited a little longer? Why had he not read the paper when it came? Why had he gone to Lawrences' anyway? Why—psha! Why ask why! It was done and he was not the man to go back on his word, and that ended it.

So when Lucia searched his face that evening, (for she had heard the news and they had talked together quite a good deal of Will's death) she found no trace of the fight he had had with his dead past. It had risen from its grave and had cried aloud to him to take it again to his heart, but he had laid the ghost, and Lucia need never fear finding that skeleton concealed in any of her closets.

Two years after, John Gordon sits in his library, his face hidden in his hands, but his grief is silent. On his knee is a letter, written in a trembling hand.

"MY DEAR JOHN," it runs, "I to-day received your letter of the 25th, telling me of your widowerhood. Telling me of the lonely year you have spent after your two short months of married life, and asking of my precious Theodora's whereabouts that you might try once more to win her love With what agony do I reply. Can I write it! It seems almost too hard in a Providence called just. Last week we laid her beside her husband. O John! John! it seems as if I had nothing to live for now. Geoffrey gone, Millie gone, Theodora gone—all gone! And yet, when I look at the precious charge left by my darling girl, I cannot feel so utterly alone. Little Viola is the only pleasure I have left me in life. Come back to Stillingford. Come and be my son. An old man asks it. An old man who has but a short time to live. Come my son and make my home yours.

"Ever your affectionate old friend,

"FREDERICK CAMPION."

And now little Viola stands at the window, her head of golden floss lit up by the firelight, her little nose flattened against the window pane watching for Uncle John, who, Grandpa says, is coming to stay jusqu' a la mort, as she assures Celestine, her devoted bonne, with a solemn shake of her curly head. Celestine smiles sadly on the little prattler, and touches tenderly the soft hair, but thinks a little jealously of the strange young man who has so soon been asked to take the place of her dead mistress. She does not know that soon as it is, it is for him too late.

THE END.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE DOCTOR'S DAUGHTERS.

BY MARY ABBOTT RAND.

CHAPTER V.

The relief that Ella had felt regarding her father's state of mind was banished now.

Surely, she reasoned, no man that was sane could sanction such an absurd and disgraceful marriage as Beatrice's.

As Ella recalled their position but two short years ago, it seemed as if they had fallen lower and lower. Here was her father, without sight or reason, and with but very little money,—Fanny virtually banished from Uplands because of her duplicity, and now the trouble about Beatrice! Ella cried, girl-like, till there were no more tears to be shed, and then she stole down the back stairs to confer with old Peggy.

But Peggy had borne all she could or would.

The misfortunes that had heretofore come upon the doctor's family had only increased her faithfulness and attachment; but now that she had been deceived by Beatrice, and so slightingly treated by the doctor, Peggy departed as suddenly as her young mistress, though not so romantically.

She had left on the kitchen table a note addressed to Ella. It was brief and to the point:

"DEAR ELLA:—I'd have staid if I could, but I couldn't. "PEGGY."

Ella bowed her head upon the kitchen table as if the straw too much had been laid upon her shoulders.

Suddenly, there was a strange, uncanny feeling in the quiet, dim lighted kitchen, and, in a moment more, the old, white cat, with two velvet shod leaps sprang from some dark closet or passage, lighted on the table beside Ella and rubbed her head coaxingly against Ella's flushed cheek.

"Oh, you frightful thing!" exclaimed the girl in disgust, starting up and driving the creature out.

The cat retreated humbly, a short distance, mewed piteously, then ventured toward Ella again, grasped a fold of her dress in her claws as if she would lead her out of the room.

Ella fancied that the cat wanted her to go with her, so she followed along the passage way to the wood shed, then to the little garden behind the house, and, having seen her as far as the currant bushes, this odd little Kitty apparently forgot what she was about, and started off to try to catch a late robin which was hopping over the ground.

Ella's attention was diverted from the robin the next minute, by the voice of Mr. Claybourne.

"Miss Drexell," he began, hesitatingly, as if he felt he were intruding, "I should have to take cold [illegible] glad if I could help you in any way [illegible]."

"Nothing can help me," replied Ella, dejectedly. "The saddest of all is about poor papa. I have been trying to think, but it is all so strange at home. I must write Dr. Gray at once, or telegraph perhaps. Would you kindly leave a message at the office as you go to-night?"

"I don't understand the necessity of Dr. Gray," said Mr. Claybourne, so hopefully that Ella could not help feeling encouraged.

"I hoped papa was better, at first," said she, "but this dreadful matter about Beatrice, he seems to have approved, and oh! he must be insane, and poor Beatrice, too."

Mr. Claybourne at some length related what Ella had not known, of her father's previous acquaintance with the Blair family, and Mr. Nathan Blair's honorable conduct in communicating his wishes and Beatrice's extraordinary fancy, to Dr. Drexell. So skilfully did Mr. Claybourne put the whole matter, that Ella was very much comforted, and while an hour ago she felt that a lasting disgrace rested upon her sister, now it seemed almost as if it were an excusable thing to go out of a window to be married, so long as one's father did not object.

Mr. Claybourne was much gratified at his success in comforting Ella, and a daring wish came into his mind that he would like to propose moonlight and a ladder on his own account.

However, he contented himself with the satisfaction of seeing the poor girl quite cheered and hopeful.

He lingered too long in the pleasant little garden, and missed the train, but he was very comfortable in his quarters at the hotel in Uplands that night, and glad of the prospect of breakfasting at Dr. Drexell's before he should leave town the next morning.

How much brighter our woes look by the early sunlight! Life did not seem half so wretched to Ella.

Her father appeared as a sane man should. Peggy had repented her indignation, and was back in the brown kitchen cooking her daintiest waffles by way of apology.

Ella, in a pretty pink-sprigged muslin, was feeding the canary bird, while Mr. Claybourne read the morning news to the doctor, occasionally glancing from his paper to the graceful little figure that went in and out, superintending the breakfast getting. On the doorsteps, in the summer sunshine lay the old white cat, "asleep with one eye and awake with the other."

That morning's mail brought a letter from Beatrice.

Her husband had frankly told her of his writing her father, and Beatrice was now glad that he had done so, and was deeply ashamed of her elopement, though not regretting her marriage.

It was a characteristic letter, written in the high-flown style which Dr. Drexel considered an indication of superior abilities.

It sounded odd to read, towards the close, of Beatrice's anxiety to reach her new home, and care for her two little step-daughters, who had no one but an unsympathetic housekeeper to look after them, during their father's absence.

This letter, supplemented by all necessary explanations, was forwarded to Fanny.

Fanny felt too humbled by her own unfortunate experience to criticise her sister's conduct, and she wrote a kind little note, full of pleasant commonplaces, which was very comforting to Beatrice.

This first marriage in the doctor's family made a good deal of gossip in Uplands.

The Garrett's, who had always been among the Drexell's best friends were, of course, specially interested, and expressed the hope that the remaining daughters would have a different fate.

"Why didn't you take my advice, Fred?" said Mrs. Garrett one evening, when the Blair marriage had been under discussion.

"What advice?" asked the young professor, innocently.

"Why, you know!" rejoined his mother. "You know, very well. I advised you to think seriously of Ella or Beatrice, as you seem to have given up Fanny."

"Impossible! mother. Beatrice and Ella will always seem like younger sisters; and, as for Fanny, if you must know, I can never love any one else and I can never forgive her."

"How long is it since my son was so perfect that he can refuse to forgive shortcomings in another?"

"Mother," said Fred, with a good deal of emotion, "I can't tell you all about this, but I will only say that you have brought me up to despise a liar. How many times have I heard you say that any fault was easier to amend than falsehood,—that if a person was untrue, there was positively nothing to depend upon?"

"Well, Fred," replied his mother calmly, "while I admit all that, I am sorry if I have taught you that any sin is unforgivable. If so, I have assumed to be wiser than Scripture. There is no reason why a penitent liar may not be forgiven as well as a penitent thief. Why, look at Saint Peter! denying thrice that he knew his Lord, and that at a time when a denial was so cruel! And yet his broken-hearted penitence was accepted and the Church of Christ was founded upon him."

"Yes, that is true," said Fred, slowly, as if the story of Peter's denial was a new thing to him.

The fact was, a different view of Fanny was dawning upon him. He saw her, not as the giddy little flirt, who had been false to two honest, manly fellows that trusted her.

He thought of her now, simply as the thoughtless, motherless girl, with no one to guide her;—a girl not maliciously untrue, but so incapable of giving pain that she weakly said "yes" to the present, trusting to luck to make it all right with the absent.

It was inexcusable, of course, but Fred felt more kindly toward her than he had done since he and the young captain surprised one another and Fanny so unpleasantly.

Then he reflected how severely he had written her, and how she had exiled herself in that forlorn boarding school ever since.

"Poor little Fan! She has had small chance to flirt there," thought Mr. Fred, with perhaps a grain of satisfaction.

Then he drew from his pocket a letter from the principal of the above institution, requesting Professor Garrett to give his lecture upon "Recent Discoveries in Babylon" to the young ladies under his charge.

"I think I will," said Fred absently.

"Will forgive Fanny?" exclaimed Mrs. Garrett eagerly.

"No, no!" said Fred. "I was saying I think I will give a lecture before the young ladies of a boarding school where I am invited."

Mrs. Garrett, like a wise woman, said no more, feeling hopeful that there might be recent discoveries in other regions than Babylon.

Fanny generally attended the Friday evening lectures, which were provided for the young ladies of the institution where she was teaching. It was [illegible] in a very monotonous life. A very mild diversion, it is true, but Fanny was glad of it, and welcomed the stereopticon man, or the learned traveller, the war eagle, or whatever came along.

The evening that Fred was to lecture, she had not learned the name of the speaker. She only knew that the subject referred to the Buried Cities, or something of the sort,—a subject that Fanny cared precious little about. However, it was better than staying alone in her room with accusing memories for company, so she brushed her bonny, brown hair, and arranged it in the latest style, put on her new gray cashmere, and picked a pink rose from the plant in her window, to stick in her velvet bodice.

"Oh, you sweet!" exclaimed one of her gushing pupils, who met her on the way to the school-room, where the lecture was to be given, "don't you dare to sit on the front seats, or this old professor won't know whether he's talking about Babylon or Babel."

It was an old professor the young ladies expected to see, supposing that it was more in character for an aged man to speak of the exhumed treasures of an ancient city, and there was a general murmur of pleased surprise when Fred Garrett came on to the stage, and in his easy and graceful, yet dignified way, addressed his very attentive audience on the wonders of Babylon.

No one noticed that Fanny's cheeks were pinker than the rose she wore (unless perhaps the lecturer's dark eyes observed that fact).

It was the custom for the entire board of instructors to linger about the stage at the close of the lectures, and to be presented by the principal to the speaker of the evening.

Fanny could not escape without observation, but she did not wish to meet this speaker. The remembrance of his last note, so severely reproving, burned in her memory yet, but she felt she might as well meet him now as any time,—she could not stay away from Uplands always.

So, she endured the conventional introduction, and heard him say to her civilly, as a stranger might say: "Happy to meet you, Miss Drexell."

He had shaken hands with the other teachers. Now it was her turn. Her cold, little hand trembled as he grasped it. If he had not fully forgiven her before, he did at that moment. Fanny somehow understood it, though there was no chance for words.

The principal hurried the young professor away to the train, for which indeed there was little time.

The next day's mail brought for Fanny a letter from Fred, containing a proposal of marriage, and forgiving all that had passed. If it were a trifle condescending, we must remember how deeply the young fellow had been humiliated.

But Fanny could not say "yes" to his proposal. No doubt she loved him and bitterly regretted her duplicity, but she had some pride of her own, too, and was not willing to come back as a pardoned sinner.

So in a few a very few words, she spoke of the pain and pleasure it was to see him again, and the regret that she was not worthy to accept his offer. She could not consent to be the wife of a man who must, at times at least, when he recalled the past, distrust her;—and so she remained as ever, his friend Fanny.

Fred was piqued and disappointed, and felt as if the romance of his life was over.

The next vacation, when he visited Uplands, it was summer time. Almost three years since he and Captain Alf had met on Dr. Drexell's doorsteps.

Captain Alf's wounds were quite healed now. He had sailed the seas over, almost constantly since he left Uplands in such high dudgeon, and now he had come back for a brief visit, bringing with him a handsome Spanish wife.

The rough sea life, the sun, the wind, and plenty of ale, had not improved Captain Alf's good looks. He was quite too stout to be graceful; his once fair complexion was red and leathery, and his speech was not so choice as it used to be. Still, he was a cordial, honest, wide-awake man.

It chanced that Fanny was home for a few weeks, and the very first call that Captain Alf made was to take his bride to see his old flame.

Fanny was a good deal disturbed when Peggy told her who was waiting to see her in the parlor, but the bluff captain soon put her at ease.

"How do you do, Miss Drexell?" he said, shaking hands heartily. "I want to make you acquainted with my wife."

"Nita, this is the Miss Drexell I have told you about. I want you to be good friends."

"This is a young lady," he went on, indicating his wife and talking to Fanny, "this is a young lady that knows her own mind. She knows what she wants every time. And if there's anything she don't want, you'll hear from her, I promise you."

Fanny was thankful to see that Captain Alf was entirely cured of his former fancy for her, and was as proud as a man could be, of his handsome young wife.

He had loaded her, sailor-like, with quantities of jewelry. There was an ornament of some sort dangling from every available point, and, as the captain noticed Fanny's simple blue gingham, with only a moss rose-bud by way of brooch, he thought:

"Guess that Drexell girl will feel bad to think what she's lost. She's a bright, pretty little thing, but she can't hold a candle to my Juanita."

Fanny felt lighter hearted than she had for many a day, as she saw the well satisfied pair walk away,—Captain Alf, big and burly, lighting a cigar as he went, and beside him Madame Juanita, gorgeous in her silks and laces and jewels and a parasol that was a very Chinese temple for gorgeousness.

"I am heartily thankful he is happy," sighed Fanny. Yet she was not prepared to hope that Fred Garrett might bring home a stranger bride also. (TO BE CONTINUED).

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FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

QUERIES FROM A MAINE MOTHER.

"I am so thankful Freddie has learned to talk, for now when he is sick he can tell me what ails him," one mother said not long ago. It is a great help, experience has shown us, when a little one can make known to us in words, where and how he aches.

Baby is sick. We know that by half-a-dozen symptoms, fretfulness or stupor, dull eyes, hot flesh, quickened breath, throbbing pulse, and thirst or nausea, but where is baby sick? Is it head or stomach, ear, tooth or bowels that give rise to his fever and pain?

I wonder if you know all about it,—this bending with agonizing anxiety over a sick, little baby, who cannot tell you by moan or sign, where he aches.

You are willing and acutely anxious to do anything and everything for him, but you do not know what to do. Oh! the pity and the misery of it all! You do not know how to relieve his suffering, nor where, nor what it is, and all baby can do is to lift his dull, heavy-lidded eyes to ours as though mutely asking why this pain, and pitifully pleading for us to take it away from him.

The first born brings the most anxiety and sleeplessness, and if that baby is subject to sharp and sudden attacks of sickness, no physician or motherly neighbor within easy call, I pity the mother!

How much there is for us to learn in taking right care of these helpless little people, for whom we would willingly give our lives, and yet, perhaps, are so destitute of experience and judgment, that we are not wise enough to give a dose of oil or ipecac, when the baby needs it.

There are mothers who, when their children fall sick, are terribly fearful of diphtheria, scarlet fever, or congestion, dreading and looking for the death angel with every sickness. One can crowd a great deal of wretched anxiety and misery into their days and nights if thus constitutionally fearful.

Now shall we talk of symptoms? Is baby feverish, with head hot, and hot dry hands? Whatever may be the cause; teething, colds, or an oncoming disease, the heat should be drawn from the head, if possible. If the symptoms are not sufficiently severe to warrant packing in a hot sheet, put drafts on the little feet and wrists, and along the spine, if the head is hot.

"What kind of drafts?" Poultices of flaxseed meal and pounded onions, warmed in hen's or goose oil to prevent drying, we think are best.

Sometimes, when the little head and hands still remain hot after exhaustive packing,—the attendant physician not daring to order another pack—we have wrapped the sick child, from its toes to its thighs in thick, warm poultices, prepared as above, and always with desirable results.

The terrible, ringing bark of croup we are quick to learn. Once heard, it is never forgotten. False croup, as yet, is all I have had to meet,—I pray the other may never come to my darlings or yours—and with a hot room, warm onion poultices extending from throat to below lungs, a vomit of ipecac, and a hot pack, if necessary, false croup is robbed of its terrors.

But I came asking for advice, not to air the little I have learned.

Will some one tell us what to do, when by grimaces of pain, which swallowing or gaping excite, you know baby's throat is sore. He cannot gargle. You only exhaust yourself and him in attempting to swab the little throat, but is it wise to neglect a "common sore throat" in a little child, for fear it may develope into a worse form? And if not, what shall we do?

Swathing the throat in wet flannels, and packing a child in a hot, wet sheet, I dread doing, and put off just as long as I dare, because of the great danger of afterwards taking cold.

Again, for hoarseness and coughs produced by common colds, what is best to give?

There is so little one can give without deranging baby's stomach and bowels, for equills and cough syrups are sure to be physicing and often nauseating.

Congestion! How shall we detect its stealthy, swift, noiseless oncoming? What sign or signs will baby give when the muffled enemy is stealing to grasp her life? With words she cannot tell us of the sharp strictures and suffocation from which she suffers.

Not many mothers can accurately "sound the lungs," or detect the flutter and muffled wheeze that token trouble.

I know of one dear little boy who died of congestion of the lungs, snuggled in his mother's arms while she slept quietly on. She was a light sleeper, and knows he gave no sign or struggle, else she would have wakened.

At nightfall, she thought him slightly "stuffed," and applied her simple remedies.

Yet congestion and pneumonia, we are told, have their signs. Will some one tell us what they are in little children who cannot tell for themselves?

Recently, I read in a medical journal that children should be allowed, and even encouraged, to sleep, soon after a fall or severe bump; that after such a shock, the child's system demands rest and opportunity to regain its equilibrium, and that a long, undisturbed sleep would soonest and surest bring this about.

Now, all this is just the reverse of what we hitherto had read and been instructed to act—in case a child under our care should suffer such a mishap. "Never let a baby go to sleep immediately after a fall or head bump, for fear it may never wake, or wake with an injured brain." We have read and been taught this all our lifetime, yet, how reasonable and natural for a little child to fall asleep after the prolonged, hard cry, jar and exhaustion of strength, which his accident caused him!

Will some physician tell us which method is best for the little sufferer? JOHN'S WIFE.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

LAST HOURS OF BABYHOOD.

A Sketch

BY EMMA C. HEWITT.

Asenath Holmes stood beside her Grandmother gazing at the Prize Picture of the Fall Exhibition. So simple! So touching! On his mother's lap a boy grown almost too large for "babying." In the mother's face as she gazes on the growing son that yearning tenderness that would keep him a baby always, that clinging mother love which would never allow him to grow up and away from her fondling hand, could she but stay the flight of time.

A simple subject, but one that could not fail to find a home in every mother's heart. A "song without words" that could not fail to find an echo in the hearts of thousands of others, who had "once been babies" and had loving memories of their childhood stored away among their choicest treasures.

"Last Days of Babyhood" murmured Asenath from the catalogue. "O Grandma! isn't it lovely?" Receiving no reply from Mrs. Gray but a quick, sharp, sobbing sigh, she turned to find her grandmother utterly oblivious of aught save the picture, while large tears coursed down her withered cheeks and fell upon the book which trembled in her hand.

"O Grandma! What is it?" exclaimed Asenath, shocked and distressed. "What can I do for you?"

"'Sh! Nothing, dear child," answered the old lady quickly but gently, "Don't make any disturbance. Let us go away now and come again another day."

Obedient to her beloved Grandma Gray's behest, silently Asenath threaded her way out among the people, protecting and making way for the feeble form that depended for help and guidance on her youthful strength.

Still, without a word, Grandma went to her room, while Asenath seated herself beside the open grate in the parlor, to muse and wonder over the dear old lady's emotion.

A knock at the door. "Miss Asenath, sure an' the mistherss is after wantin' ye in her own room. She says she's got a nice cup of hot chocolate fur ye an' a foine bit o' toast. An' that she don't feel very well an' won't be after goin' down to supper this evenin'."

"Very well, Ann. I shall not be down to supper this evening, either. Tell my brother Tom when he comes for me that I am going to stay all night with Grandma. If any one else calls, remember, I am engaged, no matter who it may be."

"Asenath dear, you no doubt wondered at the emotion I displayed this afternoon," began Mrs. Gray, when they were comfortably seated over the cosy little bedroom supper and Ann was dismissed "till further notice."

"Well yes, Grandma, I did," replied Asenath frankly. "I couldn't very well help it, you know," she added apologetically. "Indeed, it wasn't curiosity, but everything that distresses you distresses me."

"I know, dear," and Grandma smiled. "Well, I'm going to tell you all about it. You don't remember your Uncle Henry of course, for he died before your mother was born," and the old lady's lip trembled and her voice grew husky at the remembrance of the time of that awful loss.

"Don't Grandma!" plead Asenath, distressed beyond measure to see her grandmother so moved. "Don't speak of it! It hurts you."

"Indeed my dear, I would far rather. So if I seem distressed don't let it distress you. It will do me good to talk, I think. When I was married and long before, I had very decided ideas (in common with many another who has never had any children of her own) in regard to the proper method of training children. I had seen so many children ruined by weak parents, that I made up my mind, that if the Lord ever sent me any children I should train them with Spartan firmness. I did not believe in petting children. I considered that it made them weak, and lacking in self reliance."

"You, Grandma! Why you are a great hand to pet us all."

"Ah, dear child," said Mrs. Gray sadly, "but that is a lesson which I have learned in one of the hardest schools in which I ever was trained. Finally, after a couple of years my little Henry came. Oh how my heart yearned towards that child, my baby, my first-born. But as I loved him with such intensity, so much the more I felt the necessity of putting the curb on myself and him. No cuddling for Henry. No rocking in his mothers arms. No anything that would tend to babyism. My son must grow self-reliant, a lesson that could not be inculcated too early, or what was the use of all my fine theories? So I crushed the mother in me, to make way for the man in him. My sister, Jane Ardley, had three children at this time, the youngest a little older than my Henry. On many occasions she and I had hot words in regard to the difference in our method of training, but on one particular evening, when I went into her house and saw her cuddling her eight year old Charlie on one knee, and my seven year old Henry on the other, we had a very serious falling out.

"Jane Ardley," I said sternly, for I was very angry, "You're a fool!"

"Not half so big a one as you are yourself," she retorted coolly, while she continued to rock to and fro.

"Well, I'll tell you one thing. You may spoil your own children to the top of your bent, but you shan't ruin mine. Henry! get down sir, this moment, and don't let me ever hear of you're doing such a thing again. The idea! A great big boy seven years' old sitting on any one's lap! I'm ashamed of you, sir. I thought you more of a man!"

"Maria Gray," spoke up Jane, hotly, "I want you to understand one thing. I expect to take my son on my lap till he is big enough to take me on his, and you may starve your son Henry all you like in your own house, but he shan't be starved here!" and she looked with fond affection upon the child, who had slidden slowly from her lap.

"Starve him! I'd like to know what you mean! If there is a boy in this town better fed and better clothed, or better provided for in every way, I'd like somebody to point him out!"

"O I dare say all that!" retorted Jane, impatiently. "You're only thirty now. Maybe by the time you are fifty, and your children well grown up, and it is too late, you'll find that there's something more necessary between mother and child than bread and butter and shoes. Mark my words! If that child goes wrong, you'll have nobody to thank for it but yourself. A mother who is ashamed to show her affection for her children don't deserve to have them. It don't take much time. A word here, a pat there, a kiss now and again, and the child has tangible proof that its mother loves it with a love beyond that of the brutes, which care for their young because the young are theirs," and she rocked violently back and forth, holding Charlie tightly in her arms the while.

This tirade of Jane's took my breath away, so I marched out of the house in high dudgeon, without vouchsafing a reply of any description.

A few days after this Henry began to droop, and a low fever set in. After the fever left him he was perfectly sensible, but very weak. He used to follow my motions round the room with his large eyes till it seemed as if I should go insane. No sign, no sound, only that patient dumb endurance which I had taught him in all things. I felt as if I would give anything if he would fret as other children did. It would give me a chance to soothe him or do something more than I was doing. "Henry," I cried in misery, "what is it you want?"

"Nothing, thank you," he would reply faintly.

One day the wistfulness in his face grew so intense I was driven almost to desperation.

"O my darling!" I cried in agony, "what is it? Dear love, tell mamma what you want. Is there nothing you want? Tell mamma what it is?"

He looked at me in intense astonishment, and then said faintly and hesitatingly, "If you were only—a little more like Aunty Jane—I'd ask you—to take me on your lap—and nurse me a little while—but I don't suppose you'd like to!"

"Like to! Before he had fairly finished, I had him on my lap, rocking him to and fro, wrapped in his little blanket, as I never had done for him when he was a baby.

"Could you sing the 'Three Little Kittens,' as aunty Jane does?" he asked, nestling his head closer to me.

Ah Jane! Jane! I had found out what you meant by "bread and butter and shoes," and the old lady paused in her recital, while Asenath, too moved to speak, wiped away the tears that would fall.

"O mamma," he said, resumed Mrs. Gray after a moment, "it is so nice," and perfect content showed in his sweet, tired, pale little face. "It is the only thing I have wanted since I have been sick. You have given me everything else. I know you think it is very babyish, but you don't mind while I'm sick, do you, so very sick I mean? Of course when I get well I won't expect it."

"Mind!" I said, "O my baby! my baby! Why didn't you tell me before?" My heart was wrung with anguish to think how I had starved my boy. I might have fed his body and mind, but I had starved his tender little heart.

"Mamma will nurse you, dear, till you get so big that you can take her on your lap," and I smiled and tried to be gay.

"Even when I am well?" he questioned wonderingly.

"Even when you are well, my darling."

"That's so good, mamma. I was just going to wish I never would be well, (a spasm of terror seized my heart) so that I could always sit on your lap when I wanted to. But to be well will be so much nicer. Kiss me, mamma. I am so happy," and he closed his eyes and slept peacefully and quietly for the first time in twenty-four hours. So quietly that when the doctor came an hour later, and told me my son was dead, had been dead for some time, I could not tell the moment at which the change had taken place. In fact I would not believe him at first. But I have always thanked God that he died in my arms, that his last words were 'I am so happy.' I have always been grateful that I was permitted to do this thing, that I was not allowed to let him die with that overwhelming longing, that craving of his heart unsatisfied."

Asenath and her grandmother wept silently together for a few moments, then Asenath spoke gently:

"Grandma, I guess auntie Jane was right in what she said about boys going wrong, for I heard Uncle Edward tell mamma last night, that many a time out on the plains, with a party of roughs and vagabonds, he had been tempted to do wrong, but the thought of the dear old mother at home, and the way she used to pet him and make much of him, had saved him from it. And then I heard him say: 'I tell you what it is, Alice, a man must be a pretty hard kind of a party who can remember his mother's kisses and words of affection, her cuddling, and nursing, and petting, and then deliberately go and do that which he knows would worry her and lacerate her tender heart.' So you see, Grandma dear, that you can take great comfort out of Uncle Edward," and Asenath smiled encouragingly.

Mrs. Gray shed a few more silent tears and then dried her eyes. "It was very hard not to run to the other extreme with your mother and Edward."

"Well, Grandma, I don't think you're spoiled Uncle Edward, and I just know you didn't spoil mamma, for she's just the loveliest, brightest, most unselfish, best little woman in the world, and just as like her mother as two peas. But if I keep you up any longer that same small woman will be after me for ruining your health. So good night, grandma dear," and there was something more than her usual tenderness for dear old Grandma Gray, in Asenath Holme's good-night kiss.

HINTS UPON NURSING.

In rearing an infant, much labor may be saved by a little management. As soon as the child can sit alone, provide it with a suitable chair, and place it at the head of your bed. Every morning as soon as the child awakens seat it in its little chair.

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

A. M. will find crocheted baby socks in September number of L. H. J. 1885.

FARGO, CASS CO., DAKOTA, Jan. 2, '86.

Will some one please send directions for making Point Lace stitches? And oblige a subscriber,

MRS. E. R. K.

S. A. S., GILLETT'S GROVE, IOWA:—Your directions sent us from the Housekeeper are not correct. T. O. T. means thread over twice. If you wish for correct directions of Oak Leaf edging, send your address with a two cent stamp to M. F. K., 20 Linden street, So. Boston, Mass.

M. C., GREENSBURG:—Gather the thistles the latter part of July or first of August; cut all the green from the outside; then hold the thistle carefully in the hand, and pull out the prick blow one by one, tie a string round the stem and hang it up; it will gradually puff out into a pompon.

MARY.

If "Ella J." will send to M. F. K., 20 Linden St., South Boston, Mass., and enclose a two cent stamp, she will try to answer her questions. Please say what kind of lady's cap you mean; also explain the kind of half shell stitch you wish to know about.

ED. LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—In answer to Mrs. F. Graham for a pattern of a crocheted baby sack, here is one which I think very pretty.

Make a chain of 60 stitches; 18 shell on the chain, each shell has 3 chain, 3 treble crochet to a shell, and each shell is put into the opening made by the 3 chain.

2 rows plain.

3d row. 9 plain, widen 1 by putting it in the shell, 9 plain.

4th row. 4 plain, widen 1, 11 plain, widen 1, 4 plain.

5th and 6th rows plain.

7th row. 10 shells plain, widen 1 each side of 11th shell, 10 plain.

8th and 9th rows plain.

10th row. 4 shells plain, widen 1, 7 shells plain, widen 1, 4 shells plain, widen 1, 4 shells plain.

11th row plain.

12th row. 4 shells plain, a chain of 9 stitches which forms the foundation for the sleeves, count 5 shells and put the chain in the 5th shell, 11 shells plain, chain 9, put in the 5th shell, 4 shells plain.

13th row. 4 shells plain, 3 shells on the chain, 11 shells plain, 3 on chain, 4 shells plain.

14th, 15th and 16th rows are plain.

17th row. 4 shells plain, widen 1, 8 shells plain, widen 1, 1 shell plain, widen 1, 8 shells plain, widen 1, 4 shells plain.

18th to 25d rows are all plain. The 24th and 25th are made by scalloping it round with another color, or can be made all alike. Begin at neck with another color and go all round. Sleeves: 9 shells around arm size, 11 rows long.

SOMERVILLE, MASS. MRS. YETTEN.

Crochet Lamp Mat.

Crochet cotton No. 14. Make a chain of six stitches and join it.

1st row. Chain 2, put 19 d c in loop made of chain 6.

2d row. Chain 2, 1 d c between 1st and 2d st, ch 2, 2 d c between 3d and 4th st, ch 2, 2 d c between 5th and 6th, and so on through the row; you must have 9 holes in the row.

3d row. Chain 3, 2 d c in first hole, ch 3, 3 d c in second hole; so on through the row.

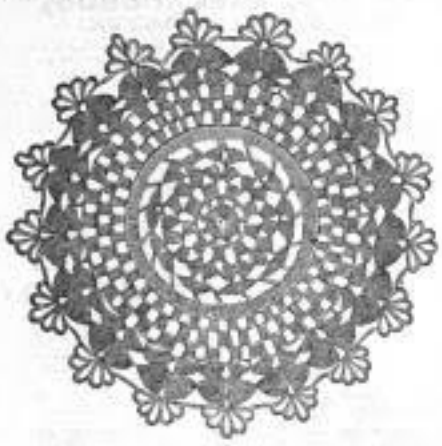
4th row. 4 d c in first hole, ch 2, 4 d c in same hole, 4 d c in next hole, ch 2, 4 d c in same, so on through the row.

5th row. Ch 2, 5 d c in loop made by ch 3, ch 1, 5 d c in same, 5 d c in next loop of 3, ch 1, 5 d c in same; so on through the row.

6th row. Ch 10, * 1 d c in ch 1, ch 7, 1 d c between the scallops; repeat from * through the row.

7th row. Ch 2, 1 d c in each stitch of chain 7 through the row.

8th row. Ch 2, 1 d c in first stitch, * ch 2, skip a stitch, 1 d c in each of next 2 stitches; repeat from * through the row.



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

9th row. Ch 4, 2 d c in first hole, * ch 3, 2 d c in next hole, repeat from * through the row.

10th row. Ch 3, 2 d c in first hole, * ch 3, 3 d c in next hole; repeat from * through the row.

11th row. Ch 3, 3 d c in first hole, ch 3, 3 d c in same, * 1 d c in next hole, 3 d c in next hole, ch 3, 3 d c in same; repeat from * through the row.

12th row. 6 d c in first loop made by ch 3, ch 2 6 d c in same, 6 d c in next loop made by ch 3, ch 2, 6 d c in same; so on through the row.

12th row. Ch 6, 1 d c in loop made by ch 2, ch 6, 1 d c in same, ch 6, 1 d c in same, ch 6, 1 d c in same, ch 6, 1 d c in same, ch 6, 1 d c in same, ch 6, 1 d c in next loop of ch 2; continue the same as in the first loop, and so on through the row.

Join each row together. This is a pretty mat made of single zephyr.

M. F. K.

Palm Leaf Welch Lace.

BOSTON, MASS., Oct. 1885.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I see in this month's paper a request from "Hetty Marshall" for directions for Palm Leaf Welch Lace, so I searched through a pile of papers in which I had it somewhere, and will copy it for her, and if she has patience to knit it, I think she will have something pretty., but it is "long drawn out." Here it is:

Cast on thirty-seven stitches.

1st row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 9* over twice, narrow* six times in succession, knit 2* over, narrow, knit 1* three times in succession.

2d row. Over, knit 13, purl 1* knit 2, purl 1* five times, knit 9, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

3d row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 8, narrow* knit 1, narrow* five times, knit 5* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

4th row. Over, knit 33, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

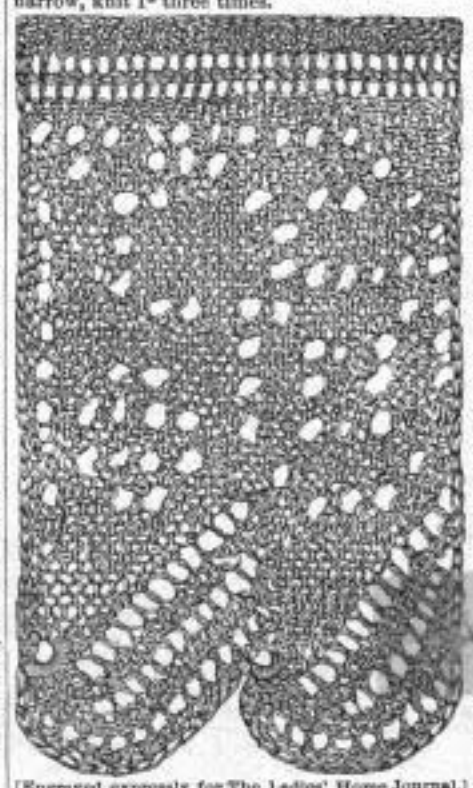
5th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 7, over twice, narrow, knit 2, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 6, over twice, narrow, knit 2* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

6th row. Over, knit 13, purl 1, knit 8, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 4, purl 1, knit 7, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

7th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 6, narrow, knit 3, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 7, narrow, knit 5* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

8th row. Over, knit 35, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

9th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 5, over twice, narrow, knit 4, over twice, narrow, knit 2* over twice, narrow* three times, knit 2, over twice, narrow, knit 2* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.



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10th row. Over, knit 13, purl 1, knit 4, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 4, purl 1, knit 6, purl 1, knit 5, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

11th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 4, narrow, knit 5, narrow, knit 3, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 3, narrow, knit 5* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

12th row. Over, knit 37, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

13th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3, over twice, narrow, knit 2, over twice, narrow, knit 2, over twice, narrow, knit 2, over twice, narrow, knit 2, over twice, narrow, knit 2, over twice, narrow, knit 4* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

14th row. Over, knit 15, purl 1, knit 4, purl 1, knit 4, purl 1, knit 4, purl 1, knit 4, purl 1, knit 4, purl 1, knit 3, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

15th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 2, narrow, knit 3, narrow, knit 3, narrow, knit 3, narrow, knit 3, narrow, knit 3, narrow, knit 7* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

16th row. Over, knit 39, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

17th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3, over twice, narrow, knit 2, over twice, narrow, knit 2, over twice, narrow, knit 2, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 2, over twice, narrow, knit 6* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

18th row. Over, knit 17, purl 1, knit 4, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 4, purl 1, knit 4, purl 1, knit 4, purl 1, knit 3, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

19th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 2, narrow, knit 3, narrow, knit 3, narrow, knit 3, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 3, narrow, knit 9* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

20th row. Over, knit 41, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

21st row. Slip 1, knit 2 over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3, over twice, narrow, knit 4, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 6, over twice, narrow, knit 10* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

22d row. Over, knit 21, purl 1, knit 8, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 6, purl 1, knit 3, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

23d row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 2, narrow, knit 5, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 7, narrow, knit 13* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

24th row. Over, knit 43, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

25th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3, over twice, narrow, knit 2, over twice, narrow, knit 4, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit fourteen* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

26th row. Over, knit 1, slip the first loop on left hand needle over the end stitch toward the right hand, knit 2, slip second loop over next stitch, knit 2, slip third loop over next stitch, knit 17, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 6, purl 1, knit 4, purl 1, knit 3, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

27th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 2, narrow, knit 3, narrow, knit 5, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 4, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, over the next stitch, bind the remaining 10 stitches, knit 1.

28th row. Over, knit 32, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

29th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 17* over, narrow, knit 1* three times; pick up the last bound stitch in scallops and knit with the last stitch of the 29th row, third row in second leaf, and third row after each scallop is bound off, to make a firmer edge.

30th row. Over, knit 28, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 3, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

31st row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 2, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 20* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

32d row. Over, knit 34, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

33d row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 6, over twice, narrow, knit 4, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 3* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

34th row. Over, knit 14, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 6, purl 1, knit 8, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 3, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

35th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 2, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 7, narrow, knit 5, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 6* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

36th row. Over, knit 36, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

37th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 5, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 4, over twice, narrow, knit 2, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 3* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

38th row. Over, knit 14, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 4, purl 1, knit 6, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 5, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

39th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 4, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 5, narrow, knit 3, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 6* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

40th row. Over, knit 38, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

41st row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 7, over twice, slip 1, narrow 2 together, throw the slipped stitch over the last one knitted, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 3* over twice, narrow* four times, knit 5* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

42d row. Over, knit 16, purl 1, knit 3, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 5, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 7, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

43d row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 4, over twice, narrow, knit 3, (do not narrow over a slip, narrow and bind), narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 4, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 8* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

44th row. Over, knit 36, purl 1, knit 4, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

45th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3, narrow, knit 15, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 9* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

46th row. Over, knit 20, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 10, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

47th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 2, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 10, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 12* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

48th row. Over, knit 36, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

49th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 1, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 28* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

50th row. Over, knit 43, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

51st row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 4, over twice, narrow, knit 29* over, narrow, knit 1* three times.

52d row. Over, knit 1, slip the first loop on left hand needle over the end stitch towards right hand, knit 2, slip second loop over next stitch, knit 2, slip third loop over next stitch, knit 32, purl 1, knit four, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

53d row. Slip 1, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3, narrow, knit 5* over twice, narrow* 6 times, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, over the next stitch bind the remaining 10 stitches, knit 1.

This finishes the scallop between the leaves and begins another leaf. Repeat from second row until the lace is long enough, then for the last row knit same as 53d row, only leave out the leaf and knit plain between the edges, which finishes the scallop ready to join the lace together nicely.

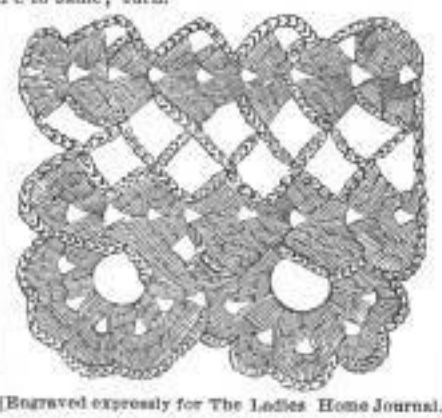
HATTIE.

Pretty Crochet Lace.

Make a foundation chain of 12 stitches.

1st row. 2 d c in fourth stitch of chain, ch 1, 3 d c in same, ch 4, 1 s c in sixth stitch of foundation chain, 3 d c in ninth stitch, ch 1, 3 d c in same; turn.

2d row. Chain 5, 3 d c in loop made by ch 1 in last row, ch 1, 3 d c in same, 1 s c in first stitch of chain 4, ch 4, 3 d c in loop made by ch 1, ch 1, 3 d c in same; turn.



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

3d row. Chain 3, 3 d c in ch 1, ch 1, 3 d c in same, 1 s c in first stitch of chain 4, ch 4, 3 d c in loop made by ch 1, ch 1, 3 d c in same; turn.

4th row. Chain 5, 3 d c in loop, ch 1, 3 d c in same, 1 s c in first stitch of chain 4, ch 4, 3 d c in loop, ch 1, 3 d c in same, 10 d c in loop made by ch 3; turn.

5th row. 1 s c between the first and second d c of last row, 4 d c in same, 1 s c in same, 1 s c between third and 4th d c, 4 d c in same, 1 s c in same, 1 s c between 5th and 6th d c, 4 d c in same, 1 s c in same, and so on between seventh and eighth, ninth and tenth, 3 d c in loop made by ch 1, ch 1, 8 d c in same, 1 s c in first stitch of ch 4, ch 4, 3 d c in loop, 1 ch, 3 d c in same; repeat from second row.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

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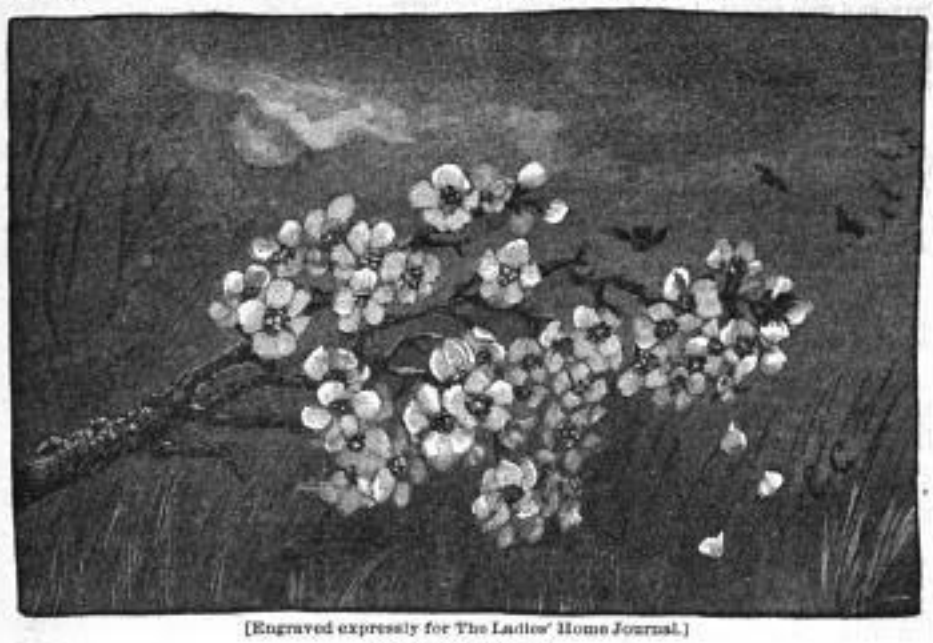
The first thing to be considered in painting a picture is our material. Canvas generally gives the best satisfaction, although for small, or medium sized paintings; academy, or mill board may be used. This comes in sheets of various sizes, and may be cut any dimensions to suit the purchaser. If canvas is chosen, it should be of good quality which will not shrink or wrinkle. What is known as the twilled sketching canvas is good, or the English linen, plain or twilled. The former is excellent for practice; the latter, the best kind for finished paintings. It is the poorest economy to buy cheap material, which is dear at any price.

It is always necessary that canvas be mounted on a stretcher, that is, a frame so constructed, that, if the canvas gives after painting, it may be tightened by introducing into the corners of the frame small pieces of wood, called keys. Any dealer in artists' materials will furnish you with these frames, or your carpenter can make them if you explain to him just what you want. Be sure to have the stretcher slightly beveled on the inside next your canvas, or it will make an ugly crease all around your painting. We once had a large picture very much injured in this way. Tack upon the frame with small gimp tacks, drawing as tightly as possible. Two persons can do this better than one, and it is considered a very nice job. Be particular about it, as nothing so injures the appearance of a painting as a poorly mounted canvas, loose, or wrinkled. Having your canvas ready you will next proceed to sketch in the design. There are various ways of doing this, which have been already described, but as we are always having new comers in our family of readers, old subscribers should not be impatient at repetitions, or particulars which might otherwise seem to them unnecessary.

The method of sketching most generally in use, is to draw the outlines with pencil, or crayon, and then go over them with the brush, using burnt sienna thinned with turpentine. A better way is to use charcoal for the sketch, afterwards setting it with what is known as fixative. The charcoal tracing will generally show very distinctly through the first painting. A box of charcoal for sketching will cost you but 15 or 20c., the fixative the same; while a vaporizer, or atomizer, which are one and the same thing, 15 or 20c. additional. After your charcoal sketch is completed, it is sprayed with the fixative, which prevents it from rubbing.



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

"SPRING IS COME."

If however, these materials are not to be had, you can substitute sweet milk to set your sketch. Float it over the outlines and drain off. After the canvas is dry you can proceed with your painting.

To the general observer a painting may seem a mere collection of objects, or a display of color, and the amateur is very apt to imagine that he can produce the same effects upon his canvas as the artist, if he has the same material. As if the whole secret of success lay in the color box, or the brush tray. We are told that an acquaintance of Landseer, begged of him one of his brushes, "For," said he, "they paint so marvellously well." Now the true artist would find modes of expression if he were to be deprived of paints and brushes. It is related of Herring, the animal painter, that once upon presenting a check at a bank, which he had received in payment of a picture, the words "bearer," or "to order," being wanting, the clerk looked doubtfully at it and then at the artist. Mr. Herring, noticing his hesitation, inquired what was wrong. The clerk explained, adding: "Don't you see it is payable to J. F. Herring?" "I do," answered the artist. "Well, I am he." "How am I to know that?" said the bank official. "Do you know of Herring by reputation?" again interrogated the artist. "Rather," said the clerk. "I happen to have, 'Three Members of the Temperance Society,' at home." Herring at once seized a pen lying upon the counter, and on a blank draft, dashed off a sketch of his picture, three horses heads drinking at one trough. Passing it on to the clerk, his check was not only cashed without further hesitation, but with profuse apology upon the part of the suspicious cashier. Now, although a person may possess a natural genius for painting, it is rarely that one is, as the saying goes, "a born artist." Taste, and nice discrimination, are results of culture and training. The oratorios of Mozart, or of Mendlessohn, would be jargon to the ear accustomed only to the strains of a hand organ, or a village choir; so the sublime creations of Raphael, or of Reubens, would be lost upon the uncultivated eye. In fact the pleasure derived from Art is in exact proportion to our capacity of appreciation. One cultivates a taste for Art—and how? By observation, by study, by carefully following certain rules laid down; rules as necessary as are the theorems of Algebra to the mathematician.

In composing our picture we must try to look at it as a whole. A painting to be pleasing must be well balanced, and in order to do this, it is necessary at the very beginning to form some plan, or purpose, not to go to work at random, hit or miss, with no certainty as to how it will turn out. Composition as applied to art, is not altogether different from the term as it relates to music, or to literature. Unless the author had before him some definite aim, some point to reach, some proposition to be laid down, he would be liable to go astray. And so in art work the student needs to be as much at home with his subject. We have harmonies in Art as in Music, and as we have said, a well-balanced, harmonious whole, makes a fine picture. There must be harmony in form, in color, in arrangement, and a painting is weak, or strong accordingly. Just as the quick ear of the musician detects a false note, so the trained eye of the artist detects what is lacking as to these points.

If our readers have attempted a delineation of the still life study given in the March number, they have a better idea of the values of light and shade, that is to say their comparative relation to one another irrespective of color. It would be a good plan always to make a sketch of your picture in black and white, before painting it in color; in fact this is a plan adopted by many artists. A small preparatory sketch is first made by way of analysis and experiment, in order to get the best possible effect in the larger painting.

Our subject this month is one suited to the season. Spring is come, and with it the spring blossoms. To interest both classes of readers, we give a sketch combining landscape and flower painting. "Spring is Come" will be found a very graceful design for a horizontal panel of medium size, say 14x18 inches, or if desired, it may be enlarged for a screen. In painting this picture the following scheme of color should be observed. The sky, which is the background for upper portion of canvas, is a rather dull blue covered with gray fleecy clouds just breaking away, as if after a spring shower. The lower half of panel suggests distant foliage, while in the immediate foreground are grasses, showing a little more detail. Thrown against this ground in bold relief, is the branch loaded with blossoms, which are of course much lighter in value than the rest of picture, being the prominent object of our sketch.

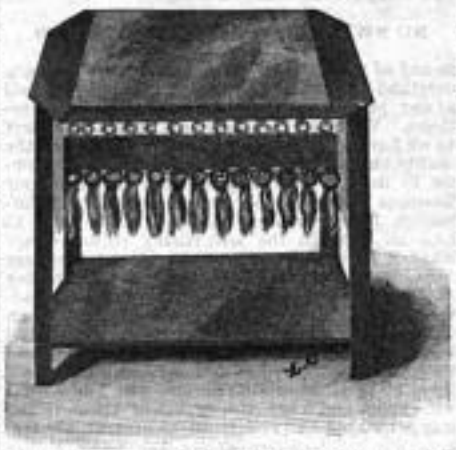
Having traced in the design, we begin by painting the sky, the palette for which is silver white, yellow ochre, cobalt, or permanent blue, a trifle light cadmium, qualified with a little ivory black. This is the general tone, and is laid on with a large bristle brush, beginning at the top of panel, using plenty of paint, taking short cross strokes, working in all directions. The method of blending with a badger brush is a thing of the past and not apopted by good teachers or artists. All the blending necessary is done with the ordinary brushes. While this painting is yet wet, the clouds may be painted, as in this way their edges may be somewhat blended in with the undertone, softening them, without however, going over the whole surface. A clean brush must be used for this purpose, and with this the edges of the clouds are dragged into the background, so that they seem to melt into it. Either oil, or Roberson's medium may be used for this painting. If the oil, a drop or two of Siccatif de Courtray may be added. This is a drier, and is safe to use, which cannot be said of drying oils in general.

The palette for clouds is white, yellow ochre, light red, cobalt, with a trifle madder lake in the shadows, and burnt umber and burnt sienna in the yet deeper accents. Do not blend your colors on the palette with the knife, but use the brush instead. For the shadowy foliage, white, permanent blue, light cadmium, burnt sienna, and madder lake are used, toning with ivory black. In fact our readers will find that black, enters into almost every palette, it being an essential element.

In painting the branch loaded with blossoms, we need to remember that although in bold relief against the sky, it ought not to appear as if against a flat surface. Looking at trees in nature we do not see them thus, but enveloped in atmosphere. We may obtain this effect by carefully observing directions given in April number. Let the edges of your blossoms merge into the background, so that there shall be no harsh outlines. The palette for general tone of blossoms is white, yellow ochre, a trifle light red and ivory black. Use these same colors for the shadows, with the addition of a little raw umber and burnt sienna. The deeper accents, of pink and red, are painted with madder lake, vermillion, white, yellow ochre, and a trifle ivory black.

Put in the high lights with crisp touches, using the same palette with the addition of more white. The light green filaments in the centre, tipped with yellow, are painted either with zinnober green, white, madder lake and ivory black, or with Antwerp blue, cadmium and white, toned with a trifle light red and black. The yellow tips with cadmium, white, and ivory black. The branch of tree is a rich, grayish brown, and is painted with white, raw umber, permanent blue, burnt sienna and ivory black, with yellow ochre in the warmer accents, and madder brown in the deeper shadows. Cherry or plum blossoms may be substituted for the apple blossoms if desired. For these the palette often given for white flowers should be used.

If our subject is apple blossoms we will introduce leaves of a warm, bright green, painted with Antwerp blue, white, cadmium, light red, and black, for the general tone; in the shadows using burnt sienna and raw umber. As all sur-



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

A QUEEN ANNE TABLE, OR MUSIC STAND.

face marks, such as the grasses in the immediate foreground, require a little different handling, we will paint them after the picture is dry. The palette is the same as for leaves, in the cooler accents using a little cobalt.

As this is the season in many parts of the country for these spring blossoms, our readers will do well to study their subject with the aid of the natural flowers, and while the general character of the sketch may be followed in composing the picture, the careful observation of nature will greatly assist in getting the most satisfactory results.

One of the economies of household decoration is shown in our second illustration, which is no more nor less than an old fashioned wash stand converted into a very handsome music rack, or Queen Anne table. The back and side pieces are removed from the top, and after the whole stand has been well sand-papered to give a smooth surface, it is ebonized. The top is then finished with a short scarf, the band and ornaments alone falling over the edge. If used for a table the two shelves may be neatly covered with plush, and the legs gilded or bronzed. This article of furniture will require the outlay of a small sum, and when finished in the manner suggested, will be to all appearances as elegant an affair as the $15 or $25 article of the artistic furniture establishments.

ANSWERS TO INQUIRERS.

"M. C.," N. Y.—The poppy is painted with vermillion, madder lake, yellow ochre, and ivory black, with burnt sienna and raw umber in the shadows. In the bright scarlet flowers use a little cadmium and light red, with burnt sienna in the shadows. To ascertain charges for teaching by mail, you should send your full address, with stamp for reply.

"J. R. H.," Penna.—The palette which has the indorsement of some of the best art instructors in the country, is simply, silver white, yellow ochre, light red, vermillion, madder lake, cobalt, Antwerp blue, permanent blue, raw umber, burnt sienna and ivory black. The cadmiums, light, medium and orange, are the best and safest yellows, and sometimes zinnober green is added. Academy board, or sketching canvas is best for a beginner's practice. The snow scene described in January number is rather difficult for a first attempt. We have studies easier of execution.

"N. L. W.," Mass.—To paint anemones, pink, white and yellow, you will require palette given above. The white flowers are painted first a general tone of gray, using white, black, yellow ochre, and a trifle madder lake, with raw umber and burnt sienna in the shadows. For the yellow flowers use light cadmium and white, toned with black, shading with yellow ochre and a little raw umber. The pink flowers may be painted with palette given above for apple blossoms.

"Mrs. S. T.," Penna.—We know nothing of the system of sketching of which you write. The very best method is that described in this study. If for decorative purposes, there is nothing better than the perforated stamping patterns.

"N. W.," Neb.—Your outline stitch for embroidery may be done in two colors as you suggest. The grace and beauty of design is of more importance than variety of colors in this work. The spider web would be prettiest in fine silver thread, and the silk and wool fringe will make a handsome finish.

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AND

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A NATIONAL ILLUSTRATED FAMILY JOURNAL.

MRS. LOUISA KNAPP, EDITOR.

MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT, ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

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Errors.—We make them: so does every one, and we will cheerfully correct them if you will write to us. Try to write us good-naturedly, but if you cannot, then write to us any way. Do not complain to any one else or let it pass. We want an early opportunity to make right any injustice that we may do.

Philadelphia, May, 1886.

NEW YORK OFFICE, 203 BROADWAY:

W. S. NILES, MANAGER.

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The LADIES' HOME JOURNAL has a bona fide paid subscription list of over two hundred thousand (200,000) subscribers. We believe we can make it three hundred thousand, before the year is out. Shall we have them? We intend to deserve them. Look out for improvements next month.

Believing our friends will not relax their efforts in extending our list, we shall continue to give them 16 pages each issue hereafter, with no increase of price for single subscriptions, or in clubs. To afford this we must have 300,000. We believe we shall get them.

☞ SEE THAT WE DO!

Well ventilated bedrooms will prevent morning headaches and lassitude.

It is poor economy for the farmers' family to stint themselves in health-giving milk and eggs.

Boys are taught from childhood that money is to be made, and girls, alas, are often taught indirectly, at least, that there is somewhere in the world a man with his pockets full, waiting for them to come and spend it. Boys are early in life encouraged to earn money, and that in families where girls would not be allowed to speak of such a thing.

One of the most important things to be considered in dress is the careful covering of the chest and back. Exposing the lungs by the inadequate shielding of these portions of the body from cold, is too generally practiced, especially among the ladies. To cover the chest alone most carefully is not enough. There should be a thick covering between the shoulders.

The mother who waits until eleven or twelve o'clock at night, either in a back room or up stairs, while Charlie one night and Frank another, talk and act toward her daughter as they please in the front parlor, is making the divorce court an absolute necessity. The parents who let every young monkey who wears trowsers unpatched, take their daughters alone to places of even innocent amusement before the daughter is seventeen, are doing the same thing.

The doings of the petty swindlers who offer women "work at home" have become so outrageous in Boston, that the Women's Educational and Industrial Union of that city has undertaken to protect the "innocents" from their operations. Over and over again we have denounced a number of these frauds by name, and we are glad of the assistance of the above local association in our efforts to protect the public from the knavery of these swindlers.

POSTAGE TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

A discrimination in the rates of postage to city subscribers is made between weekly and monthly periodicals, to the great disadvantage of the latter; for, while the weeklies can be mailed to city subscribers for one cent per pound, monthlies can not be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent each, except where the subscribers go to the postoffice for their mail. We are, therefore, obliged to ask Philadelphia subscribers twelve cents extra for postage, unless the paper is addressed at the postoffice to be called for, or to any P. O. box.

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THAT 300,000.

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in any of these pages. New subscribers may understand that the JOURNAL has no space to sell at any price, to swindling or unreliable advertisers. We mean to admit only such advertisers as we have good reason to believe have both the ability and intention to do just what they promise to do. In this way we aim to make our business pages a good source of reliable information for our readers, and we invite them to look all through the advertising columns, see what is for sale, by whom, etc. Good hints are thus often obtained by the readers, though they may want nothing announced. Write to the advertisers and get their circulars, etc., and when doing so, or when ordering of them, always tell them you saw their cards in the JOURNAL, and they, knowing our rules and our endorsement of them by their admission herein, will know what we expect and what you expect of them, in the way of prompt and courteous treatment, always.

SCRIBBLER'S LETTERS TO GUSTAVUS.

NO. X.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

I'm going to offer a word of advice, my dear Gustavus do not find fault. There are one or two things that you don't realize or appreciate yet. You felt very much injured that Julia did not look overwhelmed with joy and gratitude (I do believe you thought she ought to feel grateful, Gustavus) when you proposed to send her and the children down to the shore for a month. You come down over Sundays. She knew it would be a hopeless task for her to try to make manifest to you the reason that she only looked resigned, instead of flying at you in a transport of joy, and crying, "O my dear, kind husband, how very sweet of you to make all this sacrifice for me!"

Now, my dear, she saw ahead of her; in the first place, a long vista of sewing that must be done before she goes, sewing that she otherwise would stray along quietly through a month or so, but which, under these circumstances, must be crowded into a week, at most. Then, Gustavus, there is the packing for a month for herself and two children. The clothes that must be taken for fear it should be cold, those that must be taken in case it is hot, the things that they do need, the things that they may need, the preparing for emergencies, the leaving things that you may be able to find what you want while she is gone, without tearing the house upside down. All this crowded into a few days. Fancy what she feels like before she starts. Then she goes down among a set of strangers, crowds herself and her two children and her two trunks into one small room, and settles herself to enjoy (?) the trip. Yes, she takes a nurse, but you know perfectly well that neither of you would trust that nurse out of your sight, and you also know that if you thought that Julia would permit those children to go down on the beach with only the nurse to look after them, you wouldn't have an easy moment at home. "She don't have any housekeeping to look after." No, but the extra responsibility of deciding alone for the children, and the anxiety of deciding in accordance with your judgment overbalances all that. "You stay at home alone, and you are sure it isn't very lively for you to be away from all the family in this way, and take no vacation at all, only run down there over Sunday."

Now, Gustavus, just think a moment. They are away. You are alone; but your house is simply closed, and you are living at a hotel absolutely free from care and responsibility. You are in a small room to be sure, but there is only you in it, and you have no thought of it beyond your going in at night and out in the morning. You are absolutely free to come and go—to do as you please without responsibility—after office hours are over, and this being warm weather, office hours are comparatively short. Think a little—reflection will show you that you don't have all the work, nor Julia all the play, I think. Now, my advice is this:

Give up this scheme. Take a week's holiday yourself. Let me come to look after the children, and take Julia yourself away for a week somewhere. That will do her good. You will find that she will more than be resigned if you will make such a proposition. Go together, and you'll both be the better for it.

The children don't need to go away for any length of time. They have a large yard, and no work or cares to bother them, and when your wife makes her little visit home in the fall, it will be as much as the children will need for amusement. Their health is all right.

Believe me, she would come home renewed in health, strength and spirits from such a trip as I propose, while the one you want her to take will only be an exertion of pleasure for her, and do her no permanent good. SCRIBBLER.

☞ If you cannot raise a club yourself, have you not a son, daughter, niece, nephew, or grandchild, who would be glad to earn for themselves some of the premiums we offer? Boys and girls make the best of club raisers, and can easily secure large clubs with but little effort, at the extremely low price for the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL—only 25 cents per year.

No one was ever born religious. No one was ever born, knowing how to play the organ, or to fiddle. No one was ever born speaking Latin, or speaking at all. We are born with capabilities, and they have to be developed in religion as in everything else.

CORRESPONDENCE.

SUBSCRIBER wishes a remedy to remove fleas from her house.

M. E. W.—You will have difficulty in finding remnants of zephyr on sale.—ED.

MRS. F. A. M.—Information on household topics is mostly furnished gratis.—ED.

WILL the sister who recommends black radish for worms, state where it can be found and oblige several subscribers?

MRS. COOK will have good success with her colored goods if she uses strong coffee instead of water, for mixing her starch.

MRS. LILY HOWE:—The hand sewing machine is a new invention, and is well worth the price. They are very popular with ladies having them.

MRS. J. H. H.—Slash the edges of your table cover to the depth of three inches or more as you may wish, in strips about quarter of an inch in width.

MANY SUBSCRIBERS:—We have repeatedly warned our readers against the swindling sharks who are constantly advertising "work at home." There is no reliable concern offering such work.

MRS. J. H. G., NEB.—Your irons should be kept in a perfectly dry place. They all lose their brightness in course of time. Try rubbing them with kerosene, to remove the rust. You will find tripoli an excellent material for polishing brass.

BETHEL, VT., March 10, 1886.

CAN any of the JOURNAL sisters tell me a cure for a canary bird that has shed his feathers for eight months? He is a pure German canary, and was a lovely singer, but has nearly lost his voice in consequence. MRS. E. KITTREDGE.

IF MRS. Wm. H. W. would be particular, when asking for Diamond Dyes, to state whether they were wanted for wool, cotton, or silk, that they would not rub off. I have used them with good success, except once I colored wool with cotton dye, when it rubbed off so I could do nothing with it. CHARLIE'S WIFE.

SUBSCRIBER can obtain stockinet by the yard, any color, by sending to Strawbridge & Clothier, 8th and Market streets, Philadelphia. Price $5 per yard for that two yards wide, suitable for basques. ¾ of a yard will make a basque. For cloakings, a heavier stockinet can be bought, measuring 54 inches, for $4 per yard. 1¾ yards required.

IF Tacy Kellogg will put a little alum in her paste, say a teaspoonful to a pint, she will have no trouble about its keeping. To prevent mould from gathering on the top keep it covered with water. My husband is a bookbinder, and I make the paste for him, only using flour, alum and water, and cooking it thoroughly.

MRS. A. M. D.

S. H.—You ask where patterns can be bought for infants' clothes, so simple that an inexperienced worker can use them. Why not send to Best & Co., New York, N. Y., who keep a supply of these necessary articles ready made. Their goods are very neatly sewed, and are furnished you I know, at prices far below what you think they can be bought for. It is really surprising how little you could save by making them yourself. Send to them, for particulars before you undertake to make them.

PAWTUCKET, R. I. Feb'y. 15, 1886.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—In your issue of this month (February), I see you have helped a subscriber to drape a single door. Would it be asking too much if I should ask for some information in regard to draping a double door, between double parlors? I must be economical in my drapery, and I cannot find anything to suit my taste and pocket-book at the same time. Hope I shall hear from Maud F. Buzzell every month, and Mrs. Emma C. Hewitt.

Yours, etc., A. L. BALLOU.

SUBSCRIBER:—To remove mildew, obtain the dryest chloride of lime that can be bought, and for strong fabrics dissolve four tablespoonfuls in a half a pint of water. Let the mildewed article lie fifteen minutes in this solution. Then take it out, wring it gently, and put it immediately into weak muriatic acid—one part of the acid and four parts soft water. For delicate fabrics, laces, muslins, etc., the solution of lime should be diluted by the addition of three or four times the measure of water. Let the article lie in it five minutes, then put it into the muriatic acid.

YOUNG HOUSEKEEPER'S FRIEND.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Some one has asked if it would not be convenient to have the JOURNAL in book form. Mine is, and I will tell you how. Arrange all your JOURNALS in order. At the back, in the middle, and about two inches from top and bottom, fasten them with paper fasteners or wire. Another thing, never fold your JOURNALS, as they will so soon wear out.

I have been reading back numbers of the JOURNAL and find that we are to ask as well as answer questions, so:

When was the first L. H. J. printed? I have the December number 1883.

Will "Helper" or some other helper write the homely girls another letter?

Several have given us a chapter on "What shall we do with our Girls," now will some one turn the page and read a chapter on "What shall we do with our Boys," which is certainly as important.

I find also that most of the contributors are from the State of Maine, as I want my State represented, I will sign, A KANSAS GIRL.

[The first number of the L. H. J. was printed in December, 1883.—ED.]

PHILA., Jan. 13th, 1886.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Mrs. D. H. wanted to know how to skeletonize leaves. You collect perfect leaves in June or July, and lay them in soft water with a weight on them for three weeks to decay, (some will decay sooner) then examine, and if you find the outside will come off easily, put them in clear water and clean them off. You can clean them by putting them on a piece of glass, and using a fine brush. The tough leaves, like magnolia leaves, you can take in your hand, and use a tooth brush; then put them in clear water again until you have them all cleaned; then you are ready to bleach them. To bleach them take a quart of water and a tablespoonful of chloride of lime; when it is dissolved pour off the clear water, then put a tablespoonful of cider vinegar in that water, and let lay a day and night; then if white, take them out and put in fresh water for twenty-four hours, then lay between white paper to dry the same as autumn leaves, then they are skeletonized. The easiest leaf to try on is the magnolia.

Cement for Shells:—The half of five cents worth of gum tragicum in a glass of water over night, then in that put a piece of alum the size of a chestnut, and about the same of sugar-of-lead, and plaster of Paris enough to make it into a paste. Keep it covered in a damp place for use.

MRS. E. F.

IRVINGTON, Feb. 22, 1886.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—In answer to the lady asking for "hints on good butter making," I would offer you this: To make good butter, your cow, or cows, must be well fed, and well cared for. It is not important that your cow should belong to any particular breed—Alderney, Jersey, Holstein or Devon—but she must be well kept. The milk should be strained while warm, into pure, cool vessels, and closely covered, and set in a cool place for the cream to rise. The cream may be skimmed in six, or twelve, or at most, twenty-four hours. The cream jar must be kept closely covered, and the cream should be churned when thick. When the cream jar fills slowly, fresh milk, the strippings, should be added night and morning, thus keeping the cream sweet. I mean sweet, not bitter or rancid. It is not necessary that the cream should undergo a change, which we call souring, so netimes, but that expression is misleading, or it is a contradiction of terms, as I will say, "I cannot churn this morning, my cream is not sour," and again, I say, "I must churn this morning, or my cream will get sour." That is very contradictory, but the experienced butter maker understands it. The cream should not be really sour, but it should be thick. Notice when milk becomes thick in warm weather—it is by some called clabber—it is this change the cream should undergo, when ready to churn. If kept at the right temperature it will generally thicken in from one to three days. In summer, it is well to churn every alternate day. In winter, twice a week is sufficient.

Never put water in your cream. If your cream seems to be too cold, as it may be in winter, add warm sweet milk—skim milk will do—and if it is too warm, or too sour, add cold sweet milk. These are my remedies for cream not in proper condition. And it is difficult to always keep cream, even with every care, just in proper condition, especially if one has not a cool, pure cellar in summer, or a warm, nice cellar in winter. The fresher cream is churned, allowing it to be in proper condition, the finer the flavor and the richer the color.

The vessels used with milk and cream should be well washed, and scalded with boiling water. Earthernware I find more satisractory than tinware, as it lasts better. If tinware is used, never wash with soap, as it rusts the tin. Soap is not necessary in washing any kind of milk vessels, and I never use it. I might remark that the churn, and butter bowl and butter spoon, should be scalded with boiling water, and cooled immediately before using. And immediately after using, these utensils should be washed, and scalded, and wiped dry, and furthermore dried in the sun a few minutes in summer, and by the stove in winter. Thus they will be kept sweet and pure. If put away not thoroughly cleansed and dried, they would become musty and unfit for further use. The scalding and cooling before churning, is not for cleansing, but for the purpose of preventing the butter from adhering to the vessels.

Butter should be churned, should come, as we sometimes say, within half an hour. When it appears in nice globules, it should be gathered in a compact mass by twirling the staff in the churn. I will here say, parenthetically, that the old-fashioned churn (dasher churn) is the best, and simplest, and easiest kept clean. As to its being laborious, it is very little dashing it takes if the cream is in proper condition. And the exercise is quite as good, and graceful, and healthful, as any arm movement in gymnastic exercises. To go back.

When the butter is gathered, it should be removed with the wooden spoon to the wooden butter bowl, and the buttermilk pressed out. The little buttermilk remaining should be washed out in pure cold water. The salt should then be worked in as quickly as possible, and the butter packed down in a butter jar. If worked into rolls, the rolls should be placed in an earthern vessel and covered. Butter should always be kept carefully excluded from the air.

Salting the butter is a matter that can be determined by taste, and mixing the salt in must be a matter of experience. You must work the butter thoroughly, or it will have streaks in it. But you must not work it too much or too long, or it will spoil the grain, and the butter will become oily. Two or three trials will bring success. I should say that, as a general rule, that one ounce of salt should be allowed for one pound of butter.

Perhaps it might be expected that something should be said about hairing the butter. I used to play "hairing the butter" with my sisters, when we were little girls. This we did by grasping our hands together, and then turning swiftly, and passing our clasped hands over our heads every turn. This would be apt to hair butter if the butter was near. I have heard the matter of hairing butter discussed. One "drew a knife through the butter;" another was of the opinion that a fork was better. And I know one good woman who pinched the butter with her thumb and finger, until it looked like chicken feed, to hair it. This good woman thought it spoiled the milk and cream to keep them covered, and she generally had to spend a good deal of time picking flies and other insects out of her butter. Usually when she churned, she "guessed she'd have to strain her cream the next time." But I wish to say, by all means keep the hair out of your butter. Wire strainers are not fine enough for straining milk. I use cheese cloth, thus: Take a square of the muslin large enough to cover the strainer inside, and wet it before using so that it will keep in place. Pour water through this strainer after straining the milk, and pick the hairs out—for generally there will be more or less of them—before washing the cloth. I would not be thus explicit about such a seemingly small matter, but it may be of benefit to the inexperienced.

I must add a word about the coloring of butter. It is a vicious practice, and I am always surprised that it is not more generally condemned. If butter is pale, let it be pale, and never think of coloring it. M. E. T.

EARLY PARTIES.

Emperors and Empresses are not popular characters at present. Recently, however, the Emperor and Empress of Austria set a good example. Both being early risers, they must of course go early to bed like good Americans, and, accordingly, they required their guests, at the last grand ball given by them, to come at eight o'clock and go home at eleven. This is a good example for fashionable people everywhere.

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THE PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER

THE TEA TABLE.

How to Make It Attractive.

NO. 1.

When Cowper, in his departure from the high flown topics that had for so long engaged the attention of poets, turned his talents to the description of simpler objects, and wrote of the tea tray, the "loud hissing urn," and "the cup that cheers but not inebriates," he could have had no thought of how frequently his words would be quoted a century afterward, nor that the time and scene he commended for its domestic cosiness would still be, in many homes, the choicest of the day. In our large cities and among professional men, the necessity for late dinners has to some extent crowded out the tea table, but even they and their families occasionally lament the exigency that has done away with the comfortable, old fashioned meal, and substituted for it the more stately and formal repast. There are few households in which an excuse for having tea is not hailed with pleasure, especially during the summer months. It is in the vast number of the homes of the so-called middle classes, and of the working people, however, that the tea table has its stronghold. Elaborate menus are incompatible with their means, nor are they desired. The busy mother, who has been on her feet since daybreak, sweeping, dusting, making beds, and "putting to rights," finding a hundred and one tiny duties to do, each too small, taken separately, to seem in itself of any importance, yet all going to make up a burden that bows the back and wearies the limbs, does not feel inclined, as the evening approaches, to rally her flagging energies, and assist in the preparation of a three or four course dinner. Another consideration, too, prevails. No matter how far preferable a hearty meal at six o'clock may be to one at noon for the adult members of the family, there can be no question as to the unwisdom of loading tired little stomachs with food that cannot be properly digested before the wee ones must be put to bed. And, where the mother is her own nursery maid, the babies are apt to miss that share of cuddling and petting that cannot be readily bestowed when they are weary and over-excited by late hours and hearty food, while the mother has arrived at the same state through nervous and physical exhaustion. For all these, a pretty, simple supper, that can be prepared and consumed in half the time demanded for the dinner, is far more beneficial, besides giving the housekeeper a little spare time for rest in the afternoon, and saving her half an hour more in the evening.

Another plea that might be advanced by some advocates of light suppers, would be the desire of the masculine members of the family for a substantial "spread" in the middle of the day. To this suggestion, exceptions must be taken. The desire for a big "cram,"—for that is what it really amounts to—at noon, is largely a matter of habit. The hungry workman or man of business, who hurries home at twelve o'clock, would be much better fitted for his afternoon's labor if he had a plain, but not heavy meal, than if he ate so largely that he felt stuffed and uncomfortable afterwards. The old saying that it is well to leave the table feeling that you could eat something more, has an element of sound sense in it. The little girl, who, when urged to take a further supply, answered: "Thank you, I have eaten to sanctification," may not have been very far wrong, after all. Unhappily, satisfaction and sanctification are not always interchangeable terms.

There is such a large variety of simple, yet nutritious and appetizing dishes that can be prepared with little labor, that there is small excuse for the stereotyped bills-of-fare that appear on so many tables.

The American tea is an institution by itself, having no exact counterpart among other nationalities. The English "high tea" approximates it more closely than any other repast, but even that is apt to be more elaborate than its transatlantic cousin. We read in English books of the regular afternoon tea, where the children are regaled in the nursery with thick bread and butter, while their elders partake of toasted muffins in the drawing room. But this really is but a stepping stone between the hearty luncheon that preceded it, and the many coursed dinner that will follow it. Nor does the late British supper, held at ten or eleven o'clock, correspond to our early tea. No one except the possessor of a British stomach, would think of loading that organ with Welsh rabbit, strong cheese, biscuit and ale, at that hour, unless he desired the experience of an attack of indigestion before morning.

No, the American tea is unique, and when properly managed, very charming. The chief difficulty in making it all it should be, lies in the tendency known to all busy housekeepers, to get into one rut, and be shy about leaving it in an experimental search for diversity of diet. In the country, especially in New England, all the enterprise and energy of the cook seems to run to the concoction of various kinds of cake. The tea table of a prosperous farm house will be supplied with a plate of cold white bread, one of brown, possibly,—though not always,—with a little cheese, and three or four kinds of cake, to say nothing of doughnuts and gingerbread. For half the work and expense bestowed upon the ingredients, making and baking of that cake, a dainty relish might have been prepared, which would have been far more tempting and wholesome. The cost of many such dishes is a drawback to the careful housewife,—as it ought to be. It is a woman's business to supply her table at as reasonable a rate as possible, but it is no less her duty to render the menu as attractive as it is in her power to do, and, by pleasant surprises and constant changes, to make the food more wholesome as well as toothsome. Any one can set a good table on liberal means, but it takes talent and study to be both an economical and an acceptable caterer. Avoid the beaten paths, and do not be afraid to test new recipes once in a while. Fewer cakes and pies, and more savory "made dishes," would be an improvement, alike to the healthfulness and tastefulness of the average table.

An important element for the proper enjoyment and subsequent digestion of food, is the appearance of the board from which it is eaten. This remark is uttered advisedly. Who cannot remember the times when well cooked and abundant provisions have been made unpalatable by a soiled tablecloth, ill washed glass and crockery, and sticky silver and cutlery? A recent writer has tried to urge that it is better to leave these articles in this condition, than to oblige an overtaxed woman to get them into a neater state. It should be remembered, however, that it is no more trouble to do a thing well than to do it indifferently, and that, since dishes, knives and forks must be washed somehow, it is as easy to use plenty of fresh hot water, soap, and clean towels, as to rinse them out in a luke-warm bath, and let them drain before wiping them. People are gradually learning how much daintiness and neatness have to do with promoting good appetites and digestions, and to live up to their duty in this respect. The last quarter of a century has seen immense strides of improvement in table finishings and furnishings, and, happily, the march of progress has not been confined to benefitting the wealthy alone, but has also done much for those in moderate circumstances. There is but little excuse for lack of ornament, now that it can be procured so cheaply. In more senses than one, it costs less to have it than to go without.

DAINTY DISHES FOR TEA.

The following recipes are not intended for elaborate supper parties, but for simple family teas in households where the wife and mother has to do most of the preparation herself. While it may be easier to serve beef, veal or chicken, cold, it is believed that few women will grudge the slight additional labor involved by the following directions, if, by its outlay, they can render the evening meal more appetizing, and the home more attractive.

MOUNDED BEEF:—Two cupfuls of cold roast or boiled beef, chopped as for hash, one cupful of cold mashed potato, one cupful of gravy, one tablespoonful of Worcestershire sauce, one tablespoonful of mixed green pickle or chow chow, one teaspoonful of minced onion, one saltspoonful each of ground cloves, allspice and cinnamon; thyme, summer savory, sweet marjoram, salt and pepper to taste, yolks of two raw eggs. Stir the ingredients together until all are thoroughly incorporated, moistening with gravy until the mixture is as soft as it can be made, and yet be handled. Mound into a brick-like shape in a greased baking pan, sift flour thickly over it, and bake covered half an hour. Remove the cover, rub over with butter, and brown. Transfer carefully to a hot platter, and have ready a sauce made from a cupful of stewed tomatoes, heated with the same quantity of well seasoned soup stock. Rub through a colander to remove lumps, and pour over the mound. Half a can of mushrooms, sliced, and stewed tender in the gravy, will be found an improvement, but the dish is tempting even without this addition, and is a pleasing variation upon the stereotyped hash.

CREAMED CHICKEN:—One cup and a-half of unskimmed milk, one tablespoonful of cornstarch, one tablespoonful of butter rubbed into the cornstarch, half teaspoonful of minced onion, half teaspoonful of minced parsley, a pinch of soda stirred into the milk, salt and pepper to taste, remnants of cold roast, boiled or broiled chicken, jointed, or cut into neat pieces. Heat the milk to scalding in a double boiler, and pour a little upon the cornstarch and butter. Return to the fire, stir until it thickens, and add the seasoning. Drop the pieces of chicken into the sauce, and set simmer five to ten minutes. Pour over rounds of fried bread, garnish with sprays of parsley, and serve very hot.

MINCED VEAL ON TOAST:—Prepare a cream dressing in the manner described above, and stir into it two cupfuls of cold lean veal, minced small with a knife, but not chopped. When the whole is smoking hot, pour it on slices of lightly buttered toast, from which the crust has been carefully trimmed. A border of scrambled eggs makes an agreeable addition to this dish.

BAKED HAM OMELET:—Six eggs, one scant cupful of milk, one even teaspoonful of cornstarch, one cupful of cold boiled ham, chopped very fine. Whip the whites and yolks separately, until the former are stiff and the latter creamy. Beat them lightly together, but without mixing thoroughly. Add the milk, in which the cornstarch has been dissolved, and last of all, stir the minced ham in quickly. Pour into a buttered pudding dish, and bake immediately in a hot, steady oven, for fifteen minutes. Should it brown too rapidly, cover until the omelet is fairly set. Do not let it stand after it leaves the oven, or it will fall and become heavy. This omelet will require longer for cooking than one made without meat. Instead of the ham, finely chopped chicken or veal may be used, but these must be highly seasoned with pepper, salt, and sweet herbs.

POTATO PUFF WITH CHEESE:—Two cupfuls of cold mashed potato, one egg, one half cupful of milk, one teaspoonful of melted butter, two tablespoonfuls of grated cheese, salt and pepper. Beat the potato, milk and butter together until light, and add the whipped egg. Pour into a greased pudding dish, strew the cheese thickly over the top, and bake in a good oven until brown. Fifteen minutes should be sufficient.

ENGLISH MUFFINS:—One cupful of bread dough which has been rising all night, one cupful of sweet milk, or enough to make a batter a little stiffer than that for griddle cakes. Let the batter rise an hour, and then bake on a well greased griddle, allowing a good tablespoonful of the mixture for each muffin. They must be at least half an inch thick, and may be served warm, if desired. They are better, however, if they are left until cold, then split open, toasted lightly on the inside, and eaten hot with butter.

RYE PUFFS:—Two cupfuls of rye flour, half cupful of wheat flour, one egg, one tablespoonful of sugar, one teaspoonful and a-half of Royal baking powder, sifted three times with the flour, one cupful and a-half of milk, or enough to make a rather stiff batter. Add the milk to the whipped egg and sugar, stir in the flour, and beat hard for a minute before pouring into greased gem pans. Bake in a quick oven. They will be found wholesome and delicious.

CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

HOME COOKING.

ORIGINAL RECIPES CONTRIBUTED BY THE JOURNAL SISTERS.

EXCELLENT COOKIE RECIPE:—One-half cup butter, one cup sweet cream, one and a-half cups white sugar, one egg, three teaspoonfuls baking powder, a little salt, flour according to judgment. Roll thin and sprinkle with white sugar.

VERY NICE SPONGE CAKE:—One and a-half cups fine white sugar, one and a-half cups flour, five eggs, one-half teaspoonful flavoring extract. Beat sugar and yolks together until light, then add the whites beaten to a stiff froth, and beat well. Now stir in the flour as lightly as possible, and bake in a moderately quick oven.

N. R. G.

CREAM CAKE:—One-half cup butter, one-half cup white sugar, one-half cup sweet milk, whites of three eggs, two and a-half cups of flour, two teaspoonfuls cream of tartar, one teaspoonful baking soda. Bake in round tins.

Filling for the above:—Yolks of three eggs, butter size of an egg, half pint sweet milk, half cup sugar, four teaspoonfuls cornstarch. Boil until like custard, and when half cold flavor to suit the taste.

ORANGE PUDDING:—Peel, and pick to pieces four or five oranges, (according to size) put into a pudding dish, sprinkling sugar between each layer. Be careful to take out all the seeds, as they give a bitter taste. Take the yolks of three eggs, one tablespoonful of cornstarch, one cup of sugar, one pint of sweet milk. Boil this custard. When it is done, and while still hot pour over the oranges. Beat the whites of the eggs to a stiff froth, add two tablespoonfuls of sugar, and put it over the pudding and place in the oven until it is a delicate brown color.

ENGLISH VEGETABLE PLUM PUDDING:—One-half pound flour, one-half pound beef suet, one-half pound sugar, one-half pound currants, one-half pound raisins, one-half pound carrots, one-half pound potatoes, boiled and mashed, citron and spice to suit the taste. This quantity to be boiled four hours. To be eaten with sauce.

APPLE SNOW FOR SAUCE:—Bake six apples very soft, remove the skin and beat the soft apple with the white of an egg until quite stiff, add also, a cup of sugar while beating, and flavor with any essence you desire.

SNOW CREAM:—Sweeten a pint of cream very sweet, flavor with lemon extract, let it stand till very cold; when nearly ready for dessert, beat new fallen snow into the cream until it is stiff enough to stand alone. Serve immediately.

J. A. WALKER.

APPLE CANDY:—Prepare the apples the same as for making jelly, boil briskly (but do not let it burn) till it is very thick, drop in any kind of nuts, and the juice of a lemon gives a nice flavor; pour in a buttered dish and let stand till cold; roll or cut in any shape.

CRYSTALIZED POP-CORN:—Put in an iron kettle one tablespoonful of butter, three tablespoonfuls of water, and one cup of white sugar; boil until ready to candy, then throw in three quarts of corn, nicely popped; stir briskly until the candy is evenly distributed over the corn; set the kettle from the fire and stir until it has cooled a little, and you have each grain separate and crystallized with sugar. Nuts of any kind are nice prepared this way.

VEAL LOAF:—Chop fine three pounds of raw veal and quarter of a pound of fat salt pork; add pepper, salt and sage, to taste; three crackers pounded fine, (I usually roll them) three eggs. Mix all well together. Bake in a deep pan one hour and a-half. When done turn down, leaving the pan over it until cold.

M. F. L.

BEEF LOAF:—Two pounds of chopped (round) beef, one egg, two teaspoonfuls of salt, one of pepper, one of sage, one of cinnamon, three-quarters of a cup of bread or cracker crumbs, one cup of milk. Butter a baking pan, and after thoroughly mixing the ingredients pour into the pan. Bake one and a-half hours. This will be found extra nice, sliced cold for tea.

DEVILLED EGGS:—Could there not be a better name invented? Boil six eggs for twelve minutes, plunge into cold water until cool, so that the shells will come off easily. When peeled, lay on their sides, and cut about a third of each. Scoop out the yolks. Mash the yolks, and the pieces of white cut off into a bowl. When thoroughly mashed, season with salt, pepper, mustard, chopped parsley, a tablespoonful of melted butter, (or oil if preferred) and a little vinegar. Fill this paste into the cavities left by the yolks. You will have to heap it up pretty well to get it all in. This makes a very good dish for luncheon, and adds much to the appearance of the table. Garnish with green parsley branches.

A CHEESE DISH FOR TEA:—Two ounces of butter, four ounces of bread crumbs, eight ounces of cheese, one cup of sweet milk, three eggs. Cut the butter and cheese into small pieces, and place them in a large bowl with bread; on this pour scalding milk, after which add the yolks well beaten, and also a little salt. Mix well together, cover, and place on back of stove, stirring until all is dissolved, when add the whites beaten to a stiff froth. Place in a buttered pie plate, and bake in a quick oven for about twenty minutes. Serve the moment it is taken out of the oven. Many eat mustard with this.

POTATO SALAD:—Use potatoes which have been boiled as for the table. Slice thin six or eight potatoes into a glass dish. Take half of a white onion and cut into the smallest possible pieces, and strew between the sliced potato. When the dish is full let it stand while you make the dressing, which is made of two eggs, the yolks in a bowl with a small tablespoonful of ground mustard, one of white sugar, teaspoonful of salt, one-quarter teaspoonful of black pepper. Put a large cup of vinegar in a saucepan, with butter size of an egg, when melted stir slowly into it the egg yolks, and when all is in pour over the sliced potatoes. Beat the whites stiff with a small pinch of salt, and place in spots over the potatoes. Garnish with boiled beets cut in dice, or carrots and pickled cucumbers, or use parsley. Either will be found to make a pretty supper or dinner dish. It may be eaten immediately, or stand two hours on the ice.

M. F. L.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

FABRICS AND FASHIONS.

The New Etamines, and Other Woolen Dress Materials—Lovely Silks and Grenadines—Useful Wash Goods—Some New Dresses—Choice Millinery.

BY MRS. JAS. H. LAMBERT.

Woolen goods are now worn all the year round, and although there are many materials in wool specially designed for summer service, most of those in medium weight are worn through each and every season, and the difference is warmth of dress is made by changing the undergarments, those of gossamer or gauze being substituted for the all-wool, or merino vests and drawers.

There are dozens of decided novelties in the Canvas goods, and some of them are very handsome, and being new and elegant they cost accordingly, ranging in price from $2.50 to $5.00 a yard. One of these fancy etamines seems to be formed of thousands of fine threads crossing each other, with ground in twine color, and over garnishing in terry stripes, or plush lines in lovely colors, the colored effects horizontally arranged, instead of running across the goods.

The skirt of a canvas costume may be of the pekin or decorated etamine, while the corsage and tunic are of the plain canvas; or the order may be reversed, and a trimmed skirt of plain canvas be worn with overskirt and bodice or polonaise of the fancy fabric.

Another new material has canvas stripes alternating with stripes of fancy etamine in lace figures, and the threads are drawn together with bright colored wools. This fabric comes in all colors, and is to be made up with plain canvas, over silk or satin.

Bique is a coarse soft canvas, in ficelle, and other neutral and dark shades, made both in stripes and checks. In some specimens the blocks are rather large, and are defined by self-toned cords or colored threads.

Soft, smooth ladies' cloths in camel's hair, are most attractive for spring and summer costumes; they are in all the approved colors and mixtures, and in serges there are new effects, as in the Huldebrandt serge, where the diagonal serge roll is much larger than usual, and the twill stripes between the rolls are nearly half an inch wide.

The Khayyam is now classed among the standard serges, and merits its promotion for its rare qualifications, which were thoroughly tested last year. It wears splendidly, is uninjured by exposure to salt atmosphere of the seaside, or mountain dampness, and being in pure camel's hair the dust does not cling to its natural hair fibres.

Lupinis La Preciosa is entirely different in character from those already mentioned. It is an all-wool albatross, suitable for evening dresses and daytime wear. It comes in three shades of white, blanc, ivory, and cream, also in blue, pink, red, navy, the modes and black.

Grenadines are now shown in great variety, both in the iron mesh silk goods, and in the latest fancy lace and brocaded effects, and these rich black goods bid fair to be very popular the coming summer. Priestley's black silk-warp gypsy cloth is a kind of grenadine, lighter than canvas, and rather heavier than ordinary grenadine.

In making up one of these wool, camel's hair, or mixed goods, care should be taken to have the lining of waist and sleeves a little tighter than the outside fabrics, for although the goods are firm and strong, naturally any strain will draw out the threads, enlarge the mesh, or pull the lace designs out of shape. If this rule is observed, and corsages and sleeves made comfortable but not tight, the new goods will generally wear splendidly.

Some most beautiful Surahs are now exhibited. These choice goods are American made, and are better in quality, more perfect in finish, and more charming in coloring, than are the imported surahs at nearly double the price asked for these domestic beauties. These surahs are perfectly lovely colors, in pale pink, blue, and all the new mode shades, with thin browns and greys, and also in rich dark, or bright hues; and then there is a Surahnatte, a kind of striped surah, showing Oriental colors, in various curious combinations. The surah and surahnattes are only $1.00 a yard, and are equal in width and quality to those last year at $1.75 a yard.

In cotton goods for serviceable wear, there are some new materials in fast colors which laundry beautifully. The Aleciennes, or crinkled seersuckers come in all the colors and effects of the celebrated India seersuckers, and these American goods commend themselves for seaside and country wear, as they wash well, and dresses of them do not require to be ironed, as the crinkle is one of the beauties of the fabric.

Toile du Nord is the new fast color Chambray to be seen in dozens of checks, plaids and stripes, and in all shades of all colors; it also comes in plain chambrays, in the color of a prominent plaid or stripe, and may be made up alone, or combined with plaided goods. Corded suitings in the same hues have the blocks defined by bourette threads in white or colors, and the domestic Thistle ginghams which have taken the place of Scotch ginghams are in the same colors and combinations as those long popular cotton wash goods.

Manufacturers are now engaged in producing cotton goods in curious conceits, and lace patterns, and before warm weather we are promised something new and unique in these useful and pretty materials for mid-summer service.

One method of making up the new materials, is to form the skirt of pekin in alternating stripes of plush and canvas. The tunic of plain etamine is very simply draped, plaited on the right side, but plain on the left where the drapery is secured with a fancy clasp; the back drapery falls straight at the sides, and is slightly puffed in the centre. The corsage is of canvas over silk, and the silk waistcoat shows below the point of plaited pekin plastron, which ornaments one side only. The collar is of plush, and small cuffs of plush edge the canvas sleeves, the silk sleeves showing below those of canvas. The hat worn with this suit is of plush, trimmed with loops of canvas and plush ribbon, and a clasp to match that on the dress.

An inexpensive costume has the front composed of fancy woolen goods, arranged in centre box plait, and flat plaits on each side. At the back is a plaited skirt of velveteen, and puffed drapery of the woolen material falling at the side in a fancy plaiting lined with velveteen. The corsage is of velveteen, with revers of the same, opening over a plaited chemisette of the fancy material. The sleeves of velveteen are plain. Bonnet of the same material bound with beaded braid, and trimmed with fancy ribbon, secured by odd decorative pins.

For a young lady a lovely little dress is formed of American surah and La Preciosa. The silk skirt is plain in front, and with fan plaitings at the sides and in back. Draped tunic of the albatross, forming a long tunic in front, and falling at the back in a series of puffs. The corsage is crossed on the chest, and finished off with a plaited drapery of the albatross.

A stylish visiting dress is of black silk. The skirt is plaited on the left, the extra length of the material being draped to the desired length by plaits on the hips. A large full puff is added at the back. Bands of silk on which jets are sewn, are placed diagonally at intervals up the left side, each band finishing in a beaded tassel. Silk corsage closed with jet buttons, yoke and epaulets formed of beaded bands. Bonnet of black velvet, with trimmings silk ribbon and jets.

When the over material is in fine wool lace designs or open mesh goods, or of silk grenadine, the dress should be made over silk foundation. The canvas cottons look well with foundations of satine, cotton back satin, or even colored cotton cambric or the glossy cotton foulard. Satine dresses are trimmed with embroidery and lace, and gowns of light suitings will be trimmed with wool laces.

In wash dresses it is best that they should be simply made so that they can be easily laundried. Still that rule is by no means carefully followed, for many ladies who are careful with their clothes, wear their cotton dresses two seasons without their being soiled, hence they make them up after models specially intended for wool, or silk gowns. Full skirts, finished with flounces of the material, tunics easy to take apart, and plaited or full, yoke waists, belted in at waist line, may be seen in many of the new dresses, while others have fan plaitings in skirts and in front of corsages, while the sleeves are open at hand, or sometimes made in regular Oriental fashion. Sleeves of any dresses are made larger than in three past years, a decided advantage in point of comfort if not in style, for tight sleeves are even more unpleasant, and injurious to free blood circulation as tight corsages.

The hats and bonnets shown for earliest spring wear, do not differ materially from those of the past save in the matter of trimming, which is now quite as often massed in the back, as it is in front of a stylish hat, whose crown is allowed to be perfectly plain in front and at the sides, while the high trimming at the back stands even above the high crown. The close fitting bonnet, or capotes to wear with canvas dresses or costumes, are trimmed with loops of the etamine and plush, or velvet stripe ribbons, with ornaments, in some of the novel conceits in bronze, steel, gilt, or antique silver.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Mrs. K. E. M."—A light and comfortable dress for a little boy is made in sailor style, with plaited skirt and loose bodice finished with red or blue sailor collar and cuffs.

"Scotch Girl" can appropriately wear a white muslin dress with a plaid scarf draped over the shoulders, and fastened with her Cairngorm brooches. A ribbon snood or a black velvet Scotch bonnet may be chosen for head gear, or a wreath of ivy or oak leaves.

"Convent Girl" writes: "Please send a pair of Ball's Health-Preserving Elastic Section Corsets for misses, to my sister. Mine were such daises! I can run, jump, swing, skate, laugh, sing, button my shoes, and plant flowers, just as if I had no corsets on, and yet they are such a support to my back, which is now growing straight. Thank you ever so much for sending mine!"

"Madame Fiction."—You will find late styles described in fashion article in this number L. H. J. Yes, black velvet will trim your dress prettily. As models you would like Demorest's Ethra and Redenta costumes, and they will cost you only 30c. each. You can get them at any of Demorest's agencies.

"Sarah Boldt."—Write direct to Strawbridge & Clothier, Eighth and Market Sts., Philadelphia, Pa., and enclose 50c. for years subscription to their Quarterly, which is the very best magazine of its kind published. The Spring number is now ready. Please mention LADIES' HOME JOURNAL in your letter to Strawbridge & Clothier.

"Mrs. J. S. M."—The picture of your little girl is lovely, no wonder you are proud of her. Sent short clothes March 18th. You are right in putting them on when baby is six months old.

"Bereaved."—You will like any of Priestley's black silk warp dress goods. Imperial Twill and Convent cloths are reasonable for the quality of the goods, $1.50 and $1.25 a yard. A lovely Clairette is sold for $1.50 a yard. Sharpless Bros. will send you samples of black goods for yourself, and of colored dress fabrics for your young folks. It will save time if you will write direct to that firm in Phila., Pa.

"Too Old."—You should encourage your little girl in her ambition to dress dolls, still she should take out of door exercise, and be with other children as much as possible.

"Stout Friend."—The illustrated circular of elastic section corsets will contain all the information about nursing and other corsets. Send stamp, name and address in full for it, to Fashion Editor L. H. J.

"Little Darling."—You are a little darling! Write again. Yes, will write up some styles for dolls just for you and "Marfa."

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Clairette, not injured by dust or dampness, $1.00, $1.25, $1.50 and $2.00 a yard. Imperial Twill, Royal Serge, Pansy, Gypsy, and Convent Cloth, $1.25 a yard. Cashmere with Henrietta Finish, 65c., 75c., 85c. and $1.00 a yard.

For Information, Price Lists, Illustrated Circulars of Ball's Corsets with elastic sections, & samples, write to MAIL ORDER DEPARTMENT,

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL]

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

Annuals for the Garden.

One great mistake made by the amateur flower grower is, to undertake more than he can, or will, carry out. He or she selects more seeds than a small garden requires, because the seeds in themselves, seem so small, that they lose sight of the fact that it does not take a great many plants to fill a bed. If you buy a dozen kinds of seeds, you will find, when you come to sow them, that you will have to make a larger garden to accommodate them than you had calculated on. A large garden will require considerable attention to make it a success, and the probabilities are that it will not get the care it ought to have. It is better, therefore, to have a smaller garden, and concentrate your care on fewer plants, remembering, always, that a few plants, well grown, are vastly more satisfactory than a good many, half grown. Instead of trying to see how many you can have, try to see how well you can grow a few. Quality, not quantity, should be what you aim at.

PANSIES.

If you were to ask me to name the best half-dozen kinds of annuals for an amateur's garden, my choice would stand like this: Sweet Peas, Balsams, Phlox, Asters, Pansies and Petunias. These flowers are all easily grown. They are beautiful, and all of them, with the exception of the Pansies and Asters, bloom profusely during the most part of summer, and fall. These two will not come into bloom until late in the season, and will be in their prime in September, when the others have begun to show signs of exhausted vitality. The Sweet Peas should be planted along a fence, or in some place where they can have a chance to climb. A row of brush furnishes them good support. You can make a beautiful hedge of them. For boquets, for the corsage, or the buttonhole, or for use in small, slender vases, we have no better or sweeter flower. The Phlox will make its bed brilliant with all shades of red, and the white and pale yellow varieties afford a fine contrast with the more vivid colors. Petunias are very showy, fragrant, and always in bloom.

HYBRID PETUNIAS.

Balsams are beautiful as any hot-house flower, and their texture seems almost as delicate as frost-work, when you look at them in the sunshine. A paper of mixed seed will give you flowers in white, pink, purple, red and pale yellow, and some will be beautifully spotted with contrasting colors. To get the best effect from the Balsam, it will be necessary to cut off a good many of its leaves, as they grow so thickly up and down the stalks as to hide the blossoms.

The Pansies like a cool, shady place best. They are the most beautiful garden flowers we have, and nothing can compare with them for wonderful variety of color. In a bed of fifty plants you will probably not find any two just alike. If the plants are covered in fall with straw or branches of evergreen, they will successfully endure our coldest winters, and begin blossoming, next season, as soon as the snow is off. They are not annuals, though generally classed as such, because they come into bloom the first season, from seed.

If you want all the flowers you can get from your garden, never allow seed to form and ripen. A plant that perfects seed has all its energies absorbed by the process, and will not give a great quantity of flowers after the first crop. If interfered with, by cutting off the seed vessels which form, it will make other efforts to carry out the plans of nature, therefore, a continual cutting off of all flowers, as fast as they fade, will have a tendency to keep the plant in bloom.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS:—All inquiries of GENERAL interest will be answered through the columns of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, as promptly as possible.

Inquiries of a PERSONAL interest will not be answered through the paper. These and other inquiries which it expected I will answer by mail, must be accompanied by a stamped envelope bearing the address of the person to whom the answer is to be sent.

EBEN E. REXFORD.

SHIOCTON, WIS.

***

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Mrs. S. J. R."—The Virgin's Bower vine which you say grows beautifully along the streams and in old pastures, bearing white flowers in summer, succeeded by tufts of feathery seeds, which will remain on the branches all winter, if cut and brought into the house, is our native Clematis. It is not as showy, perhaps, as the varieties of late introduction, but it is very beautiful, and deserves a place in all gardens. For covering a porch, or lattice-work on a veranda it is unequalled. It is very hardy. Most of the top will die down to the ground in winter. In spring a good many shoots will be sent up from the roots, and the branches will make a growth of twelve or fifteen feet during the season. A fine effect can be secured by planting a colored variety, say C. Jackmanii, dark purple, with the white kind, and letting them grow together.

"Bertha H."—The Lilac flowers which have been so popular the past season are produced on plants of the ordinary garden variety. Roots are taken up in fall, and planted in cool, dark houses. When it is desired to bring them into bloom the temperature of the room is increased, and the result is a fine crop of delicate flowers. It would be useless for you to attempt to flower this plant in the living room. In order to bring about satisfactory results, the gardener in charge must thoroughly understand his business, and have houses especially constructed for forcing plants.

"W. D. B."—It would be a difficult matter to decide which is the best Fuchsia where most kinds are so good. Some would prefer double varieties, others single ones. One person would favor dark ones and another light ones. One of the best double scarlet and purple varieties is Phenomenal, an immense flower, very finely produced on plants of sturdy habit of growth. A good scarlet and white double is Snow Fairy, dwarf and compact, and a free bloomer. Convent Garden White is perhaps the best of the light section. Rose of Castile, ivory white and violet, is a good kind for any collection. So is Earl Beaconsfield, of two shades of red.

"M. E. G." asks how to get rid of green flies on a Rose. Steep tobacco stems, which she can procure from any cigar manufactory, in hot water, and wash the bush with the tea. Do this until the aphis disappears, and keep up the bath, at intervals, afterward, as a preventive of its reappearance. The tea should be strong enough to look like coffee. It will not injure the plant.

"A Subscriber" writes that he, or she, has a Dracena, which does not grow in compact shape like the illustration in January number of L. H. J., and says that occasionally a leaf turns yellow and resembles a ripe corn-husk, and has to be cut off, thereby destroying the shape of the plant, and wants to know the cause of it, with remedy. Now I am always glad to answer any inquiry when I can do so intelligently, but what can I do in such a case as this? In order to get at an understanding of the matter I ought to know what kind of treatment the plant has been receiving. If she had said she kept the plant very wet, or very dry, sprinkled it daily, or not at all, and explained where she kept it, I could have formed some idea of what the cause of the trouble was. I wish all persons asking questions similar to the above would tell me just how they have taken care of the plant that is sick, and that will enable me to diagnose the case a great deal more intelligently. I presume the Dracena referred to has been kept too wet at the roots, and too dry at the top. These plants should have a well-drained soil to grow in, and be syringed all over at least twice a week.

"Dora F."—To get rid of the small black flies which you say are very thick on the soil in your pots, dust with Insect Powder, a preparation of pyrethrum and tobacco. It is fine, like snuff, and drives the flies away promptly. Or, if this is not conveniently at hand, sprinkle tobacco over the surface of the soil. For small white worms in the earth, I know of nothing better than lime water. Put a pound or two of unslaked lime in a pail of water. Let the lime dissolve, and then pour the clear water off. Apply this to your plants. It will expel the worms, and benefit the plants. The "little things, with legs," that you complain of, I can tell you nothing about, as I have never discovered any such insect or animal in the soil in which I grow my plants. I think, however, the lime water will dispose of them to your satisfaction.

"Mrs. Raudenbush," and seventeen others:—You are laboring under a mistake when you think the articles about flowers in the HOME JOURNAL are written to advertise plants which I have for sale. I have a garden and conservatory, for my own pleasure, but I have never yet sold a plant, and have no connection with any florist. I write about such plants as I find satisfactory from my experience with them, with the purpose of interesting others in them, not because I have any "axe to grind." I cannot sell cuttings for the reason that I would soon have nothing but the bare stalks of the old plants left, and as I grow my plants for my own pleasure, I can hardly be expected to spoil them by robbing them of their branches. By consulting the columns of the HOME JOURNAL you will find the advertisements of several thoroughly trustworthy dealers in flowers, and any of them will be glad to send you a catalogue. They can furnish most, if not all, of the plants I write about, at reasonable rates. Therefore, dear readers of the JOURNAL, don't write to me for plants and catalogues, for I have neither to send you, but apply to the regular dealers in them.

"Mary Goodrich."—The Oxalis will cost 10 or 15 cents. It can be sent by mail. You can count on success with it, as it is of the easiest cultivation.

"Michigan Doctor."—This correspondent asks for a list of plants suitable for window gardens,—by which I infer that he means boxes to be placed outside the window, and wants to know when to start them, or if he shall buy them already started. The best time to start them is when the weather becomes warm. I prefer to fit up the boxes, and fill them with plants after they are in their proper places. If started in the house, the plants will be likely to make too rapid a growth, and the change to out-door life will have an unfavorable effect on some of the more delicate kinds. For planting in the center, all kinds of Geraniums, single and double, can be used. Or Coleuses, Dracenas, and other highly-colored foliage plants. Heliotropes are excellent for the edge of the box, over which they can be allowed to droop. Tradescantia, Lobelia, Lysimachia, or Senecio, are good to plant along the edge of the box, as their drooping branches produce a graceful effect. Madeira vine, planted at the ends, can be trained up about the window, and will make a growth of fifteen or twenty feet, if given water enough. In somewhat shady windows, Fuchsias can be used with excellent success. For a south window where a strong color effect is desired, use Coleus Verschafelti, rich maroon, and Golden Bedder, bright yellow. It will be much cheaper for you to buy the plants, and fill the boxes yourself. You will also find much more pleasure in doing so than in buying them "ready made." One important item for you to bear in mind is this: A window box, because of its exposure to the air on all sides, dries out very rapidly, and in order to keep the soil moist, water must be given in liberal quantities, daily, all through the hot summer season. Water every evening. Make it a rule to do so, and be sure to give enough to thoroughly saturate the entire quantity of earth in the box. If not enough is given the plants will have a stunted, sickly look which will be anything but attractive. Tea Roses are charming for window boxes. So are Verbenas. Petunias are showy, and give a great profusion of bloom. Almost any kind of plant can be used.

"W. H. D."—The double Abutilon is not a very desirable plant, no matter what those may say about it who have it for sale. It is not as pretty as those having single flowers, and the variegation is exactly like that of A. Thompsonii. Do not get the idea that doubling a flower is always an improvement. Some flowers, like Roses, are finer when double, than single, but do you think a double Lily would be as fine as those we have now?

"Kentucky Correspondent."—This lady says she fails to winter Begonia rubra successfully in a pit, and wants to know why. Because the temperature is too low. Begonias require more heat than ordinary plants to do well.

"Mrs. M. A. L."—This correspondent has a Hoya, or Wax Plant, seven years old, which has not blossomed. She changes the soil every season, and gives plenty of water. I presume that these attentions are why the plant has not blossomed. The Hoya does not like to be disturbed, and it does not want to be kept wet at the roots, simply moist. It takes some time, as a general thing, for one of these plants to become perfectly established, and a yearly shifting will have a tendency to prevent this. Give it a sandy, porous soil, keep it in a warm place, and let it alone, and I think you will have blossoms from it.

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THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, Philadelphia, Pa.

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WAITING.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

Hannah Brown sat under the great apple-tree dreaming. She had but few luxuries, poor girl, indeed they could be quickly cited. Reading and Day-dreams, and yet of this scant number her choice was decided. She preferred Day-dreaming.

So this bright Saturday afternoon having "finished everything" she had hurried out to her "lair" as she called it and was indulging in her greatest luxury to her hearts content, "The world forgetting" but not as she fondly hoped, "by the world forgot."

She was not troubled with visions of lovers and untold wealth, as is generally the fate of romantic girls of sixteen. Her dreams lay in an entirely different direction, a noble life. Some grand heroic action. Some deed that should write her name in letters of fire upon the Scroll of fame. But oh! her name! and her soul rose in impotent rage at a cruel fate that had named her for her good old Grandmother. Hannah Brown! Brown was bad enough but with Hannah tacked on to it, it was an insult to Fame to ask at her hands an opportunity to make it immortal. Imagine Hannah Brown at the head of an Army leading them on to victory as did Joan d'arc. Imagine Hannah Brown out on the open seas risking her life as did Grace Darling, to save those of others. Imagine Hannah Brown going among the sick and wounded as did Florence Nightingale, carrying comfort and peace; No! it was too dreadful; but when her mother capped the climax by calling her "Hanner" then did her misery know no bounds. Why were children cursed with names before they could speak, to have any voice in the matter, she raged. Why was she not called Philipa, Alexandra, Joan—Haines! Not chosen specially for their euphony (for she had no leaning towards the Ethels and Edith and Mables of the day), but for their suggestion of strength in the nature of the bearer. Why had they not allowed——

"Hannar! Hanner!" broke on her impatient ear. She had more than a mind not to answer.

Hanner! Hanner!" came again on the stillness and her conscience (for she had a pretty lively one at time) would not permit her longer to delay her answer albeit it was very short and still more ungracious.

"What!!!!"

You see it takes four exclamation points to express just her forbidding tone).

"O, you're there are you" and the poor careworn face brightened at the sight.

"Yes pa's just got a letter Hanner, from his cousin, Felicia Doane and she wants to come here to board for the summer. An' yer pa's heart's jest set in it. The Lord knows I don't see how we're a goin' to do it, you and me. We'er most drug to death now," went on the poor little woman with helpless anxiety, as she looked at her daughter eagerly with a faint hope that Hannah would "act out so" that she (the mother) would find courage to deny the father his wish. Hannah was a pretty good girl in the main but sometimes she did "act out" in a way truly marvellous and thus gained an otherwise last point because such ebullitions were so rare. But if her mother had reckoned upon Hannah in this time of trial, she had reckoned without her host. Here was an opportunity at last! Surely this cousin Felicia who dwelt habitually in a world of delightful possibilities would throw some light on her obscure pathway. Surely a woman who knew so much bout everything must know something about the royal road to Martyrdon.

She did not say all these things to herself in so many words but she was sufficiently cognizant of the result of her thought, that was really more of an intention than a decided action of the brain, to say "I guess we can manage it mother, let her come. It wouldn't do to disappoint Father you know and then there's the money."

"Yes, there's the money" answered her mother taking directly a new view of the matter, her face increasing in cheerfullness with Hannah's cheer.

"I suppose we'll put her into the down stairs spare bed-room Mother "said, Hannah with a sigh bringing herself down to the realities of the change, well knowing that on her shoulders, young though they were, would fall all the burden of the planning.

Then followed a week too busy to afford time. for day dreams and yet by no means an exceptionally wretched one. Indeed if one at any time of life will look back upon a stretch of years, he or she will be convinced that no matter what the circumstances, mental misery has been or could have been alleviated by hard work. So the result of all their' "fussin' and fixin'" as Mr. Brown termed it contemptuously (though he would never have been satisfied had they not exerted themselves to their fullest in behalf of Cousin Felicia) was, that Hannah took the horse and wagon and went to the station to meet Miss Doane. Hannah had no doubt as to her ability to pick her out from the other passengers, the number usually arriving at their station being so small that three was considered quite a crowd.

So when the 3.30 train finally slowed up and there emerged therefrom a small, middle-aged, entirely unpretentious, sweet faced woman, though dreadfully disappointed in her appearance, Hannah knew her for their visitor, as there was absolutely no other passenger.

"Is this my little Cousin Hannah!" she asked pleasantly in an exceedingly sweet voice that won the young girl's heart at once.

Hannah blushed vividly and replied in the affirmative as she laid her large but shapely brown hand shyly in that of Cousin Felicia.

Miss Doane shook it cordially and asked many questions about home and people till she had the young girl almost at her ease.

"What's she like, Hanner," whispered the mother as, the visitor having been shown straight to her room, she emerged from the kitchen, smoothing her front hair to mirror-like smoothness in her endeavor to do honor to the city cousin whom she had never seen, all unconscious of the fact that the jaunty lace cap which some unwise relation had sent her, was neither a fitting addition to her best calico gown nor a successful concealer of the wisp of yellow gray hair which she called her "knot." If she had had the thing on straight it would have been different perhaps, but the whole effect was so incongruous and at the same time so pitiful that the impatient expression was checked on Hannah's tongue so she only said decidedly, not harshly, "Come with me into your room and I'll tell you about her."

"For goodness sake, mother, do take that lace cap off and leave your hair as you always have it."

"Why Hanner," said the poor woman in anxious surprise that was pathetic to the last degree, "I thought you'd like it. You're always such a master hand, not for dress I didn't mean, but for doin' things somehow different that I thought you'd like it. I don't really care for the cap myself and as I was a puttin' it on I says to myself, "I wonder if Hanner would like to have it to put on, and then I though to myself maybe you'd think it was too old for you, and then I wanted to look nice cause I thought you'd want me to, and Hanner, I ain't got nothin' else that's nice, you know, an I says to myself mebbe if I put it on Cousin Felicia will be so took up with lookin' at it that she won't notice that my dress is only fi'penny bit calico."

That Miss Doane would be "took up with lookin'" at the cap with its scarlet ribbons and purple flowers Hannah did not for a moment doubt, but her conscience smote her for the way she had felt towards the poor little mother who had indeed "nothin' else" that was "nice," so with tears in her eyes, some for herself and some for her hard-working self-sacrificing mother, she said bravely "Never mind, Mother Brown, if you are trying to please me, you'll just be your old self, and since I've seen Cousin Felicia, I don't believe she cares much what anybody wears."

So Miss Doane was settled in her new abode and things went on much as usual, though Hannah, all unconscious, was being keenly studied by the cousin so lately a stranger to her.

One evening the two sat alone on the river bank watching the sunset. Miss Doane had been in the house now about six weeks and she and the young girl had become quite good friends. "What are you thinking of, Hannah," Miss Doane smilingly asked, "that you should gaze at me in that fixed way!"

"I was wondering, Cousin Felicia," she burst out impetuously "how you who have money and opportunities could come bury yourself here out in the country and lie idle in a hammock half the day and never seem to do anything that amounts to anything. Oh, I should think you'd do something!"

"What would you do!" asked Miss Doane quietly, in no wise offended by the girls impetuous expression of an opinion that was certainly genuine, if uncomplimentary.

"I'd have a mission. I'd—forgive me Cousin Felicia,"—she broke off suddenly crimsoning to the roots of her hair, "I shouldn't have spoken so. But if you only knew ——

"Go on, dear child," replied Miss Doane, gently, "you have done no harm. Tell me all about it." Thus encouraged, the whole story came out.

"So you thought I would help you when I came, and all I have done is to sit about lazily and not even read, is that it?"

Hannah nodded silently.

"And suppose I could point out to you a mission I wonder if you would take it up?"

"Would I! Indeed I would. Try me."

"But if the path were hard and your feet grew weary, and you did not like to work?"

"Give me anything, show me anything," the girl cried enthusiastically, "the work could not be so hard or the task so disagreeable I would not glory in it. I am willing to sacrifice myself in any way—give up my life for the good of others. Try me," and she stretched out her arms eagerly.

"May I tell you my story and the way I found my mission, for I really have one, though I seem to sit here so idly this summer?"

"Well, then, once upon a time I was young like you—like you, I was filled with grand visions, golden dreams. I will not tell you all I dreamed, for you know it already by your own experience. Then there came a call for teachers among the Indians, and I, wild with the prospect of real work, prepared to go, but my father not being very well my departure was delayed for several weeks. One morning the physician came to me and revealed the fact that my father was going hopelessly blind. I did not realize all that meant to me till the rector said, "You have my hearty sympathy, Felicia, for it means so much to you, my child, who have looked forward to a life so different." A cold chill struck me. Did it really mean that? Was my mission over? I could not believe it. "A mission, my dear," said the good old rector, "is that which is sent us to do. This must be your work as long as your widowed father lives." Of course I knew it and I succumbed to an unconquerable fate, but not without many tears, in which, thank God, my father never saw me. One year ago my father died and left me free to follow my bent, and I again prepared to go out. Last spring the same physician told me that I was almost certainly following in my father's footsteps and that only the utmost care could avert total blindness. So you see why I have been so idle all summer. I am doing my best to get well."

"How can you stand it! I should think you'd die."

"Oh no, I shan't die. One can but do God's will, you know, whether that be to suffer blindness or teach the Indians. Dear," she added tenderly, "there is one line I wish you could make your own and feel as I do—'They also serve who only stand and wait.' I used to think that waiting meant inaction, but it certainly means sacrifice."

"And my mission, Cousin Felicia?" asked Hannah, in a low, trembling, half despairing voice.

"Is at home my child. Would you sacrifice yourself for others? Do it for your mother and father who need you so much. But do it cheerfully, or you are fulfilling no mission here or elsewhere. Would you die for others, give your life here at home. Dusting, sweeping, ironing, baking, are none of them heroic actions in themselves I admit, but when done well from a sense of duty, when one would fain be at some more congenial work, they are raised to the dignity of self sacrifice and become heroic. Were you to succeed in sacrificing your life for some other indefinite ones, who could take your place in your own home?

"I suppose you are right, Cousin Felicia, and I'm sure I thank you from the bottom of my heart. But I never before regarded a scrubbing brush as conducive to heroism," and she smiled a brave little smile that meant a great deal though it came from a very sore little heart. The next morning Hannah took up the skein of life in a new way and she found that the thread of life reeled off much more easily and the ball wound much more smoothly.

So when one one bright winter's afternoon as she and her mother sat sewing in the little sitting room Mrs. Brown said, her worn tired face brightened with the reflection of Hannah's cheerfulness, "I declare Hanner, ye're a real comfort to yer old mother. I dunno what I should do without yer, father's so cranky like. An' ye're so happy, an' contented, too; never wantin' to go away from home and do like so many of the other girls in town. I dunno's I should care to live if 'twant for you. There was a time last summer I was awful unhappy and trembling' like. I was afeared you was beginnin' to be dissatisfied like. But now you're just the greatest blessin' a woman ever had."

Though Hannah blushed brightly, smiling the while, and said, "Nonsense, mother!" she could not help feeling there were worse things in this world than being called "Hanner" Brown and finding one's mission within one's own household. She had learned that there is a consecrating glory in reverently waiting.

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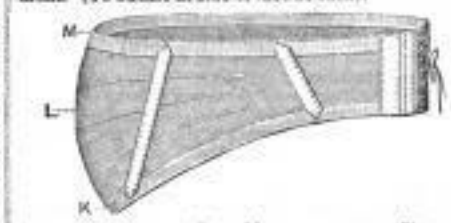

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MUSICAL STUDIES.

NO XIV.

BY MARGARET B. HARVEY.

I have a crow to pick with somebody. In my last letter, the very best passage was left out. I asked, you remember, "Do you see what you are to admire in a Sonata?"—but, my explanation of what you were to admire was omitted. There is no help for it—I must go back and try to tell you.

I said that the opus—a sonata, or sonatine—consists of transitions from one key to another. Now observe the skill with which these transitions are made, and the various effects produced at different stages of these modulations—the change from grave to gay, from solemn to joyous, from pathetic to humorous—wonder, if you like, how the composer played upon your whole range of feelings as you do upon the keys of your instrument. Of course it requires cultivation to appreciate all this, but true appreciation of anything good, beautiful and noble, can be won by those who diligently work for it.

You have begun to study "classical music." Are you happy? Not a bit of it—that is, if you listen to all that is said as you go. A correspondent in the very last number of the JOURNAL asks me how I would instil a love of classical music. I would say, First, by heading off the critics. Second, by directing the pupil to study out its beauties by himself, or herself, as diligently and simply, as though toiling for daily bread.

"Heading off the critics," you repeat—What, again? Always—as long as you study music at all. You may probably learn to play a sonatine with a commanding degree of excellence—but, somebody will be sure to say, "Hasn't that piece got any tune to it? I can't hear anything but tum, tum, tum." But the merit of a composition does not always lie in the ear-tickling property of the melody. Sometimes the harmony is so rich that the uncultivated ear can scarcely perceive any melody at all. It is told of a Turk in Paris, that he would say to a pianist, "Don't play that tune"—the base—"I want to hear the other tune"—the treble. The educated ear can detect all parts simultaneously, and, at the same time, appreciate their combined effect.

Some of my correspondents have asked me for information regarding the Minor Scales. Try and remember what I have already written concerning them. I spoke first of the scale of A minor, which is the natural minor scale, the relative of C major, the natural major scale. The key-note A is an interval of a third lower that C, and the octave, or highest note A, is the sixth of the scale of C. I said that the scale C was probably founded upon primitive man's natural expression of his ordinary feelings, in the seven simple distinct sounds which the voice is capable of uttering; that these sounds arranged in order are separated by long leaps (whole tones), except between the third and fourth and seventh and eighth (the eighth a repetition of the first) sounds, at which points we find the short leaps (half tones). The natural minor scale A is founded upon man's wails of distress—it, however, is composed of the very same sounds as the natural major scale, C, but differently arranged. So far as we can see, the only difference is in the position of the half tones, which naturally occur between the second and third and fifth and sixth notes of the scale. But, how the different positions of the semi-tones can give to the minor scale A its solemn, mournful expression, as distinguished from the pleasant, cheerful one of the major scale C, is another of the musical mysteries forever eluding our grasp. How certain sounds can affect certain elements in our souls, inspiring us to certain thoughts, feelings and deeds, as varied as these sounds and elements themselves, we do not know—but the fact is beyond question.

As the natural major scale C, is imitated artificially, by means of sharps and flats, giving rise to other major scales; so, also, is the natural minor scale A, imitated in the same way, giving to every natural major scale, a relative minor one. So far you need have no difficulty in understanding minor scales.

But, suppose you turn to your Scales and Cadences, and look at the scale of A minor as written before you. You observe two accidentals, a sharp before the sixth and another before the seventh notes. I told you at one time that these marked an artificial arrangement, with which you then had nothing to do. Now, however, I think you are prepared to understand something of the use of these accidentals.

In my last, I told you something of the transpositions from one key to another. I meant them, principally, major keys, but you can also pass from one minor key to another. But the minor key, relative to any major key, needs a little alteration before this can be done. I have described the minor scale of A, as it naturally exists—but, in its natural form, it is scarcely available in modern harmony—and, what is here true of A, is true of all the artificial minor scales. In passing from one key to another, you remember, we sharp the fourth note and it becomes the seventh of the succeeding scale; or, we flat the seventh and it becomes the fourth—the seventh in any scale is therefore called the leading note.

Now, in any major scale, the seventh or leading note, is always one half tone below the octave, or eighth; but, in a minor scale, it is a whole tone below. If, however, we would pass from one minor scale to the next, we must have a leading note, one semi-tone below the eighth—as this does not exist naturally in any minor scale, we must make it so, artificially, by the use of an accidental. So you see that while A minor is the natural minor scale, it is written with two sharps, simply to move up the half tones, thus bringing the seventh note a half tone below the eighth, and making it a leading note. The sharp is also written in the leading note chord in the cadence. But, in descending the scale, the sharps are cancelled by naturals, and the scale appears in its proper form. This principle is carried out through all the minor scales.

The minor scales admit of some further alteration—which alteration has to do with the half tones. The half tone between the second and third notes is never changed—strangely enough, the whole peculiar expression of the scale seems to depend upon this. But, sometimes only one accidental is used, and that before the seventh. This, then, leaves the half tones between the second and third, and fifth and sixth, and makes another between the seventh and eighth—in descending, it is written in the same way, that is, with the semi-tones in the same places. This is called the Harmonic Minor Scale, so-named, because its formation grew out of the requirements of modern harmony. The other minor scale, founded upon the purely natural one, is known as the Melodic Minor Scale.

Do you comprehend? If not, remember what I have often said—a little careful study at the piano will teach you more than many words of mine. The key-board itself, is a better instructor than the printed page. Your ear, alone, will tell you, in working out these different major and minor scales what infinite differences there are, in shades of sound, and what a wide range for musical expression these scales give. Something of this you already know from your scale practice—now you begin to perceive the philosophy of it all.

What is this harmony of which you hear so much? Alas! that so many excellent players should not know—alas, that it should be so often held up as the great bugbear of musical science, the one problem which no tyro could ever solve. You, my dear pupils, know far more of it to-day than you think for—more than I did, after years of devoted musical study.

You already know what an interval is, and what the common chord in any scale is. The notes 1, 3, 5, with 8 in treble or base, or both added, sound well together, or form what is called perfect harmony. 1 and 3, forming an interval of a third, also sound agreeably; so do 3 and 5, which also form an interval of a third. 1 and 5, or 1 and 8, each form what is called a perfect interval, or the most agreeable interval, that of a fifth, or an eighth or octave. The octave, or eighth note, in the base, harmonizing with the whole chord, is called the root because the chord literally grows upward from the base.

Now, this common chord may be re-arranged, the lower note written above the higher, and vice versa. But, it is still harmonious, as long as the same notes are used, no matter what their position. These chords are composed of intervals, counting the distance between any two notes. There are several kinds of intervals. From C to E in the scale of C is a major third. Now flat E, thus reducing it one-half tone, and it becomes a minor third. An interval may be inverted, or the lower note written above the upper—the interval then becomes a sixth; but a minor interval becomes a major, and a major interval, a minor, because in the one case a half tone is added by the inversion, in the other, a half tone is taken away by the inversion. Hence, we deduce the rule, all the major and minor thirds and all to be major and minor sixths are to be harmonious, or consonant, as, also, the fourths, fifths and octaves. These last three are sometimes called perfect, because any alteration makes them dissonant.

There are other intervals known as diminished and augmented. A diminished interval is less than a minor of the same name, and may be formed by flatting the higher and sharping the lower note, thus pinching the interval off at both ends; an augmented interval is greater than a major, and may be formed by sharping the upper and flatting the lower, thus piecing it out at both ends—but such intervals are always discordant. So, also, are all the intervals of seconds and sevenths. These must always be resolved—that is, followed by agreeable notes. You remember what I said about resolution, or healing the injured ear by a soothing sound.

From the common chord in any scale are formed others. You have them at the end of each scale in your printed Scales and Cadences. The first chord, is the common, or triad, 3, 5, 8, the 1 in the base; the next chord is 4, 6, 8, with 4 in the base; the next, the leading note chord, 2, 4, 5, 7, with 5 in the base; and the last, the same common chord, 3, 5, 8, with 1 in the base. All of these chords may be re-arranged, giving rise to a variety of intervals.

Surely, it ought not to take a very great amount of practice for you to become familiar with the chords in ever scale; with the major, minor, and perfect intervals; to learn to avoid the harsh discords, except when they can be used as passing notes, or followed by consonances. This is harmony in a nutshell. Now try your hand at original investigation.

Before closing, I wish to correct an error in my last. In speaking of the passing note C, I said it was the third of the key of one flat, thus harmonizing with the key-note F. It is not the third, it is the fifth—but, as the fifth is a consonant interval it does harmonize with the key-note F, as the third would. But by this time, you ought to know how to correct such errors for yourselves.

The Finest Mechanism.

A celebrated surgeon once said that he never stood in the presence of a body in the dissecting room without a feeling of awe and reverence, and well may every one do to remember the wonderful excellency of the house he lives in. The butterfly is beautiful and attractive in its aerial flight and its form is wonderfully adapted to its needs; but the human body is as much superior in its delicacy of construction and adaptation to the needs of the being living in it as man is superior to the moth in length of days.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HINTS UPON ETIQUETTE AND GOOD MANNERS.

NO. III.

BY MRS. S. O. JOHNSTON.

Etiquette in the Home Circle.

It has been said that a "man's manners form his fortune," and they surely do form the happiness of the home circle, for, if the husband is gentle, kind, not fault finding,—but desirous to please, and to be pleased—the wife, if she possesses only a few grains of wisdom, must fashion the dress of her character after the charming pattern he exhibits. "Who can be cross where Charlie is?" asked a wife, who had never been properly taught in the home circle, and, therefore, was apt to give way to pettishness and ill humor, when the wheels of the household did not go round smoothly, or just to her liking.

But she felt ashamed of her ill-breeding when compared with the perfect good-breeding of "Charlie." And, on the other hand, if the wife possesses the best knowledge of etiquette and good manners, and invariably receives her husband with smiles and a warm welcome, and strives to keep to herself the little, petty trials, troubles and tribulations of the day, either entirely, or until he has eaten a good dinner, and is in a suitable frame of mind to listen to her woes, and to give her the benefit of his wise counsels; and who prunes away with a gentle hand the roughnesses of his disposition, and with a kindly word quenches his wrath; after a due season she may hear that he tells his friends what a precious jewel he has won, and holds enshrined in his bosom, and that he prizes her greatly.

Without this safeguard of etiquette, at home, there can be no real happiness; for if there is no curb applied to the lips, no heed given to the speech of husband and wife, and if both are not well trained, or are striving to train themselves in good manners to each other, as well as to their visitors, their chances for a happy home are very slight—their lives are shipwrecked.

BE COURTEOUS, is an apostolical command, which every man and woman should always remember and obey, and not only be courteous abroad, but also at home; and every day and every hour of your lives, give heed to that injunction.

"What a lovely woman Mrs. A. is!" exclaimed a gentleman to a friend.

"Um! ha!" replied the other. "I thought so too, until I came home with A. the other day, and she did not know I was in the library, so that her speech betrayed her, and since then she has never looked lovely to me. An ugly tongue, and a pretty face are not to my taste."

And the children of such a mother will quickly imitate her, and, although she may be trained in outward observances of good manners, and to speak prettily to visitors, they will only possess the varnish of good manners, which is soon rubbed off, and needs replenishing. Young children are frequently keen critics of the motives and sentiments of those who strive to control them, and they must be well treated, i. e. with perfect candor and uprightness, if you would have them grow up to become the pride of your old age—its comfort and support.

An excellent definition of the term lady, is, "one who, to in-bred modesty and refinement, adds a scrupulous attention to the rights and feelings of others, and applies the Golden Rule of doing to others as she would be done by, to all who are connected with her, both at home and in society." And a gentleman has been thus described: "Whoever is true, loyal and candid; whoever possesses a pleasing, affable demeanor; whoever is honorable in himself, and in his judgment of others, and requires no law but his word to make him fulfill any engagement." Such a man is a gentleman, whether he belongs to the highest or the lowest ranks of life—is a peer or a peasant. And if every boy and girl will make these attributes their possession, they can claim, with due right, the title of "gentleman," and lady," which are so often misapplied in these days.

In teaching little children good manners, in the parlor or nursery, one should not make them kiss every visitor, because, it is, sometimes, as annoying to the guest as to the child. It is a pleasing custom, among the Germans, to teach a little child to kiss a friend's hand when first spoken to by the visitor; and we lately met a little American girl of three years who had been thus taught, and also to say, "I kiss your hand in the German fashion," which sounded very pretty, as spoken by her lisping tongue, and quite won the hearts of all present. Never ridicule a child's manners harshly or cruelly, but praise every attempt it makes towards graceful habits, and pleasing ways. These small folks of ours are very sensitive, and if laughed at, they will treasure the wrong in their little hearts, for long years to come. But, teach them kindly, and graciously, to bow, and courtesy, shake hands, and to leave a room properly, and they will never feel awkward in any society, but always retain self possession. If a child can be taught to behave quietly in the parlor, let him be present when you receive visitors, and thus become accustomed to company early in life. But never permit him to make himself troublesome to guests, and, if they incline to notice him too much, gently request him to take his seat, and be quiet, or else leave the room. If he is allowed to remain in the nursery most of the time, his manners may be outwardly good, as Gretchen, Bridget, or Clarice may have trained him to speak politely, and to behave well when in company, yet, in your absence, he may have learned the slang they talk, and their tricks and dark ways that would horrify you when they come to your knowledge.

Let your children be taught always to rise and offer a chair when any one enters the room; always to open a door for you, or a visitor, then they will not keep their seat when their elders enter a room, in after years, nor will they fail to be polite in many other ways, both to friends and strangers.

"What's the use of all that fol de rol?" asks some pater familias, whose early education was lamentably neglected, as the question shows. And we reply, it is just that which makes the difference between a churl and a man, a gentleman and a clown. It is these little trifles, of shaking hands gently, and not rudely, as if working a pump handle; of bowing gracefully, of lifting the hat when meeting and speaking to a lady; of offering a chair to one who stands; of opening the door for a lady; of anticipating all her needs and desires; which make up the good breeding of a man, and prove his claims to being called a gentleman.

Good manners have been closely connected with those men and women who have taken high position in business and social circles, and have often won distinction and renown, when those who have superior minds, could not obtain an equal position. And of two men, equal in all other respects, the one who is courteous and well bred, possesses by far the best chance of making his way in life. No children are born with good manners, but an habitually courteous father, and well bred mother, will not find it as difficult to teach their children the rules of etiquette, as those who do not practice them at home, because they have taught them "line upon line, and precept upon precept," here a little and there a little, thus moulding the child by slow degrees into the grace of courtesy, and good habits. Profanity in the household is unendurable, and, like the serpent in Eden, it will destroy all happiness. No true woman will ever allow an oath to be uttered in her presence, and she will teach her boys not to utter one word that would cause a blush to rise to her cheeks if she heard it. Profanity is a sure mark of low breeding, and the tendency to use profane or vulgar language is very degrading, as its injurious effects will manifest themselves through life. If oaths and indecent language have been spoken in childhood and boyhood, and afterwards, by close attention to one's speech one thinks them entirely obliterated from the mind, a severe illness may prove the contrary, and the words that fall from the lips may horrify the listeners. It has been truly said that, "an oath never falls from the tongue of a man who possesses self-respect." If a young man would never utter a word which he would be ashamed to speak in the presence of those he holds in high respect, he would soon gain command over his tongue. And by striving to acquire the habit of politeness, it will soon fit you like a well made coat, and it will give you ease in society, and you will then understand the great advantage which good breeding gives to its disciples, and will practice it, continually, and never cast it off like a worn-out garment, but prize it as a precious vestment. Learn to make a graceful bow, even if you practice it before your mirror. And if you can attend a good dancing school, do so; not to become a Turveydrop in deportment, but to learn how to hold your arms and hands, and how to manage all parts of the body with ease. The drill sargeant makes his soldiers hold themselves well, yet perhaps a little too stiffly for a society man. But a good dancing master teaches both girls and boys how to walk, and how to appear at ease in society, as well as how to dance.

There may be those among our readers who think dancing a trick of the evil one. But rightly conducted it is as harmless as the gambols of the lambs upon the meadow grass. All young things love to skip, and play and frolic. Mothers should go to dancing school with their little ones, and sit on the benches ranged along the walls, while their children are taught the graces of movement, and learn the poetry of motion, without the least injury being done to their morals; while a great deal of good is drilled into their bodies in the shape of a fine address; and a proper idea of good manners can be gained more easily, than in any other school, excepting that of the home circle.

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FOR EVERY LOVER OF FLOWERS, POT-PLANTS, ROTARY FINE LAWNS, TREES, SHRUBS, GOOD FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

MONEY IN THE GARDEN.

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Is the handiest and most useful frame for holding small pieces of work, and is indispensible. Given for only four (4) subscribers at 25 cts each per year.

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Every person sending us 25cts. for a 3 mos. trial subscription to the **ILLUSTRATED COMPANION** will receive as an **ABSOLUTE FREE GIFT** this **ELEGANT PARISIAN DIAMOND RING** represented by the annexed illustration. This ring is of a new and very beautiful pattern guaranteed to be **Solid Rolled Gold Finish** and will wear well. The Stone with which it is set is very clear, brilliant and sparkling. This Ring is of such value that any lady possessing it will be the envy of all her friends as it is to all appearances a very valuable article. Send a slip of paper the size of the Ring you wish. The **ILLUSTRATED COMPANION** is a mammoth **64 column 16 page** paper finely illustrated by full page engravings of artistic merit and contains Stories, Sketches, Poetry, Anecdotes, Wit and Humor, and in fact all that goes to make up a complete family publication. Wherever it is once taken it is universally popular as an enduring show. **We know you will like it.** The regular price is **$1.00** per year. The above described **Parisian Diamond Ring** in a fine **Velvet Lined Case,** and the **ILLUSTRATED COMPANION** for three months for **25 cts.** is too liberal an offer to be passed by. Full satisfaction guaranteed. This is a special offer so **WRITE TO DAY,** as this will not appear again.

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With each of our fine Rhinestone Coral Buttons set in solid silver, or best rolled gold plate, price, thirty-five cents, we will give an elegantly hand-painted Horn design, on satin; containing sixteen square inches; done by the celebrated Hammond Sisters. Or, the painting sent to any address on receipt of eight 2-cent stamps. Address:

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A SET OF SIX OF THESE KNIVES GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 30 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.

No. 26—These beautiful knives are made by **Rogers Bros.**, and are Warranted A1. No handsomer or finer Fruit Knives can be bought, and we ask our subscribers not to compare them with cheap goods offered by so many parties. A beautiful set of 6 of these knives put up in a neat box, you can get for nothing, by getting up a club of 30 subscribers to the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

Manufacturers Guarantee: "We guarantee that all Spoons, Forks, Knives, etc., are plated with pure Sterling Silver, upon the finest grade of Nickel-Silver, ... that the deposit is fully twenty per cent. heavier than the usual standard," etc.

Arabesque Chased Nut Picks.

A SET OF SIX THESE OF PICKS GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 25 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.

No. 44.—To match the Fruit Knives. All that is said about the Fruit Knives will apply to these Nut Picks. They are beautiful goods. We will send a set of 6 Picks for a club of only 25 subscribers.

MANTLE LAMBERQUINS.

☞ GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR ONLY 12 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS PER YEAR EACH.

For the past year or two it has been the fashion to cover the mantelpiece with an embroidery a foot or more in width in front. These draperies usually cost from $1.50 to $2.00, but we will send a Lambequin made of the best quality of felt, 13½ inches wide and 2 yards long, of any color, and stamped as desired, for a club of only 12 subscribers, or $1.20.

This is one of our best premiums, and has pleased our subscribers so well that almost every one sent out results in the sale of from 2 to 6 more. As soon as your friends see it they all have the fever to secure one just like it.

Felt Table Scarfs.

Given for a Club of only 8 Subscribers at 25 Cents each.

Table covers, either square or scarf shaped, are among the indispensable articles of fancy work. It is an absolute necessity now to have a cover for every table, and they can be made very beautiful when artistically worked.

We send a felt scarf 18 x 50 inches, of any color desired, stamped on each end ready to be worked, with designs of your own choosing, either for Kensington, Ribbon or Tinsel embroidery.

Felt Clock Scarfs.

Given as a Premium for a Club of Only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cents Each per Year.

These are designs to be placed on the mantel for the clock to stand on, the end hanging over the mantle to be embroidered. We will send one, any color, 12 x 18 inches, stamped across the end with a handsome design for tinsel, or any other kind of embroidery, for 4 new subscribers.

Traveling Bag.

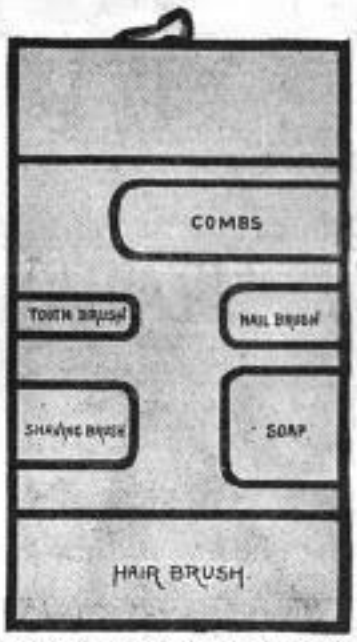
Given for a Club of only 15 Subscribers at 25 Cents each per year.

This is a very useful bag for traveling. It is wonderful how much they will hold. We furnish them all made, bound with red or blue, and stamped ready to be worked, for a club of only 15 subscribers.

These bags are very pretty and and fashionable, and greatly please all who have them. No trouble to get plenty of subscribers at 25 cents per year. The ladies all want the JOURNAL at first sight. Send for samples to distribute.

Traveling Companion.

Given for only 15 Subscribers at 25 Cents per Year Each.



These are indispensable for traveling or for visiting. The cut shows how they are made, with pockets to hold the different articles. Size when open, 12 x 22 inches. They come all stamped. We send this traveling comnanion, all cut out ready to work, for a club of 15 new subscribers.

Riverdale Story Books.

TWELVE BEAUTIFUL BOOKS.

Your Choice of Any One of These Volumes.

Each book contains nearly a hundred pages and many full-page cuts. The type is large and the words easy. The stories are exceedingly interesting, and are written by "Oliver Optic." The following are the titles:

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These Books are especially fitted for Sunday-schools, Day-schools, Birthday, Christmas, and other Gifts for the Little People.

We will send **ALL** of the above named books, packed in a neat case, for only 20 subscribers, at 25 cents per year each.

LADIES SILVER BAR PIN

Given for only 4 new subscribers at 25 Cents per Year.

SILVER BAR PIN.

A Silver Bangle Lace Bar Pin, with four bangles handsomely engraved. One of our best premiums for ladies. They are very fashionable, and cannot be bought in any store for double the money we ask, for 4 subscribers at 25 cents each.

Damask Tray Cloths.

Given for a Club of only 10 Subscribers at 25 Cents per Year.

These are designed to be placed on the table in front of the hostess at table, and is to be embroidered on the corner or ends We will send one of these Tray Cloths of fine linen damask with cup and saucer, sugar bowl, creamer, and teapot stamped in each corner. Given for a club of 10 subscribers, or 75 cents.

Carver's Cloths to match, stamped with knife and fork, dishes, &c. We will send at same price.

LACE BAR PIN

Given for only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cents per Year Each.

A very pretty and stylish Pin of frosted silver. They are the very latest style and are very popular. Given for a club of only four subscribers, or sold for 50 cents and sent postpaid, to any address.

CRESCENT LACE PIN

Given for Only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cts. Each per Year.

A little beauty, of the latest style with crescent of Oxidized Silver, and spray of Forget-me-nots in frosted silver. These pins are exceedingly neat and pretty, and are very easy to secure. Given for only four subscribers at 25 cents per year each. We sell them, postpaid, to any address for only 50 cents.

JENNIE JUNE'S NEW BOOKS!

Kn'tting and Crochet: Edited by JENNIE JUNE. In arranging this new work, the editor has taken special pains to systematize and classify the different departments. There are a large variety of patterns, fully illustrated and described, which have been tested by an expert before insertion in this collection. This book is printed on fine paper, bound in a handsome cover, has 144 pages size of The Century Magazine and is **finely Illustrated.** Stitches in Knitting, Macramee and Crochet Work described and made plain for beginners. Designs and Directions are given to Knit and Crochet Afghans, Undervests, Shirts, Petticoats, Jackets, Shawls, Insertion, Trimming, Edging, Comforters, Lace, Bracelets, Socks, Boots, Slippers, Gaiters, Knee Caps, Stockings, Mittens, Clouds, Purses, Counterpanes, Rugs, Quilts, Hoods, Caps, Shawls, Dresses, Bed Quilts, etc.

Price 50 Cents, postpaid

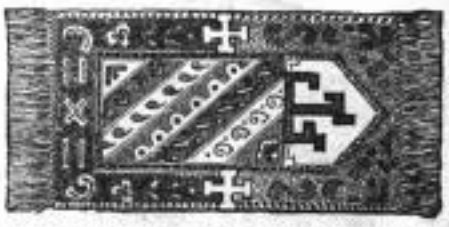
Needle Work: A MANUAL of Stitches and Studies in Embroidery and Drawn Work. Edited by JENNIE JUNE. This book is printed on fine paper, bound in a handsome cover, has 128 pages size of The Century Magazine, and is **finely Illustrated.** The Stitches in Needle-work are illustrated, described and made plain for beginners. Designs in Need-work are given for the Chamber, Robe, Dining room, Parlor and Library, and for Linen and Cotton Fabrics. It gives Embroidery Designs for Mantel Scarfs, Bed Spreads, Child's Quilt, Pillow Cover, Bureau Scarfs, Table Covers, Chair Backs, Morning Sacques, Walking, Afternoon and Evening Dresses, Muffers, Fichus, Sashes, Slippers, Aprons, Work Bags, Sachets, Dinner Cloths, Napkins, Doilies, Table Mats, Tray Covers, Tea Cloths, Curtains, Panels, Banner Screens, Sofa Rugs, Book Covers, etc., etc.

We give either one of the above books, by Jennie June, for only **6** subscribers, or we will send them both, postpaid, to any address, for only 10 subscribers, at 25 cents per year each.

We will send the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL one year free, for a club of four subscribers, instead of a premium, if so desired.

☞ Given for Only 12 Subscribers at 25 Cents each for One Year.

The most practical labor-saving device ever invented for making **RAG** and **TUFTED** Rugs on the sewing machine or by hand. It entirely does away with braiding, knitting and weaving. A handsome Rug two by four feet, with border, can be made in from three to seven hours; any size Rug may be made. All kinds of cloth—small pieces from the waste basket, wool carpet waste, odds and ends of yarn—can be utilized in making handsome, durable Rugs. Silk clothing too much worn for patch-work, can be made into stool and ottoman covers, designs in flowers and figures are readily produced. All the material comes on the upper side, and is firmly sewed on a base or foundation of coarse cloth. The engraving at the top of this article shows the operation in making a **Smyrna Wool Rug.** Oriental designs may be followed in colors, and a beautiful tufted Rug with pile a half inch thick can be made in one-fiftieth the time necessary to knit one by hand, and it will not curl or draw. No books, frames, or blistered hands.



Medal received at "International Inventions Exhibition, London, 1885." Also silver medal at Decorative Art Needlework Exhibition, Baltimore, Md.

Ladies! don't buy a new carpet; with the Rug Maker you can make handsome rugs, and cover those worn places.

Directions illustrated with 13 Engravings, which thoroughly explain this process of Rug Making, and is so simple a child can use it, accompany each Rug Maker. No personal instructions necessary.

Given as a present to any lady sending us 13 subscribers at 25 cents each per year, and mailed to any address, postpaid.

We will send this Rug Machine and the Ladies' Home Journal, One Year, for $1.00.

ANY VOLUME OF DICKENS' WORKS

For Only 8 Subscribers and 10 Cents Extra in Cash or Stamps to pay Postage.

These books are all handsomely bound, good print and good paper, and are sold in all bookstores for $1.50 and $1.75 per volume.

Pickwick Papers,
Martin Chuzzlewit,
Oliver Twist, Pictures from Italy, and American Notes,
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Child's History of England. By Charles Dickens. New edition, large type.

Also, any one of the following books, given on the same terms:

Robinson Crusoe. By Daniel De Foe.
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Bar Room at Brantly. By T. S. Arthur.
Cook's Voyages Around the World.
Vicar of Wakefield. By Oliver Goldsmith.
Pilgrim's Progress. By John Bunyan.
Gulliver's Travels. By Jonathan Swift.
Ivanhoe, Waverly, Guy Mannering. By Sir W. Scott.
Tom Brown's School Days at Rugby. By Thomas Hughes. Books sent, postpaid, to any address.

Talks with Homely Girls.

Talks with Homely Girls: On Health and Beauty, their Preservation and Cultivation. By Frances Smith.

A manual of advice and instruction upon the general care of the health, exercise, bathing, the care of the head, hair, teeth, hands, feet, and the complexion, with chapters upon dress, manners, conversation, and all topics pertaining to a young lady's appearance and deportment. The twenty chapters are replete with information on Grace and Beauty of Form, Bathing Exercise, Care of the Head, Hair, Teeth, Face, Hands, Complexion, Carriage of the Body, Dress, Deportment, Conversation, and General Care of the Health. A very useful book for every lady. Handsome cloth binding.

Given as a premium for a club of only 6 subscribers at 25 cents per year each. Price, 50 cents when sold alone.

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Our New 1886 Stamping Outfit.

GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 12 SUBSCRIBERS, AT 25 CENTS EACH.

This Complete Outfit, and One Year's Subscription to the Journal, BOTH for only $1.00.

IT BEATS THE WORLD ! !

OUR NEW 1886 STAMPING OUTFIT FOR

Stamping designs for Embroidery or Painting. Ladies you can do your own Stamping. This Outfit is the largest and best ever offered. It has more patterns than any other. The patterns are larger and better designed. They are all new, and different from our old outfit. They are adapted for all the new kinds of Fancy Work.

The Tidy given with this Outfit is not a little remnant of Felt like the one offered in other Outfits, but a good sized Tidy. The silk is the best quality. The articles in this Outfit, bought singly, would amount to $7.50.

SEE WHAT IT CONTAINS ! 47 ELEGANT PATTERNS AND ONE COMPLETE ALPHABET !

DESCRIPTION:—One Set of Initials for Towels, Hat Marks &c., worth 50 cents. 2 large Outline designs, 7x9, for Tidies, 25c. each, 50c. 1 design for Tinsil Embroidery, 5 inches wide, for end of Table Scarf, 25c. 1 Tidy design for Ribbon Work, 20c. 1 large Clover design, 7x11, for Kensington painting, 25c. 1 Thistle design, 6x11, for Kensingson painting, 25c. 1 Stock and 1 large Butterfly for Lustra painting, 10c. and 15c., 25c. 1 Pansy design for lady's Satin Bag, 10c. 1 design for Thermometer case, 20c. 1 elegant spray of Golden Rod, 6x11, 25c. 1 Martha Washington Geranium design for plush petals, 6x10, 25c. 1 design for top of Umbrella case, 15c. 1 Spider's web, 10c., 1 Disk design, 10c., 1 Tidy design—Owls on a tree—25c., 50c. 1 Daisy vine, 1 large bunch of Dashes, 25c. 19 other designs of Braiding, Scallops, Roses, Forget-me-nots, Wheat, Birds, etc., worth 10c. to 15c each, $1.90. 10 small sprigs and figures for Crazy Patchwork or other uses, 50c. Besides all these beautiful designs, we send Powder and Distributor, with which to do the stamping; and a book of instructions teaching how to do every branch of the work.

ONE HANDSOME TIDY made of the best quality of Felt, stamped with pretty flower design, with silk and needle to work it; worth altogether, 40c.

ONE BOOK OF STITCHES which teaches the Outline and Kensington stitches, Ribbon Embroidery, Arrasene and Chenille work; Plush Embroidery, &c. Also, instructions in Crazy Patchwork, with illustrations showing 8 finished blocks, and over 150 new stitches for ornamenting the seams.

BESIDES all the above, we are going to give away with each Outfit, a book of KNITTING AND CROCHETING, giving instructions for knitting all the latest novelties; also a FANCY BRAID AND CROCHET BOOK, giving directions for making edgings of Feather Edged and other novelty braids.

We have ordered an immense number of these Outfits from the maker, and, by so doing, have procured them at a price which enables us to announce

THE BEST OFFER EVER MADE !

We will send the above Outfit complete, postage paid, to any address, for a club of only 12 Subscribers—new or old—at 25 cents per year each.

Price of the Outfit, including one year's subscription to the JOURNAL, $1.00, postpaid, to any address. This is the VERY BEST Outfit ever offered for $1.00.

For the benefit of those who have never had our 1885 Outfit, we will send the above Outfit (1886) and the 35 patterns of the 1885 Outfit which, with our 47 new patterns in the 1886 Outfit makes 82 choice patterns, for a club of only 18 subscribers at 25 cents each, or for $1.50 cash.

Ruffled and Tucked Pillow Shams,

MADE OF FINE LONSDALE COTTON, SIZE, 36x36.

A Pair of these Pillow Shams given for a Club of only 25 Subscribers at 25 Cents each per year.

These Shams, besides being ruffled and tucked ready to be used, may be stamped with large Initial in the center, or with the accompanying beautiful designs: "Good Night" and "Good Morning." We will stamp these designs or, a large Initial on a pair of these shams described above, and send them to you for a club of 25 subscribers. Or we will send you a pair of plain Shams, 1 yard square, stamped ready to be worked but not finished, for only 8 subscribers.

To those who wish to do their own stamping, we will send the Perforated Patterns: "Good Night" and "Good Morning," for 10 subscribers or 20 cents.

Bracket Lamberquin.

GIVEN AS A PREMIUM FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.

These Lamberquins are made of felt, the same as the Tidies, stamped on any design you may choose; they are 12x20 inches in size, and are exceedingly ornamental when finished.

We will send one of these Lamberquins and book of stitches, for only four new subscribers, or 35 cents.

We will send the Ladies' Home Journal one year free, for a club of 4 subscribers, instead of a premium, if so desired.

Damask Doily.

Given for only 16 Subscribers at 25 cents per year each.

Designed to match the tray cloths. These come stamped with beautiful and appropriate designs, similar to the illustration. We will send a set of 6 of these doilies all stamped, for 16 subscribers.

A MOST EXTRAORDINARY OFFER !

One Dollar's Worth of Flower Seeds

WILL BE GIVEN ANY ONE SENDING US A CLUB OF ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS PER YEAR EACH.

Comprising the following varieties:

Phlox Drummondii, all colors, mixed.		Portulaca, all colors, mixed.	
Carnation Poppy,	" " "	Petunia,	" " "
Double Zinnia,	" " "	Balsam,	" " "
Gilia,	" " "	Amaranthus, all	" "
Sweet William,	" " "	Sweet Peas,	" " "
French Marigold,	" " "	Ice Plant,	" " "
Japan Coxcomb,	" " "	Acrocilinium,	" " "
Fragrant Candytuft,	" " "	Perrilla,	" " "

☞ These flower seeds are put up in well-filled packets, and wrapped in bundles, each containing the sixteen varieties; they are guaranteed to be first-class in everyrespect; the same that seedsmen sell for more than $1.00. On the whole the consist of a careful selection of the very best varieties for ordinary garden culture, and will make a superb and brilliant display from June until long after frost. With but little attention you can produce all the cut flowers and bouquets desired, during the Spring, Summer and Autumn months. They are what our conviction and experience tells us will result most acceptably to all. Last season we sent out thousands of premium flower seed packages, every one of which gave the greatest and most unalloyed satisfaction, which we can prove by innumerable testimonials at present on file in our office. Remember, these seeds are sent only to those who send us four subscribers, at 25 cents each per year.

THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, Philadelphia, Pa.

STANDARD EMBROIDERED TIDIES.

Tidy of Momie Cloth.

3258.—Tidy of Momie Cloth, 17½x24 inches: can be had in brown, Olive, drab, terra cotta and old gold, embroidered in various colors.

Given for only 16 subscribers at 25 cents each per year.

Felt Tidy.

3261.—Tidy of Felt, 17 inches square, colors, olive, cardinal, garnet, peacock-blue, cretonne figures; appliqued with colored worsted.

Given for only 12 subscribers at 25 cents per year each.

Handsome Silk Plush Tidy.

3266.—Silk Plush Tidy, cardinal, olive, and sapphire blue, with appique figures and embroidered, crewel tassels; size, 11x11 inches.

Given for only 20 subscribers at 25 cents each per year and 25 cents extra for postage.

Tidy of Momie Cloth.

3259.—Tidy of Momie Cloth, 17½ inches square, in brown, olive, drab, terra cotta and old gold; embroidered with worsted in various colors.

Given for only 12 subscribers at 25 cents each per year.

LINEN SPLASHERS.

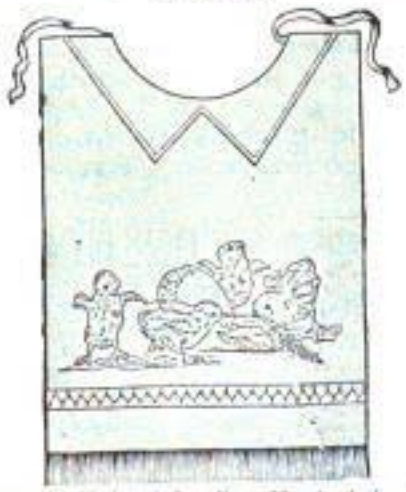
☞ **GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR ONLY 6 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS PER YEAR EACH.**

These are designed to be placed back of a wash-stand to protect the wall from being soiled by being spattered. They are embroidered mostly in outline with embroidery cotton or etching silk, and are washable. They are finished by fringing and drawn work, according to taste. We will send one Splasher and three skeins of French cotton for a club of only 6 subscribers, or 50 cents.

We have all the new and latest designs. One of the most popular premiums we have to offer. Only six subscribers required to secure it. Easily done, by simply showing a copy of the paper to six of your friends or neighbors. Splashers mailed to any address, postage paid.

Child's Bib.

Given for only 4 Subscribers at 25 cents per year each.



No. 12.—Made of fine linen Momie cloth, size, 13x18 inches, finished with fancy border and fringe across the bottom, and stamped with appropriate designs. We will send one of these fine quality linen bibs for 4 subscribers.

TIDIES STAMPED

READY TO BE WORKED.

Given as a Present for a Club of Only 4 Subscribers, at 25 Cents Each per Year.

These elegant Tidies are 14 x 18 inches in size, are made of the very best quality of Felt, and the same as are sold in all the stores at from 40c. to 50c. each. You can select the color of felt you like, and have it stamped with any design you wish, either for Kensington or Outline or Ribbon Embroidery, all ready to be embroidered.

With these Tidies we give a book which teaches the stitches used in Art embroidery,—giving such clear and explicit descriptions as to be easily understood; and also a lesson in Kensington and Lustra painting.

We will send one of these Tidies and the Book of Stitches, for a club of only 4 subscribers, or 35 cents.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MILDRED'S CONVERSATION CLASS.

NO. VI.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

"Girls, I'm just disgusted!" exclaimed Phillippa Roland, with energy, at the sixth meeting of the "Improvement Club" (as they were termed in derision, by a few others).

"What with?" came in a chorus.

"Oh, with things in general, and Miss Wilson in particular," answered Phillippa, disconsolately.

"Poor Miss Wilson!" laughed Mildred. "What has she done since I saw you last?"

"Made me disgusted with myself. There! Mildred Greene, I hope you are satisfied, now that you have wrung this abject confession from me!" answered Phillippa, with mock fierceness. "I've been trying to improve for six mortal weeks, and I don't care who knows it, and I don't believe I've accomplished an earthly thing. I've about concluded that I would better cut the whole thing, and go in for some other accomplishment where I have a better prospect of assured success."

"Why, I think you're improving, Phillippa," said Edith Stocker, in a hesitating way. "Indeed, Phillippa, I don't thing you are nearly so—so—'horsey,' (kind of like a jockey, you know) as you used to be. You don't use so much slang, I mean," she added deprecatingly.

"Do you know what you said a moment ago?" asked Mildred, quietly.

"No, I don't know, and I don't care! What was it? Something dreadful, I suppose; one generally succeeds in committing some unusual atrocity, just when one has tried the very hardest to do the other thing," answered Phillippa, in a tone of real vexation, (for she had felt more deeply than she had cared to show, her lack of ability to quickly correct the habits which she knew she possessed).

"You said," answered Mildred, with a smile, "you thought you 'would better' give up, and you seemed to say it 'just as easy' as the children say. I'm sure that shows you have improved."

"Bless you, my children!" said Phillippa, patting the last two speakers on the head, "you have revived a drooping fellow creature, you have thrown a crumb to a drowning man, you have cast a straw to the hungry, and 'Richard is himself again!'"

"I thought it would not take long for your drooping spirits to revive," remarked Edith Stocker, slowly, with an emphasis on the "your," which Phillippa declared to be insulting.

"Where is the letter?" asked Mildred.

"Here. Shall I proceed to disseminate the information contained therein? There! I'm sure that was an elegantly expressed sentence, now wasn't it?"

"O do go on, Phillippa!" exclaimed some of the others, rather impatient of Phillippa's nonsense.

"Girls, you really hurt my feelings when you say 'go on!' Why can't you say 'proceed!'"

"Well, 'proceed' then."

"I proceed."

"MY DEAR MISS ROWLAND:—("that's me, I, I mean.") Your letter was duly received and carefully read. As my time, this evening, is limited, and, as I am obliged to write you on this particular evening, or else defer my letter too long, I shall take up at once, the various faults of which I intend writing.

"Among the matters of which you write, you mention 'grammatical errors.' Such cannot be. One makes 'errors of grammar,' but those errors are not 'grammatical.'

"You say, too, in writing of your school days, 'The two first years I was at the Academy.' In that sentence there are two decided errors. You speak of 'two first years.' There can be but one 'first' year, (the 'second' year not being a 'first' year). Such expressions should always be written 'the first two,' 'the first three,'" etc. One may divide any given period of time into sections, each section consisting of two years, but this division will give 'the first two,' not 'the two first.'

"Your second error consisted in the omission of the word 'that' between years' and 'I.' Your whole sentence would be much better if reconstructed so: 'During the first two years that I attended,' etc., or still better, so: 'During the first two years of my attendance at the academy,' etc.

"A little further on you wrote: 'I have studied both German and French a little, but think the first the most difficult of the two.'

"You should have repeated your nominative before 'think,' as 'verbs connected by conjunctions, must agree in mood, tense, and form, or have separate nominatives expressed.' It is a common habit among business men to write such sentences as 'I received your letter and was glad to know,' etc., but the sentence is incorrect so.

"Again, in the same sentence, you refer to two languages and use the superlative degree. In referring to two things use the comparative degree. Write your sentence so: 'I have studied a little of both German and French, but I think (or consider) the former the more difficult.

"Also, you do not 'see things plainer' than you used, but you 'see them more plainly than formerly,' or, 'before,' (used to, is not an elegant expression).

"Do not use the word 'made' if it be possible to avoid it. Your mother 'obliged' you to practice, or 'insisted on' your practicing, but she did not 'make' you practice.

"Yes, I can tell you a little about the word 'thon,' which you heard some one discussing. The English speaking nations have long felt the need of a fourth pronoun to be used in the common gender, third person singular. I do not mean neuter gender, (neuter being within) but a common gender, or that which may be either. It is on account of this lack in our language, that people have so fallen into the error of saying, 'a person, etc., they.' It is difficult to stop each time and say, 'he or she,' and yet, what else can one do? So, wise heads have conspired together to arrange this fourth particle for this purpose and the word 'thon" a contraction of 'the one,' has received serious consideration, but it has not been really incorporated into the language. When the adoption of this word or an equivalent, becomes a settled fact, the English language will have received an important addition. 'Thon' sounds very ridiculous now, but no doubt we would soon become accustomed to its use. It is difficult for one to realize that only so lately as 1847, (I believe), a word so seemingly simple and natural in its formation as 'starvation,' should have earned for its inventor, (Lord Dundas), the title of 'Starvation Dundas,' upon his first using it in one of his speeches before Parliament, (a name which clung to him thereafter). Such a little, simple, much-needed word as 'thon,' surely should meet with favor,—should that prove the word upon which the wise heads determine.

"There is one word in your letter which I do not believe you will find in any dictionary—'unloose.' To 'unloose' would be to tighten. You will hear, too, many people talk of 'unraveling' and 'unripping.' An article which comes to grief in either of these ways 'rips' or 'ravels.' 'Un,' as a prefix, means to reverse or undo, therefore, to 'unrip' would be to sew more tightly; to 'unravel' would be to knit up.

"Some little time past in writing to one of you, (I do not now remember to which one) I spoke of using the word 'that' in the sense of an adverb, as, for instance, 'that high,' 'that wide.' There was one particular word, so often used in this connection, which I neglected to mention. I have heard many people (and you no doubt have done the same) say, 'I was that tired I didn't know what to do with myself.' (This sentence is generally spoken with much emphasis). It should of course be, 'I was so tired,' etc.

"I think, that, in the beginning, Mildred told me that your class consisted of six. You, then, must be the last of the six to write me. I wonder whether you are tired of your experiment! If not, I hope that you will continue to write to your sincere friend,

"AMANDA WILSON."

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HOW COULD HE ?

BY ROSE TERRY COOKE.

"O-h! how could he!" said pretty May Wheeler, with a hot flush on her cheeks, and a glitter in her blue eyes that looked like tears or anger: perhaps both.

"I'm sure I don't know!" answered Anne Perkins, her dear friend, who had just run in to tell her the last piece of news, Harry Grant's engagement to Emily Brown. "I thought he liked you, May; I always expected you'd catch him; he told Aunty that he thought Miss Wheeler was the prettiest and the best dressed girl in Danvers."

"Much obliged to him!" said May, bitterly.

"And just look at Em Brown! She isn't pretty a bit, and there isn't a mite of style about her. I don't see what on earth he did fall in love with her for!"

"Well, I shan't break my heart over it!" said May, with a toss of her head. "There's just as good fish in the sea as ever came out of it; and Harry Grant isn't the only young man in town!"

"No, that he isn't! And I think John Beecher is ever so much nicer!"

Anne knew how to console her friend, and as she herself was going to marry a farmer over in Holroyd, she had nothing and nobody to contend for.

The truth about Harry Grant,—who was a handsome, enterprising young fellow, and had kept a flour and feed shop in Danvers for two years, wherein he was making money;—was that he came to this pretty little hill-town suffering from a hard lesson in life. He had dearly loved a fair, frivolous young girl in Boston, whom he thought perfection; her silliness seemed girlish simplicity to him; her flirting manner merely the natural grace of a young beauty; and her idle, listless way, about her home the result of a delicacy of constitution, shown in her willowy figure and her pale pure complexion.

But he had to give up all these theories; she broke her engagement with him in the most heartless manner, and married a worthless fellow from New York, whose dress and manner captivated her by their finery and dash. He was a tailor's clerk, and the poor girl went to rooms in a tenement house, and lived on a pittance that allowed no margin for *her* finery!

So Harry Grant had an idea that he never should love a woman again; but when he came to Danvers he went to board at Doctor Brown's house till the hotel, which had been burned down, should be rebuilt. Doctor Brown was a distant relative of Harry's father, and the only person in Danvers whom the young man knew when he came there; so it was natural enough that they should shelter him till he could find rooms elsewhere.

Here he was introduced to Emily, the doctor's daughter.

She was not pretty; her skin was dark and colorless, her hair black and abundant, but not wavy; it was straight and smooth; her eyes were dark too, and were her best feature, for they were expressive, clear and bright; and her figure, if not what a fashion plate illustrates, was good and natural, and graceful because she had that ease of motion and action which gives to an untrammeled woman's shape the grace of a tree or a bird, or any living thing God has made and man has not marred.

But Emily Brown was always neat; her hair in glossy order, her quiet dress spotless and well-made; her shoes never down at the heel, or half buttoned and ragged; in the morning at breakfast she was as trim, and her collar and cuffs as snowy, as when she dressed in her best to go out of an evening. And before long Harry discovered that she was the housekeeper, for her mother was an invalid. It was to her he owed the wholesome and savory food always punctually on the table; it was she who kept the house in such sweet and cheerful order, and who found so much time to read that she had always something to say on current topics, and keep up a conversation that was neither silly or gossiping. May Wheeler reminded him too much of his first love to attract him at all. Indeed he could not say that he was in love with Emily Brown; he admired her character, and respected her thoroughly, but he did not think he loved her till the new minister at Holroyd began to drive over twice or three times a week to Danvers, and always call at Dr. Brown's. Then Harry found that the idea of Emily's marrying another man was intolerable; that he did not want to live without her; he could not endure to look forward to a time when the atmosphere of cheer and comfort which flowed from her presence, should forsake him! It was a selfish passion to be sure, but how often is passion in its beginning otherwise?

So he asked Emily if she could love him enough to be his wife, and the lovely fresh color that rose to her cheek and the shy smile that curved her lips answered him.

He was not good enough for the girl, but she thought he was the best of created men; marriage is generally made on that basis, unless it is a mere matter of money.

It was hard for the doctor to part with his only child; harder for her mother; it would have been impossible for her to leave them, even for a home but a few rods distant, had not one of those despised blessings, a maiden aunt, been ready to step into Emily's place and fill it even as the Gospel is given, "without money and without price." "Aunt Em" was asked to "make it home" with her sister: a phrase that stands for work never done with; dependence of the hardest kind; a strain put on affection and kinship that is almost unmerciful; but Emily Salter accepted the place, for she loved her sist'r; and

Emily Brown was married and went to live in a pretty brown cottage standing in its tiny garden, one of four recently put up by a speculator, fortunate in his foresight, for they were all rented as soon as finished.

A week after Harry and Emily were married, there was another wedding in Danvers. Piqued, and a little wounded, by her failure to attract young Grant, May Wheeler determined that the girls of the village should not say she wore the willow for him, and threw into her eyes and smiles enough encouragement to complete the already half-won conquest of a bright young fellow who was head clerk in the village store.

John Beecher was just as much in love with pretty May, as Harry Grant had been with the girl who jilted him; and May was flattered by his devotion, and determined to be married for reasons aforesaid; so, the ceremony over, this couple also went to housekeeping in the next brown cottage to Harry Grant's.

Now this is where stories usually end; but, alas! it is where life begins.

There were possibilities of a vital kind brooding over these two households, and how were they carried out?

May was a pretty picture, running out to meet her husband in one of her fine wedding dresses; as inappropriate to her place and work as a dress could be; the pink cashmere morning dress was not meant to wash dishes and cook dinner in; it was wonderfully becoming at first, but how soon the white laces were soiled and limp, the front spotted with greasy water, the satin trimming—cheap satin—frayed and dirty; a button or two slipped off and were never replaced; and after a while the curl papers in her "bang" were no more hidden by a coquettish cap; but then she had done running to the gate. Poor May! she knew nothing of her duties, she had lived to dress, and flirt, and "have a good time," without one thought of duty to-day, or of her future in this world or the other.

When the novelty of her married life was over the veil began to fall from John Beecher's eyes; a slovenly wife, a dirty, cheerless house, sour bread, burnt meat, hard or water-soaked vegetables, heavy cake, are not good for daily food; and May's undisciplined temper was worse than her ignorance; to have any suggestion or remonstrance received with angry tears and bitter words does not make home pleasant; hungry, exasperated and disgusted, John showed that he too, had a temper, and the unhappy family of two enlivened life—if it was so enlivened—with a daily quarrel.

But how was it at the neighbor's?

Emily Grant's house was always in order. She never went to the gate to meet her husband, for she had that instinctive reticence that makes a truly womanly woman choose to be sought, rather than seek, even by her husband; but he found her invariably as neat, as trim, and as smiling as in her girlhood; or if anything troubled her, she came with perfect confidence to tell him, and ask advice or consolation. There was no secrets between them, even about Harry's business; and he found not only comfort but help in laying his anxieties before his wife, and taking suggestions from her strong common sense. She had a little money of her own, a few thousand dollars her grandfather had left her; and often, woman-like, she urged Harry to invest it in his business, but he always refused.

"No," he said, "I will never risk your money for my own good, Emmy. I love you to well to put in any possible danger what you may sorely need in case of my death. If I can't get on without your money I will stop payment."

If she could have respected her husband more or loved him better, she would have done so after this; but Harry's love for his wife grew daily.

It goes very near to a man's heart to have a good dinner, and though Emily was thrifty and economical in all her ways, she never stinted in her provision of good and well cooked food. If Harry wanted to bring home a friend to dinner—a thing John Beecher never ventured to do—he was always sure of a neat table, spread with a well cooked and savory meal; there would probably be no dessert, but with fresh vegetables cooked to perfection, stewed fruit of some kind, and a tender roast, a juicy steak, crisp chops, or a piquant stew, dessert was not needed or missed; and Emily was always ready to brew a cup of delicious coffee or fragrant tea for a guest, without any fuss or comment.

When at each house there was an arrival of a third party, the two village nurses held many a confab across the fence about their several experiences in the two families.

"You never see such a hole in your life, Sary Green, as Mis' Beecher's house is!" said Mrs. Hart, who was taking care of May, "It's all to loose ends everywhere; them new carpets is fairly ground in with dirt, an' there's spider webs in every corner; her chiny is all nicked up a ready; her preserves is worked and runnin' all over the cellar, and I don't believe she'd combed her head for a month. I was a good mind to shear it, first thing, and it seemed as though I should never get the snarls out in the world. And them baby things! why they was all bought ready-made, and of all the rough seams! I've been makin' 'em over every spare minit I git."

"Well, Almiry, it ain't so here, now I tell ye," retorted Mrs. Green. "This house is just like a bandbox, and was when I come to it; there was a batch of the best of bread in the pantry, and a piece of cold ham, and a chicken pie, and a dish of potatoes all ready to warm up, so I shouldn't have a mite of trouble, and twenty jars of stewed things all canned up in our cellar, not the least speck sour; and our baby's clothes she'd sewed herself; plain, and soft, and lots of 'em; no stiff edgin' or lace to scratch the little fellers tender flesh, and every seam felled by hand. She'd got all things ready, and when the boy come, you never saw a man so pleased as Mr. Grant. Why, if he'd had a fortune come in he couldn't have said more, and so I told him; and he up and says, says he:

"My fortune come when his mother come to me; she's better'n gold, Mis' Green."

"I wish you'd seen the look she give him, bein' too weak to talk.

"You go 'long out of here," says I, laughin'. "Flattery ain't good for sick folks."

"'Taint flattery, it's gospel truth," says he.

"Well, there wasn't no great welcome given to our baby, poor puny thing!" replied Mrs. Hart. "He wasn't to home, anyway, and when I told him he'd got a girl, "Good Lord!" says he, "another woman! Well, I s'pose I'd better go up and see 'em." So he went. I was too riled to keep him out.

"H'm," says he, "how red and little 'tis! Well May, I hope you'll get along well."

"I hope so, I'm sure," says she. "I don't wan't to be shut up here just as all the summer fun is settin' in. I shall have to miss the Fourth, I s'pose."

"I guess you'll miss considerble jiggin about," says he. "Folks have to stay at home with babies, and I'm glad of it." Then she began to cry, and he cleared out. I never see the beat; why he used to set his life by that girl, he was, as you may say, over head an' ears in love with her; but I guess he's ready to-day, to wonder how could he have been sech a onbearable fool."

"And I've heard that Grant was clear killed about a girl that wouldn't have him, before he married Em'ly Brown; but now, land! he thinks the sun rises and sets in her face."

"Well," put in old Isr'el North, who did odd "chores" about the village, resting his pail on the fence, "I've lived a considerble spell, an' I've seen lots of people get married; quite a few of 'em found 'twas the beginnin' of sorrers to 'em, so to speak; some didn't. But you can draw your own influences, (did he mean inferences?) from them two fam'lies here, and if you can't draw 'em let me tell ye that there ain't but mighty few women goin' but what can make a man they've married to love 'em and like 'em as well; that is if they'll take the trouble. There ain't nothin' to be had in this curus world without trouble; not even swill." And the philosopher lifted his heavy pail with a grunt, and walked off.

Poor May! How could *she?*

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE DOCTOR'S DAUGHTERS.

BY MARY ABBOTT RAND.

CHAPTER VI.

It seemed very strange to Ella that her father should be so well satisfied with Beatrice's marriage. She was his favorite daughter, and all the family knew that he had entire faith that her talents would sometime delight the literary world. Yet, here she was, the wife of a "sewing machine man," with but small resources, living in a humble tenement house in a neighboring village, doing most of the housework herself, (in what style she did it, Peggy sometimes wondered).

"I believe she did make walnut creams once," soliloquized the old servant, "but I don't think she could bake a decent loaf of bread to save her life."

Peggy was mistaken, though, and the doctor was right.

"Given," said he, "a bright mind, and the necessity of accomplishing a certain thing, and the disposition to do it, and the thing is done! Beatrice has all three of these essentials, and she will become a good housekeeper, with but very little experience."

Besides the housekeeping, there was the care of her husband's little girls, Hester and Rose, who were subject to the usual ills and delinquencies of childhood.

The doctor was sorry that his daughter had no more money to ease her cares, but he rejoiced in the knowledge that he had of Mr. Blair's rich uncle's will. It was a curious will, reserving a noble sum for his nephew's use after a short term of years. If the nephew should die within this term, the property was to go to an orphan asylum, but not a penny of it to the little orphans that Mr. Nathan Blair might leave.

"A cranky old fellow, Azariah Blair was," said the doctor, "and why he should restrict the property in that way, I can't see; but Nathan Blair, fortunately, is as likely to live five years as anybody I know; then Beatrice will have an easier time of it."

But, contrary to the doctor's expectations, Nathan Blair died within one year.

A sudden cold, that seemed only an ordinary affair at first, developed swiftly into pneumonia, and in five short days, all was over, and young Beatrice was a widow, with no means of support, and two little step-daughters clinging to her as their nearest friend.

Practical neighbors advised her to put them into an asylum. "They are no relation of yours," said the neighbors, "and you say your husband had no near family friends."

"They are my little girls," said Beatrice, with dignity.

Nevertheless, she appreciated the fact that she must earn money for her little girls, and how could she do that and have them with her?

There was a desirable vacancy in the young ladies' school where Fanny was music teacher, and, through the influence of friends, Beatrice was tendered the position.

Ella wrote a kind note, asking to have her sister's little step-daughters sent to Uplands.

"It seems to be my part," she wrote, "not to be a brand winner, but to try to take care of father, and I want to help you by taking care of your little Hester and Rose.

So the little children were sent to Uplands, and made as comfortable as possible in the close quarters of No. 16.

Peggy was a little cross about this addition to the family. She never cared very much for Beatrice, and thought it rather hard to have this result of the young lady's folly, visited upon the family.

The doctor, too, though not cross, was very much depressed since the death of his son-in-law, and gave but a grave welcome to the little orphans, who came alone to Uplands, under the care of the conductor on the train.

Beatrice had to go at once to the young ladies seminary, or lose the position, and she had neither time nor money for the little journey home.

Once, she would have merged her grief into poetry, and have almost lost her own identity in letting her imagination run wild, but now stern reality was training her in its hard school.

She had all she could do to study enough to keep up with the requirements of her new position.

Her sole comfort was her devotion to her husband's memory, and her determination not to give up her little daughters that had become so dear to her. Her plan was to earn and save all in her power, with the hope of making a little home with them some time.

Meanwhile, it was pretty hard for Ella. Her father's despondency and Peggy's crossness, did not abate. No. 16 was not a cheerful place in itself, and there seemed little to make it so. Ella herself was the only bright, sunny element in the whole household, for the little Blairs were rather sorrowful spirits, or else the combined effect of Peggy and the doctor was too much for them.

Ella made it a principle to be cheerful, but sometimes, when she was alone, planning soberly how she could stretch their slender income to cover all necessities without going into debt, life looked a heavy burden to her. She seemed to have no one to share her troubles with. She would not for the world have grieved her father with her worries. For him, she had only bright and helpful words. Neither Peggy nor the children would do for confidants, and Fanny and Beatrice were of course away earning the small salaries which helped to cancel the family expenses.

Ella was thinking over some of her domestic worries one evening, when the door bell rang, and, in a few minutes Mr. Claybourne entered the sitting-room. It seemed so pleasant to see a friendly face just at that moment, that she expressed a heartier welcome than Mr. Claybourne expected,—but not more so than he wanted.

He had heard of the new cares that had come upon his young friend in whom he was so much interested, and he had come to Uplands purposely to lay a plan before her, and beg her to think it over, and try to consider it favorably. He had far too humble an opinion of himself to suppose that she would accept it at once.

From the first time he saw Ella, when she was a sensitive, graceful girl of fifteen, he was charmed, not only with her modest beauty, but with her unselfish devotion to her father. Four years had passed since then, and they had developed every grace and beauty that she had when he saw her first. He believed, if he could only dare hope to persuade her to marry him, that he could make life easier for her.

He was no longer a commercial traveler, but an independent member of the firm he had so faithfully served.

This improvement in Mr. Claybourne's circumstances was known to Ella, but she did not know of the wonderful good fortune which had come to him through the death of a distant relative. His first act on coming into possession of the property, was to purchase the estate where Dr. Drexell's former home once stood. The doctor had been obliged to sell the land to meet current expenses. It had come into possession of a wealthy man, who had bought adjoining land also, making altogether, a noble estate; and, where the old Drexell mansion stood, he had erected a costly and beautiful dwelling.

Reverses in business, however, compelled him to sell it, and now it was the property of Mr. Claybourne.

Gradually, Ella's friend unfolded his plans and hopes, checking any reply from the grave young lips before him, lest he might hear an unfavorable word.

His kindness, his sympathy, his interest in all the complex relations of the family were undoubted, and most welcome.

But his love! Ella was not prepared for that. Yet, she found it hard to tell him so directly, and tried, at last, when he would let her speak, to enumerate the objections to her marriage. "There is father, you know," she suggested timidly, "I must take care of him."

"He will have double care!" exclaimed the young man earnestly.

"But little Rose and Hester," persisted Ella.

"Poor children!" exclaimed Claybourne, "Do you suppose I forgot them? I have no intention of sending them away from you. Oh Ella! If you had a whole orphan asylum on your hands, I would take you and the orphan asylum besides, if you would only let me! And now let me tell you our good fortune. May I say so? On account of a good deal of money willed to me, I have bought the beautiful grounds where your old home used to stand, and won't you share with me the lovely new house there, and make your father and the little girls more comfortable? Just think, those children will have such pleasant play grounds under the trees where you used to play."

"You are too good," murmured Ella, with sudden tears clouding her sweet eyes. "How can I help saying 'yes.'"

It was a tempting refuge. An independent home for herself, her poor father, and the little orphans; but Ella made a fatal mistake.

She had no right to say "yes" when she shrank from Claybourne's presence, when her cold, little hand received unwillingly his fervent grasp. He could not help seeing that it was the certainty of protection for those dependent upon her that turned the scale in his favor, and that she had not showed one particle of affection for him beyond the grateful and friendly manner she ever had.

"But she is so young, so unselfish, so full of care," he reflected. In time, all will be happy. And, anyway, she has given me her promise!

Their next meeting was more satisfactory to him. Ella was not a person to brood over trouble, but to gather all the sunshine possible from present circumstances. It was delightful to think of living again on the dear, old place—every tree and shrub was an old friend. The house was newly and completely furnished, like an enchanted castle that might have sprung up at the beck of a fairy godmother for a lover prince. But no! Mr. Claybourne did not look like the princes of fairy tales. He was unmistakably, dreadfully plain. His fine figure and his perfect manners redeemed very much his ugly face, however, Ella disliked him personally, as she would [illegible] anything [illegible].

So, in her bright dreams of comfort and independence, she tried to think as little as possible of the giver. The good he would bring, reconciled her greatly to the bringer, and it was with a gay delight that looked much like happiness, that she accompanied Mr. Claybourne the next day, over the new domain which was to be their home. He gave her carte blanche as to the disposition of the apartments, and she selected the rooms she would like for her father, for Hester and Rose, old Peggy, the new servants, and for Beatrice and Fanny when they should be there on their vacations.

"But our room!" said Claybourne, "you have forgotten that."

"It does not matter," said Ella, coldly.

A shade came over Claybourne's face, then he said, in a brighter tone, "I have a surprise for you. This south-eastern wing which you have overlooked, is the pleasantest part of the whole mansion.

He parted the crimson portieres, disclosing a lovely sitting-room, with sleeping and dressing rooms beyond. Every appointment was perfect, and at first, Ella could but exclaim in childish delight. Then she said, in an altered tone, "If I had seen this first, I should have chosen it for father.

It was unkind to Claybourne to say that in the tone and way she did. But her patient lover only said, "I hope you will like it, dear Ella."

She could not speak on the way home, but, after a night of tears and resolves, she met him next day, and thenceforward always with kind words and ways, like the sweet-natured girl she was.

Still, it was love and not kindness that the poor fellow craved.

He had thought that a gay wedding would please her. He proposed a bridal dress of rich lace and diamonds, and a large wedding party in the new house. He thought nothing could be too fine for her, but Ella, thanking him sweetly for his wish to please her, plead for the quietest marriage possible. She did not wish to have Fanny and Beatrice called away from their school duties, and, greatly to Mr. Claybourne's surprise she did not wish to have her old pastor, Mr. Garrett, perform the ceremony. She suggested that a cousin of Mr. Claybourne's, a minister from a neighboring town, should be invited to attend to that office. At first, Claybourne thought that this suggestion was made to please him, but he soon divined that it was Ella's own preference.

So the reverend cousin was quietly notified, and Ella was married early one September morning, with almost as little known about it as there was about Beatrice's sudden flight.

Indeed, not a friend in Uplands had been informed, nor did Fanny and Beatrice hear the surprising news, till "little Ella" was Mrs. Keyser Claybourne.

Dr. Drexell looked with fatherly indulgence, on Ella's strange fancy to be married without any more people than possible knowing about it. He heartily approved the marriage, having the fullest confidence in Mr. Claybourne—and then he was glad to go back to the dear old grounds, where his happiest years had been spent.

Ella's husband was satisfied with any way she might choose to go to his home, if she would only go. So, right after this quietest of ceremonies, the family sat down to one of Peggy's nice breakfasts of velvet rolls, coffee, fricasseed chicken, waffles and honey, peaches and cream.

The minister cousin left on the 8 o'clock train, and the only wedding tour the happy pair made was a walk up to their new home, where they were followed before noon by Dr. Drexell, Hester, Rose, and old Peggy, who was somewhat intimidated by her new surroundings, and the smart, new chamber maid and table girl, but recovered her faculties in time to superintend the dinner.

A load of household treasures was brought up and accommodated in the pleasant mansion, and in the twilight, Ella took a solitary stroll to No. 16, to look over the house and see that everything of value had been removed. She had been the rounds and was turning the key to the front door, when a well known step and voice greeted her.

"Ella!" exclaimed Fred Garrett, as he hastily ascended the steps, "don't please go just yet! I must say one word to you first."

It is unnecessary to explain that Fred was no wiser than the rest of the neighbors. The news of Ella's marriage, and Mr. Claybourne's home, was yet to burst upon them.

It is true that curious eyes had seen the young couple walk out together that morning, but there was nothing startling in Ella's white cambric, with the rose buds nestling in her corsage. Ella always looked just as dainty and sweet when she went out of a summer morning.

Fred had no suspicion whatever that Mr. Claybourne was anything more to Ella than a chance acquaintance, who had kindly escorted the doctor home that time the poor man was so near losing his mind, and who had perhaps come to Uplands once or twice since, on the leather business.

In fact, the thought of "little Ella's" having any lover at all, was but a recent one. Since Fanny's last and decided refusal, he had given up all hope of his first love, and had concluded to try for "second best."

Indignation is a powerful tonic. Fred felt indignant at Fanny's letter, and his drooping spirits were upheld by this sort of stormy pride. Gradually, there had crept into his heart the old project regarding Ella.

He stifled every thought of Fanny, and allowed the shadow of Ella "to develope," as photographers say, till there was a very fair image often present in his thoughts.

But he had never dreamed her half so attractive as she looked in this golden September twilight. She still wore the simple white dress in which she had given her marriage vows that morning. The hot house buds had faded, and were replaced by a bright spray of golden rod, plucked on her walk from her new home this evening. Her husband had gone to the post office for expected business letters of importance, and it was during his absence that she had taken this opportunity for a quiet walk.

She would surely have stayed in the safe shelter of her own home had she suspected what was before her. She did not need to have Fred speak his "one word," to know that it was a word too late, and one that had better never been spoken.

Very frankly, and without permitting her to interrupt him, he told her of his repeated disappointments respecting Fanny, but that his love for her was dead and buried, and now he had staked all his hopes on "little Ella."

His voice, his beautiful eyes, his fascinating manner, had always charmed her, and now such a responsive blush came to her cheeks as Claybourne had never seen—poor fellow! But "little Ella" suddenly assumed a dignity that made Fred dumb.

"It is forever too late!" she said, sadly. "I was married this morning, Fred!"

Fred covered his face, and Ella was white as her wedding dress. They stood silent for a few moments, quite forgetting what a tableau they were making for such a public stage as the doorsteps of No. 16, Drexell Block. Better that every eye in Uplands had seen them than the one pair that did.

Claybourne had come back from the office to find his wife gone, and then he hurried down town again for the pleasure of walking home with her. He reached the doorsteps of No. 16 just in time to hear Ella's sadly clear, "It is forever too late! I was married this morning, Fred!"

If he could have misunderstood the words, he could not have mistaken the whole scene. He waited for Ella to see him. It was so hard for him to notice the shrinking, repellant look that came into her face when she was aware of his presence.

"Fred," said she,—"Mr. Garrett, this is my husband, Mr. Claybourne."

Poor Fred! Never was a young man more distressingly situated.

He came down the steps very much agitated, but bearing himself like the perfect gentleman that he was.

"Mr. Claybourne," he said, extending his hand, "I am a life-long friend and neighbor of the Drexells. Once, I expected to be Ella's brother, and, failing in that, I have this hour offered myself to her,—with what answer, you may imagine. She is not in the slightest degree responsible for that presumption on my part, and my offer was as great a surprise to her as her marriage is to me."

"I do not blame you,—not in the least, Mr. Garrett," said the new bridegroom. "I wish you good evening, sir!"

Fred went his way, and Mr. and Mrs. Claybourne went theirs.

Ella felt she had betrayed to both her husband and Fred, the secret she had never meant to reveal. It was wrong to think of Fred's love, and she had lost, she thought, the love and respect of her husband.

"Poor Ella!" at last he said, brokenly. "I can never forgive myself for urging you into this marriage. The only thing I can do now is to leave you. In a few years you will be legally free, and then—I hope you will be happy, dear. Circumstances favor this. I have just received a business offer to go to the West Indies. That gives me the necessary excuse. Yesterday,"—he paused, thinking how changed everything was since yesterday—"I had my property here deeded to you for a wedding gift, and you will find a bank book in the cabinet of your sitting-room. God knows, if I could undo our marriage, this moment, Ella, I would do it. I must take the evening train. It is nearly due. Good-bye forever, little Ella. One kiss—good-bye."

"You must not go!" cried Ella.

He put away her clinging arms, drew the wedding ring from her finger, and was gone.

(TO BE CONTINUED).

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AURORA, Jan. 13, 1886.

ED. HOME JOURNAL:—It may be very presumptuous for me to send a letter to the JOURNAL, but when I read John's wife's letter, in the November number, about weaning the baby, I could not keep still. I have three healthy little tots—enough to keep me busy—and I never have any trouble weaning them. In the first place, I do not nurse them to sleep, (I did the first one, and that broke me of it) and then do not feed them till I am nearly ready to wean. Then, as I feed them, I gradually make a longer time between nursings. The food and drink will satisfy more and more if they are not nursed to sleep. It may take a month or six weeks, and there may be a short crying spell one night—that is all. I could not force myself to do anything to disgust the little things either in sight or taste. My babies are always good, and I never have a particle of trouble with my breasts, as they have plenty of time to dry up. Of course, I am particular about the sign, so that nothing shall be moony. Do not think that I do not love my babies, or that I neglect them, (that is generally the first thing said) for my whole time and attention is devoted to them, and for their good and well being.

I am glad that a friend induced me to subscribe for the JOURNAL. HASTY.

LADIES OF THE JOURNAL:—When I took my first peep into the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL a few weeks ago, I was delighted to find the names of several old friends, whose acquaintance I had made through the columns of other magazines. The very sight of those names emboldened me to knock for admittance into the charmed circle, with the hope that I would be given at least standing room in the Mother's Corner. As the question of weaning babies has been introduced, I would like to ask why it is necessary to be in such haste about the business? Why must the matter be begun and brought to a close while a certain sign of the zodiac is in the ascendancy? It seems to me that the better way is to gradually teach the little one to like his breakfast of warm bread and milk, slightly salted, or oatmeal gruel, before it becomes necessary to take the natural food away from him. At first, give him one meal a day, with a little fresh milk to drink, and if you are regular with it, and offer it when he is hungry, he will be different from the average year old baby, if he does not accept of it thankfully. When this rule is established, begin with two meals each day, and so on, very gradually, until you find that he goes to sleep quite as easily after a good dinner of bread and milk, as when rocked to sleep in the usual way. If the mother is troubled with her breasts, it is better to drink less tea, or to eat fewer milk-producing articles of food, than to make use of camphor, etc., although these may be necessary in some cases. Let the child nurse at night as usual, if you wish, until he is thoroughly satisfied with his food during the day, then accustom him to take a drink of milk at bedtime, and another when he awakes in the night. Perhaps he will refuse it, at first, and perhaps several times, but be sure and not offer it ice cold, and above all, have patience, and I am sure you will succeed. This course takes many weeks, sometimes months, but baby's health is not endangered by a sudden change of diet, and he is saved all those bitter tears which well nigh break his little heart, when mamma is, no longer, the same mamma to him. If this proves a help to anyone I will be glad, but all mothers are not like me, nor or all children like mine, therefore experience differs. But the plan I have given has been thoroughly tested by me, as you will readily believe when I state that I am now nursing my fourth baby. MEG.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MORE BRIGHT IDEAS.

Once, when the small people in our home were happy over soap bubble playing, one of the clay pipes was dropped and broken "all to flinders," as its little owner tearfully declared, and then happiness for him had fled.

"Try a cob pipe," the hired man said, coming in with a basketful of corn ears to trace. Following his directions, a two-inch section of cob, with pith removed from two-thirds its length, was fitted at right angles, with a hollow elder stick for a stem, and used as a pipe.

Its little owner was elated, for the bubbles he blew with it were larger and more tenacious than any bubble a clay pipe ever blew in or out of existence. The rough, porous edge of the cob kept the bubbles from "splitting off," the child explained, looking up radiantly, with eyes that shone with excitement, and cheeks with soap and inflation.

A suds of castile soap, with a bit of glycerine and alcohol added, insures large, strong bubbles.

Some day, when the world looks especially black to you, throw a dark flannel cloth on the floor in the sunshine, and blow a chain of bubbles on it as big as your head. Then help the children blow them about, and you'll think there's something bright yet left in the world.

A visitor spent a day with me recently, and having occasion to comb her hair, I noticed how beautifully silky and moist it was; so moist, I thought it was heavily oiled or laid smooth with water.

I inquired what dressing she used for her hair, and she said, "nothing, simply nothing. Mother had seven children, and from earliest babyhood she never allowed a drop of water or dressing of any kind on our hair, and now, we all bless her for it. We have smooth, silky hair, and so moist the coldest mornings of our Maine winters will not set it flying in brashy frizzles—a real blessing, since most of us are school teachers, having our experience with icy spare chambers, in which water drenched crimps would freeze."

I thought of a certain head not far from my own shoulders, that was as frowsly as the electrified wig of a Jack-in-the-box, unless sopped with water, and said:

"But how could your mother keep your little heads tidy without dampening your hair? You say she never wet or cut your locks, and how could she keep them neatly parted and combed from your face?"

"As soon as there was a fringe of hair on our bald little scalps, mother commenced brushing it, and didn't wet it. Mother says water and any dressing destroys the natural oil of the hair, and that repeated brushing develops it or brings it to the surface."

An item of interest for some of us to consider, who daily drench our heads and those under our care, with sticky and greasy combinations of bay rum and glycerine, gum arabic and neat's foot oil, cold tea and coffee, or sweetened quince seed water, to keep our aspiring, rebellious locks in place. JOHN'S WIFE.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

SATURDAY NIGHT THOUGHTS.

Saturday night! and another round completed, another week's work done. The house is quiet, for the children are asleep, and the "gude mon" is "down town," that "haven of delight" to all men, good, bad, and indifferent, and I will draw my easy chair up to the cheerful fire, and with pen and paper, spend a few minutes in a social chat.

To-day, while baking, I thought I would send you a recipe for drop cakes, that we like very much; and they can be made and baked in just a few minutes. One egg, one and a-half cups sugar, one cup of thick sour cream, one teaspoonful each of cloves, cinnamon and allspice, one-half teaspoonful of soda, and flour enough to make quite a stiff batter; when I stir in the flour, I add a cup of dried currants, previously washed and drained. Bake in buttered dripping pan, in a moderate oven. Do you all know that sour cream makes the nicest pancakes? When one lives on a farm and has plenty of cream, it is so nice to use about cooking.

Another dish that is a favorite in our family, is this: Take a large soup bone, one with a good deal of meat on it, and boil till every bit of meat and gristle will leave the bone; remove the bones, leaving a little of the pot liquor, season with salt, pepper, and sage; mix thoroughly, pour in a crock, and put in a cool place over night, when it will slice down nicely. I would like to thank "Jean" and "Clarice" for their kind words; I have thought of them a great many times. Also, to "Charles Henry's Wife," and "Sandy's Wife," that the mother-in-law, for whom they expressed so much sympathy, is still well and happy, and is still visiting.

How does the "Mother of Five" get time to feed her little ones before meal time, in order to have a "quiet time at table," and do the thousand-and-one things one has to do, who does all their own work. Where one has meals to get just on time, it is simply impossible to do otherwise, than to let them come to the table, where we do the best we can with them. I think, too, when they learn to eat with grown people, they behave better when away from home. It always seems a little selfish to me, to banish children from the table, or make them wait, while their elders deliberately eat their meals, chatting, and laughing, and having a good time generally, while the poor little souls, off in some out of the way place, enjoy the waiting immensely. I would rather enlarge the table, where the little ones can be provided for; they will soon learn to be quiet, and listen to the conversation of older ones.

I would like to relate our experience in weaning baby. Perhaps it might be of interest to some who do not believe in "signs."

With a previous experience with four little ones, I did not dread the business very much, as I had always got along without much trouble, but thought if there was so much in a "sign," I would try it, too, and be sure to have things right this time. Well, I waited until the old ladies declared the "sign" business properly adjusted, then, with many a struggle, got the present ruler of the house of Poppy, weaned, after a fashion, in daytime, then thought it time to begin the night siege, while the "sign" held out; but, either the sign had lost its strength, or there was some idiosyncrasy in the youngster, that it did not have a right effect, for I never heard a child "go on" as he did; we took his crying in good large doses, every two hours; and such bellowing! nothing else will express it; so Miss Discretion, perhaps there is something of the bovine, in his nature, after all.

Once in a while, papa, who slept in an adjoining room, would make some suggestion in a stentorian voice, but I could only distinguish a faint sound, much to his disgust, for, man fashion, he thought there was no use for so much noise; but, failing to make himself heard, he finally gave up trying, and baby, having exhausted himself with crying, and beating a tattoo with his heels, would fall asleep until time for the next dose. So the night wore away. In the morning, papa and brother were teasing him about his lost dinner, and as his vocabulary is rather limited, he contented himself with looking very dignified, and saying in a voice that resembled the croak of a young raven, "I kied, I kied." "Needn't tell me you kied," said pert Miss 4 years old, "I dess I heard you all night long." This, with slight variations was continued for some time, but finally he concluded to yield to the force of circumstances, and the battle ended. He, however, seemed to think we had played some sort of a game on him, and evidently regards us all with suspicion. Poor little man! it was his first trial, and no doubt was as hard for him as our trials are for us older ones, but what would we have done without that blessed "sign!"

THORNY POPPY.

FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

WAS HE CONVINCED?

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

The Rev. Decimus Fordyce sat watching his daughter Mary, put her baby to bed, a smile of intense satisfaction overspreading his countenance. Presently the look of satisfaction gave place to surprise, which deepened into disapproval, as he said to Mrs. Allen, in a tone of gentle reproof, "You forgot to have baby say her prayers, Mary."

"Baby doesn't say her prayers, father," answered Mrs. Allen, quietly, as she gently rocked the little one back and forth.

"What! a child two and a-half years old not say her prayers! Why you are bringing her up like a heathen!" sternness and distress speaking in every word.

"Better that, than irreverent," replied his daughter, gently.

"Is it my daughter talking this way! Have you drawn away from all godly influences?"

"No, father. I am as good a churchwoman as ever. What I do in regard to this thing, is not done from want of religious principle, but from a stern sense of my highest duty to God. I am bringing up my little ones in the way I consider the best, to make reverent men and women. My course is the result of earnest conviction and experience. Shall I tell you by what process I have come to this conviction?" An assenting look led her to continue. "You never knew half the things that went on at home. When I was little, I dare say I was as bad as the rest, but I had an opportunity to watch the younger ones after I grew to an age of understanding, and I felt that things were all wrong, but I did not know how to correct it, and I would not have dared, anyway. But I could not help feeling that all of our children were too familiar with sacred things."

"That could not be, my child."

"Yes, I think it can. We are strongly enjoined to give 'milk for babes,' and I consider most of the so-called religious instruction given to children the meat that is too strong for their mental digestion. One day, for instance, when I was trying to reason with little Nellie, in regard to some of her pranks, she replied flippantly: 'O well! it isn't my fault. Eve ate the apple, you know, blame her.' It was very evident that she had intrenched herself behind a comforting conviction that Eve was responsible for all Nellie's misdemeanors, and this gave her a delightful sense of freedom from responsibility. A child of five is too young for such things. As dear old Friend Granby used to say, (she said it with no irreverent intention and I do the same), that the system of bringing children up to have sacred names and sacred themes on their tongues, made 'the children entirely too familiar with the Lord.' Before they learn the importance and solemnity of it all, they have learned to look upon things in such a light as to make the whole course of so-called religious instruction, almost a farce.

"Now, I'm going to tell you some of the things that went on at home. One night, I was in the next room, and I heard Joe saying his prayers. 'Our Father,' he said, (let me alone Howard Fordyce) 'which art in Heaven,' (stop that) and so on. It was dreadful. They were both old enough, to know better, to be sure, but it did not strike them as it did me. Then one night, I had little Nellie on my lap putting her to bed. She knelt on my knee, and clasping her hands, said slowly: 'A, B, C, D.' "Nellie! Nellie!" I said, shocked, "That is your alphabet, not your prayers!" 'O well, sister Mary, won't that do! I's so tired,' and her little head nodded.

"I quietly laid her down, determined to say nothing to her until the next morning. Then I talked with her, and tried to reason with her three year old mind. What do you suppose her reply was? She had grown obstinate, by this time, so she answered: 'I should think my Father in Heaven would like to hear me say my A B C's once in a while, so as to know that I knew them. My papa does. I should think he'd get tired of hearing me say Now I Lay Me, every night.'

"After a little more conversation with her, I gave it up, convinced that as far as her baby mind was concerned, the alphabet or the multiplication table would 'do,' as she expressed it, as well as the Lord's Prayer, or Now I Lay Me.

"Another time, when I was sitting in the parlor, I heard a tittering at the head of the stairs, and a loud whispered 'Sister Mary, come up here a minute.' I went up, and Harold said in a voice stifled with laughter, 'Don't you think, I kneeled down to say my prayers, and I forgot, and began to say 'twice one are two.' And then the whole crew roared with laughter. I was pretty well settled in my mind then as to my opinion of things, but the climax was reached one day at the dinner table. You know you always taught the children to say aloud, 'We thank thee, O Lord, for all thy bountiful provision this day.' They used to say that, I remember, just as soon as they could talk, and long before they knew enough not to quarrel with their food if it did not suit them. So this especial day, Harold and mother had had some disagreement before dinner. He came to the table looking like a thunder cloud. When the rest said their grace he was silent. 'Harold!' said mother in rebuke. 'Thank thee Lord provisions day,' jerked out Harold, with a scowl that was vicious in the extreme, and anything but grateful. 'Harold, will you have some potatoes,' asked mother. 'No! I hate mashed potatoes. I hate everything that's on the table You needn't give me any dinner.' I don't think I need say anything more. But I made up my mind, that if I should have any children of my own, I would be exceedingly careful of the way in which I gave them information about religion. For I would rather they should be heathenish from ignorance, than irreverent from over familiarity. The latter is far harder to eradicate than the former. I have seen no cause to regret my course yet.

"Last winter my Willie wanted a sled very much, and to this, on Christmas eve, I added a pair of skates, thinking, as he was nine years old now, he might have them. Early Christmas morning I heard an exclamation of delight in his room, then the patter of feet in the hall. In a second he went back, and then came into my room a few minutes after, saying, 'O mamma! they are lovely.' Then he whispered in my ear: 'I went back, mamma, to kneel down beside the bed and say, Thank God for my skates and sled.'

"I so often hear mothers say, 'You forgot to say your prayers. Come, get out of bed and say them now.' I believe that if one leaves such teaching till a child is old enough to understand what he or she is about, it will not be forgotten. Willie never forgets, and I do not believe that Elsa will."

Mrs. Allen rose and laid her little daughter in the crib. Her father, a perplexed, troubled look on his face, was silent; but whether it was the silence of conviction, I cannot say.

M. K. C.:—I weaned four babies from bottle by decreasing milk to a spoonful or two; then gave them the mouthpiece to play with, tying a knot in the tube to prevent air. M. E. J.

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

The * indicates a repetition, and is used merely to save words.

Alice M. Thompson, Hockessin, Del., wishes directions for making tissue paper Carnation Pinks.

The * in the 2d and 4th rows of Deep Crochet Lace, in March number, is not to be used in these rows, but in the 6th and 8th, as given.

Inquiry:—Will some of the sisters give directions for a crocheted collar?

MRS. IDA FEARING.
694 MT. VERNON AVE., COLUMBUS, O.

"School Girl:"—The size of bed sock is varied, according to the needles used. If I was to knit a pair for a person wearing a No. 4 boot, I should use quite large needles, and knit them of Germantown wool. I cannot tell you the quantity, but it will certainly take one skein, most likely one and-a-half. If you wish to know more about them, send word to me, enclosing a two cent stamp, and I will answer. M. F. K.
20 LINDEN ST., S. BOSTON, MASS.

Narrow Crochet Edging.

Make a chain of 9 stitches; turn.

1st row. Make 3 d c in 6th stitch of chain, chain 3, 3 d c in same stitch, 1 d c in first stitch of chain; turn.

2d row. Chain 4, 3 d c in loop made of 3 chain, chain 3, 3 d c in same loop, chain 5, fasten with slip stitch in the turning of first row; turn.

3d row. Put 10 single crochet in loop made by 5 chain, chain 1, 3 d c in loop made by 3 chain, chain 3, 3 d c in same loop, 1 d c in loop of 4 chain at beginning of second row. Repeat second and third rows, fastening the 5 chain at end of 4th row with slip stitch in chain 1 of third row.

D. c—double crochet; Thread over the needle—put the needle in a stitch of the work, bring thread through, take it up and bring it through two loops twice. Slip stitch—put needle in a stitch of the work, bring thread through the stitch on the needle. Use No. 24 cotton.

M.

Double Oak Leaf Lace.

Cast on 17 stitches; knit across plain.

1st row. Slip 1, knit 1, tto twice, p 2 tog, knit 2, tto twice, narrow, tto twice, narrow, knit 2, tto twice, narrow, tto twice, narrow, knit 1.

2d row. Slip 1, knit 2, p 1, knit 2, p 1, knit 2, narrow, p 1, narrow, p 1, knit 2, ttowice, p 2 tog, knit 2.

3d row. Slip 1, knit 1, tto twice, p 2 tog, knit 3, tto twice, narrow, tto twice, narrow, knit 3, tto twice, narrow, tto twice, narrow, knit 1.

4th row. Slip 1, knit 2, p 1, knit 2, p 1, knit 3, narrow, p 1, narrow, p 1, knit 3, tto twice, p 2 tog, knit 2.

5th row. Slip 1, knit 1, tto twice, p 2 tog, knit 4, tto twice, narrow, tto twice, narrow, knit 4, tto twice, narrow, tto twice, narrow, knit 1.

6th row. Slip 1, knit 2, p 1, knit 2, p 1, knit 4, narrow, p 1, narrow, p 1, knit 4, tto twice, p 2 tog, knit 2.

7th row Slip 1, knit 1, tto twice, p 2 tog, knit 5, tto twice, narrow, knit 12.

8th row. Knit 12, narrow, p 1, knit 5, tto twice, p 2 tog, knit 2.

9th row. Slip 1, knit 1, tto twice, p 2 tog, knit 17, narrow.

10th row. Bind off 5. Now you have 16 stitches on your left hand needle, and one on your right, knit 12, tto twice, p 2 tog, knit 2.

Sl. means slip. P. means purl. Tog. means together. Tto. means throw thread over.

Edging—Lattice Pattern.

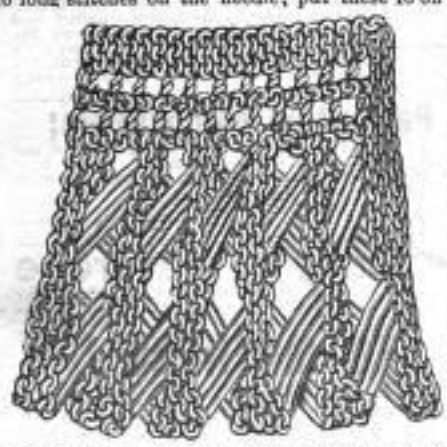
This is very pretty for flannel skirts, made of Saxony yarn.

Cast up 23 stitches; knit across plain.

1st row. Slip 1, knit 2, over n, over n, knit 16.

2d row. Knit 1, over 3 times, *knit 1, over 3 times, repeat from * till you have 7 stitches on the needle; these you knit plain.

3d row. Slip 1, knit 2, over n, over n. Now with the right hand needle slip off each stitch that is knit. After slipping the first, you drop the 3 loops, slip the next and pull it upso it makes a long stitch; do this all the way, and you have 16 long stitches on the needle; put these 16 on



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

the other needle; now take the 5th long stitch, pull it over so you can knit it, slip it over the first four, knit the next 3, just the same, and slip them over; then commence at the first of the four, and knit them off plain. You will still have 8 long stitches on the needle; knit them the same as the others.

4th row. Knit plain.

Repeat from 1st row.

If any of the ladies knit the above, please report through the paper how they like it and I will send another. MRS. J. E. F.
NORTH ADAMS, MASS.

Infant's Carriage Sock.

Cast on 52 stitches colored zephyr.

8 rows are knit thus: 2 plain stitch, 2 seam, knit 1 row plain with white, knit back plain in this way, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, repeat to end; repeat the last two rows with colored.

Now with the white, knit across three times plain on right side, then three times plain on wrong side, till you have 7 ribs on the right side, and 8 on the wrong, narrowing off 10 stitches, beginning with the 4th wrong side rib, skip the 4th right side rib, (no others) narrow off 2 stitches in a rib.

Knit across plain with color, back plain making holes as at top, then plain across again.

Make one rib of white on wrong side, then one on the right, then twice across only for next wrong side rib.

Knit the middle 14 stitches till there are 5 ribs on the right side for the top of foot.

Take up 16 stitches on each side of foot, making 74 in all.

Knit, with colored, 3 times across plain on right side, then 3 times across in bricks, 2 plain and 4 seam on right side, then 3 times plain, three times in bricks as before, once across plain and bind off.

The heel should be narrowed a few times, or narrow ten stitches at each end when binding off.

14 stitches at each end of needle can be taken off on a thread, or allowed to remain on the needles when knitting the top of the foot. The first row on top of foot should complete the unfinished rib.

These are very handsome socks.

JENNY WALLIS.

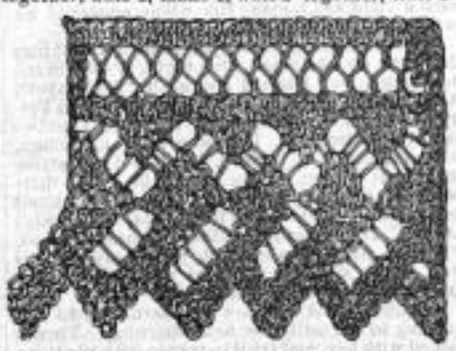
Knitted Edging.

1st row. Knit 3, make 1, knit 2 together, knit 3, make 1, knit 1, make 1, knit 6.

2d row. Knit 6, make 1, knit 3, make 1, knit 2 together, knit 3, make 1, knit 2 together, knit 1.

3d row. Knit 3, make 1, knit 2 together twice, make 1, knit 5, make 1, knit 6.

4th row. Bind off 4, then knit 1, make 1, knit 2 together, knit 3, knit 2 together, make 1, knit 2 together, knit 1, make 1, knit 2 together, knit 1.



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5th row. Knit 3, make 1, knit 2 together, knit 1, make 1, knit 2 together, knit 1, knit 2 together, make 1, knit 3.

6th row. Knit 3, make 1, knit 1, make 1, slip 2, knit 1, throw the two slipped ones over, make 1, knit 4, make 1, knit 2 together, knit 1.

This knit in fine thread is very pretty, having the appearance of nice lace. M. M. S.

Rosettes for Tidy.

These simple rosettes can be made into tidies, dress trimmings, etc. Make a chain of ten loops and join with a ring.

1st row. Into this ring work 22 d c's, joining with a s c at the end of a round.

2d row. Chain 4, (3 chain for first t c, and 1 chain between the first and second t c) 1 t c between the first and second t c, * 1 chain, 1 t c between the next 2 t c; repeat from * all round, and at the end 1 chain, 1 s c on the third of the 4 chain with which the row began.

3d row. 5 chain, 1 s c in the first loop of the 5 chain, (this forms a picot) 1 d c in the first t c, 1 picot as before, 1 d c in the next t c; repeat the picot and d c all round, and end with a s c in the first loop of round.

Four of these rosettes can be joined together thus: make a chain of 5, put 1 s c in a d c of a rosette, 4 chain, 1 s c in the first stitch of ch 5, * 4 chain, 1 s c in next rosette, 4 chain, 1 s c in the first stitch of the chain 5; repeat from * twice.

C. J. H.

Oak Leaf Insertion.
(Original.)

Cast on 14 stitches, knit across plain.

1st row. Knit 2, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 1, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 1, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 2.

2d row. Knit 2, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 3, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 1, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 2.

3d row. Knit 2, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 3, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 1, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 2.

4th row. Knit 2, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 3, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 3, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 2.

5th row. Knit 2, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 5, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 1, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 2.

6th row. Knit 2, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 3, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 5, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 2.

7th row. Knit 2, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 7, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 1, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 2.

8th row. Knit 2, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 3, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 7, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 2.

9th row. Knit 2, over twice, purl 2 tog, narrow, narrow, narrow, narrow 3 tog, narrow 3 tog, narrow, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 2.

10th row. Knit 2, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 6, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 2; repeat from 1st row.

Tog. means together.

EUGENIE HARVEY.

To Make Frost Work.

Take mica—(isinglass) you can get it at the hardware stores, or on rocks if you are fortunate enough to have them near you that have mica upon them—and put a small quantity in a piece of cotton cloth, about one foot square; fold the cloth together, and rub the mica until it is as fine as the finest dust. You can apply this to frames, glass bottles, or use it for silver color in Lustre painting, by first using a good coating of paste, and with the fingers sprinkling the mica dust upon the damp surface. If it does not cover thoroughly, apply another coat of paste, and sprinkle again. If done correctly, it will have the appearance of frosted silver.

Calla Mat.

Four shades of green; one ounce of very dark, one and a-half ounces each of next two shades, and two ounces of next lighter, two ounces of white, and one-half ounce of yellow. Make ordinary long stitch except when otherwise directed. With darkest green, crochet a round centre of 6 or 7 rows, the last row to contain 84 stitches. Chain 13, make 12 long stitches along this chain, counting the turn, make 12 on the mat centre, widening once midway, really 13. Another chain and return, and so on round the mat. These 7 prongs are leaf centres. Take next shade, widen once midway between the leaf centres, at the corner each side of leaf, and make 6 stitches in the end of each leaf. Another row of the same shade, widening at the corners in the last widening and 6 in the end of the leaf. Two rows of the third shade and one of lightest, like row last described. Then with lightest, short stitch and chain of 3 between each stitch all round the mat. Sew each leaf to the next, near the corner widening. With the white make 2 stitches into each of a chain of 3, turn, widen every stitch, and 4 stitches in the centre, every time across. Widen at the sides, till the 3d row has 36 stitches. 7 rows are enough, unless one knits very tight. Finish with short stitch and chain as with green. Knit the stamens on a toy knitter, or spool with 4 pins, and turn the end of the wool inside with a needle. They should be about 3 inches long, no more. Lap each calla two-thirds across with stamens inside, and sew to the inside of the green cup between the leaves. A. C. BIDWELL.
61 PARK ST., HARTFORD, CONN.

How to Make a Barrel Chair.

Take a good, substantial flour barrel, drive extra nails in the middle hoops, to make them strong; saw about half-way around the barrel; leave the other staves for the back. Now bore holes about two inches apart and three inches below where it was cut off. When they are bored all the way around the barrel, weave some stout cord through them; fill this space with curled hair, shavings, or whatever you choose; pad the back with the same; cover with sacking, tacking it on firmly; put a little padding around the outside of your chair, (you can keep it on by winding cord around it), cover this with sacking. Now we are ready for the outside cover. It can be put on plain or in plaits; gimp and gilt-headed tacks around the edge add to the looks; you can add an extra cushion if you wish, and casters or round knots on the bottom are an improvement.

S. WINDHAM, ME. ALLIE L. NAY.

Combination Lace.

Cast on 29 stitches.

1st row. Knit 2, make 1, narrow, knit 1, make 1, narrow, make 1, narrow, make 1, narrow, knit 5, make 1, narrow, knit 3, make 1, knit 1, make 1, knit 6.

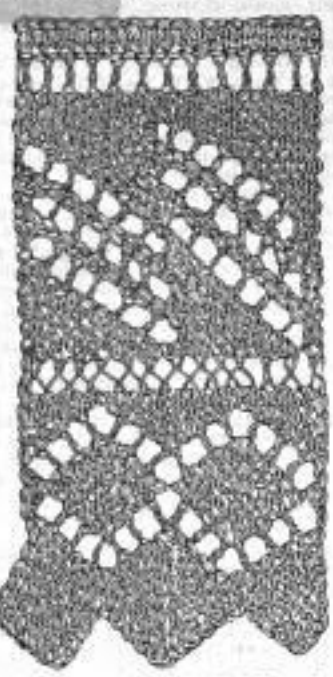
2d row. Knit 13, make 1, narrow, knit 13, make 1, narrow, knit 1.

3d row. Knit 3, make 1, narrow, knit 2, make 1, narrow, make 1, narrow, make 1, narrow, knit 4, make 1, narrow, knit 1, narrow, make 1, knit 3, make 1, knit 6.

4th row. Knit 14, make 1, narrow, knit 13, make 1, narrow, knit 1.

5th row. Knit 3, make 1, narrow, knit 3, make 1, narrow, make 1, narrow, make 1, narrow, knit 3, make 1, narrow, narrow, make 1, knit 5, make 1, knit 6.

6th row. Knit 15, make 1, narrow, knit 13, make 1, narrow, knit 1.



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7th row. Knit 3, make 1, narrow, knit 4, make 1, narrow, make 1, narrow, make 1, narrow, knit 3, make 1, knit 3 together, make 1, narrow, knit 3, narrow, make 1, knit 6.

8th row. Bind off 3, knit 10, make 1, narrow, knit 13, make 1, narrow, knit 1.

9th row. Knit 3, make 1, narrow, knit 5, make 1, narrow, make 1, narrow, make 1, narrow, knit 1, make 1, narrow, knit 1, make 1, narrow, knit 1, narrow, make 1, knit 4.

10th row. Knit 11, make 1, narrow, knit 13, make 1, narrow, knit 1.

11th row. Knit 3, make 1, narrow, knit 6, make 1, narrow, make 1, narrow, make 1, narrow, make 1, narrow, knit 2, make 1, slip 1, narrow, throw slipped stitch over last, make 1, knit 5.

12th row. Knit 11, make 1, narrow, knit 13, make 1, narrow, knit 1.

Then begin at first row.

Pretty Watch Pocket.

Take two tiny infants slippers, cover the outside with crimson velvet as richly embroidered as possible. Fit it neatly over the slippers, and line with satin, quilted in diamonds with one layer of wadding; bind the edges with satin ribbon; finish the slippers with a rosette of satin; fasten the two slippers on a piece of card-board, cover the back with silk, and overseam the two pieces together. HATTIE D. TAFT.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

BRUSH STUDIES AND HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

NO. IV.

BY LIDA AND M. J. CLARKSON.

A Study of Hollyhocks—Painting Broadly—Needlework and Applique—A Decorated Banner—Queries, etc.

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Last month we promised our readers a detailed description of hollyhocks which were pictured on the middle section of screen in last September's issue. Having just completed a large panel of these flowers, as shown in illustration, we shall proceed to describe just how they were arranged and painted from the earliest stages of the work to its final completion.

Since the Study of Tulips, given in a previous paper, we have had no such superb color piece as this, and for large panel, or for screen decoration, where breadth and boldness of effect is desired, there are few subjects which will give better satisfaction.

The hollyhocks are naturally stiff, and chromos, or lithographic prints of them, generally bring out this point, even aggravating it. We have endeavored to overcome this difficulty in the composition of our sketch. The upright stalks are relieved by the old fence, and the careless tangle of brambles and grasses. A picture all curves, is said to be weak, while one made up of straight lines is stiff and conventional. To combine these features in just proportions gives us symmetry. So much as to form. In coloring, rules of harmony must be observed.

We have given our picture somewhat the character of a landscape. We try to view our subject as seen in nature, and for this reason choose for our ground the blue of the sky, yet avoiding as far as possible, too strong a contrast to the vivid colors of our flowers. Instead of the intense blue of a summer sky, we aim rather at an atmospheric effect, and by toning our palette with red, we get a tint which better harmonizes with the pink and the red of our blossoms, as also the greens, colors which predominate in our picture. Our most prominent branch is a deep pink, next to it a yellow, then white, while at the lower part of the panel are the deep, rich red blooms, almost approaching black in their intense color. The group is massed in a way to give breadth. We have a large clump of the flower stalks with their broad leaves. Some of them are thrown well back, making a good perspective. So much for a general analysis of our sketch. We now proceed to paint it, as follows:

[Engraved expressly for THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

A STUDY OF HOLLYHOCKS.

Our subject is broad, let us handle it broadly, or in what is frequently termed "the broad style." In order to do this we must use large brushes, plenty of color, and a good deal of medium. Dispensing entirely with our fine sables, we take large flat bristle brushes, and begin with what artists term the "lay in." That is to say, we put in the general tone of light and shade in masses. In order to get the effect of light and shade in this way, partly close the eyes, or squint at it, as recommended in last lesson. Of course this presupposes that you have a good copy before you, or the natural flowers. We begin with the ground, using Antwerp blue, black, madder lake, and a trifle cadmium. It is the best plan to work up only as much as can be completed at one sitting, as it is quite necessary to have all wet at once, in order to blend harmoniously, as, after the "lay in" dries, it is much more difficult to secure as good effects.

The edges of your flowers must be either blended in with your background, or the ground lapped over the flowers, which can be done only while wet. This is indeed one of the marked features of this style of painting. Where the flowers blend thus with the ground, it gives that softness and misty appearance, alluded to in last paper as so characteristic of the French school of art. To paint the deep pink stalk of hollyhocks, we use for the lay in, madder lake thinned with Roberson's medium. Oil may be substituted, but as it runs on the palette, it is more difficult manage, and more liable to crack afterwards. Megilp may also be used instead of the medium, which is in fact, a nicely prepared megilp.

Lay your color on broadly, thinning well with the medium. In the shadows the color must be kept transparent, or your brilliancy is lost. There is one short rule which it will be well to bear always in mind: Shadows thin, lights thick. The middle accents are put in with madder lake, permanent blue, and cadmium yellow. Thin this as before, and work in lightly, taking care not to muddy the color. It is the half tones, or middle accents, which define the petals. The centres are painted with cadmium yellow and white, with a touch of terre vert, blending in softly with the other painting. The high lights may now be laid on where they belong. Do not put them at the extreme edge of your petals, which would give the sharp outlines to be avoided. Let the edges mingle with the ground. The shadowy flowers which are in background, are thrown back by painting much duller than those in foreground. The pinks have less of the madder, and are blended in somewhat with the background. Some of the leaves very much in the shadow are mere suggestions. The stems are laid in the same way while the ground is wet, with the green buds and leaves. These are painted with Antwerp, or Prussian blue and cadmium yellow, toned with a little ivory black and light red, in the lighter shades adding white, and in the shadows burnt sienna and a trifle raw umber. You have now the key to the whole method of procedure. The yellow flowers are first painted broadly, with cadmium yellow, thinned with the medium. The half tones with permanent blue, madder lake and cadmium, a trifle more of the latter. As shadows are always to harmonize with the general tone of a flower, they will require more of that color, as for instance, in shading the pink flowers we use more of the madder lake, but in the shadows of the yellow flowers more cadmium is used. The deep red flowers are painted with madder lake, and Reuben's madder; but as the latter is an expensive paint, madder brown will be found a very good substitute, with a trifle cobalt and black in the shadows. Put on the two first mentioned colors thinned with the medium, afterwards laying in the shadows, letting the first painting answer for the high lights. We may light the flowers with white, if desired, but it is apt to dull their brilliancy. It is better to lay in the shadows darkly where they belong, taking care not to mix with the lay in, or, under painting. The pistils are painted with cadmium, white, and a trifle zinnober green. The white flowers are painted a gray tone for the lay in, that is white, a little ivory black, and a trifle yellow ochre. The shadows are the same as for the other flowers, blue, madder lake, and cadmium. The high lights are laid on heavily, with pure white, and just a trifle madder lake. The old fence, post and rail, are painted with silver white, burnt sienna, raw umber, and ivory black, the deepest accents with black alone. The brambles are some of them, a bluish green, and some a reddish brown. The former are painted with permanent blue, white, and cadmium, toned with a trifle madder lake; the latter with burnt sienna, raw umber, white, and ivory black. For this work it is necessary to use smaller brushes, flat pointed sables, or small bristles. The grasses and finishing touches are now added. Our painting has been in this order:

First, the general tone, or lay in, then the middle tones, or accents, then the lights, and finally the smaller details. Use plenty of color, mixing with the brush, as blending with the knife dulls the brilliancy. If you find it inconvenient to finish up the work commenced, at one sitting, you can oil it out, and repeat the lay in, or general tone, where you had left off your work, taking care to keep your color clear and transparent, for if your first painting is dull, your finished picture will be also.

HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

In our last paper we promised some hints as to needlework and applique, in order to interest a class of readers that prefer this work to that of the brush. It is best always to begin with some simple design. Pussy willows and cat tails are easy of execution, while daisies are always favorites for the same reason. In fact the patterns may be taken from cretonne, from pictures, cards, etc., and scraps of velvet, silk, satin, plush and other rich material may be used to advantage in this work. The best method is to stamp your design, and then gum the scraps neatly on, afterwards working around them with strands of floss, or floselle, or a cord may be couched in for a finish, or any fancy stitches so familiar to crazy workers (pardon the term), buttonhole, chain stitch, herring bone, feather, or cross stitch, according to fancy. A bunch of flowers in different shades of colored satins, overworked in silks, can be made to look rich and artistic. The background may be velvet, or plush, or a good quality velveteen. This is an excellent way of using up odds and ends when one is tired of crazy work. A bold design of red poppies cut out of cloth, velvet, or plush, and worked with shaded silks upon an olive ground is very effective. Another beautiful design is the Virginia creeper, upon old gold satin sheeting, or velvet of a russett brown shade. Sometimes iridescent beads, or spangles, are worked into the design, but unless sparingly used the effect is gaudy, and not in good taste. It is better to reserve these for bright winged insects, dragon flies, etc. Toilette cushions, glove boxes, portfolio covers, table scarfs, bracket valences, and numerous other articles may be decorated in this manner. Another method is to cut the designs entirely from the handsome imported cretonnes, and work them over with embroidery silks. The effect at a little distance is that of solid embroidery. Arrasene, which resembles chenille, but is somewhat flatter, is much used in these combinations. It may be had in either silk or wool, and is very useful in working foliage, mosses, etc. English crewel, which is a soft wool of very delicate texture, comes in all the bright colors, old or new shades, and is less expensive than the arrasene. This is very much used in combination with the iridescent beads and spangles. Peacock blue, or Burgundy, are the richest ground colors for most designs. A water scene, such as given in illustration of wall banner, is novel and pretty. Two broad bands of plush, or velvet, in light and dark shades of blue, are used for the background. The lights in the water may be put in with fine gold, or silver threads, and the shadows with filo floss, a loosely twisted silk; or, if the brush is used, very pretty effects are had by combining painting with embroidery, sometimes styled alliance work. In this case, the pattern may be all painted, and then worked around with filoselle the same color as the design itself. The swan is either applied, being cut out of white velvet, or may be worked in silver thread. The lilies are white with yellow centres. The cat-tails applied with brown velvet or plush. The dragon flies are worked with iridescent beads, or may be done with brocade, or flitter, as preferred.

[Engraved expressly for THE LADIES' HOME JOUR.]

WALL BANNER IN APPLIQUE AND NEEDLEWORK.

ANSWERS TO INQUIRERS.

"A. E. S." asks if oil paint in tubes will do for china painting? Ans.—"Maude F. Buzzell" in February number of JOURNAL, describes a commode set which she had painted with ordinary oil paints, using amber enamel with it. This will do very well for articles not much used, and carefully washed. For durability, the mineral paints are best, or the moist water colors, which come prepared expressly for china painting, and which must be fired, as are the mineral colors.

"H. V. Z." and others, will find full description of Paris daisies in back numbers of "Brush Studies," now issued in book form.

"M. F. M."—Why would not water lilies be effective for your second panel of screen, especially as you have a water scene in upper section of frame? The lilies hanging down, as suggested in October number of "Brush Studies," catkins, and pussy willows, with water grasses and reeds, are also effective in combination with a water scene. Space forbids further suggestions which we would be pleased to give you.

* **

We continue to rent studies in oil painting, Lustra, Kensington, etc., to subscribers to JOURNAL. Study of "Hollyhocks" described in this paper now ready. Send stamp for price list, and particulars.

Our premium this month for two full subscriptions to the JOURNAL, or seven names at club rates, will be "Brush Studies," back numbers up to January 1, 1886, complete. For a large club, we continue to offer beautiful squares, or corners, in Lustra. A small specimen or iridescent coloring for one full subscription, or five names, club rates. All orders should be on Poughkeepsie, N. Y. post office, enclosed in a letter plainly addressed to

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AND

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CONDUCTED BY MRS. LOUISA KNAPP.

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Philadelphia, April, 1886.

200,000 SUBSCRIBERS!

The success of the JOURNAL is far beyond our most rosy anticipations. We worked hard to close the year 1885 with a round hundred thousand paid subscribers, and, having succeeded in that, we announced our intention of securing 200,000 subscribers before the end of 1886. We shall have them by the time this number is in circulation. At this writing, February 18th, our books show nearly 170,000 paid subscribers, and they are still coming in at the rate of one thousand to fifteen hundred every day, so that by April 1st, we shall have, without doubt, over 200,000 paid subscribers, even after deducting 16,346 subscriptions expiring April 1st. We have printed over 200,000 copies of the March and April numbers, to supply these subscribers. From past experience we know those 16,346 expiring subscribers will result in over 32,000 old and new names being placed on our books, next month.

Club raisers will find some new premiums described this month, in other columns. For all premiums consult the December, January, February and March numbers. Clubs are easily secured by simply showing a copy of the JOURNAL to your neighbors and friends, and explaining the small sum of money necessary to secure its cheerful visits for a year.

NOW FOR 300,000!

Spare when you are young that you may spend when you are old.

No woman is educated who is not equal to the successful management of a family.

We are in receipt of Harriet Prescott Spofford's story for the JOURNAL. "The Little Step-Mother," begins in June number.

Parents ought not to meddle with other people's children, or to forget that children should be taught the manly art of self reliance.

Rose Terry Cooke's domestic story, "How Could He!" written for the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, will be found in our next (May) number.

A fool keeping her mouth shut may pass for a wise person. A woman, usually wise, if she talks much, will usually say some foolish things. Those hearing her will account her foolish.

If only all young women in quest of employment, and wages and support, were masters of something, instead of being forced to say: "Oh! I can do anything," which means nothing!

With 200,000 circulation we are spending more money than ever to make the JOURNAL indispensable to every woman. One of our improvements will be a new heading, with new sub-headings for the different departments.

Advertisers desiring proof of our statements concerning our circulation, are referred to the Scott Paper Co., who furnish us with paper, Ferguson Bros. & Co., who do our press work, and run four presses nearly a month to work off our large edition, and to John F. Busch & Son, who do our folding and binding,—all of Philadelphia. The affidavits of these gentlemen are on file at all advertising agencies. Our subscription books, post office receipts, and bills for paper, press work, etc., are open to inspection to any advertiser who will take the trouble to call upon us.

If you take a foot-bath at bed-time, do not omit the clean, well warmed-stockings, or, in place of them, wrap the feet in flannel, in order to keep the heat that you have gained. A foot-bath thus taken, twice or three times a week, will tend to improve the circulation, and overcome a tendency to cold feet. Many women have cold feet constantly, and are so accustomed to it that they are not aware of it until after they are in bed; then, perhaps, they lie awake hours before the feet are warm enough to allow them to sleep. This constant coldness of the extremities is provocative of internal difficulties known under the general term of "weaknesses;" and many a woman would find her various aches disappearing if she were scrupulously to avoid having cold feet.

CONFIDENCE IN OUR COLUMNS.

We intend to furnish the best practical and helpful domestic journal ever yet produced in this country, for the smallest sum of money possible, without loss; that every woman in the land may afford its visits, and help us extend its circulation. To do this we depend upon a good advertising patronage, and, to induce our subscribers to read and answer the numerous and interesting announcements found in these columns each month, we strive to secure their confidence by inserting none but what we believe to be trustworthy and reliable. Let it be understood that we endorse every advertisement found herein, and that we will not admit the advertisement of any advertiser to whom we would not ourselves send an order, cash in advance, if required, if we happened to want the article advertised. We guarantee our subscribers against loss from any advertisement found in the JOURNAL, and ask our readers, as a favor to us, to patronize our customers as often as possible, and ALWAYS mention the JOURNAL when writing. Don't forget that.

The JOURNAL has a splendid advertising patronage, and why should it not have, with its 200,000 circulation! The advertisements found herein are of the best—the leading, and the largest, houses in their respective lines of trade; thoroughly reliable, and known for years to be perfectly safe and trustworthy in all their dealings, and truthful in their printed representations of goods offered our readers.

Mrs. Helen T. Clark, whose lively stories of women's struggles and successes, have appeared in the Springfield Republican, has devised a successful way of interesting her High School girls, by a Shakespeare reading class held evenings at her own house. Such interests keeps a girl's mind from society until she is old enough to enter it.

SCRIBBLER'S LETTERS TO GUSTAVUS.

NO. IX.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

Gustavus, I'd like to ask you a conundrum. Why is it that so many married men, (you of the number) men who have always rather prided themselves on their politeness as young men, throw off their "manners" almost as soon as they are married? I don't mean entirely in their families, because it is human nature to do that, both mankind and womankind perhaps, just as one is never as polite to his own mother and sister as he is to someone else's mother and sister, but I mean general politeness. So many men seem to think that marriage frees them from the restraints that ordinary politeness imposes on all members of society. I cannot wonder at Julia's ill-humor, the other day, when you insisted that there was no necessity for answering that invitation sent you by Mr. Higgins. You said you had another engagement and were not going, and if you didn't appear he'd know you had not come. That was very weak-kneed on your part, but you became absolutely imbecile when you turned sulky and took refuge behind a fit of hyper-virtue, and declared you would not write a lie and send regrets, for you didn't regret it a bit, as your other engagement was a great deal pleasanter. I shan't say anything more on that subject, for I think when you see it in plain black and white you will comprehend just how silly it all was. Your manner of speaking to the women of your wife's acquaintance, possesses a certain element that I can see is unpleasant to some of them, and an annoyance to Julia. You remember I spoke to you about it once before, and your reply was: "O pshaw! they ought not to mind an old married man like me." Now there's no more reason why an "old (!) married man" of 28 should be rude, than a young single man of 35. There are certain courtesies due from man to woman, and vice versa, that no amount of marriage can do away with. How would you like it if Julia would come up to some of your friends and metaphorically slap him on the back with a "Hello, Jim! how are you!" as you did by one of her friends the other evening? No married woman likes to be called by a familiar nickname, even by an old married man, unless he be an old and tried friend; and the man who presumes to do this without permission, assumes a great deal. I could see very plainly the other night that your wife was mortified, and Miss Hart was surprised and annoyed, when you said in a would-be-facetious way: "Hello Jinny!" Even your wife always calls her Virginia. These hints are enough to give you the one as to what I refer to. I don't suppose you would ever walk into a room full of ladies and take the only arm-chair by the fire, or even take the biggest apple on the plate, but these are little amenities in civilized life that no one, to be an ordinarily pleasant member of society, can ignore. It is the little things, Gustavus, the attention to little things, that make us endurable to each other. A polite thief is pleasanter to deal with than an honest boor. And finally, it is not worth while for you to correct Bessie, as I heard you do the other day, for speaking disrespectfully to her mother when her tone is almost an exact copy of your own. She is not old enough to understand that as "an old married man" you are privileged to make yourself as disagreeable as possible, both in the house and out.

SCRIBBLER.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WHO can recommend, from experience, a satisfactory washing machine for children's clothes?

COUNTRY GIRL asks how can she decorate the old-fashioned foot stove, such as was in use eighty years ago.

MRS. E. S. H. will please send her full address to L. H. J., that the ladies may know where to send the pattern she wishes.

WILL some of the sisters send the words of the song called "Christine Leroy!" And oblige

NELLIE.

A READER wishes to know how to do up dark blue skirts without having them look so white after ironing.

MRS. W. S. SMEET.

LAKE LINDEN, MICH.

WILL some one send complete and plain directions for making wax fruit? or, if any one has printed directions that they will lend, please write to me.

MRS. A. L. NAY.

SO. WINDHAM, ME.

NASSAU, N. H., Jan. 15, 1886.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—If "Kate W." will moisten grass stain with cold water, then rub with table salt, before putting into the wash water, she will have no further trouble.

MRS. L. L. K.

IF "Susie M. Hyde" (Feb. correspondence) will address C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass., (enclosing stamp) she will receive, free of cost, a pamphlet of parlor games, which its publishers claim, is "larger than any book of games published before, and fills a want long felt." Susie will find her "two ducks and a good fat hen" in it.

JOHN'S WIFE.

EDITOR L. H. J.—I think I have cured myself of dyspepsia, by eating, without drinking, and after eating, drinking nearly a cup of hot water, just as near boiling as possible. If any of the JOURNAL sisters are troubled with that misery, they will do well to try it.

H. H. C.

MRS. W. A. C.—Your bird may eat her feathers from one or two causes. If fed with too much hemp seed, sugar or sweet cakes, an irritation of the skin is brought on, and the plucking and eating of feathers follow. A prevalence of lice will also cause the same trouble. To remove these pests, occasionally sprinkle cayenne pepper over the sand in bottom of cage.

J. F. B.

MRS. D. H.—A London journal gives the following cement for mending shells and other specimens: Gum arabic, five parts; sugar candy, two parts; white lead enough to color. I find white lead alone, good for mending white and light colored shells, and also some specimens. Have also successfully used very hot thick glue, heating the specimens before applying the glue.

AUGUST FLOWER.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Chancing to read a late number of your excellent paper, I was impressed with its wondrous success. In these days of many periodicals, it is marvelous that a new publication can spring up and achieve, at once, such recognition. When one remembers, however, that true and trite saying: "There is room at the top," it, perhaps, is not so surprising. If "a proof of the pudding is in the eating," the thousands of subscribers to the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL is a proof of its great popularity. Not only the babies—bless their little souls! but the grown up members of the family, receive ample attention in its columns. The most crazy, art-crazy maid reads, and is satisfied. The music studies—though a new and original feature—also prove instructive. I will confess I was, at first, somewhat skeptical in regard to them. Surely, thought I, music cannot be inculcated in such a manner. But I find that these studies give an impetus to the earnest music pupil. Some of my pupils, that take the JOURNAL, have been taught to THINK by the study of these lessons. It is futile to study music, or any other science, without thought. I wish to ask Miss Harvey her opinion in regard to giving music pupils "pieces." It has ever been my custom to give them after a certain advancement has been made. I fail to see why instruction cannot be given with a judicious selection of music. For instance, after a pupil has become familiar with a certain scale, its chords, and arpeggios, why not give a march, or waltz, in the same scale, or key, to further impress these chords upon the mind. I find that the gifts of ready reading, and memorizing, are seldom, if ever, found in the same pupil. Still, I require all to commit to memory, as much as possible. I wish some of the readers would give a list of pleasing and instructive instrumental music, of about the fourth, and fifth degree of difficulty. I will give names of two pretty pieces which I have recently used with pupils in their second and third term: "Æsthetic Redowa," published by Willis Woodard & Co., New York; also, "Minnetonk Lake Waltz," by the same author. A pathetic ballad, issued by the same house, styled: "Fisherman John, and Fisherman Jack," is well adapted to "show off" a voice. Madame Medini, Emma Thursby, and others, have sung it, as an encore song. Though by an American author, one of these prima donnas pronounced it as fine as an English song, which, you know, is high praise. If you are a singer—and don't fail to sing if you can, since there is much more soul in vocal than instrumental music—send for this ballad, for I'm sure 'twill please you. I wish Americans would cultivate their voices more, and not be content with mere mechanical execution. Who does not prefer the voice, God's instrument, to any instrument manufactured by man? One more query before I close: How can I best instil in my pupils a love for classic music!

AMANDA SMITH.

DEAR EDITOR L. H. J.—I think it was "John's Wife" who once said, "When you know a thing, tell of it," and as I happen to know the game that "Susie M. Hyde" asks for, in February number, I will send it to our valuable little paper, for publication, if it will be of interest to her or other readers.

The game begins "A good fat hen," etc., is repeated after the leader in turn, by each player. Any failure to repeat correctly is to be paid for by a forfeit.

"A good fat hen, two pairs of ducks, and a good fat hen, three plump partridges, two pairs of ducks and a good fat hen.

"Four squawking wild geese, three plump partridges, two pair of ducks and a good fat hen.

"Five barrels of Limeric oysters, four squawking wild geese, three plump partridges, two pairs of ducks and a good fat hen.

"Six cans of warranted non-explosive coal oil, five barrels of Limeric oysters, four squawking wild geese, three plump partridges, two pairs of ducks, and a good fat hen.

"Seven thousand Massadonian horsemen drawn up in line of battle, six cans of warranted non-explosive coal oil, five barrels of Limeric oysters, four squawking wild geese, three plump partridges, two pairs of ducks and a good fat hen.

"Eight pages of the hilleographic sparokite society, seven thousand Massadonian horsemen drawn up in line of battle, six cans of warranted non-explosive coal oil, five barrels of Limeric oysters, four squawking wild geese, three plump partridges, two pairs of ducks and a good fat hen.

"Nine didactic, epithetic, sympathetic problems, eight pages of the hilleographic sparokite society, seven thousand Massadonian horsemen drawn up in line of battle, six cans of warranted non-explosive coal oil, five barrels of Limeric oysters, four squawking wild geese, three plump partridges, two pairs of ducks and a good fat hen.

"Ten Egyptian mummies, fresh from the sescofiguy of ancient Egypt, floating down the river Nile on ten flat boats, going to marry the ten eldest daughters of the King of Egypt, nine didactic, epithetic, sympathetic problems, eight pages of the hilleographic sparokite society, seven thousand Massadonian horsemen drawn up in line of battle, six cans of warranted non-explosive coal oil, five barrels of Limeric oysters, four squawking wild geese, three plump partridges, two pairs of ducks and a good fat hen.

"Eleven thousand bottles, of the justly celebrated, pure and unadulterated Udolpho Wolfe's aromatic skedamsnaps, made expressly for the beneficiary of the eleemosynary institute, ten Egyptian mummies fresh from the sescofiguy of ancient Egypt, floating down the river Nile on ten flat boats, going to marry the ten eldest daughters of the King of Egypt, nine didactic, epithetic, sympathetic problems, eight pages of the hilleographic sparokite society, seven thousand Massadonian horsemen drawn up in line of battle, six cans of warranted non-explosive coal oil, five barrels of Limeric oysters, four squawking wild geese, three plump partridges, two pairs of ducks and a good fat hen.

"Twelve unlettered, untutored, ignoramuses, just from the southeast corner of the desert of Sahara, eleven thousand bottles of the justly celebrated, pure and unadulterated, Udolpho Wolfe's aromatic skedamsnaps, made expressly for the beneficiary of the eleemosynary institute, ten Egyptian mummies fresh from the sescofiguy of ancient Egypt, floating down the river Nile on ten flat boats, going to marry the ten eldest daughters of the King of Egypt, nine didactic, epithetic, sympathetic problems, eight pages of the hilleographic sparokite society, seven thousand Massadonian horsemen drawn up in line of battle, six cans of warranted non-explosive coal oil, five barrels of Limeric oysters, four squawking wild geese, three plump partridges, two pairs of ducks and a good fat hen."

MRS. W. R. W.

EDITOR L. H. JOURNAL:—You can't think how I've just been aching to get out of that prim corner headed "Brush Studies," into this chatty column for a real cosy visit with you, and my JOURNAL friends. I want to tell you how much I enjoy the good letters, and sage advice, and encouraging words which come to us every month, as also to express my cordial interest in the JOURNAL and its readers.

During the past year many have come to me with their troubles and perplexities, and how sorry I have felt always, when it chanced to be beyond my power to help such correspondents. But to pay off mortgages, and secure appointments for teachers, and sell fancy work, on commission, these and like favors I have been unable to grant.

Sometimes, perhaps, in consequence of these very appeals to my sympathies, I have been in need of cheering words myself, and at such times your friendship, and kindly interest have been fully appreciated. Now, if I had arms long enough to go way around the U. S., from California to Maine, and from my own Empire State, to the Gulf of Mexico, I would give you all one big hug this very minute. And that reminds me of one of my correspondents who insists upon dubbing me "the fat contributor," because forsooth, I once sent her a painting packed in a corset box marked No. 30. She will have it that she has discovered the dimensions of my waist, and her dreams of the tall, willowy, æsthetic figure, I ought to possess, have vanished, to her disappointment, "in thin air." In fact, you too, dear Editor, seem to have conceived the same idea of me, contrary to your former notion. Well, never-mind! perhaps my words hereafter may carry more WEIGHT with them, and you certainly are too good-hearted, I am sure, to wish me to squeeze myself into a smaller corset for the sake of appearance, to the detriment of health and loss of comfort.

Another friend expresses a great deal of solicitude, thinking I will impair my health by painting too steadily, and adds: "Your riches will avail you naught when that is gone."

Now, if any of you, with her, labor under the mistaken notion that the road to wealth leads through the studio, I beg to undeceive you, and save you possible disappointment. Who that paints tolerably well, is not beset on all sides for gratuitous gifts. Cousins, aunts, nieces, friends; all clamoring for the work of your brush. They ask very modestly, it is true, for 'just a little specimen of your work," "only a scrap for a quilt, or a cushion," or, "just some little trifle, it won't take you long to paint it, you know." And if you are good natured and pliable, you will spend a good share of your time complying with these very reasonable (!) requests; and bless you, how fast you do get rich! Now, if all the aunts, cousins, and numerous relations would club together, and buy you a well stocked color box, a new French easel, a big stack of brushes, and a roll of canvas, with other etceteras, wouldn't it be real sensible of them? But then they'd expect you to spend the rest of your time painting souvenirs to pay for it, so that would not better matters one bit.

Now, I must not crowd somebody else out of this column who could better edify you, so I will try and condense what else I have to say; "boil it down," as publishers always want us to do. There are two things I cannot forbear mentioning—one, the nice organ for which I am indebted to the JOURNAL, and to many of its readers, and the other a plan I have in my head.

As for the organ, it is a sweet, mellow-toned instrument, the source of much gratification to me. When I am weary of brush and palette, I sit down to it, and just here I make my bow to Margaret B. Harvey with thanks, in acknowledgement of her excellent "Studies," which I read monthly with pleasure and profit. Now, my organ is so associated with the JOURNAL and you all, that I would not part with it for one double its value. "That's sentimental!" I think I hear some of you exclaim. Well, I must confess to a slight weakness in that direction, a sympathy with the writer who likens sentiment "to a delightful luxury of beauty twining around a solid, upright stem of understanding." Now that No. 30 corset will show you what a solid stem it has to twine around in my case. Happy thought, which I trust will reconcile my friends to my ample waist measure. Well, I trust I have a heart correspondingly large, big enough in fact to take you all in. But here I am off again at a tangent, not "boiling down" a bit as I promised. My plan alluded to above, is yet in embryo. I want help to develop it, and so would enlist the sympathies and interest of JOURNAL readers.

I am very desirous of establishing a circulating library of good reading, (mostly of a religious character) for the use and benefit of a very large class of people debarred from the privileges so many of us enjoy. A great number at the far West, especially, would hail with delight almost any reading matter. I hear from many of these people. Who will assist in this good work, and what suggestions can you offer? Books and papers can be circulated cheaply now-a-days by mail. Let me hear from some of you, either directly or through the columns of the JOURNAL. There are many of our invalids and "shut ins" to whom it would bring sunshine and good cheer. That the JOURNAL is one of the best, and brightest and helpful monthlies published, is the candid opinion of

Yours cordially,

LIDA CLARKSON.

PLEASANT VALLEY, DUTCHESS CO., N. Y.

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THE PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

WHICH IS MISTRESS?

The Servant Question, under various titles, such as "Servant-gallism, or What Shall We Do With the Missuses!" "The Vexed Question," "The Greatest Plague of Life," and half-a-dozen others, has been discussed by so many writers, and from such widely different standpoints, that at first glance it hardly seems possible to make anything new of a topic so threadbare. But to each housekeeper the great subject assumes, chameleon-like, new coloring caught from its surroundings, and alas! too often blue.

The very young housekeeper, unless she has had exceptional opportunities for acquiring experience, before leaving her father's roof, is an object deserving sincerest pity. Market man and grocer alike, consider her fair game, and their chivalry is seldom aroused by her helplessness. Her alleged servant who is, usually, the virtual ruler of the household, condescends to receive her orders, and uses her own judgment as to obedience. If the domestic happens to be an elderly woman—or "girl" as she insists upon calling herself—the directions of the young mistress are often treated with ill-disguised contempt, while any attempt to introduce new receipts is crushed with a lofty "Indade I niver heard the loikes of thot before."

The "gurrel" must have her afternoon out, her church twice on Sunday, and that evening as well as most others in the week, at her own disposal. She objects to late dinners, as she "has always been in the habit of having a part of the afternoon to herself," and for the same reason prefers a cold tea on Sunday night. An unusual number of starched "pieces" in the weekly wash causes black looks, and "company unexpected," (and generally when it is expected), ranks among the unpardonable sins. And to all this the poor little mistress yields tremblingly, because "it would be too dreadful if Bridget were to leave."

Sometimes the queen of the kitchen is not such an open tyrant. She may be an old family servant who regards any assumption of knowledge on the part of the lady of the house (!) with good-natured superiority, and, confident in her own exalted attainments, mildly suggests and quietly alters until, the conduct of the establishment is entirely in her hands. Here, again, comes in the element of timidity in the action of one who should be ruler. The prospect of losing the paragon sends a thrill of horror through both husband and wife. But this very apprehension is an evidence of the bondage in which they live, and which is, of itself, an unnatural state of affairs that cannot last.

"When I hear any one say of a servant: 'I cannot possibly get along without her,'" said an old and experienced housekeeper, "I always look out for a crash before long."

Even the worm will turn, and some day the mistress will learn that she can not only live very well without her nonesuch, but that the household wheels run quite as smoothly as before the dreaded event took place.

The state of slavish subjection to the lower powers in which many women live, is enough to arouse the indignant compassion of their stronger minded sisters. One instance in illustration of this, was offered by the demeanor of one who was, assuredly, no tyro in housewifery. Her husband was a mighty hunter, and having returned from an autumn expedition laden with partridges and woodcock, made a feast and invited his friends. The table was prettily set, the game daintily prepared and served.

"How delicious these birds are cooked," remarked a guest.

"I wish, Mrs. D., that you would give my wife the recipe for stuffing and roasting game."

The hostess cast a gratified, but uneasy look at the maid who was waiting on the table

"Ah! you must go to Ellen for that," she said. "I should not know how to do them myself without her help."

The maid gave a smile of conscious power, and Mrs. D. leaned back in her chair relieved that the sop to Cerberus had been so graciously accepted.

"Now," concluded the compassionate narrator of the scene, "that poor woman did not dare to accept the compliment without demur. Woe to her if she had taken the entire credit of any success in which the nominal servant had had a share. The goddess of the kitchen must be propitiated at any cost."

Or, take another case:

"I wish we were not obliged to have early dinners on Sunday," a wealthy man was overheard to say to his wife on the way home from church. "A hearty meal at noon makes me feel intolerably sleepy and stupid afterward. My Sabbath school work is a burden to me. Other people have late dinners, and why not we?"

The wife turned to the friend at her side with a half fretful laugh.

"I suppose all gentlemen are unreasonable," she said. "My husband cannot understand the necessity of making concessions to our cook. She has lived with me for nineteen years, and I could not get along without her. She absolutely refuses to have any meal more elaborate than a simple tea on Sunday evening, and I succumb rather than run the risk of losing her. It is all I can do to prevail upon her to have late dinners on week-days, but she puts her foot down emphatically, when the question is raised about changing the order of our Sunday meals."

Comment is hardly necessary. There must be something radically wrong in a system that would give to an ignorant hireling the rule of an intelligent household, compelling the employers who pay her, to submit their convenience and desires to her caprice.

And yet this timidity on the part of the housekeeper, especially if she be young and inexperienced, is far from unnatural. The idea of "changing" is a bug-a-boo to most women. Sometimes their terror of it results from ignorance how to do their own work in the period which must intervene between the going out of one and the coming in of another so-called "help;" sometimes, from the dread of substituting unknown evils for those to which they are inured. Regarded from any point of view, the business of "changing girls" is disheartening. Who that has endured the process does not recall it with a shudder! The task of clearing up after the departing handmaiden; the search for another who will, to any extent, fill the measure of one's requirements; the nuisance of inducting a "green hand" into position and duties, and the ever-present possibility that after all this wear and tear of nerve and outlay of precious time, one may find herself in the end, enacting the role of him, who having swept and garnished his house, brought into it seven other spirits worse than the first;—all these considerations combine in a leaden weight that makes the heart of the housekeeper sink into her boots, when Bridget or Maggie approaches her with a hodeful gleam in her eye, and upon her lips the formula anticipated by memory, before it is uttered:—

"If ye plaze, mem, I m thinking I'd better be shuiting mesilt wid another place."

The recipient of the warning may consider herself fortunate if the announcement is not coupled with a list of her own shortcomings, and of the impositions that have been heaped upon the downtrodden domestic, ever since she "demeaned" herself by accepting the place thrust upon her.

"In all the iligant first-class fam'lies I've lived in (an' ontel I came to yez I've lived in none BUT quality houses), I niver was axed to send up soup on a Sunday afore!" was the crowning condemnation with which one irate Milesian shook the dust off her feet as she left a family where her forgetfulness and carelessness had been borne with exceeding patience and long-suffering.

Among the disagreeablenesses connected and interwoven with "changing," perhaps the most trying is the gauntlet one must run in selecting a successor to the last misery.

"Well, my dear," said a good-natured husband to his wife, "I have been to the Intelligence Office for you and engaged a lady to call and see if you will suit."

The remark was made jestingly, but there was biting truth in it which no American housekeeper could hear unmoved. To the unsophisticated mind it would seem that the employer should be the one to criticise the qualifications of the applicant, and, should she see fit, to refuse the position on the score of incompetency or other failing. In fact, the anxious housewife enumerates the advantages of the place, the light work, the small wash, the simple tastes and perfect tempers of the family, apologizes humbly for the basement kitchen and deprecates the back stairs. She rejoices with trembling, but palpably, when "the girl" hesitatingly "guesses she'll try the place for a week, anyhow. If it don't suit, she can leave."

"My dear child," said an old housekeeper to a younger, who lamented that she had been deserted by seven domestics in two months, "what can you expect? You pay well, the place is easy, you never find fault, and grant every privilege your servants demand, your washing is put out, and you do half the work yourself—but—you don't keep a piano!"

The despairing mistress is sometimes forced to the conclusion that it must be lack of this, or some corresponding mark of gentility that causes one maid to succeed another with such painful rapidity. The place gets "a bad name" after awhile. If once it is whispered in the informal but powerful trades' union of "girls" that the position of domestic in that particular house is a "hard" one, the difficulties in the way of filling it are multiplied indefinitely.

Setting aside class predjudice in the calculation, it may be asserted with truth, that in one-half the instances where the balance of power is thrown so far on the wrong side, that kitchen rule is usurpation and tyranny, the fault lies more with the hireling than with the employer—at least, in this country. It is not to be denied that there are cases in which the latter is culpable, or that in many others the blame may be equally divided. But the majority of housewives conscientiously try to do their duty by the maid-servant within their gates, and not a few receive only ingratitude in return. Indeed, it is but seldom that the employe, accustomed as she is to mental regulation of her daily walk and conversation, upon the principle of quid pro quo, feels any stirrings of thankfulness.

"Gratitude!" ejaculated an energetic New Englander, long and sorely tried by ungracious reception of her beneficence;—"They don't know the first letter of the word!"

An amusing little story shows this in a small way:

A family cook was ill, and the doctor ordered invalid diet. The mistress went into the kitchen, and, with her own hands, prepared a dainty dish of gruel which she entrusted to her little daughter to carry to the sick room. The child returned in a few moments, bearing the untasted bowl.

"Mamma, Maggie told me you needn't have troubled yourself to fuss over making such stuff as this. She says she doesn't eat this kind of thing when she is well, let alone when she is sick."

A most significant fact, showing the lack of appreciation of kindness among this class is, that when it suits their convenience to leave a place, they are rarely visited by compunction as to the trouble their abrupt departure may give their employers. Few of the latter care to hold them to the usually understood week's warning, which is the least term of notice required in England. In America—we may as well acknowledge it—we have no fixed servant class. Those who are supposed to occupy that position would be the first to rebel were such a term applied to them. Peasants, who, in the old country, never think of cavilling at the idea of servitude, have not been a month in the land of equal right before they learn to apply the titles "ladies and "gentlemen" to themselves and their congeners. The honorary degrees of "washlady," "saleslady" and "forelady" are in general acceptation; and the "cooklady" and "waiterlady" will not be far behind.

"I suppose you keep your farmer there still?" said a friend to the possessor of a fine country house where he and his family spent the hot months.

"O, don't call him that!" was the quick response. "He considers himself the gentleman owner of the estate, who suffers us to go there and pass the summer."

Of too many American households the same may be said. The kitchen cabinet own, not merely the premises, but the tenants as well, and allow them to remain in office for uncertain periods of good behavior, or by sufferance.

CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

HOME COOKING.

ORGINAL RECIPES CONTRIBUTED BY THE JOURNAL SISTERS.

WHITE MOUNTAIN CAKE:—1 cup butter, 3cups sugar, 1½ cups sweet milk, 1 teaspoonful cream of tartar, in the flour, ½ teaspoonful soda, dissolved with a little hot water, 3½ cups flour, whites of 10 eggs beaten light; bake in three jelly cake pans. L. E. D.

DELICIOUS CHOCOLATE FROSTING:—Boil together until it strings from the spoon, one cup of light brown sugar, and one-half cup water. Remove from stove, and stir in rapidly, the whites of two eggs beaten to a stiff froth, and one-quarter of a cake of Baker's chocolate, finely grated. This is sufficient to spread between three layers of cake, and on the top. Spread while warm.

DEAR EDITOR:—I give a recipe for doughnuts, which are delicious if made according to directions. Take three eggs, beaten well, three tablespoonfuls of melted lard, two heaping cupfuls of granulated sugar, one-half teacupful of sour cream, into which put one heaping teaspoonful of soda; beat the milk and soda up till it foams. Use flour enough to make a soft dough.

MRS. M. E. S.

TART SHELLS:—One tea cup of lard, three tablespoonfuls of water or milk, one tablespoonful of sugar, white of one egg, three cups of flour. Fill with any kind of jelly preferred.

SNOW BALLS:—One cup sugar, two eggs, four tablespoonfuls of milk, one teaspoonful cream tartar, one of soda if milk is sour, if sweet, one-half, spice, flour to roll into balls; fry in lard, dip in white of an egg, then in sugar until white.

ICE CREAM CAKE:—Whites of eight eggs, two cups of sugar, one cup of corn starch, two cups of flour, one cup of butter, one cup of sweet milk, two teaspoonfuls yeast powder, one teaspoonful flavoring extract. L. E. D.

CINNAMON ROLLS:—When yeast sponge is light and ready to make into loaves, take about two cupfuls and roll about one-half an inch in thickness, then spread with butter, sprinkle over it sugar and ground cinnamon, roll up and cut with a sharp knife into slices two-thirds of an inch in thickness; place the rolls on a greased tin, let rise, then wash over the top with milk, and bake.

COCOANUT BON-BONS:—White of one egg, equal quantity of water, stir in enough cocoanut and pulverized sugar to enable you to roll it into balls. Take two cups sugar, one cup water; boil until it creams, stirring constantly; when it creams, flavor with vanilla, and roll the cocoanut balls in it as you would chocolate creams. Set the cream dish in another dish of boiling water and it will not harden too soon.

RUSK:—Set the yeast the night before; in the morning, to one bowlful of the light sponge, add one-half cupful of white sugar, the white of one egg, beaten light, and butter or lard half size of an egg; mix all together in the sponge, and knead in flour as for bread, then knead until light and puffy; let it rise, then make into rolls or small biscuits; let rise again, and wash over the top with the yolk of an egg, a little molasses and milk, and bake.

TWIST ROLLS:—Take yeast sponge the quantity desired, and work in a piece of butter from one-half to the size of an egg, knead thoroughly, and divide into parts the size of an egg, then divide each piece in two unequal pieces, largest piece form into a roll with the hands, and tapering each end, lay them in a greased baking tin without touching, flatten each a little, and wash over with milk; divide remaining pieces each into three, roll the pieces with the hands into strips a little longer than the one already made and braid them, then lay each braid on top of plain roll; when all are made wash over with milk, let rise, and bake until light brown.

LEMON PIE:—Grated rind and juice of one lemon, one cup of sugar, one tablespoonful of melted butter, one tablespoonful of flour or corn starch, yolks of three eggs, one cup of sweet milk; save out the whites of eggs for the top; mix well, pour into the crust and bake; when nearly done, beat up whites of eggs with a tablespoonful of sugar, spread over the pie, return to oven till a nice light brown. Be careful not to leave the seed of the lemon in as this will make your pie bitter. MRS. J. G. P.

DEAR EDITOR:—When I was a little girl I saw this recipe in a cook book. I determined to try it when I had a home of my own. It gave universal satisfaction. I have never seen it in print since, but have given it to a great many. It is called the "Great Democratic Labor-Saving Custard Pie Which Makes Its Own Crust." One quart of milk, four eggs, four tablespoonfuls of flour, and four of sugar, a little salt and flavoring; bake one hour. Good either hot or cold. Try it and you will be sure to like it. J. K.

MUSH:—Good mush, fried nice and brown, is an excellent dish for breakfast, but to be healthy it must be well cooked, from two to three hours, until thoroughly well done. I use the following recipe:

One-and-a-half cups cream meal, one-half cup of oat meal, one tablespoonful of syrup. Pour on boiling water, stirring well until a thick batter; beat out the lumps; thin considerably, as it thickens in boiling; salt to taste, and boil three hours. Pour in pans or dishes, and set aside to cool. Slice and fry, being careful to keep the slices whole.

ESCALLOPED OYSTERS:—One quart of oysters, one pound of milk crackers, one quart rich milk, one-half cup butter. Take a large yellow baking dish; break up enough crackers to cover bottom of dish; place on them a layer of oysters, with bits of butter here and there, a dash of salt and pepper, then another layer of crackers, and so on till all are used, having a layer of crackers on the top. Pour over them the milk and the oyster broth, cover with a pot lid and bake briskly one-half hour. Remove lid and brown a little. If desired, the edge of the dish may be decorated with sprigs of parsley or celery leaves. Serve warm in dish in which they are baked.

JENNIE A. LAUDER.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

FABRICS AND FASHIONS.

FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC NOVELTIES IN DRESS GOODS FOR SPRING AND SUMMER WEAR.

Silk, Woolen and Cotton Materials in Odd Effects and Standard Varieties—Spring Styles in Costumes and Dresses—Fancies in Finishings.

BY MRS. JAS. H. LAMBERT.

Strange to say, the early displays of new goods for spring and summer wear, comprehend the fabrics suitable for really warm weather, such as sheer muslins, and cool looking satines, summer silks and veilings; hence we know that the fancy for embroidered organdy and swiss has been revived, and that, not only are the fine grounds to be decorated with small figures, as heretofore, but most fanciful patterns have been introduced.

The choice satines have grounds in all colors, and various shades, sprinkled over with figures and flowers, they have silken surface gloss, and when not self trimmed, suits of satines are to be finished with adjustable collar, cuffs and vest, or false front, of plain velvet, in some dark rich color. Cambrics are softer and finer than ever before, and the cheap calicoes shown are very pretty, and make up into neat and attractive suits.

For wearing well, American surahs are superior to the imported specimens, and they are shown in quite as good a variety of colors. Summer silks in stripes, checks and plaids are, as usual, in demand, but they are not so new as the China silks, with their light, neutral and dark toned grounds, scattered over with flowers, geometrical designs and quaint figures; the Mikado conceits now being the most popular. Canton pongees, in full dress patterns are in demand for summer suits, while for combinations with, and trimmings of silks, surahs, and choice woolens, there are lovely velvets with "spring" stripes in two tones

Something new for millinery purposes, and for over dresses, or draping over silks, satins, plushes and velvets, is an exquisite American creation, the Cheney crape, which comes in light shades of all colors, and has an odd weave effect of being in a darker shade of the self color, speckled over with spots of a lighter tone in the same hue.

The novelties in woolen goods are very choice, and many of them combine certain features of fabrics introduced last season, as in a striped material to be used with plain goods, which has stripes of embroidered brocade, in Persian colors, alternating with stripes formed of cut and uncut plush. Dentelle has lace effects in stripes, and Jacquard figures, with stripes in plush or moire.

Eglintine has a solid woven ground, with surface effects in imitation of moss. Coblentz suiting, for early spring wear, is in medium weight, with serge ground covered with small check of wick, in two colors, while Bivouac, a rough mixed suiting in fancy colors, has a soft wool bourette or wick woven into narrow stripes. The Khayyam serges for this season, come in new colors, and this camel's hair fabric will be in great favor for seashore and mountain wear.

Wolfram serge is an odd diagonal serge in plain colors and beige mixtures, in light and medium weight; and Etamine, a canvas weave, can be bought alone, or with a border for trimming.

There are quite as many high priced novelties in black goods, as in colored fabrics, and perhaps the most singular is the Kangaroo texture, with upstanding hairs over its surface. Then there is a crazy crape with side band of boucle, also a fabric with Albatros ground striped with twelve distinct cords or lines of camel's hair.

The demand for Priestley's black dress goods with silk warp, also in all wool, increases, as the merits of the fabrics become known; and the reliable merchants in New York and Philadelphia generally endorse them for their uniform color in jet or blue black, their surface finish, and their good wearing qualifications. In Priestley's all-wool goods is a cashmere with Henrietta finish, which is superior to any article at the same price, to be found in this country. Clairette and convent cloth, make up into neat, stylish, and serviceable suits for spring wear.

As we have described some very high priced eccentricities, perhaps it will be of benefit to our lady friends to give them prices, so they can know if a desired material will come within their means, and at the same time a few reasonable priced goods, and actual bargains can be added to the list.

Plush stripe Dentelle costs from $3 to $5 a yard. Goods with lace grounds and figures in plush are $5 a yard. Bivouac is $2.50 a yard. Coblentz suiting is $1.25 a yard. Etamine costs from 50c. to $1.50 a yard. Bordeur Ebilis is $3.50 a yard, while a standard quality of the new Wolfram serge, in plain colors and beige mixtures, is $1.00 a yard. And still another attractive fabric, called combination suiting, with stripe matching cloth, is in all the new mixtures, and costs only 75 cents a yard, and is 42 inches wide. A most serviceable, all-wool, heavy quality cashmere in all colors, just the goods for spring, is only 44c. a yard.

Among the bargains in black goods are the Homespun wicker cloths at 75c. a yard, Billiard cloth at 50c., usually sold for $1.25 a yard, a camel's hair 52 inches wide, at $1, was $2 not long ago, and Priestley's 46 inch wide black cashmere, Henrietta finish, at 65c., 75c., 85c. and $1.

In summer dress goods satines cost 15c., 18c., 20c. and 25c. a yard for domestic brands, and 25c., 35c., 45c. and 50c., for imported. Cambrics are 12½ and 15c. a yard. Calicoes, 6c., 8c. and 10c. a yard. Percales, and suitings or shirtings, 12½c., 15c., 18c. and 20c. a yard.

Summer silks cost 49c., 65c. and 75c. a yard; in newer stripes and colors, $1 and $1.25. Choice China silks in light colors are 90c., $1.15, $1.25 and $1.50 a yard; in dark colors, they cost 75c., $1 and $1.25 a yard. Spring stripe velvets are $1.50, $2, $2.50 and $3 a yard, and the Persian and plush striped goods are marked $2.25 a yard.

A late style for making up serges or plain cloth, is to have plain front of a brocade or Persian goods, large plaits of the serge for sides, while the back is arranged in side plaits or folds. The bodice consists of a jacket of serge, with waistcoat, collar and cuffs of the brocaded plush, or Persian goods, which also finishes the edge of the jacket skirt. The buttons and ornaments are of bronze or silver.

Another suit shows the underskirt of velveteen is a rich garnet; it is made perfectly plain. The upper dress is of blue and garnet canvas cloth, arranged in skirt with straight drapery and sash in the back, and shawl point in front. The corsage and revers are of stripes, while vest, collar and cuffs are of velveteen.

In combination suiting is a dress with underskirt of plain goods, finished at lower edge with a flounce. The drapery of figured goods is oddly and gracefully looped in the back, and turned over and up at the sides. The waistcoat of the plain goods, is secured with fancy buttons. The open basque has its front ends upturned like the sides of overskirt, and the back skirt is in box plaits.

When woolen suitings with fancy borders are used, the skirt is usually made plain, or lightly trimmed. The tunic or polonaise is trimmed with one of the borders, which may be ten or twelve inches deep; the tunic is loosely looped up so as to form large plaits falling naturally. With the same border a plain plastron can be made by placing the pattern lengthwise.

A very stylish dinner dress is of green faille; the skirt and bodice are cut in square tabs, the front of skirt is covered with cream lace, the drapery is of biscuit colored American crape, edged with a fringe of beads, and the bodice is trimmed with ruchings of the crape, red roses and falls of beads.

For evening wear, a pretty gown is made of cream lace over a foundation of blue satin. It is finished with a Medici collar, sash and sleeve trimmings of blue moire.

Ladies who have plain dresses that they wish to make a little more elaborate, or gowns a season or so old they wish to refresh, can render them positively new in appearance by draping the skirt with an old lace point or shawl, if they happen to have one, or trimming it with some of the new wool laces. For the waist they can make one of the lovely little parures, in any desirable color that will go well with the shade of the dress; cream, rose, lilac, ecru, heliotrope, straw, blue, or any light tone may be used. Some pretty models are gathered at the neck, others are shaped like a puffed plastron, filling in the front of the jacket.

A new parure is of tulle in tiny rows, gathered by a delicate ribbon in the same shade of the tulle, the ends of the ribbon being tied in tiny bows, which give finish to the model. Sometimes these pretty articles are finished at the throat with a small collar of velvet or silk, which may be embroidered with gold or silver, or colored glass beads, or jets. When worn over the high bodice of a silk dress, so as to simulate an open corsage, the plastron is framed in with velvet revers, holding on to a turned down velvet collar, and these revers may be left plain or embroidered; velvet cuffs should accompany the collar and revers. To wear with a light blue silk dress, a set after this description is made of cream velvet, and embroidered in pearls.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Mrs. G. A. T.," Atlanta, Ga.—Dresses of satine, when intended for house wear, are made with full flounced skirt, gathered into a waistband, full bodice with yoke, and fitted sleeves. Sometimes with figured, or flowered satine, the yoke, collar, belt and cuffs, are of a dark rich shade of velvet or velveteen, and two graduated bands of the same material, are placed on skirt at lower edge. You can get pretty satine for 25c. and 35c. a yard.

"Miss E. B.," Washington, D. C.—Glad you like Ball's Health Preserving Elastic Section Corsets, for misses. You can procure illustrated circular and price list of styles for ladies, in Ball's corsets, by writing for it to Sharpless Brothers, Philadelphia, Pa.

"Mrs. James Aurey."—Your letter of advice had no address except name of street; you also neglected to give address on postal containing complaint. To receive reply, all letters must have name, city, county and State, or full address, for sometimes the post-mark is indistinct.

"Allie Powers."—Some dresses for young girls are tucked nearly to the hips, and are gathered into a waist belt. Waist has yoke, full bodice, and coat sleeves. White dresses, or those of cambric, are made in this style.

"Mourner," Elmira, N. Y.—The most reasonable priced material for your suit is Priestley's jet black cashmere with Henrietta finish; it is 46 inches wide, and comes in qualities which sell for 65c., 75c., 85c. and $1 a yard.

"Miss Lettie Ireland, Mrs. Ida Roberts, and others."—You will find full information in the Fashion article, about fabrics and styles. Sharpless Brothers, Chestnut and Eighth streets, Phila., Pa., will send you samples of any mentioned fabric, also estimates for outfits.

"Mrs. Gill."—Yes, the house of Le Boutillier Bros., Broadway and 14th St., New York, is entirely reliable.

"Mrs. J. E. C."—According to fancy. The bonnets and hats for spring are to be trimmed in front, at the side, and in the back, just as the wearer may desire.

"Economical Mother."—The best soap we have tried for washing silk and woolen goods to make dresses over for children, is Ingersoll's quick-acting soap. It is also splendid for washing any kind of colored cotton fabrics. Will send you circular of information if you wish it, and send stamp, and name and address in full to Fashion Editor L. H. J., 441 Chestnut St., Phila., Pa.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

A Good Climber.

One of the best plants to train about the veranda, or over any trellis-work, is the Clematis. This vine is a rapid grower, generally growing from the roots each year, and sending up a great many shoots which will make a growth of from ten to fifteen feet. We have no vine with which I am familiar, which blooms so constantly and profusely through the latter part of summer and fall. We have varieties in white, purple, mauve, lavender, crimson and white, both single and double. To produce a fine and striking effect, a white and purple or blue variety can be planted together and allowed to intermingle their branches to suit themselves. Jackmani is perhaps the best known, as it is one of the best, of all the many varieties lately introduced. It has a large four-petaled purple flower, which gives a splendid effect against its light green foliage. Any are good, and whoever wants a good out-door plant can scarcely do better than to get a Clematis. The top generally dies to the ground in winter, but seven feet of it can be saved by laying it down and covering it in fall.

CLEMATIS.

***

THE CARE OF A GARDEN.

If the young people who read the JOURNAL, and I presume there are a good many, all know how much pleasure can be derived from the cultivation of a few flowers, I feel sure that every home to which the paper comes, would have its flower garden, if circumstances would admit of it. The care of a garden interests a person in the study of plant growth, and leads to the acquirement of a great deal of valuable knowledge. Flowers have a refining influence on the mind and character of whoever grows them.

Some persons are under the impression that to succeed with a garden one must have a "knack" for gardening, and that it is a difficult matter to grow flowers well. They are mistaken. There is no "knack" about it. If you care for flowers, enough to give them the care they require, you can grow them easily.

In spring, as soon as the frost is entirely out of the ground, spade up your beds. Turn up the soil to the depth of at least a foot, and let the clods, as thrown from the spade, be exposed to the action of the air and sun until they become mellow, and can be easily crumbled into fineness by a hoe or iron rake.

Do not try to pulverize the soil until the surplus moisture always found in it in spring, has largely evaporated. Do not be in a hurry to plant seeds. Wait until the sun has warmed the soil. If you sow seeds before warm weather is an assured fact, very likely they will rot. If they germinate, the plants grown from them will not be as robust and healty as those grown from seeds sown later. Nothing is gained, in gardening, by being in a hurry.

When you get ready to sow your seeds, have the soil on the surface of the bed as fine as possible. Sow the seeds a little thicker than you will want the plants to stand, to allow for a possible failure in germination. Cover the seed lightly with soil, and press it down with a board, to make it compact, and thus prevent a too rapid evaporation of moisture which would take place in loose soil, often to the great injury of the sprouting seed, which must be kept quite moist at this stage, in order to secure successful germination.

As soon as the plants have made enough growth to enable you to tell the difference between them and the weeds which will always make their appearance, clean the beds thoroughly, and keep them clean. Never allow a weed to secure a foothold. You cannot have good flowers unless you keep down weeds. A weedy garden is but little, if any, better than no garden at all.

If the season should be a dry one, you may have to water your plants in order to make them bloom well. Do this at night. If water is given in the morning, the hot sun causes it to evaporate so rapidly that but little benefit is derived from it by the roots. Given at evening, it penetrates the soil, and none of it is wasted.

Never allow the surface of the soil to become hard. If you do, dew cannot be absorbed by it, and a large share of the water you may apply will run off, instead of being soaked up by the soil, which, if kept light and open, will act like a sponge.

If the soil in the place selected for your garden is not rich, add well rotted manure from the barnyard. Dig it in well with the soil when you spade up the beds. If the soil is heavy, and clayey, work in sand, and make it light and porous.

***

ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.

"Mrs. R. W. T."—The Cineraria can be grown from seed, or plants can be purchased from florists. They should be renewed each year. Primroses are never satisfactory after their first year of bloom. I presume your Heliotrope's leaves turn rusty because you have kept it too dry. This plant requires a good deal of water when the pot is filled with roots. Water daily.

"Mrs. J. D. S."—Hellebore, sprinkled on out-door Rose bushes while wet with dew, will destroy lice. If the bushes you refer to are in the house, syringe them with a tea made by steeping tobacco stems in water for 24 hours. Use it the color of coffee. Syringe daily until the lice disappear. I do not know how your rose cuttings, if well rooted, should die on transplanting into beds. I am inclined to think you transplant too soon, or disturb the young and tender roots too much in removal.

"Mrs. W. B. S.," "W. C. T.," and others:—The plants you ask about can be procured of Peter Henderson & Co., 35 Cortland St., N. Y. This firm keeps "everything for the garden," and sells at reasonable rates. Send to them for a very elegant catalogue, which will give the prices of the plants you ask about.

☞ All letters of inquiry intended for Floral department should be addressed to Eben E. Rexford, Shiocton, Wis.

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The inventive genius of the American people, in providing increased conveniences, luxuries and comforts, was never more active than at the present time; but we have an additional evidence of this in the improved toilet paper, as described in the advertisement elsewhere. Where once introduced, this useful article is looked upon as a household necessity, and the reasonable price at which it is offered, greatly increases the sale. All progressive druggists keep it in stock, but any of our readers can receive it promptly by mail, on addressing the "A. P. W. Paper Co.," Albany, N. Y.

For taste and originality in designs for stamping patterns, G. L. Androus, of New York, has held a high reputation for a long time. Will the JOURNAL sisters please send for his catalogue.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MUSICAL STUDIES.

NO. XIII.

BY MARGARET B. HARVEY.

In reading over my last letter, it struck me that possibly I may have written one or more obscure sentences. If so, I beg the reader to remember that it is always difficult to express a technical idea in popular language. If I have mystified any of my readers, I would say that I am always ready to answer all questions, to the best of my ability. Also, that I am glad to hear from any student of music, as to his or her present stage of progress, chief difficulty, or special need.

You notice, in "The Shepherd Boy," that the first measure or bar contains but one note—on this you were directed to count 6. I believe I omitted to state that the last bar in the composition contained 5 counts. This is an invariable rule. When a "piece," or a part thereof—"a movement," it is sometimes called—begins with a portion of a bar, or an insufficient number of counts, the remainder is always added to the end of the piece or movement, as though you cut a ribbon into two uneven lengths, and fastened the one to one end of a scarf, the other to the other, thus using up the whole quantity, although not in one continuous band. If, however, you threw the scarf around your neck, you could "make both ends meet;" similarly, if, after reaching the end of the composition, you went back to the beginning and repeated, the broken bar would be complete. You will often be required to go back and repeat, both in singing and playing. The sign D. C. means Da Capo, return to the beginning; D. S. means Dal Segno, return to the sign, which may occur anywhere in a composition, and is made somewhat like the letter S, with dots. The repitition continues usually until the word Fine is reached, which indicates Finis, or end. Repitition is also shown by dots placed before a heavy, or double bar, at the end of a piece or movement.

There is a good reason for every musical device. A bar is divided at the beginning of a piece or movement, on account of the accent. Accent in music corresponds to what we know as rhythm in poetry, or stress in prose. These are all founded upon nature, for the human voice, both in speaking and singing, moves naturally, in pulsations, or beats, regulated chiefly by instinct. In 4-4 time, the accent falls chiefly upon the first and third counts; in triplets, or other groups of notes, upon the first note, and so forth. A true composer does not hammer out a melody to suit the rules of accent, any more than a poet does a verse to conform with a system of metre. Far from it. He first receives the melody, just as it is delivered to him—Mozart and some of the other old masters believed that they were nothing but passive instruments; their "divine melodies," as they called them, were literally brought to them from heaven by angels, and breathed into their souls. Who shall say that this is not true? I, for one, believe it—inspiration, you know, means, breathing in. Not every composer, of course, is inspired by an angel—the spirit breathing into him may, after all, be only the spirit of his own conceit—however, you know what I mean. From whatever spirit the melody may be received, we must first suppose a melody. If the first note happens to be an accented one, this melody can be written in the ordinary way, in the most suitable variety of time. But, if it happen to be a short, unaccented note, then the air must be written in an exceptional manner. One or more notes at the end of a measure may be taken, so that the first accented note in the melody may be made to correspond with the first count in the first perfect bar.

Have you grasped this idea firmly? It does not cover the whole ground, but perhaps if you now run over the opening and closing measures of "The Shepherd Boy," you will see the principle, and never forget it. This will give me opportunity to prepare you for some little puzzles in syncopated notes and broken time.

Syncopated notes are those accented upon the counts which would ordinarily be unaccented. They are used when it is necessary to reverse the usual rule for accent. Syncopation is generally effected by a tie, carrying a note over a count or bar, so that it will receive no beat of its own. It is also done by dividing a count upon one or more notes, and placing the smaller note before the larger, instead of the larger before the smaller, as is generally the case.

There is no special difficulty in playing syncopated notes, if you count evenly, and remember that, if the count seems to come exactly where it ought not, you are counting all right. Small notes you may consider grace notes, tied notes, just as you would ordinary tied notes.

Broken time, however, is not always Syncopation. When the count comes upon the first and largest note, of a measure or group, the accent is in the usual place, as your ear ought to tell you. You already know from your study of Kohler's exercises, that one count may have two notes, upon the first of which you give the figure, upon the second the word "and." But one count may stand for an indefinite number of notes. If a triplet, count it thus: "1, and, ah," a note to each utterance. If a note, a dot, and a smaller note, say, 1 to the note, "and" to the dot, "ah," to the smaller note—or, say 1 to the note, "and" to the dot, and throw the small note in quickly, like a grace note. When you have more notes than three, divide the number by two, and appropriate the first group to the 1, the second to the and; sometimes you must wave your voice in counting, as, "o-o-o-ne," "a-a-a-nd," every wave carrying a note,—a small one, of course, sometimes too short in duration to be accurately counted. Sometimes, a succession of notes is naturally divisible by three; then, count it thus: "o-o-o-one-e," "a-a-a-n-d," "ah-h-h-h-h." Sometimes the only rule is, play as rapidly as possible—that is, when there are more than ten notes to a count. Occasionally, a long series of little notes can have a time system of its own, independent of the composition which it ornaments—this is indicated in various ways, most frequently by the phrase ad libitum, meaning, at pleasure. One of the most difficult feats in execution is to play couplets with one hand, and triplets with the other, and preserve the proper accents in both—the first note of the triplet must come with the first note of the couplet, the last with the last, and the middle note of the triplet just between those of the couplet. Oh, you say, we haven't come to all this hard playing yet. Yes, you have—you have been practicing scales for some time past, and all this is, with very little modification, your, it is hoped, now familiar scale practice. I should have added, arpeggios, but you already know that arpeggios are only altered scales and chords.

Arpeggios are frequently introduced into pieces as ornaments—now you see why you may have six or ten or more notes on one count—darkness has become daylight, hasn't it? One caution here. In fingering an arpeggio, keep the thumb down, until the finger has made its proper pass, and vice versa; otherwise, the arpeggio will be broken, and have the effect of couplets and triplets, instead of preserving one continuous chain of notes. Couplets and triplets, you may, if you like, consider broken arpeggios. By the way, do you know what an arpeggio literally means? It is derived from the Italian word for harp, and indicates a rapid sweep, as over a harp—the piano, you know, is a horizontal harp, and can be used as one. Remember this, and scale practice will be turned into a modern imitation of David and Orpheus.

And now I think you are quite ready to take up Clementi's Sonatines. You are surprised—so, perhaps, are some of your musical friends. I have kept you on scales and exercises for months, and have only given you one "piece," that one not considered very difficult. But now you begin to see that you have made haste slowly. Clementi's Sonatines are old standards, taught in the best music schools and conservatories everywhere—when you have practiced them faithfully, for a few months, you will begin to see that you have laid a very good foundation for higher musical study—though some authorities consider these compositions quite as meritorious as any.

The Sonatines are twelve in number, of which the first six constitute Opus 36, the next three, Opus 37, and the last three, Opus 38. Any sonatine can be purchased separately, but it is much better and cheaper to buy the whole volume, as a separate sonatine costs about 20 cents, while the twelve, in a paper-covered book, costs but 60 cents. In any collection, there are always two compositions that you like, so you will save considerable by ordering music in quantities.

In the first Sonatine, Op. 36, No. 1, there is nothing beyond your present capacity, provided you have practiced and will still continue to do so. Perhaps you do not know what a sonatine is—it is, really, a little sonata, and a sonata is a composition of several movements, intended as an instrumental solo. In this first sonatine, there are three movements, of which the first is written in the natural key, common time; the second, in the key of one flat, 3-4time; and the third, in the natural key, 3-8 time. You know that Allegro, means quick, Andante, slow, and Vivace, lively. So you already gain some idea of the character of each movement. The fingering is carefully marked throughout, after the German system.

You notice that the first movement is in the natural key, the second, in the key of one flat. It will not do to jump abruptly from one key into another—you run the risk of producing dissonant intervals, which cannot be resolved—that is, the ear may receive a shock, which a subsequent note cannot soothe. The change must be made gradually, and this process is known as modulation. In passing from one key to another a note must be found which will form part of a chord, or harmonize with a note in that chord, in either key—this is called a passing note. In this case the passing note is C. It is the key-note of the natural key, and the third of the key of one flat, thus harmonizing with the key-note F. The third movement is in the natural key, and the passing note, from the key of one flat, back to the natural key again is F. The whole opus consists of transitions from one key to another.

You are not surprised, then, to hear that all the keys are bound together, in a close relationship. Why not, when they are all derived from one—or, all the artificial scales are all the children of one mother, C natural? Every scale has its relative, major or minor; every scale has a sister scale, only one half tone, higher or lower. For instance, C major has for its relative, A minor; A major is not very different from A flat major. Sharp the fourth note in any major scale, and the resulting sound is the seventh in the next scale; or, vice versa, flat the seventh, and you have the fourth in the next scale—how easy, then, to find the key-note, and pass into the next key. Any piece written in sharps may be played a half tone lower, by using the corresponding flat key, and keeping the proper intervals. Accidentals, flats, sharps and naturals, are frequently employed in resolution. Now, do you not catch the idea? Do you see what you are to admire in a sonata?

In all probability, you may practice the Sonatines a whole year, before you begin to understand them—a new one, every month, is doing very well. But I think I can safely say that, at the end of that year, you will have gained as much as you would, in three or four years, according to the ordinary system of teaching. I wish I could give you some special help, in advance—but all that I can think of, just now, is, look out, here and there, for syncopated notes and broken time. And, a dot placed over or under a note, means Staccato, or marked accent.

I don't mean, study Clementi's Sonatines, and nothing else, for a whole year. That would be monotonous, indeed. But, make their study your regular musical business—keep at scales and exercises, as your little, necessary, daily, "chores"—and take up a song, or a light instrumental piece, as an occasional recreation. You can begin this system, immediately, with one sonatine, the first, Op. 36, No. 1—Scales and Cadences, Kohler's Etudes, etc.—and one piece, "The Shepherd Boy."

After awhile, you will need other Etudes. I recommend Czerney's, Duvernoy's, or Loeschorn's, of which more hereafter. And now, please let me hear from you. I feel unable to carry you further, unless I know what you have actually accomplished.

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Respectfully yours, JESSIE L. THRAVES.

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Gentlemen—I received the barrel with Tea and China in nice order. Please accept my thanks for your kindness and prompt attention. Hope at a future day I may send you a better order.
I am very respectfully, HENRY S. BILGER.

London Tea Co.: HOMER, N. Y., 185.
I am happy to inform you that my Tea, Coffee and China came last Wednesday, beautifully packed, and in perfect order. We were all perfectly delighted with the Tea Set. Thanking you for your prompt attention to filling the order, and the Premium and nice book of recipes, with hearty good wishes for your continued success, I remain very respectfully yours,
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We cannot too strongly urge upon our readers the necessity of subscribing for a family, weekly newspaper of the first class—such, for instance, as THE INDEPENDENT, of New York. Were we obliged to select one publication for habitual and careful reading to the exclusion of all others, we should choose unhesitatingly THE INDEPENDENT. It is a newspaper, magazine, and review, all in one. It is a religious, a literary, an educational, a story, an art, a scientific, an agricultural, a financial, and a political paper combined. It has 32 folio pages and 22 departments. No matter what a person's religion, politics or profession may be, no matter what the age, sex, employment or condition may be, THE INDEPENDENT will prove a help, an instructor, an educator. Our readers can do no less than to send a postal for a free specimen copy, or for thirty cents the paper will be sent a month, enabling one to judge of its merits more critically. Its yearly subscription is $3.00, or two years for $5.00.

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TAKES THE LEAD!
Does Not Corrode like Tin or Iron; Nor Decay like Shingles or Tar compositions.
Handsomely Ornamented CARPETS & RUGS of same material, Outwear two Oil Cloths.
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THE WONDER OF THE AGE! A SCIENTIFIC TRIUMPH!!

MASON'S INDICATOR CHART, Attachable to any Piano. A child 10 years old can understand it perfectly.

This wonderful invention has been before the public (in its perfected form) less than two years, and we have sold over 6000, which is the surest test of its merit; and orders have been received from every country on the globe. **Mason's Indicator Chart is a machine** which fits over the keys of a Piano or Organ, indicating where and how the hands are to be placed, and the proper keys to strike, changing its position and arrangement to suit the different keys. They are infallible in result. It can be used by any one, and you can play the Piano or Organ in **one day** better than a Teacher could teach you in many lessons. If you have no Piano you can learn at some friend's house, and astonish all with your acquirement. DEXTER SMITH, the editor of the leading Musical Paper in the world, says, "They should find a place in every home. They are to Music what the Multiplication Table is to Arithmetic." It gives satisfaction in every case. MUSIC TEACHERS UNHESITATINGLY ENDORSE IT. The price is **$1.00** for a complete set (4 charts). Favorable terms to Agents and the Trade.

$1.75 WORTH of Choice Music Given FREE.

SPECIAL OFFER.—In order to introduce this wonderful invention at once in every town where this paper reaches, **we will give free** to every reader of this paper, who buys a Mason's Indicator Chart, our **Musical Album**, containing music which if bought separately would cost **$1.75**. If you desire the Album, STATE THAT YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER, otherwise we will **not** give the Album free, as it is intended as a present **solely to the readers of this paper.** We send the Indicator and Album by mail, **prepaid**, for **$1.00.** THIS IS POSITIVELY NO HUMBUG. We have thousands of testimonials from old and young, and from almost every country on the globe. **C. H. W. BATES & CO.,** 106 Sudbury St., Boston, Mass., Sole Agents. These Charts are copyrighted and patented. All infringements will be prosecuted.

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(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

HOW SOME LITTLE PEOPLE MADE THEMSELVES USEFUL.

PART III.

(CONCLUSION.)

According to promise, about the middle of February Mabel Livingston received the following letter from cousin Anna.

FEBRUARY 12, 18——

"LITTLE COUSIN:—I hear through your mamma that your birds are doing well. About this time you have, doubtless, noticed your female birdie flying about the cage in an uneasy manner, probably often into some particular corner of it. This is the corner in which she would like to have her nest. She has made frequent visits to the fish bone, too. This she uses for the shells of her eggs. Cut off about two-thirds of the length of the sides of one of your seed boxes. Put in two or three layers of cotton batting and cover with muslin. Sew it around the edge and draw down closely in the bottom. Tie this little nest to the wires of the cage, in the corner which she seems to prefer. Boil an egg every other day and mix with a cracker grated fine. Feed her this in addition to the seed, until after she lays. She will probably commence setting as soon as the first egg is laid, and then in fourteen or fifteen days look for little birdies. They will hatch one each day, just as the eggs were laid. Do not be too much disappointed if the first lot of eggs do not hatch at all, for early in the season they do sometimes fail. Upon the first appearance of the little birdie put the egg and cracker mixture into the cage, for this soft food is what she will raise her little family upon, mostly. Keep seed in the cage however, all the time. When they are three weeks old they may be removed from the cage of the mother bird, as they will disturb her in her preparations for a second nest. Give her a clean nest every time she wishes to lay. Continue the soft food for the young birds until they are about six weeks of age, keeping seed within their reach all the time. When about three weeks old the males will begin to sing. Do not expect much in the way of a song, at first, for the business is very new to them; but they will get used to it, and do better soon. At about eight weeks of age the young birds will begin to moult. They should then be kept warm, (not above 70 degrees temperature however) and be especially careful that the air does not strike them or they will catch cold. Feed upon the soft food again mixed with a little cayenne pepper. Your old birds will not moult until about September. Do not allow the female to lay and raise any more birds after the moulting commences, as it will weaken her so that she will do you no good next season. If necessary remove the male bird from her cage. Treat them during moulting the same as the young birds. If any of your birds should catch cold, (they will sit stupid and with feathers puffed out if they have) drop a little glycerine, or put a rusty nail into their drinking water. This will usually effect a cure. Now, I think I have given you all the directions that are necessary for the care and breeding of birds. Sell your males when about ten weeks old for one dollar; your females at a quarter of a dollar. Such birds as you have will raise you very handsome spotted birds. Next year, if you feel like continuing and enlarging your business, I will make you a present of a pale yellow male and a brown female, which will raise you the cinnamon canaries, which are worth a great deal more money than the common birds. Wishing you and your birdies success, I remain,

"COUSIN ANNA."

Who, with cousin Anna's plain directions could make anything but a success of the undertaking! Mabel Livingstone soon found that her business was a source of more pleasure, a means of obtaining more knowledge, and a source of more profit even than brother Rob's. Both were well satisfied with their chosen employments. E. F. M.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive, and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French, or English, with full directions for preparing and using, sent by mail by addressing, with a stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYES, 149 Power's Block, Rochester, N. Y.

Mason & Hamlin bid fair to become as famous for their upright pianos as they have long been for their world-renowned cabinet organs. The distinguishing feature about the "Mason & Hamlin Upright" is an important improvement in the method of holding the strings of the piano, which originated in their own factory. The strings are secured by metallic fastenings, instead of by the friction of pins set in wood, as has been the case, and the advantages resulting are numerous and highly important. Among them are the following: Wonderful beauty and musical quality of tone; far less liability of getting out of tune; greater reliability in trying climates; and greater solidity of construction and durability. Mason & Hamlin have made 150,000 organs. They can hardly expect to make as many pianos, but they will doubtless be called upon for a very large number. Indeed, their piano department is now running to its utmost capacity, and the Company is behind orders. So great is the demand that the Company is now arranging for a large additional factory building.

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Lablache Face Powder

is used much more extensively than any other preparation. Its power to give a brilliant complexion is marvellous; is used and endorsed by the most refined ladies in private and public life. Will send it to any address on receipt of 25 2-cent stamps. BEN LEVY & CO. French Perfumers, 59 Winter street Boston Mass.

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50 Silk Fringe, Embossed, Hidden Name, &c. Cards, 10c., 6 pks. 50c. Franklin Ptg. Co., New Haven, Ct.

A SET of Six Beautiful Teaspoons FREE TO ALL!

"MARQUESS" PATTERN.

The bowls of these Teaspoons, one of which is shown in reduced form in our illustration, is of fine white steel, and warranted to contain no brass or other objectionable metal. Over the steel they are heavily and durably plated with what is known as Malaga silver, a very composition metal which for brilliancy and lustrousness resembles pure silver so that it cannot be distinguished therefrom. This plating is bright, hard and durable, and these teaspoons, so plated, are warranted to wear long and well, and to give perfect satisfaction. These spoons are of a neat and very beautiful pattern, and would form a graceful addition to any housewife's table. Wishing to introduce into thousands of new homes our large and attractive 16-page, 8-column Literary and Family paper, **The Fireside at Home**, which is ever helpful of the most interesting and instructive reading matter and choicest illustrations, we now make the following extraordinary offer: Upon receipt of only **Thirty-Five Cents**, we will send **The Fireside at Home** for **Three Months**, and to every subscriber who will also send, **Free and post-paid, the Set of 6 Beautiful Teaspoons** above described. Remember, the Teaspoons will not tarnish; they are finished with a beautiful silver-yellow to our paper. We make this liberal offer solely to increase the circulation. Now is the time for you to replenish your old stock of Teaspoons with new and fashionable goods. Five subscriptions and five sets of Teaspoons will be sent for $1.50. You cannot afford to miss this chance. We guarantee double value of money sent. As to our reliability, we refer to any publisher in New York. Address, S. H. MOORE & CO., 27 Park Place, New York.

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1 Illustrated Book of Instruction in Kensington Embroidery Work .... .10
1 Self-Stamping Pad, cap. size .12
1 Box best Stamping Powder .15
1 Felt Tidy, with design stamped all ready to work, with a pattern of silk and needle .... .35

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1 little Girl, 6 in. high
1 Kitten, 2½ in. high
1 little Butterfly
1 little Bird
1 Bird, 4½ inches
1 design, 2 Owls on Branch
1 Star and Anchor
1 design of Child's Face
1 Sprig of Daisies, 4½ in.
1 growing design of Violets, for Lambrequins, &c., 7 inches high
1 single Daisy and Forget-me-not, 2½ in.
1 sprig of Bachelor's Button, 3½ in. high
1 cluster of Strawberries, 2½ in.
1 sprig of Forget-me-nots, 1½ in.
1 bouquet of Daisies & Forget-me-nots 4½ in.
1 vine of Daisies and Ferns, 3½ in. wide
1 single Rose and Bud, 2½ in.
1 bunch of Pansies, 2½ in.
1 bunch of Roses & Buds, 2½ in.
1 sprig of Golden Rod, 4 in. high
1 sprig of Daisies, 4 in. high
1 sprig of Smilax, 4 in. high
1 single Buttercup, 2½ in.
1 sprig of Asters, 2½ in.
1 sprig of Barberries, 3 in. high
1 vine of Leaves, 1½ in. wide
1 vine of Point Russe Stitches, 1½ in. wide
Snow-flake designs for Crazy Patchwork
1 strip of Scallops for Skirts, Infant's Blanks, &c.
1 vine with Scallop, 2½ in. wide
1 Braiding Vine, 3 in. wide
1 Braiding Vine, 1½ in. wide
Design of Crying Child for Tidy in outline
1 outline design, Boy and Girl Skating, 7 in. high

With the Outfit You Can Learn the Art of the Kensington Embroidery. You can learn Perforated Stamping, and do your own stamping. You can adorn your home with hundreds of beautiful articles at Kensington Embroidery. You can teach the art of Kensington Embroidery and Stamping and do embroidery for others. Many young ladies who begin business with our Embroidery Outfit advance doing a very pretty and paying business. **REMEMBER** the entire outfit within **One Dollar** **TWO** outfits $1.75 sending a box for only **FOUR** outfits for **ONLY THREE DOLLARS.** Get three of your friends to send with you and get your own **OUTFIT FREE!** Send Postal Note, Money Order or Registered Letter. Postage Stamps taken. Send all orders to **World Man'f'g Co. 122 Nassau Street, New York**

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With the Most Perfect and Successful Imitation of the Hen.

THE CRAIG

FOLDING INCUBATOR.

Simplicity itself. No lamps to explode. No batteries, clockwork, regulators, egg-drawers, or other contrivances to get out of order. No cost of experience, and very little care and time in operating. Needs no watching. Hatches all fertile eggs. The upper portion folds back like the lid of a trunk. The eggs are placed in a nest on natural soil in the lower portion and receive the heavy heat from a tank of warm water in the lid. Proper heat is maintained by drawing off a part of the water twice a day and replacing with boiling water, about 10 quarts at a time for smaller size.

100 EGGS SIZE	$12
200 " "	22
300 " "	30
500 " "	50
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EARLY HATCHED CHICKS Sell at from 50c to $1 per Pound.

It is also a **Brooder** and will care for the chicks as long as they need artificial heat, thus saving expense of special brooder. Both as an Incubator and as a Brooder it is unsurpassed by any machine, no matter what the cost, and is the **safest, cheapest** and **most easily managed** candidate for public favor. The Craig Incubator can be run with profit at any season. Any person should have a paying hatch the first time. It hatches in from 18 to 21 days, and equals the best work of the hen.

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BUY ONLY THE GENUINE.

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1,001 Important things you never knew or thought of about the human body and its curious organs. *How life is perpetuated, health saved, disease reduced. How to avoid pitfalls of ignorance and indiscretion. How to apply Home-Cure to all forms of disease. How to cure Croup, Old Eyes, Rupture, Phimosis, etc. How to make a happy marriage, have pride before.* SEND FOR OUR **FREE** RED, WHITE BLUE **PAMPHLETS** Murray Hill Pub. Co., 129 E. 28th St., New York.

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A Prize. Send six cents for postage, and receive free a costly box of goods which will help all of either sex to more money right away than anything else in this world. Fortunes await the worker absolutely sure. Terms mailed free. True & Co. Augusta, Me.

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Agents Wanted.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HINTS UPON ETIQUETTE AND GOOD MANNERS.

NO. II.

BY MRS. S. O. JOHNSTON.

Table Manners.

Good manners at the table are of the greatest importance, for one can, at a glance, discern whether a person has been trained to eat well, i. e. to hold the knife and fork properly, to eat without the slightest sound of the lips, to drink quietly, and not as a horse or cow drinks; to use the napkin rightly; to make no noise with any of the implements of the table, and last, but not least, to eat slowly, and masticate the food thoroughly. All these points should be most carefully taught to children and then they will always feel at their ease at the grandest tables in the land. There is no position where the innate refinement of a person is more fully exhibited, than at the table; and nowhere, that those who have not been trained in table etiquette feel more keenly their deficiencies. The knife should never be used to carry food to the mouth, but only to cut it up into small mouthfuls, then place it upon the plate at one side, and take the fork in the right hand, and eat all the food with it. Sometimes a bit of bread can be held in the left hand, and employed to push the food upon the fork. But adults do not need such assistance, yet for children it comes into good play. Be careful to keep the mouth shut closely while masticating the food. It is the opening of the lips which causes the smacking which is so disgusting, and reminds one of the eating of animals in the pig sty. Chew your food well, but do it silently, and be careful to take small mouthfuls. The knife can be used to cut the meat finely, as large pieces of meat are not healthful, if swallowed as the dog swallows them. At many tables, two, three, or more knives and forks are placed on the table, the knives at the right hand of the plate, the forks at the left. A knife and a fork for each course, so that there need be no replacing of them after the breakfast, or dinner is served. The smaller ones, which are for game, dessert, or for hot cakes at breakfast, can be tucked under the edges of the plate, and the large ones for the meat and vegetables are placed outside of them. Be very careful not to clatter your knives or forks upon your plates, but use them without noise. When passing the plate for a second helping, lay them together at one side of the plate. Soup is always served for the first course, and it should be eaten with dessert spoons, and taken from the tips of them, without any sound of the lips, and not sucked into the mouth audibly from the side of the spoon. Never ask to be helped to soup a second time. The hostess may ask you to take a second plate, but you will politely decline. Fish chowder which is served in soup plates, is said to be the exception which proves this rule, and when eating of that, it is correct to take a second plateful, if desired.

Drink sparingly while eating. It is far better for the digestion, not to drink tea or coffee until the meal is finished. Drink gently, and do not pour it down your throat like water turned out of a pitcher.

When seating yourself at the table, unfold your napkin, and lay it across your lap in such a manner that it will not slide off upon the floor. Do not tuck it into your neck like a child's bib. For an old person, however, it is well to attach the napkin to a napkin hook and slip it into the vest, or dress buttonholes, to protect their garments. Or, sew a broad tape at two places on the napkin, and pass it over the head. When the soup is eaten, wipe the mouth carefully, with the napkin, and use it to wipe the hands after meals. Finger bowls are not a general institution, and yet they seem to be quite as needful as the napkin, for the fingers are also liable to become a little soiled in eating. They can be had quite cheaply, and should be half filled with water and placed upon the side table, or butler's tray, with the dessert, bread and cheese, etc. They are passed to each person when the dessert is placed upon the table. A leaf or two of sweet verbena, an orange flower, or a small slice of lemon, is usually put into each bowl, to rub upon the fingers. The slice of lemon is most commonly used. The finger tips are slightly dipped into the bowl, the lemon juice is squeezed upon them, and then they are dried softly upon the napkin. At dinner parties and luncheons, they are indispensable. The mouth is never wetted from the finger bowl in society, but in one's own home, where the finger bowls are used for the children, there is no breach of etiquette in washing the child's mouth, at the same time that its fingers are cleansed; while for adults the finger bowls will also be found most useful, as many a housekeeper rises from the table with fingers that would be greatly benefitted by a dip into one of these pretty glass bowls. No noise should be made at the table, such as drumming on the cloth with the handle of spoon or fork, or hitting the chair with the feet, or in any way disturbing the harmony of meals. Yet no one would desire that meals should be eaten in silence. The old maxim says that "chatted food is half digested," and like most old saws, it is full of wisdom, and pleasing conversation is of the greatest benefit to digestion, and will prevent dyspepsia. A dinner eaten in sullen silence, or accompanied by the bitter sauce of fault finding, can never be of the service to the brain, blood, bones, nerves, muscles, etc., that a dinner eaten amid:

"Quips and cranks and wanton wiles,
Nods and becks, and wreathed smiles,"

such as Milton tells us accompany mirth and good humor.

Therefore, study, my fair friends, to make the conversation of our tables jolly and mirthful. Strive to keep from it all things that would distress or annoy your husbands, and beg of them not to relate any occurrences that would startle or disquiet yourselves. If there is any fault finding to be made with the cookery, it had better be passed over until later in the day. If there is any ill news to communicate, let the table not be the place for its announcement.

Another old proverb states that: "a man's body and his mind are like a jerkin, and a jerkin's lining, rumple the one and you rumple the other." So we must take care that the brain receives no shock while the stomach is receiving food, else we shall surely, suffer acutely.

It is an excellent plan for a family to have an understanding that each member shall relate something he or she may have learned that day. Some pleasant incident, or some anecdote connected with history, science, or art. Or, if nothing better can be obtained, let each child repeat some item of news, or of events from the daily, or even weekly newspaper.

In a certain village school, the teacher told her pupils to commit to memory some short sentences from the news of the day, and repeat it after prayers, every morning. It was the most excellent training in memory, and whether it were prose or poetry, the child who learned it, would never forget it. She left the selection to the children, and they chose historical events, items of politics, scraps of poetry, and also of nonsense, but as

"A little nonsense now and then,
Is relished by the best of men,"

she never reproved the repeater of it.

So parents can educate both themselves and their children at the table, and while table etiquette is strictly maintained, the mind can be fed as well as the body.

Do not let your children reach across the table for food, but make them ask politely for what they desire, and not talk while their mouths are filled with food.

In many families there is no waitress, then every thing should be placed upon the table before the family are called, and the dessert can be put on a little table at your right. Always make your eldest daughter set the table, and do it neatly. Lay the cloth straight, and put the salt cellar and the butter plate, with the tumbler or cup, at the right hand of each person. Have crocheted macrame twine mats to keep the table cloth from being soiled, and at the head and foot of the table place a napkin cornerwise to the centre, or straight as one prefers. This will prove a great saving of table cloths, and the napkins can be renewed often. Then tell her to look carefully over the table to see that not one thing is omitted. Look at your plate, and see that there are enough cups and saucers placed neatly at the left hand, for breakfast or tea, and that the sugar bowl is well filled, and the cream and milk pitcher are prepared for use. Have a stand of metal at the right hand, to hold the coffee or tea pots, and the water pot, and a spoon cup should be placed beside the sugar bowl, with the teaspoons and sugar spoon in it. Also see that the carving knife, fork and steel, are laid beyond the plates at your husband's seat. And have these plates well heated, and all the food as hot as possible. It is a decided annoyance to have this child, or that one, asked to leave the table to procure needed appliances, that ought to have been upon it. No child should be permitted to rise from its chair without asking:—"May I be excused?"

The more visitors you have at your table the better it will be for your children, as they ought to learn something pleasing or agreeable from each guest.

Many of us only eat to live, yet while we eat we should all make the best of living, and not make our children ask that most prominent question of the day:—"Is life worth living?"

"Is not the life more than meat?" asked He who was wiser than any one who ever lived on earth.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

"Mrs. E. R. Dodson" writes: "Will you please give us some hints on etiquette for farmers and wives? How to write invitations and answers, either accepting or declining, and calling, or receiving guests." Ans.—The usual formula is thus: "Mrs. —— requests the pleasure of Mr. and Mrs. —— company at —— o'clock, on ——." Giving the hour at which you wish your guests to arrive, and the day you expect them. You can name the party if you like, writing "at dinner," or after "on"—— write the evening your party will take place. In reply, if accepting, you will write: "Mr. and Mrs. —— accept with pleasure Mrs. —— invitation to dinner, at —— o'clock, on ——." If you decline, or extremely regret: "Mr. and Mrs. —— deeply regret that they cannot accept Mrs. —— kind invitation for —— evening, or to dinner on——." If invited to a large party by printed card, you can enclose your visiting card in an envelope, with "Regrets," written below the name, or, "Regrets to decline Mr. and Mrs. —— invitation for —— evening." How to call and receive calls, will be given in an article in the future.

If any of our numerous readers desire information upon questions of etiquette and good manners, they can obtain it by sending letters to the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, directed to Etiquette Department.

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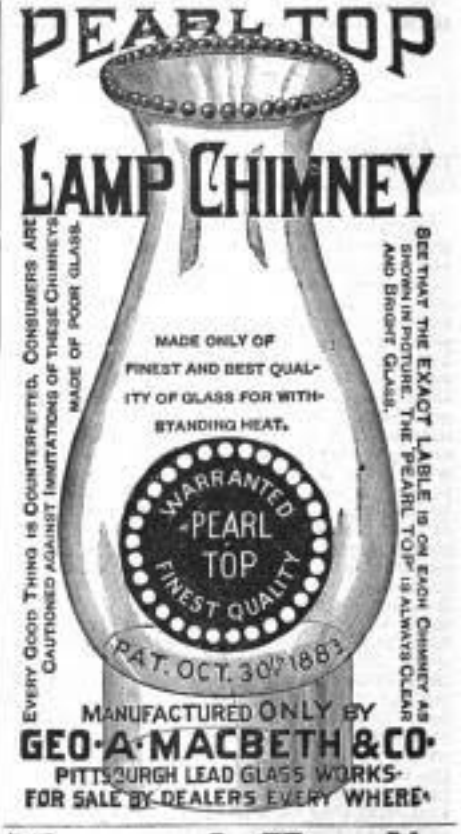

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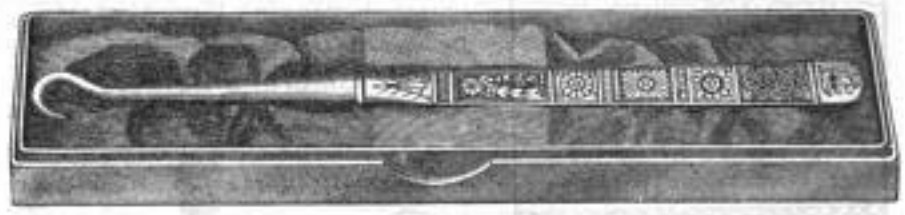

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Given for a Club of only 6 Subscribers at 25 Cents each.

These linen Tidies are a better quality than we have ever offered before. They are made of fine linen Crepe or Mosaic cloth, 11x18 inches in size, fringed on all four sides with heavy fringe two inches deep, and stamped as desired. We bought several cases of these tidies direct from the importing house, and procured them at a wonderful bargain. They are sold at the stores at 50c. to 75c. each; we will **give you one of them** if you will procure only 6 subscribers.

TIDY NO. 10 is the same as No. 9, but has a row of Drawn work on all sides. We will give you this tidy all stamped, for only 6 subscribers.

Bureau or Sideboard Scarf.

Given for a Club of only 20 Subscribers at 25 Cents per Year.

This is a very popular, useful and pretty piece of fancy work to throw over the side-board or a dressing case or bureau. It is made of the finest quality of crepe linen, 16 inches wide and 60 inches long, with fancy woven border all round, and fringed ends. We send this scarf stamped on each end similar to the illustration, for a club of only 20 subscribers.

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These Silk Purses, illustrated by the accompanying cut, are among the most popular pieces of fancy work of this season. The outfit consists of one spool of the best quality of Corticelli Purse Twist, one set of the very best Steel Trimmings, and complete directions for knitting the purse shown, also complete directions for crocheting the same. The twist for the purse can be ordered in the following colors: Scarlet; light, medium or dark cardinal; maroon; light, medium or dark slate; light, medium or dark blue; medium or dark navy; peacock blue; light, medium or dark brown; light, medium or dark gold.

This outfit complete, postage paid, we will send for 16 subscribers.

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If you will send us 12 new subscribers, we will send you a piece of satin to cover the crown of a hat, stamped with a monogram similar to the one illustrated, designed to order with your own initials.

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We give a set of six table Forks for only 20 subscribers. They are heavily plated with pure coin silver on white steel, and will wear for years. They are new and handsome patterns. Price $2.00. We use only the very best quality of silver-plated goods, on the finest English white steel. We will give these forks for only 10 subscribers and 75 cents extra in cash, if you cannot secure 20 subscribers, or for 6 subscribers and $1.00 extra in cash.

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Another popular piece of Fancy Work, designed to be fastened on the wall to hold umbrellas, sunshades &c. The cut shows one finished. Made from twilled brown linen, and worked in Outline; and sell at the stores at from 75c. to $1.50. We will send one cut out and stamped ready to be worked, for a club of 8 subscribers or 60 cents. We will send one all bound and finished ready to be outlined, for a club of 12 subscribers or $1.00.

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Stamped on best quality No. 16 Satin Ribbon, any style of Letters you may desire. We will send one of these Ribbons for 4 new subscribers.

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Given for only 20 Subscribers at 25 Cents per Year Each.

Given for only 20 subscribers at 25 cents each per year, or given for 12 subscribers at 25 cents each and 50 cents extra in cash, or, if preferred, we sell it for only $1.50, including a year's subscription to the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

The Florence Lamp Stove is in constant use in the kitchen of the editor of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, and is cheerfully recommended to the readers of the JOURNAL by her, as the best thing of the kind ever made. Says she "would not do without it for anything."

We have made a careful trial of this very handy little stove, and we recommend it to our friends with confidence as being just what is wanted in a great many families. It has no glass chimney to break; it is perfectly simple, is durable, and besides being able to do a good deal of cooking, gives a bright, strong light. Besides:

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8th. It gives a good light as well as good heat.

9th. The price is very low. We make a special price on the stove so you will buy at once.

We give this stove to anyone sending us 20 subscribers, or we will give it for only 12 subscribers and 50 cents extra in cash, or, we will sell it for only $1.50 including a year's subscription to the JOURNAL.

Lamp Stove must be sent by express, you to pay charges, but the cost will be slight, from 25c. to 60c. to any point within 800 miles of us. These are very low offers. Accept one of them at once if you want a cool kitchen and a good-natured wife.

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This splendid premium can be easily earned in a short time by any bright boy or girl or young lady in want of a good instrument. See the special, easy terms, on which this Organ can be secured, printed below. With the aid of a friend the required number of subscribers could be secured in a week. Many ladies have secured as high as 40 subscribers in a single day to THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. You can do as well if you but try.

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This Organ will be given for 600 subscribers at 25 cents each.

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Edited by Jenny June.

Knitting and Crochet.—A guide to the use of the Needle and the Hook. In arranging this work the editor has taken special pains to systematize and classify its different departments, give the greatest possible variety of designs and stitches, and explain the technical details so clearly, that any one can easily follow the directions. There are a large variety of stitches and a great number of patterns fully illustrated and described, which have all been tested by an expert before insertion in this collection. The aim of the editor has been to supply women with an accurate and satisfactory guide to knitting and crochet work. The book is printed on fine paper, bound with a handsome cover, and contains over

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The knitting stitches illustrated and described are: To Cast On with One and Two Needles—To Narrow—To Widen—To Purl—To Cast Off—To Slip a Stitch—Round Knitting—To Join Together—Edge Stitch. PATTERNS.—Peacock's Tail—Vandyke—Looped Knitting—Cane Work—Leaf and Trellis—Triangular Kilted—Gothic—Coral—Knotted Stitch—Diamond—Wave—Cable Twist—Stripes, etc.

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NEEDLE-WORK

Needle-Work: A Manual of Stitches and Studies in Embroidery and Drawn Work. Edited by Jenny June.

This manual is an attempt to systematize and arrange in an order convenient for workers, the modern methods in Embroidery and Drawn Work. The author has felt the desire and the responsibility involved in aiding women to a true and practical guide to the beautiful art of needle-work. When the Angel of Mercy begged that woman might not be created because she would be abused by man, as the stronger, the Lord listened, but felt that he could not give up the whole scheme of creation, so he gave the loving Angel permission to bestow upon her any compensating gift she chose, and the Angel pityingly endowed her with tears and the love of needle-work. This book is printed on fine paper, has a handsome cover, and contains

200 Illustrations

The list of stitches, with illustrations, are: Buttonhole—Hemstitch—Brier Stitch—Crow's Foot—Herring Bone—Fodder Stitch—Two Tie—Three Tie—Drawn Work—Seem Stitch—Twisted Chain or Rope Stitch—Split Stitch—French Knot—Solid Leaf—Satin Stitch—Padding—Darning Stitch—Skeleton Outline—Counting, Kensington, Filling, Coral, Italian, Leviathan and Holbein Stitches—Appliqué—Interlaced Ground—Weaving Stitch—Gold and Silver Thread—Arrasene Ribbon Work, etc.

Designs in Needle-Work are given to decorate My Lady's Chamber, My Lady's Robe, the Dining Room, Parlor and Library, and for Linen and Cotton Fabrics, including embroidery designs for Mantel scarfs—Bed Spreads—Child's Quilt—Pillow Covers—Cushion Boxes—Bureau Scarfs—Table Covers—Chair Backs—Morning Sacques—Artist Jackets—Walking Dress—Afternoon Dress—Evening Dress—Handkerchiefs—Mufflers—Fichus—Piazza Wraps—Sashes—Fans—Slippers—Bonnets—Parasols—Aprons—Work Bags—Opera Bags—Glove Case—Sachets—Lunch Cloths—Dinner Cloths—Napkins—Doilies—Table Mats—Corn Napkins—Fish Napkins—Tray Covers—Tea Cloths—Curtains—Panels—Banners—Screens—Sofa Cushions—Piano Scarfs—Chair Scarfs—Sofa Rugs—Photograph Cases—Book Covers, etc., etc. This will be found to be the only standard book on the subject of needle-work.

Either of the above books given for 6 subscribers at 25 cents per year each. Price, when sold separately, 50 cents each.

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This is the best book yet published on Fancy Knitting. It teaches how to knit, giving descriptions clear, concise, and easily understood. Everything illustrated. Shows cuts and gives Five Different Ways of casting on stitches. Tells how to knit plain knitting, and to purl or seam, how to pick up a stitch, and how to repair a half-knitted stitch; gives two ways to increase, tells how to slip a stitch, how to narrow, how to cast off and how to join ends; gives careful directions for knitting stockings, gives different ways of forming the heels and toes. Tells how to insert a new heel and sole in an old worn stocking; gives directions for common and artistic darning that will imitate the knitted stitch. Gives directions for numerous styles for fancy borders for stockings, mittens, etc., etc.; squares for quilts, afghans, and many other things.

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Set of Six Table Forks given for 20 subscribers. Price, $2.00.

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ONE BOOK OF STITCHES which teaches the Outline and Kensington stitches, Ribbon Embroidery, Arrasene and Chenille work, Plush Embroidery, etc. Also, instructions in Crazy Patchwork, with illustrations showing 8 finished blocks, and over 150 new stitches for ornamenting the seams.

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Is the handiest and most useful frame for holding small pieces of work, and is indispensible. Given for only four (4) subscribers at 25 cts each per year.

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A Special Offer !

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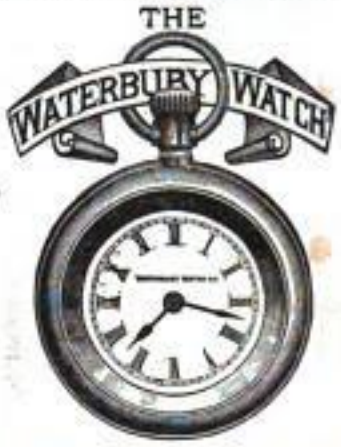

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We will give this watch for a club of 40 subscribers or we will give it for a club of 20 subscribers and $1.50 extra in cash; or for 16 subscribers and $1.50 in cash extra. Postage 8 cents, Registered 18 cents.

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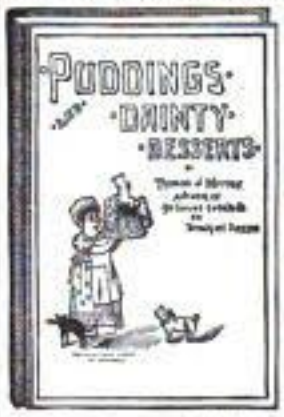
By special arrangement with the publishers, we are enabled to offer your choice of any one of the following books, for only 8 Subscribers, sent postpaid, to any address; or we will give any one volume for only 4 Subscribers and 25 cents extra.



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A practical chef, Mr. Murrey brings to these volumes the experience of many years in the leading kitchens of New York, and his recipes are those which have made the reputation of several famous restaurants.—Domestic Monthly.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MILDRED'S CONVERSATION CLASS.

NO. VII.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

As Phillippa Rowland had said, it was Mildred's turn to pass up her plate for a second piece of "humble pie," "for girls," she added, "if there is anything more humiliating than being crushed like a worm in this style, I'd like some kind friend to point it out to me in the most uncompromising way." So the answer had been to Mildred this week.

"My dear Mildred," wrote Miss Wilson, "it gratifies me that you are so well satisfied with your experiment as to be encouraged to continue. 'What do I consider the best of any of Mrs. Whitney's works?' I will tell you in a few moments, when I have found a little fault with your mode of expression. There is an omission as well as an error in your question. Your question should have been worded so: 'Which do you consider to be (or regard as) the best of all of Mrs. Whitney's works?' 'Which' not 'what.' Saying only 'consider the best' leaves the possibility of 'the best' referring to the method or quantity of consideration. To avoid all ambiguity, or semblance of it, insert 'to be.' And worst of all, you had, 'best of any.' This is a very common error in daily periodicals. Some of them even go so far as to say 'the best of any other.' If you use the superlative degree, as 'best, most, least, most difficult,' you must follow it by 'all.' When you use the comparative degree as, 'more, thinner, less,' etc., follow it by 'any other.' 'Any' is essentially a singular adjective. You do not like an article best of one, but of all of its kind. Now if you should say 'I like A more than all the alphabet,' the sentence would indicate that 'A' was something apart from the alphabet. You should therefore say, 'I like A better than all the rest of the alphabet,' or, 'best of all of the alphabet.' 'A Bartlett is the best of all pears' 'better than all other pears.'

"Now for your question. Mrs. Whitney's works are all excellent, but the one which seems to be most comprehensive, is 'Sight and Insights.' To have read that work and to have well read it, is a step towards education. The lessons one learns from such works as that, are such as are of permanent benefit.

"My dear, you do not 'remember of hearing it,' you 'remember hearing of it.' One does not 'remember of' any circumstance, one remembers the circumstance itself.

"I am sorry that you have not been well, but you cannot well 'move to a more healthy neighborhood.'

"I am glad she has such an opinion of our small town," said Sara Tasker.

"Of course she don't mean that, because she doesn't know anything about our town," answered Mildred, wonderingly.

"'A town,' continued the reader, cannot be in itself healthy or unhealthy. A climate is 'salubrious' but not 'healthy.' 'Healthy' refers to organic matter only. A 'healthy tree,' a 'healthy person,' but never a 'healthy climate,' nor 'healthy food.' 'Wholesome food' (wholesome really refers only to food) and 'salubrious climates' or 'climate more conducive to health.'

"O, that's it, is it!" exclaimed Phillippa. "I'm relieved. I was afraid she meant something invidious to our small town, and that I never would stand even from such a 'tried and trusty friend.'

"Again, you say," went on Mildred, 'you are a good deal better now.'

"I'm sure that's an innocent thing to say," said Ida Gleason.

"Yes, I know it sounds so, but," she went on, again reading from the paper, "Do not use either 'a good deal' or 'a great deal,' when you can make 'much more' or 'much better' or 'very much more' or, 'better' take its place. If one asks you how you feel to-day, it is more elegant to say 'I feel much better' or 'very much better,' than it is to say 'a great deal better.'

"Another thing, you say, 'Please excuse me for etc., etc.' I am perfectly willing to excuse your little delinquency, but the next time say 'Please to excuse me.' You will find exactly that error among the incorrect sentences in your grammar book if you look in the proper place. We have but eight verbs in the English language which are followed by verbs in the infinitive mood without the preposition 'to.' These verbs are 'bid, dare, let, feel, make, need, hear, and see.'

"To say 'I heard him to go,' is not more incorrect than to say 'Please excuse me.' 'Please to excuse me.' 'I heard him go.'

"Why do I say 'Grammar book' instead of simply saying 'Grammar?' and do I say 'Geography book?'

"I am afraid I do say 'Geography book' also. I will explain to you just why I do this, (for I use the expressions on principle) and if you consider me hypercritical, you need not use the same you know.

"I consider grammar to be a science, just as chemistry and philosophy are sciences. Consequently, the books which contain treatises on those subjects, are, in my mind, Grammar Books, Philosophy Books and Chemistry Books.

"Now let me ask you a question. Do you say 'Spelling book' and 'Reading book?' I imagine so. 'Spelling' is the science, no matter whether it be taught verbally or from the book. But the book from which it is taught, is a spelling book. We have two other words to represent these books, which do not seem to me to be the proper ones. 'Speller' and 'Reader' seem to me incorrect terms to apply to things which neither read nor spell.

"Do not use the expression 'come across,' as you used it in your last letter to me. 'Met' is a much better word. 'I have met (or become acquainted with) a person who knows you,' not 'I have come across, etc., etc.'

"Do I 'know' Greek? O, how could you say that! It is as incorrect as using 'learn' for 'teach,' which has not even the merit of being a genteel error.

"No, I 'understand' nothing of Greek, I am sorry to say, and I am therefore unable to assist you in regard to the matter whereof you write, but so much I do know and can tell you, that it is always unsafe to translate literally an idiom from one language into another. For instance, 'A power' of anything, is regarded as a vulgarism. While in Latin, such Latin as was spoken by Cæsar himself, that very expression is regarded as very strong and entirely correct. 'A power of horses' for instance. We translate it 'a great number,' but he said 'a power.' I have heard ignorant people try to translate our Americanisms into literal French, and the effect was ludicrous to say the least.

"One thing more and then I fancy I have nearly finished. You say, 'During this Lent I shall paint two Easter cards on satin, one for father and one for mother. On father's I shall paint, etc.'

"I suppose that it seemed to you that, having spoken of your father's card first, you should again speak of it first in describing them, but the reverse is the case. When you again refer to two things closely connected, about which you have just spoken, the latter becomes the former, and the former becomes the latter. Having said what you did, it is more correct to begin describing that of your mother first. If I should speak of two friends thus: 'I have two friends equally dear to me, one having black eyes, the other blue,' I must continue (should this be the sense) 'the blue eyed one living at a distance, the black eyed one living near my own house.' This is a rule with positively no exceptions, I believe.

"I have finished my lecture I believe, this time, and close with earnest wishes for your success. "Your sincere friend,

"AMANDA WILSON."

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"M. D. L."—Thanks for interest expressed. The expression should be "May I come to your house?" There are certain current expressions which, in themselves, are correct, but which are incorrect from a feeling of courtesy towards the recipient, on the part of the writer. "I and you will go" is correct in itself, except from the fact that it is more courteous to the recipient, to mention him first. Consequently, from a point of courtesy, grammar has made the expression incorrect. "May I come" indicates that you are considering your friend first. "May I go" refers mainly to yourself in idea, and is therefore uncourteous, and likewise incorrect. Should you wish to go somewhere with a friend, you would write to her "We will go," but, to the friend to whom you expected to pay the visit, you would say "We will come," intimating that you consult her convenience. You should write from the point of view from which the recipient will regard it.

It should be pronounced "Lee Hunt."

"Mrs. Alice Bateman," Mo.—Many thanks for your confidence. Your letter has been answered by mail.

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"WE WILL NEVER WEAR ANY OTHER MAKE."

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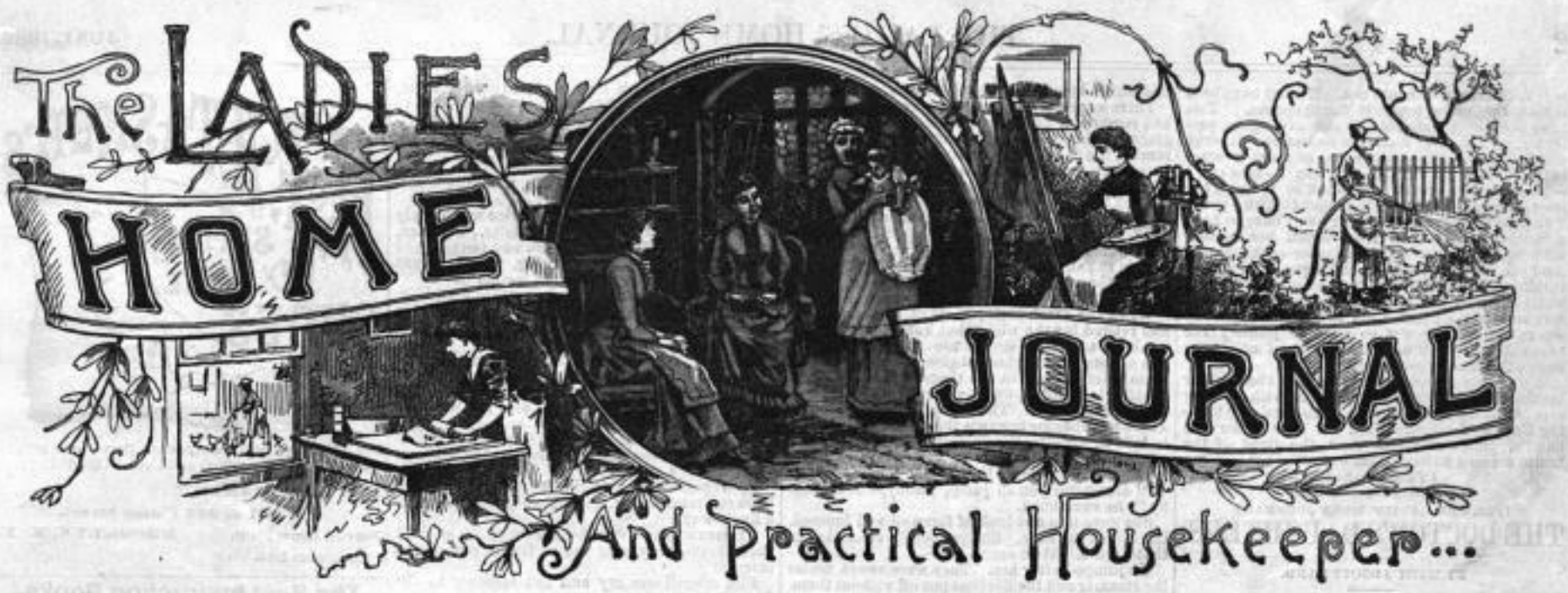

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE LITTLE STEPMOTHER.

BY HARRIET PRESCOTT SPOFFORD.

"That poor mother with those six children will be the death of me yet, for it hurts a person about as much to pity as it does to suffer!" little Mrs. Putters used to say. "How she gets along any way passes me. I saw the whole six of those trials this morning before breakfast down in the yard in their nightgowns, making more noise over a fallen bird's nest than a forest full of birds could make. And yesterday afternoon the four girls came up from the wharf, wet to the waist, bringing Johnny, who had fallen into the water, and it wasn't an hour before that Peter had been dancing on the ridge-pole of the house and so shocked his mother that she had to go to bed at once with one of her headaches. And such poor help as she has, that Kate of hers, always taking advantage of her headaches. Now her Essie, going on eleven, is old enough to be of some use in the world. I'm going to give her a real good talking to, and see what good that'll do." And as Mrs. Putters had little else on her mind than the care of her neighbors she was equal to her word.

"Presently you won't have any mother," she said to Essie, at the conclusion of her harangue on the subject. "And then where'll you be!"

If it had been Rose to whom she spoke, the reply would probably have been "Why here, of course, where should I be?"

But Essie grew pale and paler, and the slow tears filled her eyes that glittered larger and darker with the thought. "Do you mean," she said, with tears, too, in the voice which she could hardly command for terror, "that mother is—is—going—to die!"

"She's a mighty feeble woman for all she has to do, and you children are enough to finish her with worry. That's what I mean. Worry's worse than work. And your father's just like all men," with a sniff that told her opinion of all men.

"Is—is there anything the matter with mother, Mrs. Putters?" persisted Essie.

"Well, she's all run down, if no worse. And your father—I'll do him that justice—is at his wit's ends about her. He wants her to go to the sea a while and rest, and she says she can't leave you children. Now if you were any good for an elder daughter, she could leave the children well enough. That's what elder daughter's are for. I've offered to go in and keep house for her while she's gone, and she says you would all drive me wild and it isn't to be thought of. She says that I'd make your father so comfortable that he'd see the difference when she came back and babel began again. Now, Essie Nevers, you're a big girl, almost in your teens, and if you were worth a copper you could take charge of the house and manage the others. But there, I never saw such a worthless girl in my life, I tell you plainly. When I was your age I'd made a whole shirt, stitched linen bosom, two threads to a stitch, buttonholes and all. And you can't make two squares of patchwork join. I tell you what, you'd lead a different life if I was your mother, or I'd know the reason why. You'd walk Spanish for once, and right away, too!"

"Well, you're not my mother!" flashed out Essie. "And you never will be!"

"Thank fortune for that!" said Mrs. Putters.

And then Essie went out of the yard, into which Mrs. Putters had beguiled her for a branch of honeysuckle, trailing her honeysuckles in the dust, figuratively speaking.

What thoughts crowded her little brain! Her mother was being worried to death by the pranks of the children of whom she was the ringleader. Her mother could not go away for the rest that might save her life, because she herself was not handy enough to take care of the children in the meanwhile. If things went on as they were going her mother would die, and it would be her fault—her own mother! And she flung herself down under the lilac hedge at last, and cried fit to break the heart in her, as Kate, the maid, said, when she found her, and found her dress, too, "just one daub of yellow mud, bad scran!"

"Oh, Essie," groaned her mother. "The third clean dress this week, and it's only Wednesday. And who is to iron them? I'm sure I can't."

"Oh, mamma!" cried Essie, flinging her arms round her mother's neck. "I'll iron it myself. I surely will. And if it doesn't look first-rate, I won't mind till I can do better next time. And I'll iron all my clothes, and all Rosy's, any way!"

"You! I don't know, though," added the mother feebly, "but it will be as well to let her try. Perhaps she can use her energy that way as happily as any other. And yet, although it would be such a help, somehow I hate to have her begin to be a woman and put away her childhood so soon."

"Indade, thin, an' ye've no nade, mum," said Kate. "She'll not be doin' the like an hour before 'twill be clean forgotten in the next tree there do be to climb, or the next raft o' lumber coming down the river for the six o' them to get afloat on."

But Mistress Kate was mistaken, for all her knowledge of the children. Essie provided herself with a bit of plank to stand on, and tugged away with big flat-irons, and was not only satisfied but delighted with herself.

"Sure, they just looks as if they've been rough dried and pulled open," said the contemptuous Kate.

"That's the way seersuckers ought to look," said Essie. "And one of my gowns is a make-believe seersucker."

"An't it's yerself that has to wear them, acushla! An' av ye's plazed, sorra a bit o' me cares. So."

But her little spirit being up, Essie watched Katie's methods, and it was not long before she could turn off quite a creditable ironing of her own and Rosy's things, sometimes generously throwing in the ironing of the handkerchiefs, or of the towels or napkins, although she found it more difficult to iron a napkin and make the four corners meet squarely than to iron her tucked print gown, and although, it is to be confessed, the children's voices and the song of birds and the hum of bees, and all the pleasant winds and fragrances, the blue sky and sunshine, never seemed so alluring as when the starch stuck to the polishing irons most vexatiously, and she was so warm and worried that she envied his cool hole to the little red fox that Peter had in the yard.

Poor Mrs. Nevers looked on quietly. She never supposed the sport was going to last; it was just another form of play; some day the clothes would mildew in the basket and the ironing be forgotten for tag-goal or "Dr. Busby." She had no idea that it was the sight of her pale, anxious face, that was a perpetual goad to Essie to do her best. What was the mother's wonder, then, when week after week went by and the ironing still continued to be done; and not only that, but Essie had begged Kate for private lessons in the matter, and had taken the making of the bread and biscuit under her charge, her pride in setting before her father the dish of snowy rolls, without a suspicion of flour on the under side, or of tea cakes all brown without and cream tinted within, being justified by the number of them that disappeared. "I declare, wife," the father said, "here's a girl after my own heart. I never expected any piece of wild-fire would turn out this useful little household fairy. We must see that she doesn't do too much. She's just like you!" And the poor man gazed fondly at his exhausted wife, for whom he did the best he could, but whose best, in the way of household help in that frontier town, where servants were hardly to be had for love or money, was but ineffectual.

Essie, however, needed no more stimulus at her self-appointed tasks than such words afforded. One day she surprised everybody by canning some raspberries, having furtively watched her mother in strawberry time; and before any one knew the green peppers were large enough, she produced a jar of them stuffed with mustard seed and well pickled; and presently she had advanced from tea cakes, to ginger-snaps and doughnuts, and from canned fruit to a glass of jelly; and before the year was out she could roast a fowl, sweep a room without pausing for breath and sitting down between whiles, and make a bed, as well as anybody could wish.

"Sure now, alanna, and ye're jist layin' to be quit of yer ould Kate an' yer to be doin' the hull o' the work, mavourneen. It's a pearl yez are in a pig's snout, the likes o' yez in this pack o' childer; an' it's the velor deelish herself do be setting her eyes by yez!" said the once discouraging Kate.

But except for the occasional thrill of success, she took no pleasure in it. Every act was haunted by the white face of the mother; at every movement she feared that if she did not take a still further amount of care on her small shoulders there would soon be no mother at all; and when the girls called for her to go to the woods or out on the river, or to be off for a moonlight coasting, or to look for May flowers, in the whole round of the year's pleasures, it came to be no sacrifice for her to stay at home; the sacrifice would have been in going.

Essie had begun now to see that she was really to lose the precious mother, let her do what she would; and she felt that she could not spare a minute of her there was left. And yet no one had precisely told her as much; and she did not consciously say it to herself. It was a blind sensation, but one not to be disputed. She used to go and sit by her mother's sofa, and hold the thin white hand, and sometimes lay her cheek upon it; but she never cried, or said anything that might make it harder for her mother. Nor did she give the other children to understand that any sorrow hung over them; she appeared to realize in herself what it was and what it would be sufficiently to wish to shield the gay little things till need came for the blow to fall. And the tenderness with which she tried to forestall every unspoken wish of her father's, only made his burden more difficult to bear. Still, this apprehension that made Essie pale and still, sometimes faintly showed its face to them. "It seems to be," said stout little Johnny, "that my mother isn't like the other fellows' mothers. She's always lying down. And she's so white she scares you in the dark." And when he saw her he would cuddle his face on the pillow, and call her all sorts of endearing names, till Peter lured him away with some enticing mischief. Rosy and Virgy, the twins, and the pretty Nell, however, were not touched by much apprehension of the future; they were wrapt in their play, their ill-learned lessons, their friendships, their quarrels, their reconciliations, their scrapes and escapes, their pains and perils and punishments. And the more languid and feeble was the guiding and controlling hand at home, the more liberty was there for all those joys that made them the envy of half the other children in the town, the children whose mothers and whose mothers' slippers were more lively.

"We don't have half such a good time as we used to have," said Nell, "when Essie was with us. She's grown up all of a sudden. I think it's hateful to be grown up, and sit in the house, and do dusting, and things."

"If it makes people like our Essie," said Johnny, "I think it's beautiful. Our Essie is the next nicest person to mamma in all the world."

This seemed to be the united opinion of all the family, from Rose, whom Mrs. Putters used to call "Holty Toity," down to Peter, who was just coming out of the house with a handful of butter-scotches that he had longed for and that she had given him. "I declare," said Peter, "our Essie is as good as God."

"Oh Peter! oh, you bad boy! oh, we'll tell mother!" came in a simultaneous outcry from the others.

"I'm not!" said Peter. "Essie said I was a good boy, because I didn't make a noise when mamma was asleep. And you're all making a horrible noise under her window. And Essie is! Doesn't God give us things, I should like to know? And so does Essie. She gave me these butter-scotches." Whereat they fell upon him; and the riot over those luckless sweetmeats caused Essie to wish she had been anything but good in Peter's view, and she came out with a broom and made believe sweep the rioters away, till they ran off laughing to invent some fresh wrong-doing for her to remedy, and come home with torn clothes and stockings, the darning of which would keep her up long after her sweet eyes should have been closed in sleep. For Kate had become more of a shirk than ever, and finding that Essie would make no disturbance for fear of troubling her mother, she left everything on her hands possible without attracting attention.

"You ought to help me do work, Rosy," said Essie once, "instead of making work for me to do."

"You needn't do it unless you choose," said Rosy.

"Well," said Essie, "the dressmaker's coming to-morrow, and you know how to sew a little, and you ought to practice what you know,—it's very expensive having a dressmaker, she's fifty cents a day,—and if you and Virgy stay in and sew an hour in the forenoon and an hour in the afternoon, I'll go up to the Falls with you for harebells, Wednesday afternoon, and make some turnovers to take along." She had already learned that the methods of the southwind were preferable to those of the north, so far as managing the children were concerned; and she intended to turn the twins into seamstresses, all in good time.

"Why can't we go to the Falls without sewing a couple of hours for it?" grumbled Virgy. "You're nothing near so nice as you used to be, Essie. It's always duty, duty, duty! For my part I think it's duty to have a good time when you can. You've left off having a good time or being anything but a sort of kitchen girl. You're not even good company any more,—you're always listening, as if somebody called you. And Mrs. Putters says ——"

"Oh, I can't bear Mrs. Putters!" cried Rosy. "She says I'm such a tomboy I ought to be put into knickerbockers, and if she was my mother she'd have me kept in the house at my needle. I'm glad she isn't my mother! She's always meddling. Perhaps I would stay in and sew if it wasn't for her. But I'm not going to please her by sewing all day!"

"You can please mamma, Rose," said Essie. And in a minute she added, "Perhaps you won't have her long to please," and the next minute was sorry for it: as Rosy sprang up and rushed into the house and threw herself on her mother where she lay suffering for breath, in such a fury of alarm and grief as nearly killed the invalid outright.

It was that night that Essie heard her father and mother talking, in scattered sentences, with intervals of silence. "It is so hard," the mother said, "So much harder than I thought to leave you,—to leave you all." The father did not

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speak. Perhaps he could not. He may have held her all the more tenderly for response. "You have been so good, John," she said again, presently. "You have made me so happy. Heaven will be no happier—than some of those years—before I fell sick. Only—how can I—how can I—be happy in heaven and think of you and the poor children down here forsaken! You—you—will have to marry again,—they will have to have a mother"—and then Essie heard her mother sobbing, and worse yet, her father sobbing, too. And she ran away, for she had tiptoed up at first thinking her mother was in need of her, and she knelt down by her window, looking up for comfort among the great stars in the midnight sky where her mother was so soon to journey she thought, and then she hid her head under the bedclothes and cried herself to sleep.

It was only a week after this that the mother beckoned little John to her side, and with a failing arm about him pressed his face to hers, and holding Essie's hand she lifted her eyes to her husband's, and was gone. And the light of the house seemed to have gone out after her.

(To be Continued.)

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE DOCTOR'S DAUGHTERS.

BY MARY ABBOTT RAND.

CHAPTER VII.

The June following Ella's sad marriage was full of life and beauty at the young ladies' seminary where Fanny and Beatrice were teaching.

It was commencement season, and everything was at the height of delightful excitement. Besides the usual pleasures and honors, the graduating class had the prospect of a European tour immediately following their good-by to school life.

The preceptor, Mr. Weston and his wife were to accompany the party, and Fanny was going too, as chaperone or duenna. When she was asked to take this position, she declined, as well she might.

"Oh, Mr. Weston!" she exclaimed. "That's the very last thing on earth I am fitted for."

"It is not necessary that a chaperone should be old and ugly," said Mr. Weston, looking frightened the next moment for fear he had been betrayed into a compliment. "You have the respect and confidence of our pupils. I am sure that you, more than many others, could warn the young ladies against improprieties of conduct. Young ladies are so apt to flirt thoughtlessly and find, too late, how seriously they have become involved."

Fanny's blushes deepened, provoking tears came to her eyes.

"I see you feel the importance of the position," said the dignified preceptor, "and it convinces me more than before that we cannot excuse you."

The young ladies were delighted to have Fanny for a duenna. As they expressed it "That darling Miss Drexell was too sweet for anything."

Fanny spent a few days in Uplands before setting forth on her journey. She did not see Fred Garrett and was deeply disappointed,—this contradictory Fanny. He was away in New York, it was said, preparing for a long absence among mummies and other treasures of a buried past.

Fanny was puzzled as to the state of affairs at home.

The house was lovely, the grounds beautiful and endeared by many associations. Every comfort surrounded the household. Ella dressed beautifully, and busied herself constantly in the well-ordering of her household, making every one as happy as possible.

Yet she wore a sad, far-away look, and was as unapproachable as she could be.

Dr. Drexell and the Uplands people generally had been much exercised over the sudden departure and continued absence of Mr. Claybourne, and had long since, after fruitless inquires, come to the conclusion that he was dead, but had found that it was idle to offer condolence to Ella. In reply to any such sympathy, she would say coldly "He is not dead, I assure you. He will return when his business permits."

O, the two bereft young married sisters, Beatrice seemed far the happier. Her grief and her necessities had developed her better nature and suppressed her natural selfishness. She lived for her little orphan girls, and it was beautiful to see their mutual devotion.

She was a picture in her deep mourning with her velvet brown eyes and her lovely face.

Ella wore white almost invariably, and was a pleasing contrast to Mrs. Blair. Fanny seemed the youngest of the three, skipping here and there, in her dark blue travelling dress, preparing to take her departure. Yet, she was not so gay as she seemed, and tears nightly balanced the laughter by day.

The time was short for her stay at home, and, before she realized it, she was on the water in a floating palace of the Cunard line. After the strict regime and Spartan-like table of the boarding school, how like fairy land did it all seem to these young creatures!

That first evening on board! The velvet hung boudoir for the ladies, the dinner table, with its luxurious menu, the music, the electric lights,—above all, the indescribable magnificence of the boundless sky with no land to limit its horizon,—all sea below, all stars above!

The girls would have kept their tired, little duenna on deck all night rhapsodizing if she would have allowed it. But at last, every romantic maiden was asleep, and the iron ribbed giant was bearing the precious load over the waves as if it were lord of the elements.

All were in seeming safety, when a sudden and awful disaster happened. How it happened is still a mystery. The Captain proved it was not his fault,—so did the pilot, so did the engineers. But there, in the bright moonlight, in a calm sea, one of the most shocking catastrophes occurred ever known on land or water. The mail-clad steamer was wrecked not six hours out from the home harbor.

Life boats, life preservers, and all appliances known to modern invention were inadequate to save one-half the passengers.

The swift transit from earth to heaven was made so suddenly that, doubtless, some surprised souls had to ask the gentle angels how in the world they had got to heaven without knowing it.

Others, alas! suffered what we dare not describe in the long agony of hoping in vain for rescue, while crushed with pain against the rocks, or slowly drowning in their cabin prisons.

Before the accident, while the merry girls were on deck, watching their first sunset at sea, there was, among the passengers, a gentleman who was busy over his books, quite unmindful of the clouds and stars, or of the bevy of "sweet girl graduates."

The fact was, he was absorbed in the study of mummies, and the dryest fold of dust from a catacomb was more charming than the daintiest pink-and-white beauty on the deck so near him.

There were more appreciative eyes which the girls had remarked, and they did not waste a second glance on the student of mummies, nor remember him as the fascinating lecturer whose dark eyes they had so raved about last fall.

But Fanny recognized him and was filled with delight and alarm. How would he meet her? Apparently, he did not even see her. They had to pass quite near him, as they went to more retired quarters, and the little bunch of English violets in Fanny's belt must have breathed memories of the past to the learned professor, but he was as motionless as if he were a mummy himself.

When the crash came, most of the passengers had retired for the night, but Fanny was still in her blue traveling dress, too restless to sleep. She assisted the frightened girls to dress, and saw them safely stowed in life boats. There was still another to be filled, but it was crowding fast with selfish, eager men. There was one seat left, and a man was rushing towards the side of the steamer to take it. Seeing Fanny, he stepped back to give place to her.

"I shall not take it, Fred!" she cried.

"I command you to jump, Fanny,—dear Fanny!" he exclaimed.

She gave him one look of farewell and jumped, but not in the boat. She purposely chose death, that Fred might be saved.

He jumped after her. They were swept under the steamer and the life boat put off without them.

The wave that bore them out of sight, however, swept strongly on, taking them with it. Fred grasped Fanny firmly, and, yielding to his command, she floated as safely as a little leaf on the breast of a forest brook.

Before they were exhausted or had lost courage, they were picked up by a merchant vessel bound for the West Indies.

It was night, but the moon was at the full, and they were seen and rescued as easily as at noonday.

The school-girls reached land in safety and sought their various homes with no desire to see Europe, but they had lost forever their pretty chaperone.

The captain of the merchantman where Fanny and Fred were harbored, showed them every attention, and the captain's wife, a dressy young thing from Bangor, Maine, arrayed Fanny from her own gorgeous wardrobe.

It soon became known that the pair, so romantically saved, were reunited lovers; and, when day after day passed and no return vessel came in sight, it looked as if the professor of antiquities and the chaperone of the class of '84 were bound for the land of spices.

There was a clergyman on board, taking this voyage for the benefit of his health. He thought his services might be acceptable to the rescued party.

At first, Fanny shook her head. She did not just like the idea of being married in Mrs. Captain McGilvery's pink satin, though she did look like a blush rose in it.

But Fanny's true nature asserted itself. After floating almost into death's grasp in her lover's arms, she felt that they belonged to one another, and the slight circumstances that changing life might place them in could not mar nor make their marriage.

So the ceremony was solemnized, and the night they were married, they sat on deck till late in the starlight, talking over the course of their love, which certainly had not been smooth.

Fred confessed how he sought consolation from Ella.

Fanny was piqued to hear this, yet after all was thankful thus to find the clue to Claybourne's long absence and Ella's reserve.

So Fred was forgiven and blessed, and "The White Dove" of Searsport, Maine, bore two happy souls toward the land of spices.

When Ella, the bride of a day was left alone that September twilight, she felt almost insane between the conflicting emotions of relief at her husband's absence, and a most contradictory longing to have him return.

This latter emotion increased till it entirely overcame the first. For, she realized her most awkward and peculiar situation.

Young people may think their own private concerns are nothing to other people, and hence so many hasty and bitterly-regretted private marriages.

How could she live on in that beautiful home and spend the money Keyser Claybourne had left for her!

He had cast her off; he had torn the wedding-ring from her finger.

He proposed staying away for five years, so that he could take back the name he had given her, and leave her free.

She did not want to be free. Her woman's pride and devotion forbade it. When she said her marriage vows that September morning, she meant them. She would show Claybourne she meant them. She had a right to her new home. She would go back there and urge him to return, and make him welcome.

She stepped proudly on, though her heart was full of regret and remorse.

As Peggy saw her young mistress walking up the lawn in the dusk, she thought, "I do believe Miss Ella has grown tall to-day. I hope she won't put on airs, now she is married."

"Peggy," said Ella, as she drew near the porch where Peggy was sitting, "Mr. Claybourne has been called away suddenly on important business. He will be home to-morrow." She said the same to her father. He could not see his daughter's pale face, but he marked the agitated voice.

"Why, that's rather severe, my dear!" he said kindly. "It must be something unusual, for I never saw a man so foolish in his devotion as my little Ella's husband."

"He will be home to-morrow," repeated Ella. "He had to go."

But to-morrow did not bring him. The evening mail had no tidings from him. There only came back to Ella the unopened letter she had mailed to his city address.

When she dressed next morning, she put on her dead mother's wedding-ring which she had treasured for years. She felt she must wear it, till it was replaced by her own.

She sent a notice of her marriage to all the county papers, and to those in every place where she or Mr. Claybourne had friends. She wrote a note to the officiating clergyman, asking for a copy of her marriage certificate.

She sent another note of explanation to her pastor, Mr. Garrett.

In fact, she took every pains to publish her marriage and act upon the vows she had made.

The more she reflected on Claybourne's love and unselfishness, the more she admired him and blamed herself.

If he would only come back!

Every morning, she hoped and prayed for good news, but no tidings came.

She was, at first, too proud to inquire directly of the firm of which he was a partner. At last, her extreme anxiety drove her to the city, where she learned that he had given up all business connection with them and was engaged in exporting ice or lumber, but they really could not give her any definite information about it.

So the days went by till June, with the home-coming of Fanny and Beatrice.

After Fanny's departure, Beatrice was deeply concerned for her young married sister. Beatrice, through the discipline of sorrow and poverty had become unselfish and observing, very different from the dreamy, selfish girl of former days.

She tried to comfort and sympathize with Ella, but found it impossible. Ella's loyalty to her husband would not permit her to make explanations.

In her anxiety, Beatrice conferred with Peggy.

"Yes, Mis' Blair," said the old servant, "I don't wonder you're worried. Miss Ella is eating her heart out with grief and care, and she won't be with us long."

As she spoke, Ella's languid step was heard in the hall, and then she appeared in the kitchen, looking like a spirit.

By way of cheer, though without intending the least reference to Mr. Claybourne, Peggy said, in a lively way:

"You can't guess whose come back! Somebody that's kept away ever since the day you was married."

Ella uttered one cry and fell fainting to the floor.

"What have I done, old stupid!" cried Peggy, addressing herself. "I only meant that that pesky white cat had come back. What possesses the creetur I don't know, but it always happens that if anything's in the wind, she knows about it, and comes ahead like the mist before the rain."

It was brain fever that the strange cat prognosticated this time.

When Ella's sweet eyes opened from her fainting, there was a strange, wild look in them, and she moaned in a way that filled poor Beatrice and Peggy with alarm.

She was carried to her beautiful sleeping room, but for many weeks, no restful sleep blessed the tired brain.

When, at last, the crisis was reached and she lay white and weak upon her pillows, she was greatly changed from the pink-and-white beauty of her marriage morning.

She was lovely still, but white as a lily. Her long, beautiful hair had been sacrificed to relieve her fevered head, and now little golden rings crowned her forehead.

"You look like a pretty boy, dear, with that curly top-knot," said Beatrice, cheerfully.

Ella smiled faintly. With returning health, her own irrepressible tendency to cheerfulness would assert itself, yet she dare not think for a moment of her absent husband, lest the terror of delirium should come upon her again.

Meanwhile, tidings had come from him, tidings of good, but which Ella was supposed to ill to hear.

The business opportunity which he had grasped so recklessly when he supposed his happiness was wrecked on his wedding day, led him at once to the West Indies.

Ella, as has been said, failed to find any clue to him, but now by the strange cast of circumstances or providences,—stranger, oftentimes in real life than in fiction, Fred and Fanny did not come to harbor anywhere but in Havana, where the first person they saw on landing was their runaway brother-in-law.

The young men little thought when they parted that they should grasp hands so cordially next time they met.

Mutual explanations set matters quite right, and all that was desired now was a speedy return to Uplands.

"There's a vessel bound to Boston, to-morrow," said Captain McGilvery, in answer to Fred's inquiries. "First-rate captain, and his wife's aboard too, to keep company with Mrs. Garrett, (not that she seems pining for other company than yourself, sir,") added the captain.

The morrow found the three wayfarers on board the Juanita, a familiar name, and a familiar captain, too, our old friend, Cap'n Alf.

He was kindness itself to his fellow passengers, but Fanny would look at him occasionally with a shudder, and think "How could I ever have thought for an instant of that coarse, red-whiskered man in comparison with Fred!"

Mrs. Marston however, was quite satisfied, and favorably compared her husband with the professor, whom she considered very womanish.

She insisted in joining pretty Mrs. McGilvery in gifts of beautiful dresses and jewelry to Fanny, which that young lady was obliged to accept with various emotions. Claybourne claimed a brother's right to provide for his new sister, and in his own generous and thoughtful way selected an outfit on the eve of sailing which fully equipped the pretty bride. And this gift it may be supposed, the professor viewed with various emotions, praying inwardly that he might be permitted to reach home in safety, and have the ineffable bliss of clothing his wife himself.

But he had to submit to still further blessings from most unexpected quarters, too.

On reaching Uplands, which they did in due time in safety, they were met by Fred's father and mother, and by Beatrice, who had been informed of the expected arrival.

There was much to be said on both sides. The saddest of all was that poor Dr. Drexell had sickened and died during Ella's dangerous illness. Old Peggy was with him at the last. He was wandering, and murmured: "Beatrice is ahead of them all. I always said we should hear from that head some day."

Then after a few moments slumber he roused again and said brightly "Maria's girls are all right at last." He died with a cheerful smile upon his worn face.

During his illness, a legal paper from Chicago came to the doctor, notifying him that by the will of one Max Bennett, lately deceased, a large property had been bequeathed him and his heirs. It was further stated that this bequest was in consequence of injuries inflicted by said Bennett.

The mystery of the fire was thus made clear, and this property was equally divided among the three daughters.

Fanny and Beatrice invested their part in homesteads, where they now live happily.

Fanny and Fred all by themselves, as blissful as two mortals can be. Beatrice and her little girls forming another happy household. Beatrice has become, as her father predicted, a star in the literary world, but is never so absorbed as to neglect her daughters, or as to become unmindful of the world around her.

But the home where deepest happiness reigns is the home where Ella is the loved wife and mother. The love that came after bitter tears of remorse is that which has proved the strongest, and you would look long before you would find more devoted people than Claybourne and his "little Ella."

THE END.

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DEAR SISTERS:—In justice to myself I would like to be allowed a few words in my own defence, against the fanatical tirade of Fanny Fanshaw. Why, she has attempted to picture me as the most depraved creature imaginable, just because I advised nursing mothers to drink half a glass of porter a day during the summer, and said I felt sure that had kept baby and me well, where otherwise, I would not have been strong enough to nurse her at all.

"Drunken baby!" Well, you wouldn't think so could you see her. I will defy F. F. to produce a brighter, better baby of twenty months, than this same unfortunate "drunken baby." Do you suppose baby's papa, a physician, would have ordered a medicine (as such I took it) had it such a deplorable effect? Porter only contains seven per cent of alcohol anyhow, and all liquid medicines, in the form of tinctures, contain more or less of this same alcohol, so would it have made any difference which I had taken?

Please do not suppose for an instant that I am defending intemperance—far from it,—but it does really seem so ridiculous that my poor little letter should bring forth such an argument. "Behold how great a matter a little fire kindleth." All I ask, is, that you shouldn't consider me as wholly given up to drunkenness. I can assure you I haven't tasted porter for fifteen months.

Truly yours, BEE.

MY DEAR MRS. KNAPP:—I told my son's wife t'other day, I was half a mind to write and tell ye I think yer paper fust-class in every pertickelar. But law! now I've sot down to do it, somethin' says: "P'raps they won't care to know what an old woman thinks about 'em." In my younger days, what wouldn't I ha' been willin' to give, to hev sich a good paper comin' every month with its passel of good things. It's good advice in the trainin' of my children. It's stories, chock full o' good moral idees, an' what not. My son's wife hes took the JOURNAL e'en-a-most since it fust started, and she thinks she could scarce keep her house 'thout it. She, my son's wife, is a right smart woman—none of your all-over-fancy-work kind. She makes hum pleasant to all o' us; an' why? Because she hed a good "bringin' up." Her mother afore her, didn't scrub the floors, while she pawed the pianner. On the contrary she was raised to know what real life is; and she has too much common sense to wear herself out, soul an' body, apin' of the rich folks who hev their thousands. When I think how pleasant she makes it for me—a tiresome old woman at best—I feel like recitin' those beautiful lines from the "Brides of Enderby:"

"A sweeter woman ne'er drew breath
Than my son's wife, Elizabeth."

Now, every thinkin' old pusson sides with some hobby; an' mine is: Childern ain't bein' up right now-a-days—ain't fitted to battle life's stern realities; hence so many suicides, tramps, and unhappy disappointed wives. I wrote some time ago for my own edification, these ideas in verses; an' as they express 'em purty well, will send 'em to you. Think if you'll take the trouble to read 'em and print 'em, you'll find they contain a deal of truth, if not much poetry:

Es fur es my experunce goes, (reckon I've had a a deal),
This world's not quite so full o' woe, es 'tis, my friends, o' weal;
You can't take up a paper though, an' read it 'thout much pain,
So many men, in places high, their honor foul doth stain:
So many guilty, sin sick souls, destroy their own bad lives—
Es if punishment from God would be, less hard than man's steel gyves.
Though sin does surely find 'em out, 'twere better fer to live—
Live an' repent with contrite hearts, sure, God'll forgiveness give!
The doctor's say 'tis liver bad, or brain crazed with over-work,
That leads 'em to the awful deed, life's duties thus to shirk.
But I'm inclined to think, my friends, the fault lies back o' this.
In duty now-a-days, I'm sure, fond parents are amiss.
How many try the problem hard, o' livin' 'thout much work;
Because from childhood, they've been taught t' think 'at all they could shirk!
The many tramps that at our doors, beg us to dine, or sup,
Are not so very much to blame—they show their bringin' up.
How many gurruls, now-a-days, are raised 'thout any care;
An' when cares come—es they surely do—how hard they are to bear!
Now, in my day, the children hed to work their regular stent;
'Twas good fer 'em, the discipline kept minds from mischief bent.
Who is it that, they say, finds work for idle hands to do?
Do honest, busy minds, an' hands, their labors often rue?
Does not our Maker know what fer His children is the best?
Does He not give to honest toil the sweetest kind o' rest?
Does not the Blessed Book e'er teach: Idle no time away;
Be diligent, not slothful, in your business every day?
An' do with all your might, an' hands, what you can do, you know;
For there's no knowledge, or device, in graves, where all must go.

—o—

So fer as my exper'ence goes, an' I'll stake my all upon't,
The dread o' work is allus worse, than is the doin' on't.

GRANDMOTHER GARRULOUS.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

WHEN SCHOOL IS DONE.

Among the many homes into which the HOME JOURNAL finds its way, there must be some like my own, in which the children have a limited amount of schooling, owing to isolation or living in a scattered school district. A ten weeks term, perhaps, during the winter, and by the time another year cycles about, the scholars, especially the younger ones, have forgotten nearly all the lore they gathered during last term.

"That boy ought to go to school!" you exclaim a great many times from February to December when he is on your hands, mischievous and restless because unoccupied.

"That girl ought to be in school!" you say no less forcibly when your little daughter grows listless and whining, or teases to spend her hours at neighbors' houses.

Town children, whose vacations are brief, cannot understand the zest and eagerness to which our little country children look forward to the happy days "when school begins."

Its the red letter day of the year to them. Yet these same eager, little scholars think it exceedingly stupid to study at home, when the proposition is made by mamma or auntie, whose patience is sorely tried with the mischief and peevishness that is sure to crop from unoccupied minds and hands.

This year, after our winter term had closed, and my boy had packed his books on an upstairs, upper shelf, with the intent and expectation, there for them to remain one whole year minus ten weeks, and had settled into his old habit of spending his leisure, indoor hours, whittling, and cutting paper, fashioning boats that can't sail, and kites that won't fly, or ruffling our peace with his nerve-rasping drums on window panes, I thought: "Oh! if that boy only 'took to his books,' how delightful it would be all round; but to *drive* him from lesson to lesson exhausts too much of my time and strength!"

"Why not interest him in studying, by a merit system?" a sister asked; and, acting upon her suggestion, I provided myself with cards of pretty, gay colored merits, and a box of pennies.

I knew my boy's weak point,—pennies to him mean peanuts and fish hooks, and soap bubble pipes, and lots of other things that are dear to boyish hearts, and here was an opportunity to gain them.

A merit for every perfect lesson—limited to five a day—and five merits would entitle him to a penny, and seven pennies would buy a bunch of fire crackers. Dear, dear! Didn't that pile of school books come off the shelf and down stairs with a clatter and vim equal to the commencement of any school term!

Good pencils, pen, slate, and a new writing book, were waiting for him, and lessons were assigned, though the teacher was kneading dough and her pupil balanced his book on a mixing jar in her pantry.

Reading, spelling, arithmetic and writing, are the studies he follows; lessons of reasonable length, from one to five a day, as inclination or his spare time dictates, but they must be perfectly learned and in turn.

We do not make use of his school reader, but a child's story, from "Our Little Ones," "Little Pillows," or cunning letters from the *Maine Farmer*, carefully read aloud to mamma, secures him a merit, and a half page neatly written in his copy book, gains him another.

We are careful that his copy books are of the *same* system, with *printed* copies, and these writing books we furnish him by their consecutive numbers, which indicates their increasing ratio of difficulties.

If a child is allowed to copy the penmanship of every teacher who may cramp her pen over the head lines of his copy book, it is almost impossible for him to form a good or even legible hand. Every teacher has a way of her own. One writes a round, course hand, her successor cramps her words into the smallest space possible, and, maybe, his next teacher straggles across the page with spindle-legged letters tall and ungainly.

A great many business men write to this day in a fine, feminine, ridiculous hand, simply because they copied so faithfully, when school boys, the girlish, crooked handwriting of their youthful school ma'ams.

Mothers, if you would have your children acquire a beautiful, legible hand, see that their copy books are of the best system, and that you furnish them with *good* pens and ink. I mention this, because in my schoolma'am days, parents would send their children to my school, expecting them to become expert penmen, though they supplied them squids of brown paper stitched together, for copy books, and pens so rusty and ink so mouldy or lifeless with freezing, that "pa couldn't use 'em, and the young ones could have 'em just as well as not."

I am happily disappointed in the demands made on my time to hear spelling lessons and look over printed tables. One can hear a child read between the thumps of the sad iron and rolling pin, and write slate examples while waiting for the dinner pot to boil; and when there is nothing but sewing on hand, it is a rest to drop the needle for pencil and book.

When a penny to a child means five perfect lessons, it is worth a great deal to him. Self-earned money is money he can appreciate, and if out of it he drops a tenth into the missionary box, his real work for missions has commenced.

"Ten cents, mamma! See! I've got it!" my boy shouted, not long ago, after receiving his reward for five perfect lessons. "Now I can send for that bottle of glue."

A dime bottle of Le Page's liquid glue he had coveted a long time, and if you want to make your children happy furnish them with a like bottle. It firmly glues wood, crockery, glass, leather, etc.; and a broken dish or bracket, or vase or doll's cradle, no longer ruffles our peace, for a bit of this glue neatly and securely mends the fracture.

No wonder our boy thought a bottle of it, to use just as he liked, was a great treasure to possess, and since its arrival there has been an increase of whittling, and cutting of paper and cloth, but with a good prospect of boats that can sail, and kites that will fly coming out of the litter.

But the lessons go on with no abatement of interest, and I was hoping it was the awakened love for study that spurs this boy who "doesn't take to his books," to con his speller and arithmetic so faithfully, but to-night, when he asked me how many Sundays before Fourth of July, and if fire crackers are still seven cents a bunch, I surmised the secret of his studiousness.

CLARISSA POTTER.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

"MY GRANDMOTHER."

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

The grandmothers! Dear old souls! Bless their dear hearts and kindly faces! For how many sins of omission and commission have they not been held responsible!

"Why do you do thus or so?" "Why my grandmother did so, and it always turned out nice." "But, my dear madame, to-day we have improvements, and you do the same work in one-fourth the time with a little labor-saving machinery—the result being just as good." "O well! My grandmother was as smart a woman as ever lived—got up at four o'clock winter and summer, etc., etc., and she always did so. What was good enough for her, is good enough for me, I guess," and the speaker looked so self-righteous over this supposed evidence of humility of spirit, in not wishing to consider herself in any way superior to her elders, that we feel inclined to shake her heartily.

For this class of people there is little or nothing to be done—indeed they would not thank you for assistance. They prefer being uncomfortable in the old way, to being comfortable in the new.

If men and women could realize that labor-saving machinery was as much a necessity in the kitchen as in the field or factory—that the woman should have the latest churn as well as the man the last mowing machine—that an egg-beater which takes five minutes to accomplish its work is better than the old-fashioned fork requiring three times that amount—if the sexes could equally realize this necessity, there would be less waste of money, less expense of health, less loss of that equally important commodity—time.

Time, as a commodity, seems to possess little value. It seems to be considered that that which is so freely given to rich and poor alike—a commodity which can be divided round among hundreds of thousands, giving each an equal share, yet without diminishing the original fund, must certainly be of little worth.

But this valuable thing can be saved in a thousand ways in the kitchen as well as in the counting room, factory, or farm—and in ways that our grandmothers would never have thought possible.

In this respect many women, if they but knew it, might be the architects of their own comfort, (and that of others as well, many times, for some of our most important kitchen improvements have emanated from a woman's brain.)

"What shall I do with my girl?" writes some mother to some periodical, and rather fancies she has proposed a new and startling conundrum.

If we might offer a humble suggestion, madame. "Teach her to use a hammer." "Oh," shrieks the mother in horror, "My delicate Angelina! Why she'd ruin her hands." Yes, madame, I repeat, spite of your horrified shriek, a hammer, and what's more, a saw and a gimlet, and so on all through the list of carpenter's tools. I perceive by this time, madame, that you are petrified, and have no more words, so I'll just go on with my discourse. You thought it a most delightful accomplishment when your delicate daughter learned to hammer out of a sheet of brass, impossible storks standing in highly improbable water, gazing in an apparent fit of "green and yellow melancholy" at some distorted cat-tails. Did it hurt her hands? Not half as much as it did your ears, I'll be bound. She may be too delicate to dust a room, but she is not too delicate to use a hammer, or she would have died of the "brass fever" before this. Besides, if she be delicate, the exercise will be wholesome for her, will develop her chest, expand her lungs, make her blood flow more freely.

"What would her grandmother ——"

Tut! excuse me for interrupting you so summarily, but you have told me your grandmother was a woman of sense. Believe me, if she were living now, she would see the good of the girl and yourself in it all.

Let her learn to "drive a nail home" deftly and securely. Let her learn to saw and to plane. It will not hurt her mentally or morally, (though it may socially, with a certain class) and it will do her an immense deal of good physically, besides having the effect of making her much more useful as a household element. Have you any idea what an immense amount of comfort about the house is a woman who can drive a nail, straight where it is intended to be, or who can place, with the aid of saw and plane, a shelf where it is wanted. Have you ever had to await the leisure of the "men folks" for the thousand and one trifles that serve to make the comfort and convenience of "life below stairs." If so, you have wished a hundred times that you could do the work without waiting. It is just as feminine for a woman to use a hammer on something useful, as to use that same instrument in evolving unutterable designs from brass.

There is implanted in every soul (albeit many times overrun by neglected weeds) the beautiful, hardy, healthy plant, a desire to be useful.

Give a child an idea that the box he is idly constructing may be of use, and his work assumes new proportions in his eyes. From an idler and mere consumer of material, he has arisen to the dignity of a producer, and the pleasure of the work is ten fold, to say nothing of all such things being of themselves an education to the child. Educate your children up to the needs of the present day, and remember, when you are inclined, on principle, to prefer the "good old-fashioned ways," that they were once new fashions, and perhaps much deprecated as such. Remember, too, that if you are not advancing with the age, and giving the good old lady every comfort, luxury, and convenience of the day that your purse can afford, you are not doing your full duty by your "grandmother."

A discussion upon smoking in the presence of children is agitating society in England. Instances of tobacco smoke acting like slow poison upon young children are cited, and "smoking fathers" are asked to have the goodness and consideration to smoke in other rooms than where their children are present.

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

Can any of the subscribers of the L. H. J. send directions for knitting mittens with row of hearts down the back? MRS. J. G.

ALICE MANSFIELD, SCHELLSBURG, BEDFORD CO., PA.—You had better send to T. E. Parker, Lynn, Mass., for the designs you want.

Will some of the ladies through the JOURNAL, tell me how to make tufted roses, how you count the stitches to make the flowers? And oblige MARY.

Twist stitch is made by putting the needle in the back part of the stitch, and knitting the same as when you put the needle in front part of stitch. Hope this is plain to "J. E. H."

EDITOR OF LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Will some of the sisters kindly give the directions for crocheting a bead watch chain? And oblige an interested reader of the JOURNAL.

"Mrs. G. L. C.," Hampton, Conn., will find directions for crochet skirt, in March No., 1885, L. H. J. If she has not the paper, and will enclose 2 two-cent stamps to the address of M. F. K., 30 Linden St., S. Boston, Mass., I will send them to her.

OLATHE, KANSAS, March 16th, 1886.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Would Mrs. Emma B. Walton please give directions for knitting a waist for a three year old boy, to match the skirt she gives in the March No? Am knitting a skirt by her pattern, and like it very much.

And oblige,
MRS. MATTIE CHAMBERLIN.

Smyrna Insertion.

Cast on 23 stitches; knit across plain.
1st row. Knit 12, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 6.
2d row. Same as 1st.
3d row. Knit 13, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 5.
4th row. Same as 3d.
5th row. Knit 14, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 4.
6th row. Same as 5th.
7th row. Knit 15, over, narrow, knit 1, over,

[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

narrow, knit 3.
8th row. Same as 7th.
9th row. Knit 16, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 2.
10th row. Same as 9th.
11th row. Knit 14, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1, over, knit 4.
12th row. Same as the 11th.
13th row. Knit 13, narrow, over, narrow, knit 5.
14th row. Same as 13th.
15th row. Knit 12, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1, over, knit 6.
16th row. Same as 15th.
17th row. Knit 11, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1, over, knit 7.
18th row. Same as 17th.
Commence again at 3d row.

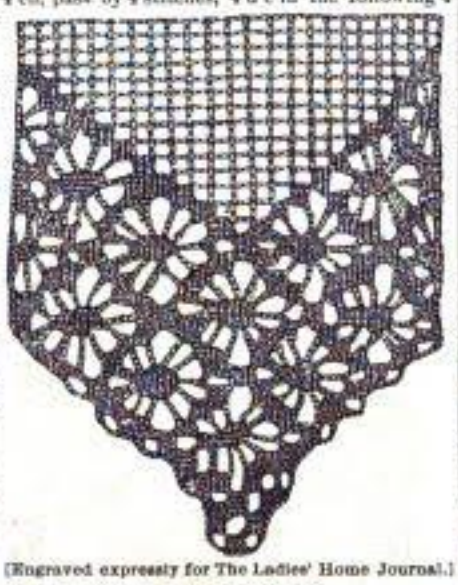
(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)
Knitted Hammock.

Materials required: 3 balls 9 thread fine laid cord, 2 large wooden needles. Cast on 25 stitches; knit in plain, or fancy stitch, a strip about 5 feet long. Knit 4 strips and sew firmly together with the same cord that has been used. Attach this with cords to the wooden bows, which can be bought ready made, or can easily be made by a carpenter. A knotted fringe can be added to the edge. Colored twine greatly adds to the appearance, altough not to the comfort of the hammock.
DON LUCA.

"M. L. K." wishes to know the meaning of "slip and bind." You slip a stitch off the left hand needle on to the right hand needle, then knit the next stitch, and bring the slipped stitch over the knitted one. Loop knitting is done this way. Cast on any number of stitches. Do not clip the first, but always knit it.
1st row. Plain knitting.
2d row. Put the wool round the needle as if you were going to knit a plain stitch, but instead of knitting let the wool hang straight down over the forefinger of the left hand, wind it round and put it for the second time round the finger, and for the third time put it round the needle; and now knit this stitch, which ought to have the appearance of 3 in 1; repeat.
The next row plain.
Do about 6 rows plain, and then repeat with the loops; of course you must only make them on one side of the knitting, and they will require a little pulling to keep them in the right place.
M. F. K.

Crocheted Lace.

Use cotton No. 30; make a foundation chain of 50 stitches.
1st row. Pass by 7 stitches; make 1 d c, (put thread over once) in the next stitch, 2 ch, pass by 2 stitches, 1 d c in the next, then 3 double crochet, (or d c) in the following 3 stitches, *6 ch, pass by 5 stitches, 5 s c in the following 5 stitches, 4 d c in the next 4 stitches, repeat from *, then 11 ch.
2d row. Pass by 8 stitches, 4 d c in the next 4 stitches, *3 ch, pass by 2 stitches, 4 d c in the following 4 stitches, 6 ch, 3 s c in the middle 3 of the next 5 s c, 6 ch, pass by 4 stitches, 4 d c in the following 4 stitches, repeat from *, then alternately 2 ch, and 1 d c in 3d stitch 'til end of row.
3d row. 5 ch, pass by 2 stitches, 1 d c in the following stitch, [2 ch, pass by 2 stitches, 1 d c in following stitch] repeat the part in brackets twice, then 3 d c in the next 3 stitches, *4 ch, 1 treble crochet in the middle s c of the next 3, 4 ch, pass by 4 stitches, 4 d c in the next 4 stitches, 4 ch, 1 treble crochet in the middle ch of the next 3, 4 ch, pass by 4 stitches, 4 d c in the following 4



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stitches, repeat from *, then 11 ch.
4th row. Pass by 8 stitches, 4 d c in the following 4 stitches, *6 ch, pass by 6 stitches, 3 s c in the following 3 stitches, 6 ch, pass by 6 stitches, 4 d c in the following 4 stitches, 2 ch, pass by 3 stitches, 4 d c in the following 4 stitches, repeat from *, then alternately 2 ch, and 1 d c in 3d stitch, 'til end of row.
5th row. 5 ch, pass by 2 stitches, 1 d c in the following stitch, [2 ch, pass by 2 stitches, 1 d c in the following stitch] repeat the part in brackets 4 times, then 3 d c in the next 3 stitches, *6 ch, pass by 8 stitches, 5 s c in the following 5 stitches, 6 ch, pass by 8 stitches, 4 d c in the next 4 stitches, repeat from *, 11 ch.
6th row. Through the 13th row, repeat twice from the 2d, through the 5th row, but in each successive row, work 2 ch. and 1 d c more than in the preceeding one, and at the end of the 13th, only 5 ch, instead of 11 ch.
For the 14th through the 25th row, work back in regular order from the 13th through the 1st, but at the end of every odd row, work only 5 chain instead of 11 ch. At the beginning of every even row, instead of passing by 8 stitches, pass by only 3. Repeat from the 2d row through the 25th row.
MRS. SMITH.
MANISTIQUE, MICH.

Sachet Bag to Hang on An Easy Chair.

Take of No. 9 ribbon, five strips, one yard each; lap the edges and sew together; then feather or any pretty stitch along these laps. Fringe each end to the depth of two inches, fold together, and sew up each side to form a bag. Run a ribbon around the top; fill with sachet powder, or new pine needles, and hang to a chair back. Mine has a black centre, with yellow, blue, rose, and pale green.
CATNIP.

Knitted Edging.

Cast on 20 stitches.
1st row. Knit 3, thread over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 1, thread over, narrow, knit 2, thread over, narrow, knit 3, thread over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 1, thread over 3 times, knit 2.
2d row. Knit 2, knit 1 loop, purl the 2d, knit the 3d, knit 1, thread over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 10, thread over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 3.
3d row. Knit 3, thread over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 2, thread over, narrow, knit 2, thread over, narrow, knit 2, thread over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 1, thread over, narrow, knit 2, thread over, narrow, knit 3.
4th row. Knit 6, thread over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 10, thread over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 3.
5th row. Knit 3, thread over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 3, thread over, narrow, knit 2, thread over, narrow, knit 1, thread over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 6.
6th row. Knit 6, thread over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 10, thread over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 3.
7th row. Knit 3, thread over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 4, thread over, narrow, knit 2, thread over, narrow, thread over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 6.
8th row. Slip and bind 3, knit 2, thread over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 10, thread over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 3. With the lower edge finished like the upper, it makes a pretty inserting. Done in coarse thread it is pretty for tidies. This is very pretty for flannel skirts, done in Saxony, or split zephyr worsted.

Belle's Diamond Edging.

Cast on 9 stitches.
1st row. Knit 3, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 1, over, knit 1.

2d row. Knit 1, purl 1, knit 1, purl 1, knit 1, purl 1, knit 4.
3d row. Knit 2, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 3, over, knit 1.
4th row. Knit 1, purl 1, knit 3, purl 1, knit 1, purl 1, knit 3.
5th row. Knit 1, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 5, over, knit 1. (There are now 12 on the needle.)
6th row. Knit 1, purl, knit 5, purl 1, knit 1, purl 1, knit 2.
7th row. Knit 3, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, narrow. (11 on needle.)
8th row. Knit 1, purl 1, knit 3, purl 1, knit 1, purl 1, knit 3.
9th row. Knit 4, over, narrow, over, knit 3 together, over, narrow.
10th row. Knit 1, purl 1, knit 1, purl 1, knit 1, purl 1, knit 4.
11th row. Knit 5, over, knit 3 together over, narrow.
12th row. Knit 1, purl 1, knit 1, purl 1, knit 5.
JENNY WALLIS.

Broad Lace.

Cast up 36 stitches.
1st row. Slip 1, knit 1, over and narrow 5 times, making 6 holes, knit 13, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1.
2d row. Knit 2, make 2 stitches of the loop, by knitting 1, and purling 1, knit 1, knit second loop like the first knit 2, over, narrow, rest plain.
3d row. Slip 1, knit 2, over and narrow 6 times, knit 12, over, narrow, knit 4, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1.
4th row. Knit 2, make 2 stitches of the loop, knit 1, knit second loop making two stitches, knit 4, over, narrow, rest plain.
5th row. Slip 1, knit 3, over and narrow 6 times, knit 11, over, narrow, knit 6, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1.
6th row. Knit 2, make 2 stitches of the loop, knit 1, make 2 of the second loop, knit 6, over, narrow, rest plain.
7th row. Slip 1, knit 4, over and narrow 6 times, knit 10, over, narrow, knit 8, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1.
8th row. Knit 2, make 2 of the loop, knit 1, make 2 of second loop, knit 8, over, narrow, rest plain.

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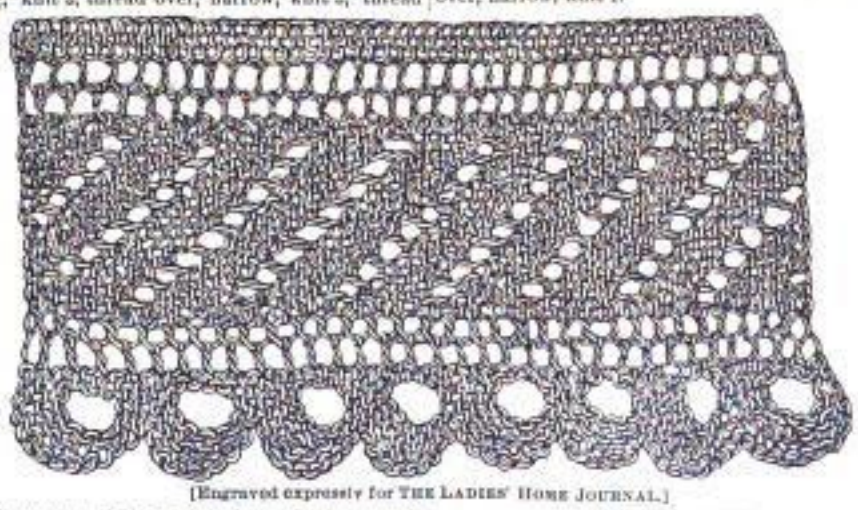
9th row. Slip 1, knit 5, over and narrow 6 times, knit 9, over, narrow, knit 15.
10th row. Bind off 8, knit 6, over, narrow, rest plain.
11th row. Slip 1, knit 6, over and narrow 6 times, knit 8, over, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1.
12th row. Knit 2, make 2 of the loop, knit 1, make 2 of the second loop, knit 2, over, narrow, rest plain.
13th row. Slip 1, knit 7, over and narrow 6 times, knit 7, over, narrow, knit 4, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1.



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Take dotted Swiss muslin, using the dots near the bottom for centres of daisies; add leaves, work in silk,—Florence silk is very good—finish with lace, and bows of satin ribbon. This makes a pretty present for a friend.
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BRUSH STUDIES AND HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

NEW SERIES—NO. VI.

BY LIDA AND M. J. CLARKSON.

A Chapter of Useful Hints in Answer to Numerous Queries—Attractive Mantel Decoratic n, etc., etc.

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NOTICE: "Brush Studies," as published in these columns during the past year, have been published in book form, and will be given as a present to any one sending a club of 4 subscribers, or sold separately for 25 cents. *Address: The Ladies' Home Journal, Philada.*

It seems necessary once in a while to devote a whole chapter to the queries which accumulate too rapidly for the usual space allowed them in this department of the JOURNAL. "How may I enlarge small sketches?" is a frequent question. The easiest and most satisfactory method is by a process of squaring the picture, and enlarging by rules of comparative measurement. For instance, if it is desired to enlarge the "Hollyhocks" of the April number, it is only necessary to divide the original sketch into as many squares as you wish inches in your large picture. As this illustration is small, it is well to allow upon your canvas two inches to each small square, that is to say, if you wish your picture to be 36 x 18, you will divide your canvas the longest way into 18 squares from top to bottom, the short way, into 9 squares from side to side, all the same proportion. Now to enlarge your picture, you will only need to locate each point of the drawing in the large squares, exactly as you find them in the smaller ones in the original sketch. It is now an easy matter to draw the outlines as illustrated, giving them all the same position upon your canvas. Notice just where each line passes through the picture, each square taking in a certain proportion of the subject, and then make your larger drawing to correspond, and you will find little, if any difficulty in copying the exact outlines upon the larger scale. It would be a good plan to enlarge at first the small illustration to half the size you wish your picture, that is to say 1 inch squares, then the larger sketch into 2 inch squares. In this way your outlines will be perfect, and the practice will in time enable you perhaps to sketch by your eye alone, without other aids.

The question of a proper palette seems a matter of doubt and perplexity to many readers.

"Will vermillion, or scarlet, or geranium lake supply the place of rose madder, or madder lake? Will Prussian blue answer for cobalt? Is burnt sienna necessary?" etc., etc. Now a good palette is the best economy after all. If you take the time and pains to paint a picture, do you not wish it lasting, the colors permanent? Geranium and scarlet lake are fugitive. Prussian blue turns green in time. Good reliable colors are there ore cheapest and best in the end. A simple palette is to be recommended to the beginner. White, yellow ochre, vermillion, Antwerp blue, burnt sienna, raw umber, Vandyke brown and ivory black; wi n the chrome yellow light, medium and deep, will be all that is necessary for practice. When you begin to paint pictures add to your list the cadmiums, light, medium and orange, light red, permanent blue and cobalt, madder lake, terre vert, and madder brown.

A word here about mixing colors. Wm. Hunt, in his instructive and amusing "Hints" advises that the colors be dragged lengthwise down the palette with a brush. He says: "The common way of stirring them round and round is better suited to the making of mud pies. Draw some white down the palette with two or three strokes. Into this cut a streak of yellow ochre, by its side a dash of vermillion, then another of cobalt, using a separate brush for each color." Of course this presupposes that you have "set your palette," an expression artists' use when speaking of the putting out of the paints before commencing work. Begin at the right hand, keeping some such order as this: White first, then yellow ochre, then the chromes, or cadmiums, then the reds, vermillion, madder lake, etc., then the blues, then burnt sienna, the browns, and lastly black.

There are other colors we sometimes use, but they are not really necessary—they may be styled the luxuries of the studio, just as we like to have rich and elegant accessories and surroundings, which seem so properly to belong to art—but they may be dispensed with by the economist. But to try to get along without the essential colors mentioned above, is like attempting to build a house without bricks and mortar. Such queries as why do my colors look so dull, or so unlike those in my copy, may perhaps find an answer in the foregoing hints. The best colors, properly blended, ought not to look dull or muddy. The fault therefore is either in the colors themselves, or in the manner of blending them. The greens seem also a knotty subject with many. I do not get my leaves to suit me, or my foliage is not just right. Here there may be more than the mere coloring at fault. The drawing is all important. If that were perfect, color would often take care of itself. It is well however to know what is best to use for different tones of green, as no color has a wider range or greater diversity of tints.

A good palette for warm yellow greens is simply cadmium, burnt sienna and black. Cooler blue greens may be painted with terre vert, and Antwerp blue. Burnt sienna and raw umber are often needed in the shadows. Dark green leaves need to be toned with a great deal of black. Indian yellow, one of the aforesaid "luxuries," is much liked in greens by many artists, but cadmium is a substitute. The blue greens have of course an excess of blue, and sometimes yellow ochre is added.

Zinnober green with terre vert is often found satisfactory to beginners who have not become accustomed to mixing their tints.

There are sometimes certain tones in foliage which seem absolutely to need emerald green in order to get the most satisfactory results. Take for instance the bright foliage of a spring landscape bathed in warm light; here a judicious use of this color will give an effect very difficult to get in any other way.

Sometimes these irregularities are admissable—in fact they are a great temptation to the colorist whose love for brilliant tones may lead him occasionally to doubtful experiment. Let this prove the exception rather than the rule. A simple and reliable palette is to be recommended. The best blues of the color box are those already named, although Prussian blue is much used in spite of its bad reputation. The madders are all reliable reds, the lakes unreliable, with the exception of madder lake, which may be classed with the madders. Bone brown is a useful color, but a very slow drier. Ivory black, and burnt sienna will often answer as a substitute. Another frequent question asked "Can I learn the art of painting without a teacher?" The "*art of painting*," is here so ambiguous a term, as to require a definite explanation. If we may interpret it as meaning such a knowledge of painting as will enable you to decorate your home, to copy pictures with tolerable success, to excel perhaps as an amateur, we unhesitatingly answer yes, such a thing is quite possible. On the other hand, if your aim is to become an artist, or your ambition soars higher for fame and a name, then we would advise a good teacher by all means, and an academic course of study. Go at once to the foundation and build up a solid and substantial structure. Our instructions are not for *would-be artists*, but for the average amateur, who seeks pleasure—sometimes profit, but neither riches, nor fame.

A great many queries come in from readers relative to the handling of their subjects, more especially where it is desired to paint broadly. "I can't seem to cover my canvas at all well," complains one, and no wonder, for we found her trying to lay on the sky of a large landscape with a fine sable brush. Throw aside these small tools, and invest in a good stock of bristles, from a quarter inch in width, up to at least one inch. Sometimes a pupil goes to work as gingerly as if she were afraid of paint, her greatest anxiety the fear of soiling the tips of her fingers. She makes dainty little dabs suggestive of a humming bird over a flower, expecting to do good work in a very delicate, lady-like fashion. Impossible. This patting away will do very well for the coloring of a miniature, but it will never make an effective picture. Do not be afraid of soiling your fingers or your garments. It is not unusual to meet with a black eye, a red nose, or a jaundiced looking complexion in the professional's studio, not owing at all as one might ignorantly imagine, to habits of dissipation. Good artists are in one sense, most inveterate daubers. Provide yourself therefore with a big Mother Hubbard apron, and a supply of soft clothes to wipe off superfluous paint, and you are ready for work.

[Engraved expressly for THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

SUGGESTION FOR MANTEL DECORATION.

In answer to numerous queries as to mantel decoration, we give a design this month which is suitable for work upon felt, velvet, plush or satin, as preferred, and may be executed either in painting or embroidery. It is astonishing what a change may be wrought in a very uninviting room by tasteful arrangement of a mantel. A little judicious expenditure of money, aided by ingenuity and taste, will go a great way in this direction. Sometimes it happens that the builder, or carpenter, has given us something remarkably ugly in the cheap slate mantel, or worse still, the stained or marbleized affair often seen. The present fancy for decorating the bare shelf with a pretty valence, and where an overmantel is wanting, supplying its place with drapery which sets off the articles of *vertu* upon the shelf, is a happy device, and imparts an air of elegance to the most unpretentious of rooms. The expense is not alarming to the most economical. An outlay of from six to eight dollars, ought to cover all, while the effect will add many times that amount apparently, to your room, besides giving you something to enjoy; for what woman of taste does not take pleasure in an attractive mantel over which she tenderly lingers as she dusts and arranges her *bric a brac*, almost as though these articles could feel and appreciate her attentions. Our design for valence is upon a steel blue felting, and is both handsome and novel, as thus arranged. In spite of the Oscar Wilde caricature of the sun flower, it yet maintains its popularity for decorative work, and for bold design is very desirable, being bright and showy and yet not a gaudy subject if properly handled. It is suitable for plain painting, Lustra or Kensington.

There are many novelties in decorative work now which might be introduced to readers, and may from time to time receive some passing notice, but experience teaches that the majority of persons do not care to provide themselves continually with new outfits often introduced more for the pecuniary benefit of dealers than otherwise. A great deal of beautiful work may be accomplished with inexpensive, old-fashioned paints, and the greater number of reader will appreciate the fact, especially those whose resources are not equal to all these new tangled notions. Those with ample means may experiment with novelties, while plainer folk will do very well without. The palette for sunflower is cadmium, chrome, or lemon yellow, with white in the light, and burnt sienna, yellow ochre, and a trifle black in the deeper accents of color. A good deal of black is used in the centres with raw umber and Vandyke brown. The leaves may be painted with Antwerp blue, cadmium and white, with raw umber, burnt sienna and black in the shadows. The leaves may be veined with a warmer green, light yellow, zinnober green with cadmium, a little light red and black. The chromes may be used in place of the cadmiums for decorative work, and more license allowed as to bright colors and liberties taken not admissible upon canvas. The aim is not the natural rendering of our subject, but richness and ornament. Plain painting upon felt, velvet, plush, or satin, is delightful work. The handling is exactly the same as given for ordinary painting. It may be made more artistic in effect than the minor branches, Lustra, Kensington, etc., for plain painting will always take the precedence as the best, and highest of all art work.

[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

HOW TO USE PREMIUM.

To paint the above design in Kensington lay the color on generously, using small sized bristle brushes, afterwards drawing in your lines with a pen, in imitation of the Kensington embroidery stitch. The most desirable Kensington painting is simply good plain work, scratched over with a pen. The colors used are the same. For Lustra, rich gold is used for the general tone of the sunflower, with pale gold for the lights, and orange in the deeper accents. For the shadows brown may be mixed with the orange. Brown and dull red may be used in the centres with dots of fire, for rich effects. Leaves are painted with different tones of green, and brightened with veinings of green gold, or silver as fancy dictates. All sorts of liberties are allowable for this branch of the work.

We are frequently questioned as to the uses of the decorated pieces given as premiums. In reply, our simple illustration of tidy, or banner, will show how the squares, and three-cornered pieces, may be adapted to various styles of fancy work. The oblong shapes may be set in a bracket valence, or clock scarf in the same manner. Applied with fancy stitches upon satin or plush, they are novel and pretty.

***

SPECIAL QUERIES.

"S. E. W."—Many of the subjects already given in these columns would be appropriate for your ten inch plaque. Pansies would perhaps be most satisfactory for your ground. These are fully described in previous numbers of the JOURNAL.

As to the work being rough or smooth that is a matter of individual fancy, although a smooth painting is more apt to be flat and tame. The question is not so much how much paint you are to load upon your canvas as the way you put it on to make a picture. Pay careful attention to lights and shadows, and never mind whether it is smooth or rough. If it is a picture nobody will stop to question your methods.

"Trix" will find her query answered in this paper.

"L. J. L." will find a description of pretty clock scarf in November No. of JOURNAL, or, if that is not to be had, in "Brush Studies" now published in book form.

"Mrs. H. C. F." will find some of her queries answered above. In painting portrait of lady in evening dress of old gold with cream lace, etc., etc., for your background of raw and burnt umber, yellow ochre, etc., we should substitute silver white, yellow ochre, light red, permanent, or Antwerp blue, and raw umber with ivory black, and madder lake in the shadows. This ground should be painted loosely without blending more than is necessary, and instead of lighting up the ground around head, why not try throwing a shadow behind it, letting it fall somewhat to one side, which will give a better effect, throwing out your subject in bolder relief.

No, we do not recommend blending the colors. Unite them rather with a flat brush, taking care to keep your masses of light and shade as to form. The general tone is laid in at first, details being left for an after painting.

"Mrs. F. M." will find her query answered above. Whether we shall take up the specialty she mentions depends upon the number of requests we have, to warrant its popularity.

"G. W. B."—Your query answered above. In Kensington painting take the pen stroke clear through the paint, without however scratching up the nap of your fabric. Let the ground itself sometimes shade your work.

"Mrs. J. J. C."—A pretty scheme of color for the birds on the pine branches, is a blue gray for the bodies, with blue on the head, wings and tail, with yellow breasts. Paint white around the spot on the head and under the eye, and define the wing feathers with deeper blue, or black. For the bodies use cobalt, white and black, with a trifle cadmium. For the blue of the wings, etc., use cobalt and white toned with a little black. For the yellow breast, cadmium and white, a little yellow, and burnt sienna in the shadows.

"E. B. G." asks why some painting upon satin looks so much better than others. The hard waxy look is owing to smoothing down your paint too much, or not properly observing the values, lights, shades, etc. Painting upon satin is like any other painting, the rules to be observed are the same. Varnish is unnecessary.

"A Reader."—Poppy, or linseed oils are considered the best mediums for oil paints, although Roberson's medium is a favorite with many artists. If the oils are used add *siccatif de courtray*, one drop to five of the oil. You can paint the design on glass, getting right effects before putting in your ground, by simply laying it over paper as near the color of the ground you intend to paint as possible.

"Hazel."—Pratt & Lambert claim that their enamel is very durable. We should hardly venture to use it for table china, but for articles that do not require much washing in hot water it will do very nicely.

***

Our premium this month for one full subscription, or club of six, is a copy of "Brush Studies" neatly bound and illustrated. Back numbers from May '84 until January '86, with much additional information.

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THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL

AND

PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER.

A NATIONAL ILLUSTRATED FAMILY JOURNAL.

MRS. LOUISA KNAPP, EDITOR.

MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT, ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

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PHILADELPHIA, PA.

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Notice is always sent of expiration of subscription. If not renewed it is immediately discontinued. No notice is required to stop the paper, and no bill will be sent for extra numbers.

Receipts.—The fact that you receive the paper is a proof that we have received your remittance correctly. If you do not receive the paper promptly, write us that we may see that your address is correct.

Errors.—We make them; so does every one, and we will cheerfully correct them if you will write to us. Try to write us good-naturedly, but if you cannot, then write to us any way. Do not complain to any one else or let it pass. We want an early opportunity to make right any injustice that we may do.

NEW YORK OFFICE, 202 BROADWAY;

W. S. NILES, MANAGER.

Philadelphia, June, 1886.

We have stated that we are very anxious to correct any errors that may occur in our office. Will our subscribers kindly aid us in this work by dropping us a postal as soon as possible after such errors have been corrected? We have received a number of postals saying that the delayed matter about which the subscriber had written the previous day, had reached its destination. Such notice as this, would prevent time being spent in trying to right a matter already righted, and would be a real kindness to us.

We are daily in receipt of many letters asking for information. This we are perfectly willing to furnish, and could often do so on the spot, if the writer had enclosed a stamped envelope, addressed to him- or herself. If this is not done, by the the time the editor has reached in one direction for an envelope, another direction for a stamp, has affixed the stamp and addressed the envelope, much valuable time has been consumed, which the editor can ill afford to lose. To the writer it is but the loss of a few moments, but to the editor, who receives quantities of such letters every day, it is the loss of hours. In order to save time then, and insure to yourself a reply at the earliest possible date, please enclose stamped envelope addressed to yourself.

A woman who has but a dollar or two doled out to her at a time is apt to attach undue importance to money. To her narrowed vision a silver dollar looks as big as the proverbial cart-wheel. There are many women whose husbands and fathers own thousands of dollars, who, if they should buy a rose in mid-winter, a book of poems, anything less practically useful than a darning needle or a bread tin, or if they should lose a dollar, would feel that they had committed a heinous sin. It might be that a rose or a pot of violets at Christmas would do far more for life than a nutmeg grater. Spice never did the stomach any good, but a rose when the snow lays white on the ground and everything out of doors is frozen solid—why, its life might make a June in the house for a week and its memory last forever!

"We read our paper clear through, advertisements and all, and we would not lose a copy for anything," write some of our subscribers. Ah! there is one secret of our success. "Clear through advertisements and all." That is the way we would have it. Rest assured it will pay you to read "advertisements and all." If you have never read our advertising columns, you can have no idea of what you have lost. In those columns you will find notices of almost everything a household can need, to say nothing of things merely interesting, ornamental, or curious. If you have never done so, just read them through once for the sake of seeing what a motley group can be collected in one paper that does only really good advertising, and notices only reliable houses. This is one of those good rules that works both ways. The fact of our putting forth their advertisements shows our confidence in them, and the fact of their advertising with us shows their confidence in us and our tremendous circulation.

POSTAGE TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

A discrimination in the rates of postage to city subscribers is made between weekly and monthly periodicals, to the great disadvantage of the latter; for, while the weeklies can be mailed to city subscribers for one cent per pound, monthlies can not be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent for each two ounces, except where the subscribers go to the post-office for their mail. And, as the JOURNAL in its present form weighs over two ounces, we are, therefore, obliged to ask Philadelphia subscribers twenty-four cents extra for postage, unless the paper is addressed at the post-office to be called for, or to any P. O. box.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The circulation of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL is not less than 240,000 copies each issue. We have over 200,000 paid yearly subscribers, and offer our subscription books and post-office receipts for inspection to any one who will call upon us, in Philadelphia, or at our New York office. Our statements are guaranteed to be exactly as represented, or no pay will be asked. Publishers affidavit on file at all advertising agencies. We refer to Ferguson Bros., & Co., who do our press work, and run four presses nearly a month to work off our large edition; and to John F. Busch & Son, who do our folding and binding,—all of Philadelphia. The affidavits of these gentlemen are on file at all advertising agencies.

A WORD TO THE LETTER-WRITERS.

For the writing of an elegant letter many things are necessary, but for all ordinary business purposes but few are requisite—viz.: First, to direct your letters plainly and distinctly, leaving no room for guess-work on the part of the postmaster or delivery agent; for in nine cases out of ten he will make a wrong guess.

Second, to sign your own name and your address with perfect distinctness, so that if the receiver does not quite understand the matter contained in the letter, he can inform the writer of the fact. Frequently in this office there come letters with only an initial signed, not even a date, nor a note of the place from which it was sent. In a few days, we receive, almost always from such writers, a demand as to why we have not answered.

Third, when sending to us a change of address, be sure to state both former and present address. Otherwise, this necessitates our writing to you for further information, and your replying, all of which takes much time and patience on both sides; and in the meantime the papers are once more sent to the old address, because we have been unable to change it.

By observing these few simple rules, the task of attending to business matters per mail, is very much lightened, and pleasanter relations between writer and receiver are maintained.

TEACH THEM EARLY.

Whether Mrs. Rorer's late lecture on the cutting of meat, is exactly what is needed, remains to be seen; but that it is a step, or even perhaps a stride, in the right direction, is undoubtedly true. One of the subjects about which most young housekeepers are lamentably ignorant, is the different qualities and cuts of meat of various kinds. Is it not in "Mrs. Jerningham's Journal," that the young housekeeper is made to say, (in reply to the rather contemptuous remark of her cook about its being no season for a leg of lamb) "No lamb! O well then get a leg of beef." Fancy! a leg of beef for two. And yet this was not such a great exaggeration. There are many girls who are quite as ignorant.

Would it not be well for mothers to accustom their daughters to know the different cuts of meat? While the daughter is yet a little girl, why not take her to the butcher's shop and teach her the difference between mutton chops and veal cutlets, just as one would teach her the difference between potatoes and apples? Why not take her marketing and teach her the difference between well cut meat and a "scraggy" piece?

All this knowledge is so easily gained by almost imperceptible steps in childhood, that it seems a pity to buy it in after life (when one has so much else to do and has need of all the "ready-made" knowledge and experience one can command) with big butcher's bills, poor meat and uncomfortable dinners.

DIRECTNESS OF SPEECH.

Of all the talents distributed among mankind, that for directness of speech seems to be the one which has been most sparingly given. Those whose "communication be yea, yea, nay nay," are indeed among the "mighty few."

To how few, how very few, has been given the power to make a direct reply to the simplest question.

Not long ago a lady asked an agent of a well known railroad "Can I buy a ticket to-day and come back on it to-morrow?" To the dispassionate observer, the simplest reply would seem to be either "yes" or "no," (the agent need not even have added "madame" had he felt indisposed so to do) but, drawing himself up with dignity, he replied magnificently and impressively, "If you so desire."

This was hardly true, if he sought to be scrupulously truthful. Her *ability* to obtain the ticket, was in no way affected by her desire.

In another instance, a gentleman, walking up to a railroad official and holding out his ticket for inspection, in order that there might be no doubt as to his destination, inquired (indicating at the same time with his finger a certain section of carriages) "Is that my train?" The gate-man, inclined to be facetious, (poor man! he had not then learned that humor does not add to the market-value of a railway employe) replied in a loud tone in order that all his fellows might hear and appreciate his wit, "No sir! that ain't your train; that there train belongs to this here railway company."

The gentleman said nothing and passed on, but, unfortunately for the man at the gate, his victim was a director of the road, and the next morning the offender was promptly dismissed (as he would have been in any case had the circumstance come to the notice of the company).

This style of reply is not confined, however, to railway employes by any means. One finds it in all classes and professions. One more instance and I am done. "Did a postal card come here in regard to a book left here?" inquired a lady of the proprietor of a drug store. "There was a communication to that effect," replied he of the drugs.

If this style be unsatisfactory in an employe, how much more unsatisfactory is it in an employer. How much trouble would be saved if each employer would give an absolutely direct order as to the manner of performing some duty. Orders or explanations given in an indirect, half-way manner, are never satisfactory to the employe, and are the cause of much disturbance, finally, to the employer, (who by the way can seldom be brought to think that the fault lies in him or her. He or she generally supposes "any one would know better than that.")

The fault, it is to be feared has its foundation laid in childhood. When you say to your son "James, did you go out this afternoon?" and he replies "Why George was sick and I went out to see him," when he reaches, "George was sick" stop him right there. Let him answer your question first and give afterwards any explanation he may deem necessary. Let him say first, "Yes, father." One cannot too soon teach his children to give a direct reply to a direct demand, and the habit that many children have, of offering some explanation or excuse the moment they are asked a question, instead of replying to it at once, is a pernicious one. It not only tends to promote a weak, hesitating, round-about style of *language*, but it tends to destroy in a great measure that compact, forcible, vigorous style of *thought*, which is the most desirable quality a man or woman can possess, no matter what the walk of life.

Does your subscription expire with this number? If so, see our inducements to renew, and to secure clubs. Consult the last three numbers of the JOURNAL for full lists of premiums.

SCRIBBLER'S LETTERS TO GUSTAVUS.

NO. XI.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

My dear Gustavus, just exactly what did you punish little Georgie for last Sunday morning?

I know what you did it for, but I just want to see if you know. "For meddling in his mother's work-basket." There! I thought you'd say that. But it isn't so. You punished him because you left the bottle of furniture polish on the bureau. Now let me tell you: when you were done with that bottle Saturday evening, man-like, you left it for Julia to put away, instead of walking to the closet and leaving it where you found it. Well, by some means it got at your right hand beside your cologne bottle; so when you filled your handkerchief with it, as the final touch to an exceedingly careful toilet, gently dabbing your mustache with furniture polish instead of cologne, your exasperation knew no bounds. Just at this juncture Georgie upset his mother's work-basket, and you, looking around for something on which to wreak your passion, (for of course you were not to blame) and being rather startled by the noise, flew at George and spanked him, pretending to him and yourself that it was because he was disobedient. I say "pretending" advisedly, because it was pretense of the most hollow kind. The week before I saw you laugh at him and call him a mischievous youngster for doing exactly the same thing, but you didn't interfere then; you told me it was "exclusively Julia's precinct," and added ironically, "You know you don't believe in my interfering in Julia's business." I don't believe in spanking George when you get furniture polish on your mustache, out of a bottle that you yourself have left out of place. Just here let me say, Gustavus, that one of the greatest mistakes parents make, is punishing children without knowing what they do it for. O, you needn't open your eyes. You don't know half the time. I've seen you scold the children for making an unintentional noise or for a piece of forgetfulness, at a time when you were worried about outside business, far more than you would at another time for a deliberate act of disobedience and defiance when you happened to be in a serene frame of mind. Now, it is no more wicked for a child to tear its clothes when you happen to be nervous and cross, nor any less wrong for it to defy your authority when you happen to feel in a good condition than at other times, nor have you any moral or parental right to let it feel your moods. Georgie is not in any degree responsible when your latest speculation fails. I've heard children talk; they know a thing or two more than you give them credit for. And if you want to preserve your children's life long respect (which "is more to be desired than houses or lands") treat them with justice, and not as the circumstances of the moment happen to find you.

SCRIBBLER.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"HAZEL."—We do not recommend the firm you mention.—[ED.

CAN any reader of the JOURNAL tell an inquirer of a way to mend iron?

CAN any one suggest a way of keeping gold fish alive? CONSTANT READER.

B. S. K., O'Fallon, Mo., Box 110, asks how to use empty spools for ornamental purposes.

MRS. R. can obtain both stockinet and Brooks' cotton, by sending to John Wanamaker, Philadelphia, Pa.

"MAY" replies to an inquiry. Sage tea to which a little alum has been added is an excellent wash for tender gums.

WILL "Laurel" please give full address where she obtained Blush of Roses, stating the price? And oblige a subscriber.

CAN any one tell Mrs. Wm. McAfee how to wash a black and white gingham dress, without having the colors run?

MAUD G., Rockport, Mass. If you will send to Oliver Ditson & Co., Boston, they will supply you with music books of all descriptions.—[ED.

IF Mrs. N. Easterly will send her address to Mrs. Elizabeth Clark, Camptown, Bradford Co., Iowa, she can obtain directions for zephyr flowers.

IF "Nellie" will send envelope, stamped and addressed, (see first column this page) we will send her the words of "Christine Le Roy," enclosed for her by a subscriber.

IF "Mrs. W. S. Smeet," Corydon, Ind., will rinse her blue shirts in a separate water, a very deep blue, she will find it will greatly improve them. MAGGIE HUDSON.

"MIGNONETTE:"—A sure cure for gall stones is Peruvian Syrup. It has cured cases of many years' standing, where physicians, sweet oil, and numerous other remedies, have failed.

LAVINIA.

IVY MAY.—The osage grows from seed, which can be obtained of R. J. Farquhar & Co., 19 South Market St., Boston, Mass. The price is ten cents per package. About the last of April is the time to plant. M. F. K.

SAVANNAH, GA., March 2, 1886.

DEAR EDITOR:—For information for "Mrs. T. S." I have been using one of Arnold's Automatic Steam Cookers for over one year, and I find them to be one of the best of kitchen utensils. You can cook all your vegetables, meat, and a pudding at one time without contracting flavor or watching. I would not be without mine. Many of them are used in this city.

Respectfully, MRS. C. M. HAYWOOD.

SOME one writes: If a "new subscriber who has her own work to do," will keep a bottle 3 parts rose water, 2 parts glycerine, to be used each time, on washing her hands, she will find it will keep them nice and smooth.

[To such as cannot use glycerine, I would add that equal parts of lard and white of egg, thoroughly beaten together, and scented according to choice, is an excellent remedy for chapped or rough hands.—ED.]

MRS. GEO. F. COOKE:—A wash and starch for mourning goods, is water in which bran has been boiled and strained. Having occasion to wash a dark dress, and not having bran, I used Graham flour, not quite a pint, on which I gradually poured cold water, rubbing to prevent lumps. I put it on the back of the stove, stirring to prevent burning. If there is not sufficient quantity, more water can be added. It should be well strained through a cloth. I used half to wash the dress, and the other half for rinsing or starching, and the dress was both clear and stiff. I did not leave it out long, and as soon as it was dry, ironed it on the wrong side. S. E. W.

A SUBSCRIBER sends the following:

DEAR MRS. KNAPP:—Seeing in the January number of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, that "Pense's" only objection to the JOURNAL to be its not being bound, I thought perhaps if I suggested my way of taking care of them, to her, she might find it useful. I took a strip of unbleached muslin, two and a-half inches wide, and twice as long as the JOURNAL, folded it lengthwise, turned in the edges all round, and sewed them firmly on the machine; then a piece the size of the paper of pasteboard, or heavy paper, and stitched it (by hand of course) on one edge of my cloth; now I take my papers and sew them on the cloth through the centre, putting them as close to the card as they will go and still open handily; when I get one years papers on, my cloth will be full, and I will put cardboard on the other side; take a piece of nice cloth and paste it over both sides; when I have a book I would not part with. Since they have come all cut it is not necessary to sew them until after I have read them through once.

MRS. E. F., Maine, sends the following game—Bean Bags. A new game of "bean bags" is the latest. It can be played on the lawn or in a parlor, as follows: A smooth painted board a foot and a-half wide and three feet long, has a hole six inches square cut from one end of it. This board has two legs eighteen inches long, hinged to it near the hole end, upon which it is propped, the other end resting upon the floor. Then there are four small bags, made of strong, colored material, each holding a pint of small, white beans. The game is to pitch these bags into the hole in the board from a distance of fifteen feet or more, each player pitching all four of the bags successively. A bag going through the hole counts two for the pitcher, but when he succeeds in putting the four bags through the hole successively, it counts fifty; a bag not going through, but resting on the board, counts five, and every bag missing the hole, and not resting on or touching the board after being pitched, discounts five. Two or a dozen persons can join the game, individually or by "sides." Ten rounds finish the game. It is good exercise, and more interesting and exciting than would be supposed, by those who have never played it.

CHICAGO, JAN. 2, 1886.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—While reading the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL for February, I thought of several things which I would like to tell the readers of your publication, one of which was: "A way to keep children quiet."

We have a little friend, four years of age, who possesses one of those active, nervous temperaments with keen imagination. He is a constant tax on "the committee of ways and means" to amuse him. As he lives too far from a kindergarten to attend one, we have bought some kindergarten material for him to work on at home. We have some embroidery design cards. Some of these are four by five and a-half, others five and one-half by seven and one-half inches in size, the smaller ones costing twenty-five cents per dozen and the larger thirty-five. The perforating needle and cushion cost eighteen cents, postage paid. The designs are various, including animals, birds, fishes, flowers, dishes, fruit, mechanics at work, and many others.

Our little boy first examines his hands to see if they are perfectly clean, so as not to soil the card which he places on the cushion, then taking the perforating needle he carefully places it on one dot, then the next, until the object is outlined; then with needle and silk carefully follows these perforations. The work is very fascinating, and at the same time they get some idea of drawing. When the cards are done they are very pretty for a scrap album. My little friend gave one to me on which was a circle containing flowers, two doves, and a branch of holly with its green leaves and red berries, beneath which were the words "Merry Christmas;" around the edge of the card was a neat border. You may be sure that this gift is highly prized.

A catalogue of kindergarten supplies will be forwarded without expense to those desiring it, by sending a card to any one who deals in kindergarten material. ROCK MAPLE.

COTTONWOOD FALLS, KANSAS, March 22, '86.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—In the April number of the JOURNAL, I read a letter from Mrs. Herrick, on "servants," in which she attacks us as a class, and I beg for a space in this department in order to answer some of her accusations. How nobly she takes up the cause of young housekeepers. Well, I grant, many of that class to which she alludes, are objects of pity, considering how totally unfitted most of them are for the responsibilities of housekeeping. How can even a servant help feeling a contempt for one who is trying to give directions in cooking and other work, of which she knows nothing? But as to showing by sign or word, her superior knowledge, the cases are rare. Then, concerning the little incident about the compliment bestowed upon a lady, by a visitor, on the cooking of birds, in which she had no hand, but who had the honesty to give credit to whom credit is due. I should certainly infer from that letter, that she should have received it in silence.

Again, I have never heard of a place where a girl went to church twice on Sunday, and then out Sunday evening, and most other evenings in the week, too; if she did do so, it certainly was not a very pleasant home for her; and I do not think any girl ever demanded such liberties. As to the ingratitude of servants as a class; surely, ingratitude is not confined to them. We are made by the same God, and just as many kind, sweet, obliging dispositions will be found in the kitchen as in the parlor. That instance of the ingratitude of a sick servant refusing to accept the gruel prepared by her devoted mistress, is, if it were not the imagination of a fertile brain, but an illustration of what one servant in a thousand would do. In that household where they charged servants seven times in two months, there must have been something radically wrong with the mistress.

Servants are not, I admit, as a class, well educated, and I see no chance for any improvement in the future, as long as their work is considered a low calling. See how even this Mrs. Herrick speaks of them! What girl of education or refinement would wish to belong to a class who is the object of attack for the nibs of such stinging pens? It makes my blood boil when I read such letters of prejudice against "Bridgets," as she chooses to call us.

She alludes to the mere fact of our being servants, as disentitling us to the title of lady. Are we any the less ladies because we earn our daily bread (and nine cases out of ten that of some dependant relatives) by the sweat of our brow? If this is so then the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL is not to help us, but for her who is so unfortunate as to be our "boss." From one of

"The Greatest Plagues of Life,"

ELSIE ROSE.

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THE TEA TABLE.

How to Make it Attractive.

NO. II.

The draping of the table is the first point to which attention must be given. So much has been said in favor of sub-covers of felt and flannel that one would think by this time every woman in the country would have provided herself with one. Without it, even a rich quality of napery has a thin and slazy look, while with it, a cheap tablecloth appears of really good material. To those who dread the purchase of the expensive felting, let it be said that of the unbleached canton flannel that costs eight and ten cents a yard, can be made an excellent substitute by carefully whipping together the selvage edges of two breadths in order that it may be the width of the table.

Pretty tea cloths come now at very reasonable rates. In white or buff fringed linen, with scarlet border, they sell for from four to five dollars, including the dozen napkins. Neat red cloths are sold for even less, while if more expensive articles are desired, the exquisite cloths in Holbein work can be purchased for eight or nine dollars a set. The old custom of using the bare board is coming into vogue again and may well be followed by those who possess tables with good hard wood tops. A large colored napkin should then be spread in the middle of the table, while small mats are laid at each plate and under the various dishes. These mats may be knit, crocheted or woven, or of the white linen with pretty drawn work borders, and if desired a spray of flowers, a quaint Kate Greenaway figure or a Kensington design embroidered in the centre.

In china, there is a boundless choice. Odd Japanese and Chinese patterns can be procured very reasonably in dull or gay tints, while some people prefer the plain white porcelain to anything else. Whatever it may be makes little difference so long as it is clean and bright.

Upon the appointments of the tea tray, any amount of thought and skill may be lavished. A pretty custom is that of having an individual cup and saucer for each member of the family, and the harlequin effect may be heightened by the use of odd sugar bowl and cream jug. The tray may be either tin or lacquered wood, it matters not which, and should be covered with a cloth made for the purpose. These may be bought fringed and ready for any additions in the way of needlework that taste or ingenuity may devise. One pretty design is the old couplet:

"Except the kettle boiling be,
Filling the teapot spoils the tea."

The pictures of the kettle and tea pot are represented instead of the written words, while the same plan is followed by placing the capital initials B and T instead of the be and tee terminating the lines. These may be done in outline in wash silks.

The cosy or thickly wadded cap to cover the teapot is another important appurtenance, and may be made rich or simple as desired. It should be cut of a size to fit the pot for which it is intended, and of any suitable material, ladies cloth, turcoman, felt, sateen, or even silk or satin. It is prettiest in a plain color, not too bright, and of a serviceable goods, and may be braided, quilted, embroidered or painted, and the edges finished with a cord. French wool wadding is better for stuffing than cotton batting as being both warmer and lighter, and a lining of chamois skin is preferable to any other for durability and the power of holding heat. Individual taste may be consulted in the design worked upon the cosy, but two or three suggestions may not come amiss. A miniature tea tray, a tiny tea pot and creamer, a cup and saucer, a spray of flowers, (presumably blossoms of the tea plant) or any other appropriate pattern, and for mottoes: "The cups that cheer," "Come, sip the tea's delicious flower," "Let us welcome peaceful evening in," or, "Take only such cups as leave a friendly warmth."

There is but one proper method of making tea, and that is with boiling water, on the table. Many people dread this process from an exaggerated idea of the trouble involved, but looked at from a common sense point of view, it is really no more labor than preparing it in the kitchen. First of all, one must, of course, have a hot water pot, and this is really the only item of expense worth mentioning. One may pay almost any price for these articles, the cost depending largely upon the material of which they are composed, for they come in plated silver and nickel, copper and brass. The last named are the cheapest. A very pretty one on a swinging stand may be bought for from three to five dollars, according to the size. If this is too dear, an excellent substitute may be arranged by purchasing one of the little stands containing an alcohol lamp known sometimes as portable stoves, and setting on it a small nickle plated or copper kettle such as may be picked up at a household furnishing store for a dollar or two. Even one of tin, always kept clean and shining, need not be despised.

The late Charles Delmonico used to say that water that had been boiling long was "worse than no water at all" for making tea, and he urged the necessity of having it freshly heated for that purpose. The table kettle can be brought to the boil on the range before it is taken into the dining room, and then kept in a state of ebullition by the flame of the spirit lamp. The water must be actually boiling when poured on the tea, in order to extract the full strength from the leaves. The tea pot should always be of earthenware, as the tannic acid in the herb is said to produce a corrosive effect upon metal, and cause an unwholesome if not absolutely poisonous liquid. Pretty Japanese tea pots are sold at nearly all china shops at twenty-five cents apiece and upward. The old rule in tea making "A spoonful for each person and one for the pot," is a good one to follow. The little china caddies of the same invaluable Japanese ware, cost only thirty or forty cents apiece, and are provided with tops that serve as measures. The tea pot should be scalded out before the leaves are put in, enough water poured on them to cover them, and the cosy drawn over the tea pot for from three to five minutes. Then the pot must be filled, and after it has stood two minutes longer, the contents must be stirred and it will be ready for use. A very simple process, but one that seems to be poorly comprehended, judging from the difficulty one has in finding really good tea, even in the houses of the wealthy. Tea should never be boiled, as this gives it a rank, herby taste, entirely destroying the pungent, yet delicate flavor that is its chief charm.

The cosy keeps the tea so warm that it happily dispenses with any need of the disagreeable fashion that was once common, of rinsing out the cups and spoons in the slop basin before filling the former, and then very possibly plunging the moist spoon into the sugar bowl. The strainer is an important adjunct to the tea equipage. Quaint and pretty ones in the Gorham silver plate that almost equal those made of the solid metal, cost only a dollar and a-half, and are worth twice that sum in the comfort they afford, by guarding against the unpleasant sediment of leaves in the bottom of the cup. Block sugar is an added nicety and not an expensive one. Real cream is also an acceptable addition to a cup of tea, except for the palates of those so-called genuine tea lovers, who prefer drinking theirs with neither milk nor sugar. A grateful variety may be obtained sometimes by the use of Russian tea. This consists simply of putting a lump of sugar and a slice of lemon into a cup or glass and pouring the tea upon it. In nearly every family there are some who have no liking for "the cups that cheer." For these another beverage may readily be prepared. The cocoatina made by H. O. Wilbur, of Philadelphia, is already well known, but it deserves a still wider reputation. It is a fine powder, resembling grated chocolate in taste and appearance. Stirred into a mixture of two parts of hot milk to one of boiling water, it makes a delicious supper drink, and is free alike from the dyspeptic qualities of chocolate, and the injurious action upon the nerves that the crusaders against the use of tea declare to be its prime characteristic.

The graceful accompaniments that come into play for the beautifying of the tea table are legion, and may be left to the taste of the housekeeper. A vase of blossoms, a pot of ferns or flowers, is always a refreshing addition. Little fringed doilies laid on the bread or cake plate, under their contents, or gay Japanese paper mats costing fifty cents a dozen, put to the same use, knit or crocheted holders for the hot water kettle, cheap but ornamental individual pepper and salt boxes, dainty glass dishes for preserves or marmalades, —all these and a dozen other similar adornments will readily suggest themselves to the student of ways and means for rendering the tea table attractive, and the evening hour the brightest spot in the day.

DAINTY DISHES FOR TEA.

CREAMED SALMON:—One can salmon, one cup cream, half cup milk, two small teaspoonfuls cornstarch rubbed smooth with one tablespoonful of butter, pinch of soda, pepper and salt to taste. Turn the salmon from the can into a colander so as to drain off all the liquor, and pick the fish into small flakes with a fork, carefully removing all bits of bone and skin. Have ready the milk and cream heated in a double boiler with the soda, and add to them the cornstarch and butter, stirring constantly until they thicken smoothly. Put in the salmon and toss it about with a fork until it is hot throughout. Remove from the fire, and fill greased scallop shells or patty pans with the mixture. Sprinkle the crumbs over the top of each, stick bits of butter here and there, and set in the oven long enough to brown delicately. Serve with crackers and sliced lemon. This dish can be entirely prepared in the morning, with the exception of the final ten minutes in the oven. Cold cod, halibut, or other firm fish can be used instead of the salmon, if preferred, but it must be very finely shredded. At first sight the call for cream and butter may seem extravagant, but the total cost of the ingredients will prove less than that of good chops or steak, and will give that variety which it should be the housewife's study to provide.

SAUSAGE OMELET:—Six eggs, one cup milk, one small teaspoonful cornstarch, one cup cold cooked sausage, chopped very fine. Beat the whites and yolks of the eggs separately, until each is as light as it can be made. Stir together until they are tolerably well mingled, add the milk in which the cornstarch has been dissolved, and pour the whole into an omelet pan, containing a tablespoonful of sweet lard boiling hot. It must not have been allowed to brown. Tip the pan from side to side that the mixture may not burn, and with a knife loosen the edges when they show signs of sticking. When it begins to grow firm in the middle, sprinkle over it the chopped sausage, cook a moment longer, double one-half of the omelet on the other with the knife, and slip from the pan to a hot dish. Serve at once.

TURKEY SALMI:—Cut bits of cold turkey, either light or dark meat, into pieces not more than an inch square, with a sharp knife. Add to this remnants of the stuffing and giblets. Put the bones, bits of skin and gristle on the stove in enough cold water to cover them, and let them simmer gently until the liquid is reduced one-half. Cool, and skim off the grease, and heat a cup of the gravy to boiling. Thicken with browned flour, season with sweet herbs, chopped parsley and a little onion, stir in the minced turkey and three hard boiled eggs sliced. Let it remain over the fire until smoking hot. Serve in a platter, and surround with small triangles of bread fried light brown in nice dripping.

CURRIED BEEF:—One cup nice gravy, one teaspoonful curry powder, half small onion chopped very fine and added to the gravy, one small sour apple, also minced, slices of cold roast, boiled or braised beef. Heat the gravy, add the onion, apple, and curry powder, lay in the slices of beef and simmer for fifteen minutes. Serve plain boiled rice in a separate dish.

MINCE WITH POACHED EGGS:—Chop cold meat as for hash, removing all bits of fat and gristle. Warm in a saucepan with a little gravy, or if neither this nor soup stock is attainable, moisten the meat with a little boiling water in which a dessertspoonful of butter has been melted. Season to taste. Cut the crust from square slices of bread, toast and butter lightly, and heap a generous spoonful of the mince upon each piece. Set covered in a hot place while you poach as many eggs as there are people to be supplied. Lay one on top of each mound of mince, dust over with pepper and salt, and serve very hot.

OYSTER TOAST:—Half a pint of oysters chopped small, one cup of milk, one egg, one teaspoonful of butter rolled in one of cornstarch. Heat the milk in a double boiler with the cornstarch and butter. Bring the oyster liquor to boiling, and cook the chopped oysters in it not more than five minutes. Too much stewing renders them as tough as India rubber. Season to taste, add the hot milk into which the beaten egg has been stirred at the last moment, and take at once from the fire. Pour upon slices of buttered toast arranged in a deep dish, and cover closely.

CREAMERY BUTTERED FLOUR BISCUIT:—A new invention has recently been perfected which enables the housekeeper to render her tea bill-of-fare tempting with light, wholesome biscuit at miraculously short notice. This is the Martha Washington creamery buttered flour, which is sold by an increasing number of grocers. When these tradesmen lack either sufficient information or enterprise to keep this flour, however, it can readily be obtained by direct application to the headquarters of the manufacturing firm, the Martha Washington Flour Co., 584 Hudson St., New York City. It costs twenty-five cents a package, and when one reflects not only upon the saving of shortening, etc., but on the economy of time gained by its use, the price seems remarkably reasonable. The housekeeper who has once learned its excellences by experience will never willingly be without it. Full directions accompany each package.

SUGAR SNAPS:—One cup sugar, three tablespoonfuls butter, three tablespoonfuls lard, half small cup water, one teaspoonful ginger, two teaspoonfuls cinnamon, half teaspoonful soda dissolved in hot water, enough flour to make a stiff dough. Warm shortening and sugar, stir in the water and spices, and add the flour last. Roll out very thin, cut into fancy shapes with a cake cutter, and sprinkle a little sugar over them before baking. Be very careful that they do not scorch.

CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

IRONING DAY.

BY JEANIE DEANS.

To the unsophisticated mind, "ironing day" may be invested with the terrors of a "blue Monday" wash day, but to the well trained person, having modern conveniences at hand, such fancies give place to a day fraught with sunny memories.

The first necessary requisite that the work prove a success, is a pair—or three is better—of perfectly smooth, steel-faced flat-irons. These should be wrapped in thick brown paper, and kept in a dry place, otherwise they will rust, which state of affairs will prove a drawback to nice and speedy work. We know of a pair thus kept which are as smooth as glass. It is a real pleasure to work with them.

The next condition is an ironing board. We suppose all who read the JOURNAL, and some who do not, own one, still, if any adhere to the old plan of using an ordinary dining table, we advise them to secure the services of the "handy man" of their neighborhood, and provide themselves with one. Ours is about six feet long, and eighteen inches wide, tapering at one end in a rounded point. This board when dressed with a padding, and ironing sheet pinned on tightly, will be a decided improvement in ironing skirts, wrappers, and the like.

Given these conditions, with the clothes nicely sprinkled and folded the night before, then, if there be not too many on hand, the work of ironing becomes a pleasant task.

We always like to finish off before dinner. To have the work around in the afternoon is not pleasant, as one is liable to receive callers, or may wish to engage in some different employment, practising upon the piano, or making some article of fancy work, nice and simple directions for which we can easily find. But of one thing I am determined; if by any chance I should be found about housework in the afternoon, I will not apologize or make excuses. My friends may take me as they find me. I will offer no regrets.

It is always best to use holders for ironing made of unbleached muslin, and to use them for no other purpose, then, if they should slip from the handle of the flat-iron, they will not soil or smirch what they come in contact with.

For clear-starching we use cold starch, which we like better than boiled. I don't know but this part of ironing might be reckoned among the fine arts. I know it is an "art," and quite a "fine" one, too, to "do up" linens and laces nicely. Many ladies who send out the heavier and coarser pieces, prefer to do these themselves. It may be with them as with a lady of my acquaintance, who said to me as she lifted the gauze covering from her beautifully ironed collars and cuffs: "It pays to do the work one's self."

SALAD CREAM:—One cupful of butter, one-half cup of sugar, one tablespoonful of salt, one tablespoonful of mustard, a pinch of cayenne pepper, four eggs, one cup of cream, one-and-a-half pints of boiling vinegar. Cream butter, sugar, and condiments, then add eggs one at a time, beating thoroughly, add cream, lastly boiling vinegar. Stand over fire until it approaches boiling point. Remove and bottle. This is very nice with shredded cabbage, also cold potatoes, as a salad for tea

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To inquirer for remedy for kerosene in carpet. Lay blotters or soft brown paper over the spot and press with warm iron. Repeat with fresh papers till spot is removed.

If your lamp burners become clogged and dim, boil them in water in which a good sized lump of saleratus and small quantity of soap has been dissolved. When well boiled, rub quickly while hot, and you will be pleased with the effect.

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FASHIONS AND FABRICS.

Pretty and Becoming Hats and Bonnets—Novelties in Trimmings—Desirable Materials in Summer Costumes and Dresses—Useful and Stylish Wraps.

BY MRS. JAS. H. LAMBERT.

For late spring and early summer wear the general fancy is for hats and bonnets of straw, in every size, style, shape, and color, for such a variety of head coverings never existed, as can now be seen in the various millinery establishments, here and in New York, and also upon the heads of beautiful women.

The crowns of hats are quite as high, if not higher than ever, and some are in peculiar shapes, such as the three-cornered hats, the square, the deeply indented, and the horse-shoe crown. Some of the brims are even all round, others are most irregular; at the front of one specimen, the brim is so wide that it reaches nearly to the top of the crown where it is secured, after being upturned; it is narrow at back and allowed to droop; another, is narrow at sides, and wider in back and front, and again odd looking brims are cut or slashed in peculiar ways and unexpected places.

The bonnets are mostly in poke or capote form, with close, upstanding or helmet shaped brims, some are plain around, others are scalloped or crushed just as fancy may dictate. The space between the bonnet and hair being sometimes filled in with plaitings of lace or crepe, or with folds of velvet or surah, or bows of satin or velvet ribbon. Some of the prettiest bonnets are those of straw cord, or strong jet beads in diamond, or other fanciful netting designs, made up over wire frames and lined with surah, satin or crepe in any desired color. These choice bonnets are profusely adorned with ribbons, laces, flowers, and other ornaments, in the style most suited to the face of the lady who is to wear them.

Ostrich tips are on only a few of the new bonnets, for feathers are not in favor, while flowers are in great demand, and well they may be, for they are as perfect in color and formation as their natural counterparts. Field flowers and the old-fashioned garden blossoms are the most popular, while the rubber fruits, such as apples, peaches, oranges, gages, and cherries, are among the novelties.

Beads are shown in quantities in all colors, and many sizes. They are used to edge bonnets, and to define the crown line on hats. Curiously headed pins secure bows and strings on bonnets, and add much to the beauty, for many of these novelties are most decorative, for instance the jeweled swords and keys, and the crescent of gold, in which a cat is rolling a large pearl.

Very stylish is a bonnet of jet open work, lined with cardinal surah, and crepe ruching as face finish. It is trimmed high in front with loops of velvet ribbon, an aigrette and leaves of jet. Another jet bonnet is in shell shape, have face trimming of velvet, and is garnished with lace put on full, clusters of roses and forget me nots. A pretty little bonnet of point d'esprit lace, silk embroidered, is edged with a quilling of gold embroidered lace, and trimmed with dark green velvet, and a bunch of white wild flowers. Another very dainty affair is of gilt spangled illusion, and is trimmed with green and shrimp pink velvet. A modest bonnet in grey straw shows clusters of pink roses and buds, and loops of velvet ribbon in shade of the straw.

One of the most elegant little hats shown this season has high crown, medium brim slightly upturned, and scalloped in front, the scallops filled in on either side, with high double tied bows. Another in fancy straw braid has lovely roses and pinks bunched together, and placed so as to stand up above the top of crown. A third hat is of brown straw, and is entirely covered with illusion the shade of the straw, and is trimmed with double detached bows of ribbon in two shades of brown.

Every day something new in dress fabrics is shown. One material called extra fine linon, is in reality a very fine, smooth cotton texture, sheerer than satine, but not as thin as muslin. It comes in delicate and positive ground colors, with various floral designs in small figures in white or colors. It will laundry beautifully, and can be worn in costumes for street purposes, or dresses for home. Some suits of linen are trimmed with velvet, while gowns are trimmed with embroidery or lace. Combination suits of *Toile du Nord* show skirt in checks or striped material, while the overdrapery is in the reverse whichever that may be.

The canvas goods or etamines come in two kinds of each variety, for instance there is the plain canvas showing the mesh of a part of the figured or striped material with which it is to be made up. Etamine with Persian stripe is a favored style, and the dentelle with plush stripe is another kind, and again, there are goods which have brocaded figures over a lace ground; these in silk are called grenadines, while in wool they are etamines.

For light weight suits for traveling and country wear, there are fine dress cloths in at least twenty different colors, and camel's hair goods, together with Coblentz suitings, in plain ground marked off in checks with heavy wick in contrasting colors, and still newer are the Heather mixtures in silk and wool, in eight brown and gray shades.

The material par excellence for deep mourning is Priestley's silk warp Henrietta, which is certainly the best and handsomest fabric in jet and bone black, manufactured at home or abroad. This Henrietta is known for its beauty and regularity of finish, and the fact that its color never changes. These goods, also Cairettes and other silk warp fabrics now come in cream, and serve to do in very handsome dresses for full dress and evening wear, for ladies in and out of mourning.

Among other stylish dresses is one of canvas in flocelle color, in a peculiar weave. The skirt has in front and at side a finish of lace and plush, full back drapery arranged in shawl fashion, while the overdrapery of the front is in graduated plaits. The basque which is pointed in back, has plastron of lace and plush, both in back and front, the latter being buttoned over on left side with sequin buttons. An evening dress of cream Egyptian lace has skirt with thin muslin foundation, which is edged with plaiting of muslin and has two flounces of Egyptian lace. Over the other portion of skirt falls a drapery of the all over net in leaf and flower designs, with loopings of broad satin ribbon in cream color. The basque over waist of all over net has lace finish, and full vest of muslin reaching to the bust. The belt and sash of satin ribbon.

Some of the new wraps are very graceful. One of canvas and dentelle has formed sleeves and tab fronts; the edges are finished with silk tape fringe tipped with rosary beads. It is lined throughout with blue and gold changeable satin. A mantle in grenadine alternating with stripes of embroidery in iridescent and jet beads, has a most peculiar shaped front, full at throat, short at elbow, and finished with double row of lace cascaded down front, and lace ruffle at lower edge.

In a wrap of bead embroidered canvas and ottaman silk, the canvas forms the side back portion, and the under basque, while the Zouave part of ottoman is trimmed with rich bead passementerie. The other parts are bordered with ruffle of French lace. Young ladies and misses wear the plain shapely jackets in cloth and serge, in brown, blue, red, and even in white. They are generally without trimming except the buttons, their style consisting simply in the cut and fit of the garment. Jersey jackets are not out of date, and may be worn as dress waist, or outside coat or wrap. Some jerseys are plain, others are braided or otherwise trimmed.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Bennie," W. Va.—Ladies watches are worn in the bosom of the dress, and the short chain is passed out through the buttonhole of the corsage, and allowed to hang carelessly down. The wedding cravat should be cream, pure white, or in some very delicate tint if color is desired.

"Augusta:"—For a girl of fourteen the hair may be allowed to flow in natural waves over the shoulders. Or, you can plait half way down in single or double braids, tie with ribbon bow, and comb out the ends.

"Beatrice," Washington, D. C.—If you wish your graduating dress to be of service during the summer and fall, make it of the beautiful Clairette, one of B. Priestley's silk warp fabrics, which comes in cream or ivory as well as in jet or blue black. Have the graceful drapery looped with bows of velvet ribbon, and trim basque with collar and cuffs of velvet. You can get a lovely grade of this goods for $1.25 a yard, and still better for $1.50. A cheaper fabric in all wool is *La Preciosa*, which is 40c. a yard; this will make a pretty and useful dress at small cost.

"Subscriber:"—Yes, diamond pins and rings can be worn by ladies in morning.

"D. E. W."—Lawn and nainsook is used for dresses for children aged three. Make yoke and sleeves of all over lace and tucking, and have the full portion of the plain goods. Linon made with full waist, and tucked full skirt, gathered into waistband will be pretty. Gipsy cloth and etamine in cream will make a pretty dress. Normandy bonnet or cap, of embroidery, or of lace lined with surah will be pretty, or you can get her a neat straw hat, and trim simply with velvet or satin ribbon. Plain black or dark stockings are most stylish.

"Barbara S.," "Mrs. W. W. C.," "Mrs. N. S.," and others:—Strawbridge & Clothier's Fashion Quarterly will aid you materially; for 50c. you can get the magazine for a year, and either one of their premium books, "Dictionary of Stitches," "Crazy Patch-work Book," "Vocal Music Book," and "Instrumental Music Book." Select the book you desire, and send for it and the magazine, for a year, only 50c., direct to Fashion Editor of Strawbridge & Clothier's magazine, 804 Market St., Philadelphia, Pa. Say you saw this in LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, as it is a special offer to our readers.

"To Mothers:"—We are glad to welcome a few darling little babies. Lillian Gertrude Zimmerman, Washington, Kansas. Roscoe Mervyn Koffer, Somerville, Ohio. Clinton Dewright De Dillon, Eddysville, Iowa. Nathaniel H. E. Waterman, West Buxton, Maine.

"Mrs. C. B. A.," "Mrs. E. K. M.," and "Ethel:"—The orders for certain sizes of misses elastic section corsets, and Ball's satin corsets for ladies, come in so fast that the assortment here is often incomplete, hence it will save time if you send your $1.25 for ladies corsets, or your 90c. for misses corsets, direct to Chicago Corset Company, 402 Broadway, New York, and please say you were directed to do so by LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, and ensure prompt attention. They certainly are the most comfortable corsets now made, and girls are greatly benefitted by wearing them.

"Mrs. J. H. G."—The basket is very necessary to keep safety pins, powder box and puff, socks, and sundry small articles in daily use for baby. Sent other information by mail. Sharpless Bros. will attend to order for infants outfit promptly.

"John's Wife:"—Sharpless Bros. sent samples of materials for the two darlings. Make muslin caps for summer, or let them wear cool straw hats. Be sure and send pictures of your little girls.

"Lester:"—Yes, have bought goods from James McCreery & Co. for over twenty years, and know that there is no more reliable firm anywhere than that. Write direct to the house, and the desired information will be promptly given.

"Mrs. E. Y. T."—The hair cushions are not worn now. Get a wire bustle, you can get a wire bustle in desirable shape for $1.25. They are cool, light in weight, and healthful.

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B. Priestley's Clairette, in Black and Cream, $1.25, $1.50 and $1.75 a yard.
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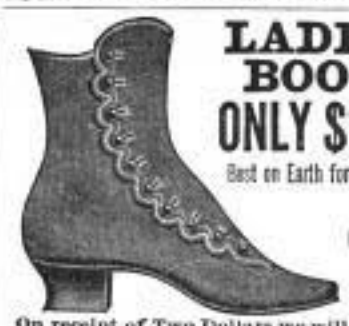

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

Bulbs for the Summer Garden.

It is often the case that the lover of flowers does not have sufficient time at his disposal to enable him to properly take care of a garden in which annuals are grown. Making beds in spring, sowing seeds, and keeping down the weeds, will require considerable time and labor. But he need not be without flowers if he does not feel equal to these tasks. There is another class of flowers which can be grown much more easily, and which will give, perhaps, even better satisfaction, though they do not bloom as early or as constantly as annuals.

GLADIOLUSES.

One of the best of these is the Gladiolus. This is a flower which is produced from a bulb. It can be planted at any time after the ground becomes warm. Dig up the soil to the depth of a foot or more, make it rich and mellow, and plant the bulb three or four inches below the surface. To produce the best effect with this flower, several bulbs should be planted together. The blossoms are borne on tall stalks, in spikes of ten to twenty, each, and range through all shades of red, from palest pink to most intense vermilion, and lilac, peach, pale yellow and pure white add a wonderful variety to the brilliant effect this plant is capable of producing. Seedlings can be bought very cheaply. The bulbs increase very rapidly, and from a few you will soon have a great number to beautify your own garden with and give to your friends. After the plant begins to grow, all the care you need give it is to keep the weeds down, and this can be done by the use of a hoe, which instrument cannot be always used among annuals.

SINGLE DAHLIAS.

The Dahlia is not a bulb, but grows from a tuber which bears some resemblance to a potato. It is generally classified among bulbous plants for the garden, because it is a summer bloomer, and requires very nearly the same treatment, and can, like the bulbs, be taken up in fall and safely wintered in a frost-proof cellar. We have no more brilliantly colored flower than this is. The varieties are almost endless. Any taste can be suited, so far as color is concerned. You can select varieties of white, pink, purple, scarlet, yellow, and maroon, and still others in which the petals are striped, spotted, or tipped with combinations of these colors. To grow the Dahlia well, the soil must be rich, and it must never suffer for lack of moisture at the roots. Save all the soapsuds from washing day to give it. Tie the plants to stout stakes, because the stalks are brittle, and a strong wind often breaks them. The single varieties have not been grown to any extent until of late years, but they are quite as well worth cultivation as the double kinds. They are of such rich, intense colors that they resemble the most gorgeous butterflies as you see them nodding on their slender stems.

The tuberose is perhaps the most beautifully fragrant flower we have. One blossom will perfume a large room. It is easily grown in the summer garden, if the bulbs are procured early in the season—say in March or April—and started into growth before the ground is in a fit condition to receive them. I plant mine in tin fruit cans. I keep them in a warm place until they begin to grow. Then I put them in a sunny window, where they remain till about the first of June. I slip the entire ball of earth out of the can without disturbing the roots and plant it in a warm and sunny spot. In September I am always repaid for what may seem like considerable trouble, by a spike of beautiful, waxy, white flowers from each bulb. The stalks are brittle, and should be tied to stout stakes before the flowers develope, for they are not strong enough to support them in even ordinary winds.

TUBEROSES.

***

TO MANY CORRESPONDENTS:—I have on my desk a great pile of letters and postal cards from persons who write for information and others who ask for seeds, plants, and bulbs. Let me repeat what I have already said. I can answer no inquiries by mail unless a stamped envelope addressed to the writer is sent. Every mail brings me letters which the writers want answered in that way. I am willing to do this, provided the above requirement is complied with—not otherwise. I ask nothing for advice, or service, but I must insist on having them pay the postage on the reply. If they are not willing to do this, they won't get any. I do not see how the impression prevails that I have the plants I write about for sale, but it seems to, to a great extent, for I get orders by the dozen from readers of the L. H. J. I wish to say again, I have *no* plants, bulbs, or seeds for sale, on any terms. Buy them of the regular dealers who advertise in the JOURNAL.

EBEN E. REXFORD.

***

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Mrs. W. H. S."—The price of a Maranta is usually twenty-five or thirty cents. A large specimen would cost you seventy-five cents or a dollar.

"New Subscriber"—If the Agapanthus bloomed five years ago, and has not done so since, I should say some change had been made in its cultivation. If I am correct, revert to the method pursued when it bloomed. General directions for the successful cultivation of this plant are: Give a good rich soil. Have the pot well drained, and let it be large enough to give the fleshy roots considerable room to spread in. Give a good deal of water. If proper drainage is given the soil, there will be no danger from over-watering. After blooming, gradually reduce the supply of water, in order to check the growth and furnish a period of comparative rest. As the Agapanthus is an evergreen, it will not rest entirely, as most house plants are in the habit of doing. If these instructions are followed, I think there will be no trouble in getting it to bloom. I never fail to have flowers from mine each summer.

"Mrs. S. S. F."—Palms are fine for house culture if you get the proper varieties. One of the best, if not *the* best, is Sieforthia *elegans*. This variety has long, gracefully curved leaves. Phœnix *reclinata* has shorter and stiffer leaves, but is very fine. Areca *lutescens* has fine foliage. Satania *Borbonica* has fan-shaped leaves, borne on stout stalks. These four kinds are excellent for the house. They stand dust, dry air, and varying temperature better than most plants. But of course it is best to give them good care. Because they will *live* under neglect is no reason why they should be neglected. Palms like a rich soil, with considerable sand in it. Give the earth proper drainage, and grow the plants in a *deep* pot rather than one large at the top. Keep the leaves and branches free from scale. This pest can be removed by the use of a tooth-brush and soapsuds. Keep the plants clean. Syringe all over at least once a week. In summer set them out during warm showers and they will be greatly benefited by the bath. They can be kept on the veranda in summer, and will be found very ornamental for such use.

"H. S. S."—Do not spend money and time on any Rex variety of Begonia, if you must keep them in the ordinary window. I know some persons who write from the catalogues and from theory, tell about growing them and other plants of a similar character, in living rooms, but I am always skeptical about success under such circumstances. If you have a room that can be kept at an even, moist temperature, you can grow these plants. If you haven't, try something else. Rex Begonia will *live* at "a poor dying rate," in almost any room that is warm, but they will generally have but one sickly leaf at a time, and seem to be protesting all the while against unfavorable circumstances. B. *Weltoniensis*, *alba* and *rubra* will flourish in the sitting room. Try these varieties.

"H. A."—Perhaps the finest Geranium flower, as to shape, is William Cullen Bryant. This variety has very large florets, the petals being so broad that they overlap each other, thus making the flower circular in shape. The color is an intense, velvety scarlet, very rich and effective. Rienzi is very similar, except in color, which is a softer scarlet. Aspasia is a most fiery scarlet, with a distinct white eye. Rose Rendatler has enormous trusses, of a rich rosy salmon. I have a plant of this variety now in bloom, in whose trusses I can count over one hundred individual flowers. One peculiarity of this variety is that the whole truss is generally in blossom at the same time, and the great number of flowers make a ball of bloom. I prefer the single varieties, though the double ones are more satisfactory for outdoor use.

"Mrs. J. B. Green."—As the Agapanthus increases in size the roots often crowd themselves above the soil, and it is not necessary to keep them entirely covered. In fact, this can only be done by frequent repotting, and it is better to dig out as much of the old soil as can be removed without greatly disturbing the roots, and filling in with fresh than to repot a large and well established plant. If you can give your plant a large tub to grow in, I would not remove all the new crowns that form about the old plant. If allowed to grow, you will be likely to get more flowers, as each crown will throw up a flower stalk, after a year or two. The Agapanthus likes plenty of water while growing. After blooming, gradually reduce the supply, but do not allow the soil to get dry, as it is the nature of this plant to keep up a more or less rapid growth all the year round. By witholding water, the growth can be slackened somewhat. This should be done immediately after blooming. Encourage it to rest as nearly as possible for three months, and then increase the supply of water. Have the pot or tub well drained. Give a good, rich soil.

"Ella C."—This correspondent says the leaves of her Ficus, or India-rubber plant, have yellow spots in them which spread until the whole leaf turns yellow, and becomes dry and falls off. I think an examination will show some insect at work on the lower side. I would wash the plant thoroughly with soapsuds, afterwards rinsing it with clear water. Thereafter, daily sprinkle the leaves *all over* with tepid water. Watch them closely, to see if any insect is to be found on them. If I am correct in my diagnosis, this water treatment, if persevered in, will effect a cure.

"Lizzie Brooks."—Peter Henderson & Co., Hallock & Thorpe, J. L. Childs, John Saul,—in fact, any and all of the leading florists grow the Clematis, and you can obtain good strong roots of them for from twenty to fifty cents, according to the variety. If correspondents have no catalogues of plants, I would advise them to send their addresses on a postal card to any of the florists advertising in the JOURNAL. The florists will be glad to send their catalogues, and an examination of the same will give inquirers such information as they need regarding most plants, and save them the trouble of writing to me for it. I am, of course, willing and glad to give information, but when a catalogue, or a dozen of them, can be had for the asking, and their pages will afford all the information a correspondent may require, I quite naturally prefer to have her gain it therefrom, rather than to write to me for it. Space in this paper is not sufficient to enable me to answer all such inquiries, and, as I have already said, no inquiries will be answered by mail, unless a stamped envelope is sent. Over a dozen letters have gone into the waste basket simply because they asked for replies by mail without complying with the very reasonable request, that the writers of them should pay their own postage on the reply they asked for. I can hardly be expected, by any reasonable person, to give my time and labor in writing out the information they want, and pay the postage on it myself. Several communications on matters of a personal interest only, have also gone into the waste basket, because space cannot be given to answering anything through the paper unless that answer contains something which may be of general interest. Such letters should always be accompanied by a stamped envelope, bearing the address of the writer, if a reply is expected. Miss Brooks will understand that these remarks are not intended to apply to her, but that they naturally grow out of what I said about seeking information from the catalogue,—a digression from my "text," for the benefit of "all whom it may concern."

"Ellen S. T."—The Maranta likes a half-shady place. On no account keep it in strong sunlight. An east window is the best place for it.

"Ella C."—I have discovered that I did not answer one question of yours. You ask what makes the leaves of your Water Ivy curl! I do not know any such plant. Send me a leaf and I can probably determine what the plant is.

"Mrs. L. B. G.," Jewett City, Conn.—The most successful amateur cultivator of the Cactus that I have ever known, grows her plants in a soil of clay and sand, mixed with gravel and pieces of oyster-shells. I cannot say whether such a mixture has any special virtue in it or not, but I know she has fine plants, and that they bloom well. She has, however, but few flowers in winter. During that season she keeps the plants absolutely *dry*. They seem to absorb enough moisture from the air to keep them from wilting. In March she begins to give water, and very soon thereafter the plants begin to grow. By June, they come into bloom, and most kinds flower all through the season. In the fall she dries the plants off again. Personally, I know but little about this class of plants; I admire their flowers, but I do not admire their thorns, and their grotesque habit of growth, and have never cared to grow them. What kinds are most desirable, I am unable to say.

"D. E. S."—This correspondent wants to know the best soil for Fuchsias, and care required. I succeed best with them in a compost made of leaf mold, sand, and turfy scrapings from under old sods. Mix these materials well together, in sufficient quantities of each to secure a light, spongy soil. Put young plants in small pots, and give enough water to keep the soil always moist. Direct sunshine is not necessary. *Strong* sunshine is a positive injury to this plant. As soon as the soil is filled with white roots, shift to a larger pot. This shifting is an important item in the culture of the Fuchsia, and must be attended to if one would grow good specimens. It will not answer to put small plants in large pots to begin with, for the young plants cannot appropriate the nutritive elements in the soil, and the plants will be over fed. Shift when necessary, and keep on doing this until your plant shows an inclination to give profuse bloom. After that, let it remain in the same pot for the remainder of the season. Syringe the plant well, all over, at least once a day. Manure water can be given once a week, while the plant is blooming. Do not have it very strong, or it will cause the buds to drop. Let it be a pale amber color. I use almost wholly, the "Plant Food" sold by dealers in fertilizers. I prefer it to anything else because it is used so easily, and is so effective in good results. It is, as I have said before, a real *food*, therefore is vastly more desirable than any stimulant, which spurs the plant to active work for a little time, and then reaction sets in, and quite likely the plant dies. Stimulation, in plant cultivation, results very much as the use of liquor does in the human family. It seems to work well, for a time, but all at once the life of the plant flags, and it is impossible to restore it to a healthy condition.

"Novice:"—The black bugs on the Chrysanthemum can be got rid of by the use of perseverance and tobacco dust. Every morning, when the plants are wet with dew, blow this dust over them, and in among the leaves. But you must give them to understand that you "mean business." They will make a desperate effort to "hold the fort."

"M. E. F."—Of course I am unable to say why your Geraniums have not blossomed during the winter, because I do not know what kind of culture they had last summer. I am inclined to think, however, that you allowed them to bloom freely, and, if so, you could hardly expect them to keep on flowering during the winter. They must have some time to rest in. If you desire to keep over your old plants, cut back well in spring. Plant the branches you cut off in the open ground, and you will soon have blooming plants of them. Keep the old plants in their pots, encouraging a bushy growth, but do not allow them to bloom. Pinch out all buds as soon as they appear. Late in the fall, let the buds grow, and I think you will not fail to have some flowers all through the winter. Some varieties are much better winter bloomers than others. You may not have the proper kinds. I think you will find the remarks regarding the Cactus applicable to your case. I start Geraniums, Roses, and in fact, almost all cuttings, in plates of clean sand, which is kept wet and warm.

"Maggie Hudson."—To "grow Roses in boxes," use a soil made up of garden loam and well-rotted manure from the cow-yard. Water well daily, and syringe frequently to keep down the red spider. When they come into bloom, be sure to cut off all faded flowers, and when all the buds on a branch have bloomed, cut back to some healthy, plump buds from which you see a branch is inclined to start. Roses, you will observe, always produce flowers in new growth, and in order to produce new growth, you must cut them back well, frequently, and keep them in a good soil.

"Mrs. F. A. Wharton," Raymond, Hinds Co., Miss., have plants of Hall's Halleana, and the Golden Japan Honeysuckle, also Passiflora Incarnata—the blue Passion Flower—which she would like to dispose of. She does not say whether she wants to sell or exchange. Anyone wanting these plants can write directly to her.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HINTS UPON ETIQUETTE AND GOOD MANNERS.

NO. IV.

BY MRS. S. O. JOHNSTON.

How to Give Dinner Parties.

Some one has said that "if you ask a man to dinner you are responsible for his happiness while he is under your roof," also, that "he who asks his friends to dine, and gives no personal attention to the arrangements of the dinner, is unworthy to have any friends." We Americans, unless we are the favorites of dame fortune, and belong to the plutocracy, are obliged to superintend the arrangements of our tables, because our servants are not often equal to the work, and attend to the decorations of fruits and flowers, glass, silver, and spotless linen. The latter should be a necessity, at all meals, and if a large napkin is laid over the tablecloth at both ends, it can be kept from gravy and meat stains. The latest fashion introduced into Paris, is to remove the white tablecloth for dessert, thus reviving a fashion of nearly forty years ago. The dessert cloth, which is laid under the damasked linen, is of embossed velvet or plush, or a cloth most exquisitely embroidered is used, while at each plate is laid a small white napkin, such as are used at 5 o'clock teas. Whether this style will become popular, however, one cannot tell, for the removal of the large white tablecloth will be rather a burdensome operation at a dinner table, with only one or two waiters. A young duchess at Paris is striving to bring about this innovation as regards the tablecloth. Anything for a novelty!

Invitations to a dinner party should be sent out some time in advance. If it is to be a very ceremonious dinner, at least a week or ten days before the appointed time. The usual formula, which may be either written on thick linen paper, or printed upon a sheet of note paper or a card, runs thus: "Mr. and Mrs ——— request the pleasure of Mr. and Mrs. ———'s company, at — o'clock, on ———." Be sure to give the hour, and to place the letters R. S. V. P., below the invitation, at the right hand. They mean, "Reply if you please." In reply, for acceptance, write: "Mr. and Mrs. ——— accept with pleasure Mr. and Mrs. ———'s invitation to dinner, at — o'clock, on ———." For a refusal, write: "Mr. and Mrs. ——— regret to decline Mr. and Mrs. ———'s kind invitation to dinner, at — o'clock, on ———."

The blank spaces are, of course, to be filled with the names of the parties, and the correct hour and date of the dinner.

An invitation to dinner, once accepted, should never be neglected. If by illness, or some unforseen incident you are prevented from attending the party, be sure to inform your hostess of your inability to be present, as soon as you are aware of the fact. To neglect to do this is a decided breach of etiquette, as it is essential that all the seats should be filled at a dinner party.

All replies to invitations, are addressed in the note to both host and hostess, but the envelope is addressed only to the lady. Invitations to a dinner party should be answered at once,—i. e. by the following day,—if the date is a week distant. But if earlier, on the same day, because your hostess will desire to fill your places with other guests, in case you are obliged to refuse her invitation. Eight is a good number of guests for a social dinner party, and Brillat Savarin, a distinguished French writer, says: "Let not your guests exceed twelve." While others say: "ten is the largest number that should ever assemble around one table." Yet, I have sat at table with thirty guests, and enjoyed "the feast of reason and flow of soul," as well as the delicate viands, in the highest degree. But thirteen—"the ominous thirteen,"—as it has been styled, is a number of guests to be avoided. Indeed, there are many persons, who, because of the very prevalent idea that one of the number will die before the year has passed, are very unwilling to sit at a table with thirteen guests, and will urge an intimate friend to be in readiness to fill up the vacant chair.

In Europe, the belief in the fatal number is very common, and it is said to arise from the account given of the Last Supper, where Jesus sat at table with his twelve disciples, and Judas Iscariot went out from their midst to betray his master to the Jews. And ever since that occasion the superstition has been handed down, and adapted by those who love to indulge in such credences.

When your guests are invited, you must arrange your bill of fare. It is the custom at a stylish dinner party, to give oysters on the shell, for the first course—and there are decorated china plates prepared for the shells—four oysters to a person being a suitable number, and in the centre of the plate half or quarter of a lemon is placed, to be squeezed over the oysters. Salt cellars are put at each plate, and a pepper castor near at hand. The latest device for individual pepper and salts, is a tiny little castor, holding two decorated tiny jars, with silver perforated tops, one for salt, the other for pepper, and they are to be placed at the right hand, or directly in front of the plate.

THE ARRANGEMENT OF THE TABLE.

A thick under tablecloth of canton flannel, or heavy felting, is first laid upon the table, and over it a damask cloth, perfectly laundried, is laid. The pattern of it should be small, but very well defined, so that its figures will shine like satin. A long strip of plush or velvet is frequently laid down the centre of the table, to take the place of any ornament, under the epergne, or dishes of fruit and flowers. Its color must be chosen to harmonize with the china, and the decorations of the dining room. Yet a blue plush would not light up well, and green would be as objectionable. Ruby velvet, or deep wine color is the best shade for most tables, yet old gold or olive brown may be as desirable. But the deep red is the best fitted to display the beauties of the glass and china. It can be edged with gold lace, or white linen lace, but a border of holly, ivy, or laurel leaves, freshly gathered, and sewed upon the plush, will make a lovely decoration. The central piece is then arranged with fruit and flowers mingled, and drooping ferns or vines are twined around the base of the large dish or bowl containing them. At each plate, upon the napkin, a boquet of flowers, composed of roses, or lilies of the valley, etc., is laid, those for the gentlemen being arranged as buttonhole bouquets.

Very sweet flowers are objectionable in the dining room on account of their intense perfume. Tube-roses, lilacs and syringas, therefore, should never be used, for their odors are too overpowering for many sensitive nerves. Shells filled with flowers make pretty decorations for the table. A large one in the middle and two smaller ones placed, one on each side, will be a pleasing arrangement.

Menu cards, i. e. bills of fare, are considered needful at a ceremonious dinner, and if they are hand-painted, they are decidedly chic. Only a tiny spray of leaves and flowers are required, and below it the various courses are written. Guest cards, i. e. cards with the visitors' names written upon them, are also pretty additions to a table, and guests like to take them away as souvenirs of the occasion. Servants must be well trained, and always taught to hand every dish that is served, and every plate at the left hand, and to turn out wine or water, at the same side. An awkward waiter will spoil the best appointed dinner. On this account every housekeeper should train her waitress or waiter in every day's service, to do all things correctly, then when she entertains her friends she will not be ashamed of her servant. Each gentleman should be told before dinner is announced, which lady will be his partner at the table, and then he will be ready to offer his right arm to her, as soon as the servant says: "Mr. Blank, dinner is served." The host will offer his arm to the guest whose position or age demands it, or to the stranger for whom the dinner is given, and he leads the way to the dining room, while the hostess will invite the most distinguished gentleman, or the "stranger which is within her gates" to be her escort, and will ask her guests to go before her. If the dining room is below, the gentleman will go down stairs first, the lady following; on returning from the dining room the lady goes up the stairs first.

The hostess takes her seat, and motions to her escort to sit at her right hand. The guest cards will tell the other guests where to seat themselves, and the host has already seated his partner at his right hand. A lady should be seated on each side of the host, usually the oldest or most distinguished guest being selected to this honor; while a gentleman should be seated each side of the hostess. The other guests alternating a lady, a gentleman. If raw oysters or raw clams are served, they are already in place. When they are eaten, the dishes are removed, and the soup is served. At elegant dinners, two tureens of soup are prepared, and one is placed in front of the lady, and the other at the gentleman's end of the table. They are different, one may be a clear soup, the other a white soup. Each guest should be asked to make selection. Fish is served usually, in little dishes in shape of dolphins, or of some kind of ornamental fish, in highly decorated china. Then come two kinds of entlets, perhaps veal cutlets a la mode, and breaded mutton chops with tomatosauce. These dainty dishes are taking the place of heavy roasts. The fourth course may be roast turkey, or capons, or ducks, or game. And crackers and cheese are frequently served before the "sweets," or else after these dainties have been duly discussed. Fruits and coffee follow them. It is not considered good form to drink wines profusely at a dinner party, and although ladies do indulge in them in small quantities, yet one can place her fingers over the top of her glass, and decline the proffer of wine without any offence being taken. If the lady accepts the offer to drink wine with the gentleman, she should select the same wine that he is taking.

There should be no loud laughing or talking at a dinner party. Strive to look pleased and happy, but you need not repeat "prunes and prisms" inaudibly to give your face a happy, gracious appearance, but be perfectly composed. A well-balanced mind will teach its owner a proper demeanor in any society, and give ease of manner.

Who can deny the potency of a good dinner? And surely, "the surest way to a man's heart is through the diaphragm," as the old adage tells us, and if we will only feed your husband and his friends, generously and æsthetically, we will always find the results delightful. And Peter Pindar, an ancient English poet, tells us that:

"Ven'son's a Cæsar in the fiercest fray;
Turtle! an Alexander in its way;
And, then in quarrels of a slighter nature,
Mutton's a most successful mediator!
So much superior is the stomach's smart,
To all the vaunted horrors of the heart;
E'en love, who often triumphs in his grief,
Hath ceased to feed on sighs, to pant on beef."

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

"Daisy" asks:—Is it improper for a lady to do some embroidery for a gentleman friend of a few months' acquaintance? Ans.—Not at all. Ladies frequently embroider hat crowns, initials on handkerchiefs, brush broom holders, etc., for gentlemen friends.

"W. S." asks:—Will you please to inform us as to the usual formula for giving congratulations to graduates, and for graduates receiving congratulations? Ans.—There is no formula for such occasions. One should speak what the heart dictates. You could say: "I congratulate you upon finishing your course of studies so successfully, and so acceptably to your friends." A graduate could reply: "Thank you for your kind words, and I trust I shall always merit them."

Brooks' Prize Medal Spool Cotton, advertised in this number of the JOURNAL, is one of the oldest brands of spool cotton manufactured. After long years of successful competition it is still considered by many of the largest consumers in our country, to be the best and cheapest of spool cotton. We wish to call particular attention to the price—fifty cents per dozen—which is lower than any other standard six cord cotton in the market, and should be an inducement not only to the consumer, but also to the storekeeper. This cotton is made in soft finish to suit those who object to the glace; and in every case will be found uniform in twist, with equality of thickness, and entirely free from knots. Brooks' cotton is for machine as well as hand sewing, and the glace is especially recommended by the Wilcox & Gibbs Sewing Machine Co. as an improvement over every other brand. We advise all those who have not already proved its real worth, to give it a trial.

Notice the splendid premiums offered to club raisers in this number, also the back numbers of the JOURNAL. We have no seperate catalogue. Each month we have published one or two pages of premiums, and all we have to offer will be found in the last three or four issues.

Changing the Key-Note.

A cheerful spirit gets on quick;
A grumbler in the mud will stick!"

Well, that's so. But suppose you are stuck in the mud by ill health, how are you going to get out? Suppose malaria or nervous depression or physical prostration have put you into so deep a rut that you feel it an impossibility to be cheerful? There are various means reported, but the one which has in recent years lifted the largest number of sick people out of the mire and placed them on the solid ground of good health and cheerful, joyous life, is the Compound Oxygen treatment of DRS. STARKEY & PALEN, 1529 Arch street, Philadelphia, who will mail to you their little book of nearly two hundred pages free on application.

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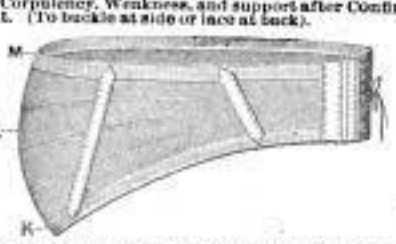

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MUSICAL STUDIES.

NO XV.

BY MARGARET R. HARVEY.

"It's over a year now, since you began to read those musical studies in the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL—but they haven't done you a bit of good." So says that ubiquitous Somebody, always ready to make remarks.

"Oh, yes, they have!" you cry, indignantly.

"Why, a child six years old could play the stuff you play—nothing but exercises."

"They're Clementi's Sonatines!"

"Well, if you can play, how is it you don't play in church by this time?" Why, you can't play a simple hymn!"

You will participate in this, or a similar conversation, sooner or later. Let me try now to come to your rescue.

To begin with, a hymn is not necessarily easy. Even if it were, a fine musician does not always particularly distinguish himself or herself as a player of hymns. And let a hymn be easy or difficult, let the performer execute it ill or well, the general public would perceive little if any difference. Playing in church is apt to be the least appreciated public service that any one can render. So console yourself with the thought that, so far as your real musical cultivation is concerned, it matters little whether you play hymns or not.

But, after all, playing in church is likely to be the most practical use to which you can apply your musical knowledge. This fact, alone, would be enough to give the subject of hymns a claim upon your attention. But, more than this: I am not among those who would relegate hymns to a low place in the domain of music. The greatest composers have not disdained to leave us productions suitable to be used with words of praise; some of the finest hymns that we have are derived from the grand creations of the masters whose works are known as "classic." When we consider that they are used in the services of the sanctuary, we may well feel inclined to give them the highest place of all. It is the doggerel, so-called, "Sunday school hymns," and monstrosities of that order, which have brought hymns into disrepute, musically. Compare the grand old "Adeste Fideles," or "Portuguese Hymn," as it is popularly called, with that silly, ephemeral, "Jesus loves me," and you will see what I mean; as well, among songs, associate the ridiculous "Whoa, Emma," with that sweet, immortal ballad, "Robin Adair."

No doubt Bradbury, Fischer, and others have done a good work in popularizing music through their "Golden Chains," and "Fresh Laurels," and so forth—but, what "milk for babes" these are, compared with the "strong meat" which Lowell Mason gave our fathers. With few exceptions, the old hymns are the best—the older, the rarer, the likelier to be found in antique psalm books with "patent notes," long out of print the better, in many cases. Who can doubt this, who ever heard Sherburne, or China, or Meditation? If I had anything to do with Sunday schools, I would banish all the juvenile tune-books, and use the old standards, as found in the church hymnals.

The leading denominations, at present, seem to have good collections, containing some of the best among the old tunes, fairly sprinkled with the meritorious gathered from the new. But the Episcopal Church, by general consent, has kept, and still keeps, the highest standard in sacred music—to this all others must look for a model. I know of no better collection of hymns than the Church Hymnal, edited by the Rev. Charles L. Hutchins. Some idea of its range may be gained when I tell you that, in addition to the familiar, "Balerma," and "Federal Street," "Benevento," and "Coronation," it contains adaptations from such composers as Haydn, Mendelssohn, Weber and Gounod, and modern gems, as, "Nearer, my God to Thee."

Were you to open this book at random, you might be struck with certain peculiarities. For instance, you see a hymn written in common, or four-four time, yet containing four half-notes to a measure. Such notes are merely relative—that is, there are four to a measure, as there would ordinarily be four quarter notes; but, in church music, it is allowable to play more slowly than in ordinary music, or about half as fast, and a quarter note in value takes the form of a half note to indicate this. But, do not understand me to mean, *drag*—the notes are written so, to guard against the greater fault, which is, hurrying. A large congregation cannot hurry, without the danger of breaking—accommodate them a little, so as to carry them along, as one.

Then, you find chords in the base greater than an octave, so that your fingers cannot possibly make the stretch. This is often a puzzle to amateurs, who wonder if some hands have a capacity which theirs cannot acquire. In such cases, the lowest notes are intended for the feet, to be played upon a large pedal organ. With a small organ, drop either the upper or lower note, as may be most convenient for the fingers, unless the lowest note is required to complete the harmony. At the end of a piece it is, because it is the key-note,—so it must invariably be taken here. The "Amen" always ends on the common chord. In this book, every piece is referred to the metronome, and marks of expression are written throughout. Keep good time, let the melody be plainly heard, and you may soon play hymns fairly well. But, as I said before, you will find that they are not so very easy, and you will often feel that you do not get so much credit as you deserve.

Don't forget your voice. In hymns, as everywhere else, the voice must lead. *Sing* the hymns correctly, at all hazards—the instrumental part is a secondary matter. If you play and sing both, to lead others, you certainly do carry a double load—but, people will follow the voice rather than the organ, as the natural ear perceives a natural sound better than it does an artificial one. A good voice often covers defective playing. If some one else sings, then, all you can do, is, follow as closely and correctly as possible.

In ordinary hymn-books, the notes are usually written in their true value. This is also the case with average song-books, when intended to be sung in choruses in school. You already know that a song, when written as a solo, has a separate accompaniment provided—sacred compositions, of a higher order, are often arranged in the same way. And now, I think, you are somewhat prepared to take up the special study of hymns and songs, of various degrees of excelence.

Chants are in constant use in the Episcopal church, and are not entirely neglected by any of the leading denominations. A chant generally consists of one or two short strains, with very little variation throughout—but this is not saying that they are easy or trivial compositions. They are, in fact, changes upon the leading chords of the different scales, and thus often present, in a wonderfully small compass, the very ideal of harmony. A chant has no time, as its movement is regulated chiefly by the rhythm of the words used. At the beginning, in each of the four written parts is one note, called the reciting note; this is held as long as necessary, and upon this is recited, in monotone, all the words given, until the first upright line is reached, which corresponds to the first bar in the music. Thus, "O come let us sing," may all be uttered upon one sound, as A; it should be sung too slowly rather than too fast. Then follows the cadence, consisting of several notes, to each of which is given a few syllables, sometimes only one as in a hymn, in which, as you already know, every syllable in a word requires a note. Thus, "un" may call for a half-note, "to the," may be uttered upon a half-note, while, "Lord," requires a whole note, to complete the rhythm.

The Psalms, as we have them, are considered prose. But, in the original Hebrew, they are poetry. Modern poetry can be sung to ordinary hymn-notes—but not so ancient. Chants are a very early form of music, growing out of the peculiar structure of these ancient hymns. The reciting note carries the body of a sentence, the cadence, its melodious ending, which in ages past corresponded with our rhyme, which you may be surprised to learn, is a comparatively modern invention. Bearing all this in mind, you need have no difficulty in comprehending the divisions in the words of a chant. Take the following:

O come let us sing | un. to the | Lord: let us heartily rejoice in the | strength of | our sal | vation.

Let us come before His presence with | thanks. = | giving: and show ourselves | glad in | Him with | psalms.

The upright bars correspond with bars in the music. All between any two bars, then, must be sung upon the included notes. But, not at hap-hazard—the other marks instruct you further. The half bar is, simply, a period, and divides a bar in two. Thus, in "un. to the," all before the dot is sung upon the first half of the measure, whether it contains one note or more, and all after, upon the last half, even if two syllables must be crowded upon one note. The double bar, or colon, (:) marks the middle of a chant; this is followed by a second reciting note, upon which is generally sung a long passage. In any long passage, no syllable is accented, except, when the rhythm seems to require it, the one next to the last. A slight pause is allowable at a comma. After the second reciting note follows a second cadence. The foregoing provides for one verse of a psalm. In a double chant, the first verse takes the first half, the second, the last, and so on, alternately, concluding, of course, with "Glory be the Father, etc," and "Amen," at the end of the last cadence.

In the second, or in any verse, a slight variation is sometimes seen. Thus, in the example quoted above, we have the following "thanks. =" The half bar, or dot, shows that there are two or more notes in the measure; and the double dash means, carry one syllable over the last half of the measure, that is, over the two or more notes in the whole measure. In this way, one syllable may sometimes be carried over several bars.

This is the commonest form of chant, and is known as the Anglican. But there is another style called the Gregorian. Some organists consider the latter the easier, and also, the more effective. A Gregorian chant is sung in unison, that is, every voice sings the same part, the accompaniment being provided for the organ only. The reason for this, is, the Gregorian chant originated before the days of modern harmony. Gregorian chants never take very high notes, as in early times, church-singers were men. These compositions have reciting notes and cadences; but the reciting note generally takes but a short passage, while the cadence provides a note for each syllable, as in a hymn. In the case of too many notes for a number of syllables, a note, or even a whole measure, is omitted; this usually happens in the first half of the chant. In case of an extra syllable in the cadence at the end, a grace note is introduced. A Gregorian chant is written very much as an Anglican—but the notes or measures to be omitted are indicated, and the grace note is given. Under the chant is a short, running passage on a base staff, marked, "Intonation," etc. This was formerly sung by the leader, to give the proper key to the other singers, and is a relic of the days when organs were not in use; when this was sung at the beginning of a chant, the reciting note was omitted, until the second verse was reached. If you like, you may play this instead of the base at the opening, and use the "Second Harmony for Cadence," printed in the margin, for the closing, by way of variety. But, these are not the chant—the Gregorian chant, pure and simple, is the melody. Its beauty depends upon the stately motion with which this is sung—its very monotony contains an element of grandeur.

While on the subject of church music, it might be well to add something concerning voluntaries. These, generally speaking, are suitable at the opening and close of service. Compositions intended simply and solely for this purpose are often excellent studies in harmony. They sometimes have a value to you, as organist, apart from any which the congregation can see—they serve to quiet your nervousness at the beginning, and refresh you at the end. If you put your best endeavors into preparing these, the rest of your task becomes comparatively easy, and you make a far better impression upon your audience than if you limited your attention to the service proper. I don't mean, impress them in the sense of showing off your acquirements—but, impress them sympathetically, religiously, so as to carry them with you in the singing.

When the collection is taken before singing a hymn, select a short voluntary in the same key as the hymn, so that you can pass from one to the other without any break in the harmony. When no hymn follows the collection, use one of the beautiful offertories, so abundantly provided in the books. A voluntary need not always be a composition so named. Some of the most effective that we have are slight adaptations of masses, oratorios, sonatas, hymns, and operatic airs. Anything will do, provided it is beautiful in itself, and not light or irreverent in character. Be original—try your hand at making your own selections. Some of the movements in Clementi's Sonatines are just what you want.

Sometimes you may be obliged to cut your voluntary off short. The minister appears a second too soon, or the collection is smaller than usual, or something of the kind happens. In such a case, you have just one chance to save yourself, if you do not happen to be quite at the end of a strain, or movement. That is, strike the common chord of the key, with the octave in the base. Better come down a little abruptly, than leave the broken end of your harmony, high and dry in the air. Dot in a note or two for a cadence, if you can—but never omit the key-note in the base at the end. The ear can forgive much when it hears that—it is like the Amen in prayer, like charity that covers a multitude of sins.

There is such a thing as a makeshift in music, then! There should not be—but you may be forced to it. Many beginners think that if they cannot hit the correct note the one next to it will do. But you know that if you do this, you run the risk of making a dissonant second or seventh. If you are ever forced to substitute one note for another, take one that will harmonize, making a third, a fifth, a sixth, or an octave. A sudden feeling of faintness—an injudicious question or gesture from a bystander—a breeze dimming a light, or turning the leaves of a book—may be sufficient to disturb your equilibrium. But, never stop. Fill in, in the same time as before, with a little improvised harmony, until you can pursue the even tenor of your way. Now you begin to see why it is so dangerous to alter other people's compositions—why you should stick as closely to the written notes as possible. If you do this, you run little risk of making discord that cannot be resolved—the conceited, half-educated player fears nothing, because he does not know that there is anything to fear. Perhaps, also, you see why I deferred saying anything about hymns and chants, until you knew something of chords—the contrary is the usual custom, but it does not give the philosophy of the subject. This you want, always.

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The note before a number, refers that note to that degree of the metronome, which denotes by a beat the value or duration of a given note.

A minor composition may be distinguished from a major, by looking for the key-note, which is the lowest note in the base, at the end of a piece. The signature, or number of sharps or flats, at the beginning, must also be considered. If the key-note given is A, and no signature is written, the piece is in A minor, relative to C major. If the key-note given is C, and the signature is three flats, the piece is in C minor, relative to A flat major.

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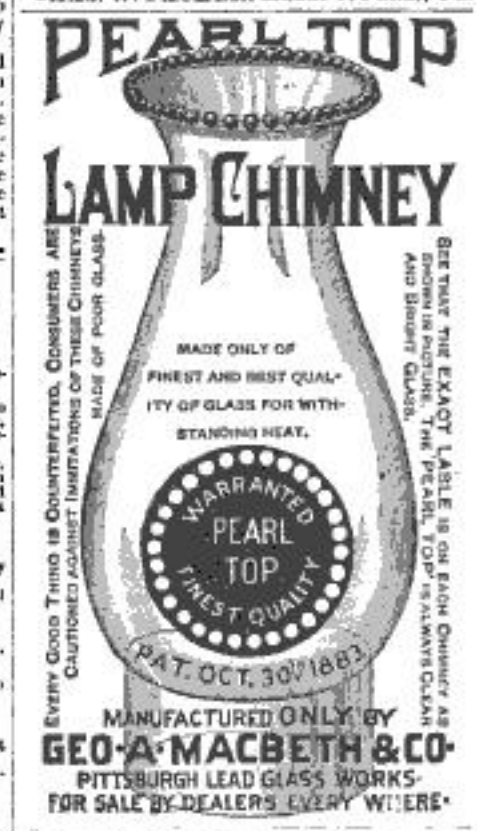

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL].

"NO MATTER."

BY ANABEL C. ANDREWS.

"Bessie! Bessie!"

"Yes ma'am."

"The elastic is very nearly off your hat—better take a few stitches in it before you go."

"No matter; I can't stop—I'll spear it on with a hat pin."

Mrs. Croft's face clouded, and with the hat in her hand she took a few steps toward her work-table; then paused and laid it wearily down, while she looked out the open window with eyes which saw nothing of the beautiful landscape, because of earnest thought.

A trip of light feet down the broad stairway, a snatch of "My Queen" clearly whistled, and a remarkably pretty girl of sixteen entered the room; a girl with a bright winsome face to whom old and young were alike drawn; no party was complete without Bessie, and no girl in the village had as many May baskets, Christmas and birthday cards as Bessie Crofts; for all the boys liked her, and it was to her they brought the first flowers and fruits of the season. A jolly, bright, strictly honorable girl, but—untidy! Her poor mother had striven from the time Bessie was a child with toys, to the time of which I write to correct this fault, but with ill success. Bessie was required to care for her own clothing—see that it was put away from the laundry, mended when necessary, etc.,—the large duties this involved she faithfully performed; but the thing she could not be made to understand was that literally "A stitch in time saves nine," and that faithfully caring for ribbons and clothing as soon as they are removed, always keeps them fresh and nice until they are worn out; and because she couldn't—or rather wouldn't—learn this she was continually "getting into scrapes" as she phrased it, and lamenting to her mother that "there never was in all this world a girl as unlucky as I;" and again and again would the patient mother explain that there was no such thing as "luck," it was simply her own carelessness in neglecting little things.

While I have been telling you this, Bessie has been dashing in and out of the room on one errand and another, Hector, the noble St. Bernard, at her heels. At last Bessie waltzed up to her mother, exclaiming: "Good-bye, little mother," clapped her hat on her head and sped out to the street, Hector solemnly trudging behind. She had nearly reached the gate when her mother called from the window:

"Bessie! you've left your hat pin."

"No matter; the old thing always hurts my head."

"Better take it."

"Can't stop! Uncle Dick will be waiting, and want of punctuality isn't one of my faults. Bye—see you later," and the graceful, girlish form was gone.

"O dear," sighed Mrs. Crofts, "I wish I'd sewed it on for her, but her father says I can never teach her in that way, and I know he is right; but that elastic will break on the least strain, and the wind will blow hard on the ocean to-day, for there's quite a breeze here."

A brisk walk brought Bessie to the railroad station, where she found her uncle and quite a lot of her school friends waiting for the train which was to take them on an excursion to the ocean. Five minutes before the train was due Bessie suddenly discovered that she had no handkerchief. Without stopping to speak to her uncle, she started on the run for a little store at the corner, threw down a quarter, and panted:

"I want a handkerchief, quick, please!" The wondering clerk handed her the first she came to, (which happened to be worth about ten cents) and this Bessie snatched, speeding back to find the train in, and the engine giving preparatory snorts, while her uncle Dick was walking the platform anxiously, not having the remotest idea where she could be. His face was not very cordial as he swung her on to the last car of the already moving train; and in reaching up for a firm grasp of the hand rail, Bessie heard a warning r-r-rip, and the sleeve of her jersey parted company with the waist for about three inches.

"Bessie," said Dick, in a most disgusted tone, "I heard your mother tell you yesterday afternoon to stay those seams."

"I thought it was no matter if I didn't," said poor Bessie, "the jersey was almost new, and I supposed strong enough."

"I heard your mother tell you that machine stitching was treacherous on a jersey, and that in two or three places the stitches were broken."

Bessie looked troubled; for handsome Dick Crofts, her mother's young bachelor brother, was a favorite of hers—and all the girls—and she didn't like the expression on his face at present. Stealing a glance or two at him, she presently nestled up a little closer, and slipping her fingers into his hand said lowly:

"I'm sorry, uncle Dick; but next time we stop the girls will pin me up, and I'll mend it first thing when we reach home."

"At midnight, eh!" with a whimsical smile making his moustache quiver.

"Well to-morrow, then."

"Sunday!" the smile very broad now.

"O well, no matter uncle Dick, some time."

Uncle Dick bent his handsome head and said in Bessie's pink ear: "'No matter' and 'sometime' will cost you many sorrowful hours if you don't turn over a new leaf soon, my bonny Bessie; but now cheer up and do better next time, for we can't have the day spoiled."

"Are you very much ashamed of me, uncle Dick! Do I look very badly?"

"You look all right," with a glance at the pretty face and trim figure, "but your jersey—well perhaps the least said about it the better."

Bessie's laugh rippled out at this, and at the next stopping place the girls contributed pins, and with many instructions to "Keep your arm down, Bessie!" the rent was pronounced successfully mended. At ten they reached the ocean, and went aboard the steamer for a sail to their destination; the merry party going on board to watch the waves, and count the light-houses. It was a pretty sight—the great steamer cleaving the weaves, lightly rocking as she went, and see the wake of foam behind her. The salt sea breeze blew fresher and fresher; and as they straightened up to inhale it, a gale more frolicsome than the rest dipped gracefully under Bessie's wide-rimmed hat and, severing the one thread which held the elastic, careered madly to sea bearing the hat aloft triumphantly a few seconds, only to cast it under the crest of a wave where it disappeared. In one despairing effort to clutch it both Bessie's hands went over her head, and with a s-s-snur-r-r! the pins in her jersey tore themselves loose in a rent which other pins could never even passably repair; and to make the matter worse Bessie had not worn the underwaist of silk—"it is so hot, and the jersey's thick," she had said to her mother.

The girl's face was a study as she stood there. The hat was the darling of her heart, and by far too expensive to be worn on such a trip; but her school hat was untrimmed—the result of a soaking—and when her mother suggested that it had better be retrimmed at once, since she might need it, Bessie had returned her usual "No matter—I'll fix it soon," and this was the result. Bessie's complexion was so delicate that she was obliged to finish her sail in the cabin, where the kind-hearted stewardess mended her jersey as well as she could; but it puckered, and "looked perfectly horrid" as Bessie declared. She was glad when the sail was over, for she was too honorable and just to allow—though several wished to—any of her friends to remain with her because of her own carelessness, and it wasn't particularly pleasant sitting there among strangers.

Dinner was the first thing on landing, with all save Dick and Bessie; of these two one must remain in the waiting-room, while the other "scoured the earth" for a hat. After what seemed to Bessie two hours at least, and was really nearly one, Dick returned; tired, heated, and, it must be confessed, a trifle cross.

"I couldn't find a milliner's," he explained rapidly, as he unrolled a bundle he had brought, "but I went into a little gent's furnishing store to be directed, and the clerk said there wasn't such a store in the place. I told him my dilemma, and he picked up one of those rough and ready straws for boys, threw into it a paper of pins, and a silk handkerchief, saying if you were a Yankee you could make that do. We can't have any dinner, for our party have engaged a wagon and driver, and will start for Paradise Park in about eight minutes. Twist up your 'bunnit,' and I'll get some bananas—I can find those right here—which we can eat on the way."

The party had hardly started before one produced a bag of sandwiches for Dick and Bessie, another a bag of cake, and still another pickled limes; so they had quite a dinner after all, though there was a lump in Bessie's throat which would not be swallowed, even with the bananas of which she was very fond.

My business is to tell you of Bessie, so I will pass the ride on the beach, with its jokes and laughter in the wagon, and the broad sun-bathed and ocean-fanned landscape outside, taking you at once to its terminus, which was certain grounds containing a great many places for amusement. Our little party decided on the track-coasting, and Bessie was among the first to slide down the inclined plane. Coming back, forgetful of the jersey, she waved her hand high above her head in salute to the rest of the party. Alas! the poor abused jersey! nothing short of patching would ever bring those edges together again, and blushing Bessie reached the landing amid cries of: "Poor Bessie!" "Poor jersey!" and "Alas, for the stitches that perish!"

Bessie took her wrap from Dick, drew it over her shoulders, and sat quietly down amid the "Too bad's!" and "So sorry's!" of her friends, whispering to her particular friend, Maude Martin, "that she knew she should cry in spite of all she could do, and she wished the horrid old day was over, and she safely in her own bed, where she could cry it out."

The "horrid lump" in her throat grew larger every instant, and her cheeks were crimson. Dick saw, comprehended, and like the dear good fellow he was, took Bessie for a walk by the ocean, and finding a seat on some rocks quite away from observation, put her there where the sea breeze would fan her flushed cheeks, and she could grow calm again. Her face went into her handkerchief, as she sobbed out: "O uncle Dick, I've spoiled all your pleasure and my own, just by carelessness. I'm so, so, sorry and ashamed."

Dick softly smoothed the bowed head, as he said: "I shan't care a bit, Bessie, if it only teaches you a lesson. Do you think it will?"

"I know it will! Why how could I forget this day! I've got into lots of scrapes, but this is the worst, and they keep growing worse. I can't forget."

"I sincerely hope you never will, but the habits of a lifetime are not so easily changed. Bessie, see here! If you can tell me on your next birthday, that from next Monday till that day, you have mended everything which needed mending, at the very first instant possible, I'll give you a gold watch; and I'll give you this ring now"—slipping one from his watch chain—"to make you remember. Is it a bargain?"

"O thank you, thank you, uncle Dick," said poor Bessie, quite overcome by this kindness, "I certainly will try."

"Spoken like my own bonnie Bessie. Now stay right here till I return, and get calm and rested."

Bessie cried until her little nose was swollen, and her pretty blue eyes red; then, the storm having partially spent itself, she dried her eyes, and gazing off at the restless waves lost herself in a reverie so deep that Dick's voice beside her made her jump. He had—as Dickens phrases it—a smile on his face and a parcel under his arm. Seating himself beside the subdued little lassie, he began unrolling said parcel. The first thing he drew out was a bottle of water, fresh and cold, of which Bessie had a satifying draught, then bathed her face with the rest, wiping it on a spare handkerchief which Dick produced from a side pocket, saying he always took two or more, often finding them handy.

"Why I feel so much better already," she declared.

"Course you do. See here!" and from the parcel Dick drew forth and held up before her a—jersey! rather prettier than her own, and nearly new.

"How in the world!" began the astonished girl.

"Well, I didn't kill the wearer of that jersey and thus obtain it; but—ha! ha!" and Dick went off in a peal of laughter. Bessie laughed in sympathy as she exclaimed:

"Do tell me, uncle Dick."

(To Be Continued.)

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EMPLOYMENT For Women at Home In Artistic Needle and Crochet work, City or Country. Steady work to good workers. Smart Lady Agents wanted in every town. WESTERN LACE M'F'G CO., Incorporated. 318 State St., Chicago

FREE PERFUMERY An elegant sample casket of perfumes will be sent to your address for 10c. (to cover postage and packing.) A harvest for agents. Address REWARD CARD CO., Box 1501, New York.

30 CARDS The new GOLD FRINGE Floral, Scroll, Lovely, you ever saw, name on, 10c. 12 new Golden Hidden Name, 10c. 25 plain gilt edge, 10c. 10 grand Silk Covered Cards, 20c. Send 4c. for agent's terms and sample case. HOLLEY CARD WORKS, MERIDEN, Conn.

LADIES! Richly illustrated book sent sealed on receipt of 10c. for packing, postage, &c. Valuable, indispensible. Mrs. THOMAS, 243 State St., Chicago, Ill. FREE TO YOU

Velvet Jewel Casket.

LADIES Send us a 25-cent Postal Note and get a beautiful Jewel Casket containing 25 hair pins. BROOKS & SCOTT, Naugatuck, Conn.

KIDDER'S PASTILLES. Sure relief. Price 25cts. by mail. Stowell & Co. Charlestown, Mass. ASTHMA.

50 HIDDEN NAME, &c. CARDS 10c. Elegant Present FREE. TUTTLE BROS., North Haven, Conn.

A Prize. Send six cents for postage, and receive free, a costly box of goods which will help all of either sex, to more money right away than any thing else in this world. Fortunes await the worker absolutely sure. Terms mail'd free. True & Co. Augusta, Me

Agents Wanted.

Men and women for a new patent article that sells at sight, to nearly every family. $10 to $20 per day easily made, will prove it or forfeit $50. Address, with stamp, LOCK BOX 59, Worcester, Mass.

PILES. Instant relief. Final cure in 10 days, and never returns. No purge, no salve, no suppository. Sufferers will learn of a simple remedy Free, by addressing C. J. MASON, 78 Nassau st., N. Y.

WORK FOR ALL. $50 a week and expenses paid. Outfit worth $5 and particulars free. P. O. VICKERY, Augusta, Maine

YOU You can now make a Fortune. A new guide to rapid wealth, with 340 fine engravings, sent Free to any person. This is a chance of a lifetime, so write at once to LYNN & CO., 703 Broadway, New York.

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OUR LATEST AND NEWEST

EMBROIDERY STAMPING OUTFIT!

100 CHOICE PATTERNS.

$1.00 PREPAID BY MAIL.

GIVEN AS PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 12 SUBSCRIBERS, AT 25 CENTS EACH.

This Complete Outfit and One Year's Subscription to the Journal, Both for only $1.00.

Season after season the dealers in cheap novelties, have endeavored to injure the reputation of our outfits, by offering a larger number of patterns, or a wonderful lot of articles *of a fabulous value.*

Their advertisements and descriptions are written in such a manner as to lead people to expect something great, and it is needless to say they are always disappointed. The patterns our competitors offer are a *lot of worthless little things*, so crowded together on a single sheet that *they cannot be used*, while THE VALUE OF OUR OUTFIT IS IN GOOD, USEFUL STAMPING PATTERNS.

We have had *literally* thousands of ladies complain of these cheap outfits, who throw them away after buying ours.

We have also received thousands of letters from ladies who have secured one of our outfits, expressing the greatest delight and satisfaction.

What is the reason for this?

1st, because we never misrepresent anything.

2d, because the patterns in our outfit are what they are described to be.

3d, because we know what ladies interested in fancy work want, and try to please them.

WE WILL CHEERFULLY REFUND THE MONEY AND GIVE OUR PAPER ONE YEAR FREE! TO ANY ONE WHO IS IN THE LEAST DISSATISFIED WITH ONE OF OUR OUTFITS.

Description of a few of the patterns:—1 set of initials for towels, hat ribbons, etc., worth 50c.; 2 large outlines for tidies, 25c. each; 1 design for tinsel embroidery, 5 inches wide, for end of table scarf, 25c.; 1 tidy design for ribbon work, 20c.; 1 large clover design, 7x11, 25c.; and one large thistle, 6x7, for Kensington painting, 25c.; 1 stork and 1 large butterfly, for lustre painting, 25c.; 1 pansy design for ladies bag, 10c.; 1 design for thermometer case, 20c.; 1 elegant spray of goldenrod, 6x11, 25c.; 1 Martha Washington geranium for plush petals, 6x10, 25c.; 1 half wreath for hat crown, 15c.; 1 design for top of umbrella case, 15c.; 1 spider's web, and 1 new disk pattern, 25c.; 1 tidy design, owl's on a tree, 25c.; 1 vine of daisies and ferns, for end of table scarf, 15c.; 1 wide braiding pattern, 25c.; 1 large bunch of daisies, 20c.; and 75 more other designs of roses, clematis, autumn leaves, outline designs, etc., etc. *Besides* the patterns the outfit contains: 1 box black and 1 box white powder; 2 distributors; illustrated instruction book, teaching stamping all the stitches, etc.; 1 tidy, all stamped and ready to be worked, with silk to work it.

Besides all the above, we shall continue to give away with each outfit, our book on KNITTING AND CROCHETING, giving instructions for knitting all the latest novelties. Our book on FANCY BRAID AND CROCHET, giving directions for making edgings of feather-edge and other braids.

THIS OFFER is good only for such Sewing Machines as are enumerated below. Unless you write us WHAT machine you want it for, we cannot fill the order, without the delay and expense of writing you and waiting for an answer.

Ladies! Make Your Own Stamping Patterns,

WITH THE "LITTLE WONDER" PERFORATOR.

GIVEN FOR ONLY 16 SUBSCRIBERS, OR FOR ONLY 12 SUBSCRIBERS AND 25 CENTS EXTRA, OR FOR ONLY 8 SUBSCRIBERS AND 50 CENTS EXTRA. PRICE, $1.25, INCLUDING ONE YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION TO THE JOURNAL.

THIS **SEWING MACHINE ATTACHMENT** makes *PERFORATED STAMPING PATTERNS* from the most elaborate and intricate designs, either original or those from Art Books. After being traced on paper, this placed over from 1 to 10 sheets of Linen paper and passed through the machine, perforated duplicates are obtained, each of which will stamp the design a hundred times. Designs may be taken from wall paper, cretonnes, carpets, laces, etc.

Patterns perforated in this way are superior in every way to those made by the old method. There is no rough side from which you are obliged to stamp, but being *ALIKE ON BOTH SIDES* they are *REVERSIBLE* and one can stamp from either side. There is no possibility of the patterns "filling up" and thus becoming useless, for each perforation is made by actually removing an atom of the paper the size of the needle or punch used. Different sized punches are furnished so that the operator can choose a fine or coarse line as best suits his work.

By setting the machine with a short stitch so the perforations come close together, beautiful stencils can be cut from card-board, paper, etc.

The "LITTLE WONDER" is applicable to transferring designs for *Embroidery, Braiding, Quilting, Ornamental Painting, Fencing, Wood-Carving, Fret-Sawing* and for instantly copying designs on the blackboard for the use of teachers illustrating lessons in Botany, Geography, Natural History, etc., etc.

Accompanying each outfit are instructions, showing how to perforate, how to stamp on any material *WITHOUT LIQUIDS* (the simplest and most perfect method known) and how to set stamping on velvets and plush by steam; various minor uses to which the "LITTLE WONDER" is applicable are also fully noted.

Attachments Furnished for the following Machines Only:

Light-Running Domestic.—Wheeler and Wilson No. 8.—Remington No. 3.—White.—Household, double or single feed.—Weed "New Hartford."—New Home.—Singer "New Family."—Singer Improved.—Elias Howe and New Home "G."—*In case you do not have one of the above machines, possibly your neighbor has, and would allow you to use it in exchange for some patterns.*

We CANNOT supply them for any other machines. Name your machine with your order, (and it must be one of the above) or we cannot send it.

Ladies who have our stamping outfit will need this Perforator. With it you can make all the stamping patterns you want. A nice business can be done making patterns for others who have outfits.

PERFORATING PUNCHES (in packages of one dozen—we do not sell less) Forty Cents Postpaid.

PEARL LINEN PERFORATING PAPER, Size 17 x 22, per quire—we do not sell less—Forty Cts. Postpaid.

When ordering, write your name PLAINLY, give town or city, county and state; either send money by Registered Letter, P. O. Order, Postal Note or Draft. One and two cent (clean) postage stamps received for small amounts. Address, *CURTIS PUBLISHING COMPANY, Phila., Pa.*

Other Premiums will be found described in back numbers of the Journal. See April and May numbers particularly.

TIDIES STAMPED READY TO BE WORKED.

GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBERS, AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.

These Elegant Tidies are 14x18 inches in size, are made of the very best quality of Felt, and the same as are sold in the stores at from 40c. to 50c. each. You can select the color of felt you like, and have it stamped with any design you wish, either for Kensington or Outline, or Ribbon embroidery, all ready to be embroidered.

With these Tidies we give also, a book, which teaches the stitches used in art embroidery,—giving such clear and explicit descriptions as to be easily understood; and also a lesson in Kensington and Lustra painting.

We will send one of these Tidies and the book of stitches, for a club of only 4 new subscribers or 85 cents.

KENSINGTON PAINTING OUTFIT.

GIVEN FOR 16 SUBSCRIBERS, OR 12 SUBSCRIBERS AND 25 CENTS EXTRA IN CASH, OR FOR 8 SUBSCRIBERS AND 50 CENTS EXTRA IN CASH.

This delightful new branch of fancy work is very fascinating. By this process ladies can do the most elegant painting on plush, velvet, or other materials. No previous knowledge of painting is necessary. The book accompanying the outfit teaches the exact method of doing the work so plainly that a child can understand it. No other teacher is needed.

The outfit contains ten Stamping Patterns, of elegant designs, suitable for painting, as follows: 1 elegant bunch of Clover, 7x10 inches; 1 branch of Thistle, 6x10. These are two of the handsomest flowers for Kensington painting. 1 Moss Rose; 1 Daisy design, 1 Poppy design, with two large full blown flowers, with buds, leaves, etc.; 1 spray of Forget-me-not; 1 bunch of Pansies; 1 branch of Apple-blossoms; Fuchsias, Rosebuds, etc., These patterns, together with Powder Pad, Instruction Book, etc., make a complete Stamping Outfit of Large Patterns, worth at least $2.00. Besides the patterns this outfit contains all the implements with which to do the work, and Patent Colapsable Tube Paints, sufficient to paint all the designs in the outfit. The book teaches how to mix these paints to procure the shades and tints needed for all kinds of flowers, and all other needed information.

The outfit is put up in a nice box, and will be sent by Express, *prepaid*, for a club of 16 subscribers, provided 25c. extra is sent to pay the express charges.

TISSUE PAPER FLOWER OUTFIT.

Given for only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cents each per year.

The latest craze, and a very pleasant occupation. Our outfit consists of Book of Instructions for making paper flowers, our 60 samples of imported tissue and flower papers, samples of flowers made up patterns and materials. Everything complete. Book of instructions gives every possible and minute detail, so clearly that any person can, with a little practice, become an expert in this fascinating and beautiful art.

Secure 4 subscribers and we will send this outfit postpaid.

Felt Bannerettes and Panels.

Given as a Premium for a Club of Only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cents Each per Year.

Long pieces of Felt or Satin, embroidered and trimmed top and bottom with plush and suspended from a brass banner rod, make handsome pieces to be hung in appropriate places upon the walls. Shorter pieces finished in the same way may be used as lamp shades, etc.

We send them at the following prices:

9 x 18 inches, any color felt, and stamped as desired, for 4 subscribers.

8½ x 24 inches, any color felt, and stamped to order, for 6 subscribers.

DECORATIVE ART COLOR BOX AT HOME.

MOIST WATER COLORS.

Given for only 8 new Subscribers, at 25 Cents each, per Year.

We offer as a premium the box of English Moist Water Colors, of which we give a representation above, to any one desiring a reliable set of water colors, with box, brushes, etc., for a low price. The box is of tin, japanned black on outside and white on inside. It has two covers which, when open, affords ample room for mixing the paints. It has a thumb-hole in the bottom, so that it can be used as a palette. The colors are ten in number, each enclosed in a tin tray. Three good brushes of different sizes complete the set. Moist colors are far superior to the dry. This box of colors is the one recommended by the Society of Arts in England for popular use in that country.

Price, 50 cents, postpaid.

Given as a premium for 8 new subscribers, and mailed, postage paid, to any address.

A copy of the JOURNAL will be given for a club of 4, instead of a premium, if so desired.

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THE PEARL RUG MAKER.

GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 12 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.

LADIES!

Save Your Rags

DELIGHTFUL AND PROFITABLE EMPLOYMENT. FASCINATING AND EASY TO LEARN.

MATERIAL COSTS YOU NOTHING!

USE YOUR RAGS, YARN AND SCRAPS, AND MAKE THEM INTO HANDSOME RUGS. BEAUTIFY YOUR HOMES.

The *easiest* and most *economical* process ever invented for making *Rag* and *Turkish Rugs, Ottoman and Furniture Covers, Cloak Trimmings, etc.* Every lady has enough material in her rag-bag to make several handsome, durable rugs. *Any Cloth*, old or new, *Yarn, Carpet, Waste, etc.*, can be used. Small pieces of silk, too much worn for Patchwork, make pretty Stool or Ottoman covers. *THE PEARL RUG MAKER* is a set of *Steel Forms* and *Tines*, on which the material is wound as shown in Fig. 4, then sewed through the center to a cloth foundation—with *Any Sewing Machine*, or by *Hand*—forming loops which are readily cut open, making a *Soft, Close Pile* or *Tuft* a *Half Inch Thick*, all on the *Upper* side. Rags when used do not have to be sewed together. Small pieces, cut in stripes on the *Bias*. *Turkish* Designs, Conventional Flowers, etc., are readily made, from the printed directions, and a handsome Rug, 2x3 feet, with a border, can be made in a day. Folks who have talked *Hard Times* for years must have an abundance of old clothes.

THE PEARL RUG MAKER

is the *only* invention that will utilize them without being obliged to go to further expense than a *Spool of Thread*. *You are not obliged to buy Stamped Patterns, Frames, Hooks and Expensive Yarns, costing from Sixty Cents to a Dollar and a-Half a Pound.* Of course, for *Expensive* Rugs, this material is very nice—but with scraps of cloth, odds and ends that accumulate in every home, you can make Rugs that will adorn any parlor. *LADIES, DON'T BUY A CARPET.* If you wish to be *Economical* you can cover those worn places with *Home-made* Rugs. If you do not have enough *Bright Colored Pieces* in your rag bag, you can color them at a trivial expense. With the *PEARL RUG MAKER* many ladies make an *entire carpet.*

RUGS CAN BE MADE BY HAND

just as well as on a sewing machine, but any sewing machine can be used.

From Wheeler & Wilson Manufacturing Co.

"We find it to be a practical attachment to the Sewing Machine. The Rugs are handsome and durable. It is a decided success."

White Sewing Machine Co., Cleveland, writes:

"Our opening was a great success. Sold a quantity of Rug Makers and shall do well with them.

We consider the "Pearl Rug Maker" the only practical device for making Rugs on the Sewing Machine. From the work it produces, we commend it as a most useful labor-saving invention.

DOMESTIC SEWING MACHINE COMPANY.
WEED " " "
THE HOWE " " "
NEW HOME " " "
HOUSEHOLD " " "

THE PEARL RUG MAKER is made of Bessemer Steel, Silver Finish. It is put up in a handsome case, with explicit "Directions for making Rag and Tufted Rugs," containing illustrations, which will enable anyone to do the work.

Given as a premium for 12 subscribers to the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

Price, including one year's subscription to LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, $1.00.

Postage paid by us in each case.

Address all letters plainly to LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, Philadelphia, Pa.

OIL COLOR OUTFIT,

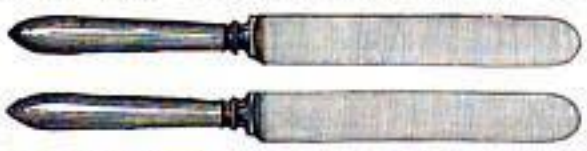
FOR ARTISTS' AND AMATEURS.

GIVEN FOR ONLY 42 SUBSCRIBERS, OR GIVEN FOR 30 SUBSCRIBERS AND $1.25 EXTRA IN CASH, OR FOR 10 SUBSCRIBERS AND $1.75 EXTRA IN CASH.

A complete ARTISTS' OUTFIT, put up in a convenient shape and containing all the necessary articles and colors needed for fine decorative, flowers, or landscape painting.

Each outfit consists of a Wooden Box, size 6x11 inches, with the following 13 Tube Colors: Vandyke Brown, Light Red, Chrome Yellow, Megilp, Yellow Ochre, Burnt Sienna, Ivory Black, Naples Yellow, Chrome Green, Silver White, Crimson Lake, Permanent Blue, Vermilion, 1 Palette Knife, 1 Palette to fit the box, 2 Brisle Brushes, 1 Sable Brush, 1 bottle Pale Drying Oil, 1 bottle of Turpentine, 1 Oil Cup, 1 sheet each of Tracing and Impression Paper, 6 Floral Designs to copy from, and 6 Perforated Patterns of elegant sprays of flowers for painting, with directions for making the transfers. This is a complete practical working outfit worth at least $5.00, and will be sent prepaid, by *express to the nearest office* of American Express, United States Express, or Wells Fargo & Co.'s Express, for only 42 subscribers, provided 25c. extra is sent to pay express charges.

ROGERS' SILVER-PLATED STEEL KNIVES !



Set of six given for a club of 30 subscribers, at 25 cents per year.

These knives are steel, and heavily plated with pure coin silver. They are the best made, and will last for years. Price $1.50 post paid.

These are Rogers & Bros. best triple plate. A very good quality of other makes can be given for 20 subscribers.

☞ Twenty-five cents extra must be sent for postage and registering. Then they are sure to reach you safe and sound. We will give these knives for a club of 30 subscribers, or for a club of only 20 subscribers and 50 cents extra in cash; or for a club of only 12 subscribers and $1.00 extra in cash; or for only 8 subscribers and $1.50 extra in cash. A good premium for housekeepers.

☞ **Other Premiums will be found described in back numbers of the Journal. See April and May numbers particularly.**

Special Summer Offer.

GOOD BOOKS FOR ONLY EIGHT SUBSCRIBERS

And 10 Cents Extra for Postage.

A MOST EXTRAORDINARY OFFER!

We will send to any address, any one of the following books, for a club of ☞ ONLY EIGHT SUBSCRIBERS, at 25 cents each per year,—provided 10 cents extra in stamps is sent to prepay the postage on the books.

We have before offered these books for 12 subscribers, we make this offer as a special inducement

DICKENS' WORKS:

The books are all handsomely bound, good print and good paper, and are sold in all bookstores for $1.50 and $1.75 per volume.

Pickwick Papers.
Martin Chuzzlewit.
Oliver Twist. Pictures from Italy, and American Notes.
Nicholas Nickleby.
David Copperfield.
Child's History of England. By Charles Dickens. New edition, large type.

Robinson Crusoe. By Daniel De Foe.
Arabian Nights Entertainment.
Swiss Family Robinson.
Orange Blossoms. By T. S. Arthur.
Bar Room at Brantly. By T. S. Arthur.
Cook's Voyages Round the World.
Vicar of Wakefield. By Oliver Goldsmith.
Pilgrim's Progress. By John Bunyan.
Gulliver's Travels. By Jonathan Swift.
Ivanhoe. By Sir Walter Scott.
Waverly. By Sir Walter Scott.
Guy Mannering. By Sir Walter Scott.
Tom Brown's School Days at Rugby. By Thomas Hughes.
Scottish Chiefs. By Jane Porter.
Thaddeus of Warsaw. By Jane Porter.
Children of the Abbey. By Regina Maria Roche.
Don Quixote. By Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra.
Paul and Virginia. By Bernardin de St. Pierre.
Æsop's Fables. With over 500 illustrations.
Dog Crusoe. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Gorilla Hunters. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Wild Men of the West. By R. M. Ballantyne.

We will mail the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL one year, and give any one of these books, for only **$1.00.**

We have recently added the following books to the list. Any one given for only 8 subscribers and 10 cents extra for postage.

Daniel Webster. Life of. By F. Tuft.
Napoleon. Life of. By M. A. Arnault.
George Washington. Life of. By Bancroft.
Daniel Boone. Life of. By Edw. S. Ellis.
David Crockett. Life of. By Edw. S. Ellis.
Henry Clay. Life of. By Epes Sargent and Horace Greeley.
Andrew Jackson. Life of. By John S. Jenkins.
Zachary Taylor. Life of. By H. Montgomery.
Henry VIII and His Six Wives. Life of. By Henry William Herbert.
Oliver Cromwell. Life of. By Henry William Herbert.
Empress Josephine. Life of. By Cecil B. Hartley.
Duchess of Orleans. Life of. By Marquis de H——.
Catherine II, Empress of Russia. Life of. By Samuel M. Schmucker.
Joan of Arc, Maid of Orleans. Life of. By David W. Bartlett.
Lady Jane Grey. Life of. By David W. Bartlett.
John Quincy Adams. Life of. By William H. Seward.
William H. Harrison. Life of. By H. Montgomery.
Patrick Henry. Life of. By William Wirt.
Travelers in Africa. By Charles Williams.
In the Arctic Seas. By Captain McClintock.
Children's Bible Stories. By Mrs. Gilespie Smith.
Lady of the Lake. By Sir Walter Scott.
Queens of American Society. By Mrs. Ellet.
Complete Letter Writer.
Evening Amusements. By Frederic D'Arros Planche.
Gavroche, the Gamin of Paris. By Victor Hugo.
A Million Too Much. A Temperance Tale. By Julia McNair Wright.
Gascoyne, the Sandlewood Trader. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Freaks on the Fells. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Shifting Winds. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Floating Light. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Bear Hunters. By Anne Bowman.
Kangaroo Hunters. By Anne Bowman.
American Family Robinson. By D. W. Belisle.
Pique. A Tale of the English Aristocracy.

Riverdale Story Books.

TWELVE BEAUTIFUL BOOKS.

Your Choice of Any One of These Volumes.

Each book contains nearly a hundred pages and many full-page cuts. The type is large and the words easy. The stories are exceedingly interesting, and are written by "Oliver Optic." The following are the titles:

Gifts for the Little People. We will send ALL of the above named books, packed in a neat case, for only 30 subscribers, at 25 cents per year each.

"The Cottage Kitchen,"

By MARION HARLAND; 276 pages, Illuminated and Embossed Cloth Binding.

CONTENTS:—General Subjects—Beverages, Blanc Mange, Bread, Cake, Corn-bread, Custards, Cheese-dishes, Eggs, Griddle-cakes, Fish, Fruits—stewed and baked, Jams and Marmalades, Jellies and Blanc Mange, Jellies (Fruit), Meat, Muffins, Picnic-dishes, Pickles, Porridges, Pastry, Puddings, Salads, Sauces for Puddings, Soups, Vegetables. Familiar Talks—Country Boarding, Dish-washing, Flies, "Kitchenly-kind," Maid-of-all-work, Soup and Stock-pot, Table Manners.

Price, ... $1.00

We will send "The Cottage Kitchen," to any address, post-paid, for only 12 subscribers, and 10 cents extra for postage.

SILVER PLATED CAKE BASKET

AND SPOON HOLDER.

This handsome cake basket is heavily plated with pure coin Silver upon white metal, and elegantly engraved, and is warranted to wear well and give perfect satisfaction. It will be found a useful and attractive acquisition to your table. We will send this Cake Basket by express, securely packed, for a club of 60 subscribers, or for 40 subscribers and $1.00 extra in cash, or for 20 subscribers and $2.00 extra in cash.

The Spoon Holder is of the same quality of goods, and will be given for 40 subscribers, or for 20 subscribers and 60 cents extra in cash, or for 12 subscribers and $1.00 extra in cash. Receiver to pay express charges in either case. The express charges will be light to any point within 1000 miles of us.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MILDRED'S CONVERSATION CLASS.

NO. VIII.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

"I'm so glad, girls, that you gave me the turn to write this week; so that my trouble is over after to-day, and I shall have nothing to do but listen to your mistakes now for a while," said Phillippa Rowland, when they met again. "I tried not to write a 'horsey' letter, Edith, as you elegantly express it," and she turned to Edith with a laugh which showed that the imputation of a tendency towards the "language of the turf," had not caused her any especial displeasure. "But I wrote to her that we had found 'unloose' and 'unrip' and 'unravel' in the dictionary. So I'm very anxious to know what she has to say on the subject."

"Well, I think the smartest thing to do, would be to open the letter and find out. I do hate these people that turn a letter upside down, and every way but inside out, and wonder all the time from whom it comes or what is in it, when opening it would set the matter at rest in a much shorter time," exclaimed Mildred, in mock impatience.

"Wise child!" said Phillippa, in pretended admiration. "Aren't you afraid, dear, that you are going to have a spell of the Partington's disease?"

"What is that?" asked Ida Gleason.

"'Information on the brain,' his mother called it," answered Phillippa.

"If that's all, I hope so, I'm sure," laughed Mildred.

"Well! here goes!" and with a grand flourish, the cover was torn from Miss Wilson's letter.

"My dear Miss Rowland," it ran, "you are right; the words are in the dictionary, and I should perhaps not have written precisely as I did, in order to best express my meaning. I should have made my explanation a little more full. Originally, the word 'ravel' was used in the sense of 'tangling,' hence to 'unravel' was to 'untangle.' To 'ravel,' however, in its most proper, fullest sense, as it is now accepted, means to undo that which has been carefully done. We 'ravel' a stocking.

"Do you know the line: 'And sleep knits up the ravelled sleeve of care?'

"I think, too, you will find that your dictionary tells you that 'unloose' and 'unrip' are unnecessary, as 'loose' and 'rip' express the meaning. The dictionary might add as well, 'inelegant.' There is a growing tendency, with those who have the authority, to expunge from the language all useless expressions, and make it as concise as possible.

"The date which I gave you in regard to Lord Dundas' coinage of the word 'starvation' should have been 1775 not 1847. I did not realize, until after my letter had gone, that I had made this mistake.

"'I guess I will go to the mountains this summer, for neither father nor mother care for the shore.'

"The latter half of your sentence entirely precludes the possibility of the former half being correct. One only 'guesses' that about which one can form an idea in no other way. You 'guess' you will go to the mountains, and, immediately following, are your reasons for such a 'guess.' In one 'guesses,' one goes through no process of reasoning. The word is frequently used where 'imagine' 'think' or 'believe' would be much more correct. In short, 'guess' and 'expect' (another much abused word) may be classed in the same category as 'got,' all being words which are best avoided if possible. Certainly, there are many times when no word but 'expect' will express one's meaning. But ordinarily, it is used in a wrong sense. 'Mary, is your mother home?' 'I expect so, she was when I came out.' 'Your dress is torn.' 'O, I expect so, I'm always tearing my dresses.' One always feels a temptation to ask the persons who thus answer, 'How soon do you expect it?' An accomplished fact, as a dress already rent, cannot well be classed among the things to be 'expected.'

"'Neither father nor mother care for the shore.'

"When two singular subjects are connected by 'either' 'or' 'neither,' or 'nor,' the verb which they govern should be in the singular, always. 'Neither mother nor father cares, etc.'

"'Should you use a capital for father and mother?'

"My theory is, that, if you write of your parents as 'Father' and 'Mother,' you should begin each one with a capital, because it is an individual name given them by you, in the same way that 'Phillippa' is an individual name given you by them. Under such circumstances, it becomes, in my estimation, a proper noun, and as such, requires a capital. But, when you speak of them as 'my father' or 'my mother' the case is altered. Under those circumstances, you speak of them as belonging to the class 'father' or 'mother.'

"'Please excuse,' you say, is the popular form. Yes, it is; that I cheerfully concede; but so, also, is 'the rose smells sweetly,' the popular form; nevertheless neither is correct.

"As I have before said, you will find, not only in popular use, but in the dictionary, many words which are in themselves incorrect, but which have grown customary from habits of carelessness on the part of the 'speaking multitude.'

"Among these we have the use of 'sang' for 'sung,' as, 'I have sang' for 'I have sung;' 'I have swam' for 'I have swum;' 'the cloth has shrank' for 'the cloth has shrunk;' all of which are wrong. It is quite as incorrect to use the imperfect tense for the past participle as to do the reverse, and yet many people who would never say 'I seen,' or 'I done,' would say 'I have sang,' in the firm conviction that that expression is more correct than 'I have sung' would be.

"Why, I've always said 'I have sang,'" said Sara Tasker. "'I have sung' sounds dreadful queer, somehow. I wonder if 'I have drank' is wrong, too."

"Wait a minute, I'll settle that question," said Georgia Garrett, and the leaves of the grammar book were quickly turned over.

"She's right," she said meditatively. "Now isn't that funny! strange, I mean. It is 'I have sung,' but you can say either 'drunk' or 'drank.' For my part I think I rather prefer 'drank.'"

"So do I," said Phillippa. "So I presume, judging by former experiences, that Miss Wilson prefers 'drunk.' For 'I never had a dear gazelle to charm me with its soft brown eye, etc.' I feel sure that I do not need to go further with my quotation for the benefit of such an intelligent audience. The application is obvious. Well, I'll go on."

"There is one thing I want to ask; you in regard to your pronunciation," she began, but was interrupted by an exclamation from Sara Tasker.

"O dear! I wish she wouldn't ask us about our pronunciation, for I haven't any."

"My dear infant, if you will kindly permit me to proceed, this slight defect in an otherwise faultless character (or should I say education!) may be in a degree remedied."

"O Phillippa, do be quiet, and go on."

"Now, grant me patience! How can I do both!"

"Well, do the 'going on' at any rate," came from the other five.

Thus exhorted, she really did proceed.

"The other evening I was listening to a lecturer, a really intelligent, well educated man. A man, too, who has devoted much time to elocutionary effects; yet every time he had occasion to use the word 'subjects' or 'objects,' he said 'subjix' or 'objix.'

"I wondered whether 'my girls' (for so I am accustomed to think of you) pronounced these and like words in this manner. One can so readily acquire the habit of pronouncing the final syllables correctly, that it seems a pity to acquire false methods.

"I will not try your patience further now, but will close with good wishes.

"Yours sincerely,

"AMANDA WILSON."

"Indeed we need all the good wishes she can send us."

"Well, if she 'wishes' and we 'wish' we certainly ought to accomplish something. You know they say 'there is safety in numbers,'" and the class separated for the week.

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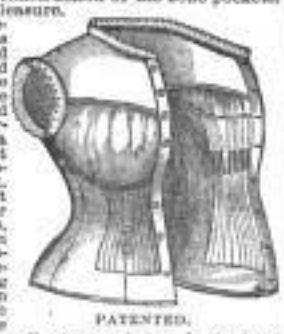

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

THE LITTLE STEPMOTHER.

BY HARRIET PRESCOTT SPOFFORD.

CHAPTER II.

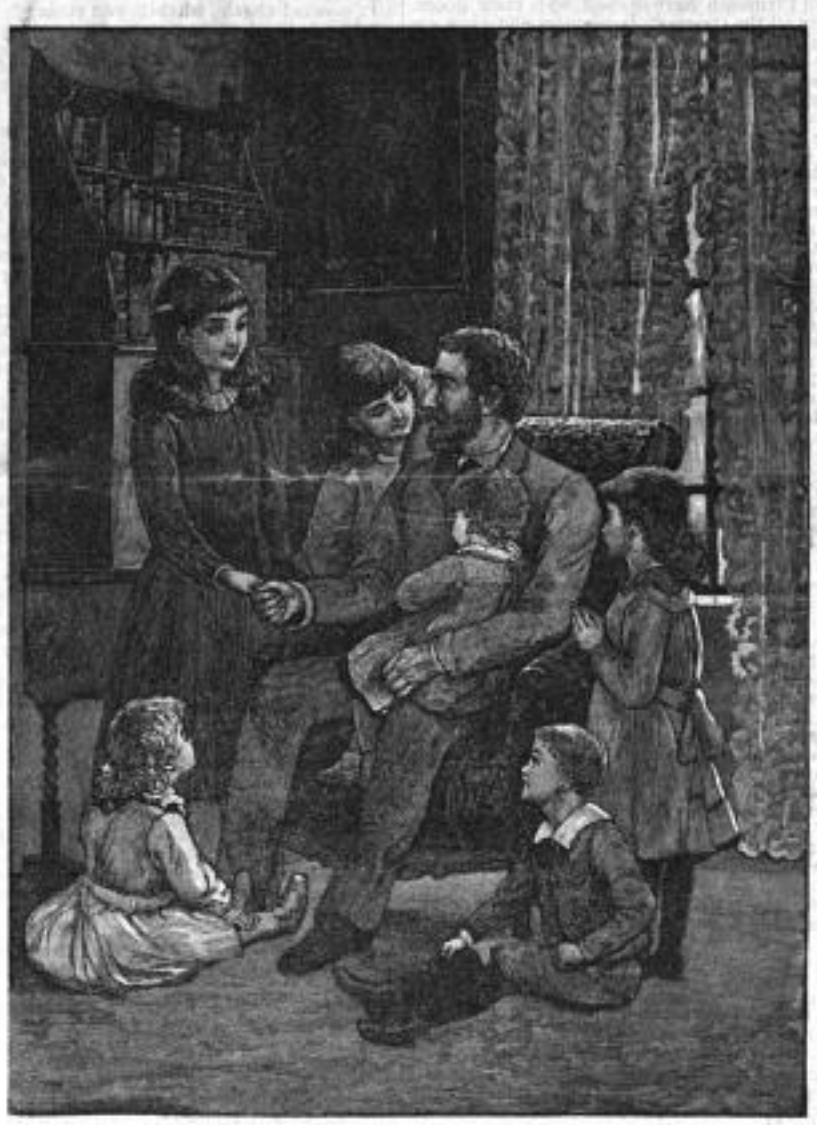
Poor Essie found then that her trouble had just begun. She must go about the house, and see to things as well as she could through her tears, and prevent the children from disgracing themselves, for their grief came in surges at odd moments, and at other times their necessity for amusement was above everything else. Rose and Virgy, too, clamored to be allowed to wear mourning, and, as that was not to be thought of, they insisted on stringing various parcels of black and white beads to wear on the day, when it seemed to Essie that heaven and earth would come together in blackness, and she hadn't even the heart to call them heartless; while Nellie, finding her opportunity in the general gloom and lack of oversight, ran away to play dolls with a long since forbidden companion, and was discovered by Mrs. Putters, and delivered into Kate's hands, together with the opinion that it would take all the neighbors now to keep the children straight; and the next day the same worthy woman came up from the wharf with Peter and Johnny struggling at either hand, and assured Mr. Nevers, who came out to receive them, that she didn't know what in the world he would do without herself next door to mind these children's pranks. Peter and John were shut up in the attic to amuse themselves, since amuse themselves they must, with its hoarded relics; and when Essie saw next day hung from the window a board on which they had scrawled in black paint, and crooked childish script, the words "Funeral Here!" it seemed to her her cup could hold no more. For the rest, when the dark final day came, the children were subdued and decorous enough, the twins forgot about their black beads, Peter and Johnny were very white with twitching faces as their father led them out, and Nellie cried aloud and would not be comforted till Essie cried with her. "Just as pitiful a sight as lives," said Mrs. Putters to her gossip. "Those motherless children and he so helpless and adrift. I'm sure it's a duty for all of us to be a mother to them. And as for that fixed white face of his,—I don't ever expect to see him smile again. I'm sure it's all of our duties to help him to."

She proceeded, at any rate, to make it her duty; circumstances favoring her by means of the brain fever with which Essie was suddenly overtaken, so terrifying the father that he would not have thought of refusing help from any quarter, and saw little Mrs. Putters established in the sick-room and over the house rather with a feeling as if she had always been there than with one of any surprise.

Not so the children. Realizing nothing of the condition of the sick one, from whose room they were of course carefully excluded, they regarded Mrs. Putters as an intruder and an usurper, and without putting their emotions into such strong language, as an outrage on decency and common sense. Mrs. Putters made them finish their toilettes in the morning before they came to breakfast; she would not listen to their chasing the cat down stairs and out doors and across the yard just as they got out of bed; she made them eat like christians, as she called it, instead of barbarians; she objected to their spilling things on the cloth, she would not have a word of quarreling at the table, she would hardly have a word of any sort in the house for fear of exciting Essie. "It's always Essie, Essie!" sobbed Rosy. "I shouldn't think the rest of us were of the least consequence." If they dropped crumbs on the floor, she made them pick them up; she made them wipe their feet on coming into the house, hang up their hats instead of throwing them down anywhere, wash their hands and comb their hair before coming to dine; Johnny had a reading lesson every day, and Peter had to write a copy, and Rose and Virgy had to sweep and dust their own room, and Nellie was obliged to wash the breakfast cups, and on the whole a peace and quiet reigned in the house that it had never known before, and poor Mr. Nevers had time and space to indulge his grief undisturbed by anything else than his solicitude for Essie. But it was placid quiet only *sub rosa*, quiet emphasized by a clutch of Johnny's shoulder and a shaking that made him uncertain if the world were upside down or not for the moment; by a ringing, and doubtless deserved if illegitimate, box on the ear for Nelly; by a war of words with Rosy behind closed doors; by a shutting of Virgy in a dark closet; by a general refusal of gingerbread and pie except on good behaviour, and by a rigid scenting of Mistress Kate's somings and goings which reduced that young woman to a mere manikin. "It's mesilf that'll niver be stayin' a second month in the place," she said. "I'll be afther takin' up wid Shamus O'More in silf-difince. Sure an' it's a good enough man he is, wid a cow and a pig and a bite and sup av his own."

But what made it all the harder to the outraged children was that Mrs. Putters was hardly any bigger than themselves. "Ah, bad cess till her!" cried Kate. "She's little, but she's mighty. An' well ye's may be cryin' the eyes out till ye," added this sturdy handmaiden who had never been so put about and obliged to do what she was paid for doing in all her life. "She'll be here for good an' all, the divil fly wid her, sure's yer ma's cold in her grave. God rest her sowl, the swate cushla machree. Arrah, an' what he will that she will. An' marry your pa she will. She's afther no less."

"Oh, Kate, Kate!" sobbed Rose and Virgy in a breath. "Mrs. Putters—in dear mamma's place—a step-mother—oh, we'll ask papa ourselves—never—never—to—"



"He can't help himself. He has to have somebody kape his house. There'll none o' ye's ever learn to do anything but turn it upside down, an' that blissid angel of an Essie goin' the same way wid her ma, wirra, wirra! An' it's not mesilf'll be stayin' here an' be put about by that little sperrit," said Kate, tossing her head after her tears were dried. "She'll bring yer up nate and respectable, never fear, an' ye'll be a credit till her. But she'll be a foine little step-mother, an' it'll do the heart in me good to see somebody aither makin' ye step round. Faix, an' maybe that's the reason they do be called step-mothers."

"She shan't! She shan't! She shan't!" shrieked Virgy. "She never shall! I'll—I'll——"

"Ye'll mind her like a buke. That's what ye'll do. An' ye'll come down to Shamus an' me, Saturday afternoons like, if she lets on to have yer go, that is, an' ye'll say——"

"Oh, Katy, Katy, you're not really in earnest!" cried Rose. "You're not really going away! You won't really leave us to this dreadful woman!"

"Faith an' I will, unless ye quit foolin' wid me flour-scoop. An' I will anyway if the likes o' this kapes on afther I've had speech wid the master. There now, get out wid ye for a couple o' loons. Ye niver did aught to help your own mother,—the poor dear, heaven's not good enough for her—what's it matter till ye av a step-mother more or less comes intil the house?"

One day the vigorous little Mrs. Putters scooped up the whole five of them and swept them over to her own house and left them there with her old serving-woman. "Don't let me see you again till I send for you," she said. "An' don't you lift your voices above a whisper, unless you want your sister Essie to follow your mother. It will be all your father and I can do to keep her here."

"Your father and I." There was something ominous in the words, and the snapping of her small black eyes seemed to seal their fate. She never would dare treat them so if she wasn't going to be their step-mother. "I don't care," whimpered Peter. "She isn't bigger than a pint of cider. I heard father say so once. And I won't have to be so very much bigger myself before I'll be big enough to make *her* stand round. She'd better look out!" And he snapped his apple tree twig as if every snap were felt by Mrs. Putters.

But nothing in her absorption did Mrs. Putters care for Peter or his apple tree twig. He would be lucky if the tables were not turned, and he escaped the smart himself. For he occupied his sweet leisure that morning in whipping the supposed moths out of Mrs. Putters' pet fox-skin rug till he had whipped all the hair off it, while Rosy and Virgy appropriated her grandmother's old china that was worth its weight in gold to her, to play house with, and, at the sound of the first crash, were taken in hand by the old serving-woman and set down hard enough to shake the solid centre, and kept motionless and quaking under the terrors of her eye in a mortal torment of stillness for two long hours.

And meanwhile, and for a long while afterward, Mrs. Putters and their father were hanging over Essie, watching for every breath; and neither of them drew their own in peace till those soft dark eyes opened at last with the calm intelligence of old, forgetting the bewildered fright of those burning days and nights that were gone.

"Yes," said Mrs. Putters, afterward, telling of it all to her gossip, when Essie was once more in health and she herself had taken her departure for the Putters mansion and the repair of the wreck in it that the Nevers children had made, "I never saw a man more thankful. 'Mrs. Putters,' said he to me, 'she never would have pulled through but for you. You've brought her back to life. You've given her life a second time. I shall always feel as if you were a second mother to her.' Now such an expression as that repays a person for her exertion and means a good deal. Don't you think so?"

That the gossip thought so is of no especial matter. But before night every ready ear in the village heard that Mr. Nevers had asked Mrs. Putters to be a second mother to his children, and at last through the freemasonry of the kitchen word had come to Kate. "An' it's as I towld ye," said she. "The little step-mother do be comin' sure's the wedding cake is afther baking. Me own eyes caught sight of her buyin' raisins in the shop to-day. Lave alone yer howlin' now, Peter, ye great gossoon, ye. Ye're a right to be shamed o' yesilf, ye have. Sure Shamus O'More's not the only man in the world that cares to marry. A man's a poor contimptible object with no woman to the fore. Troth, an' sorra a bit o' me'll care, more betoken it sets me free entirely to do as I will, fer the's the ould woman of her own to bring over with her, an' it's a bitter folly to be kapin' up two houses when the one 'ud do. Ye've heard say before this that the shovel and tongs to aich other belongs. Sure, it's me own b'y Shamus'll be glad o' the intilligence this night!"

But Shamus was the only one glad of it. When Mr. Nevers came home that evening, he paused a moment at the door to look back on the dying blush of sunset and the stars glowing and growing out of the purple twilight, and see the beauty of the hour that now only served to mark and accentuate loneliness and sorrow, and he thought how deep was the peace, and that death like war made a desert and called it peace. It was a scene, that hurly-burly in the sitting-room, that would have made him laugh if he had not felt like crying. Rosy had been holding forth on the enormity of step-mothers, and had drawn such a dark picture, painting in the lurid local color of Mrs. Putters so freely, that Peter was to be seen through the gloom prostrate on the floor in noisy woe, Johnny and Virgy were wailing in each others unwonted arms, and as for Nellie in her wretchedness, Niobe was nothing to her.

"What is all this?" asked the father with his hand on the door.

"Oh, papa, papa!" they cried in chorus, starting up to meet him. "Is it true that we are going to have a step-mother?"

"A step-mother! What is that?" he asked?"

"Somebody—oh somebody—to fill mamma's place, dear mamma's place!"

"Nobody could fill mamma's place," said he gravely.

"There, Rose Nevers! I told you so!" roared Peter.

"But it is true for all that," said Mr. Nevers, "that you are going to have a little step-mother."

"Oh! there, there, there now!" came the general cry again about the poor man's ears. "You see it's Mrs. Putters! I said 'twas Mrs. Putters!"

"Mrs. Putters!" said the father gently. "You must be careful when you use a lady's name so. Who said anything about Mrs. Putters?"

"Oh, you needn't suppose we don't know! Kate told us, and everybody in town says so! Everybody in town says you asked her to be our second mother! She told them so herself."

"Really," said the father, sitting down and taking the forlorn Johnny on his knee. "Well, the person who is to be your little step-mother, and whom I expect you to obey implicitly, is a small woman who was so anxious to help her mother that she learned to iron before she was tall enough to stand at the ironing table; learned to make bread and cake and pies and preserves and coffee; to roast a joint and broil a steak; to make beds, to dust, to fill the vases and give the house cheer for those who were sad; who staid at home from picnics and pleasure parties to watch the dressmaker cut and baste and help her on the long seams; who gave up her childhood and became a woman for love of her dying mother; who has but lately escaped from death herself," he said, reaching up an arm for Essie, who had been waiting at the door to slip her hand in his as he came in, "and who now," continued Mr. Nevers, "is going to take the house in charge,—with Shamus's Kate coming every Monday to wash and every Saturday to scrub—on condition that you help her out and mind every word she says just as if she was a real step-mother, and under penalty, it may be, of a possible step-mother if you don't!"

"He,—he—means,—he means our Essie!" cried Virgy. "Papa! oh, papa! is that truly what you mean?" and they were beside him and about him and over him, like bees over a comb of honey.

"And to think, Essie," cried Rose, "if it hadn't been for your learning how to do all those things, when we couldn't see why you wanted to, and staying at home when we teased you to go along with us, and talking duty, duty, duty, to us all the time, it might, yes it might really have been Mrs. Putters. For Kate says there must be somebody to run a house. And oh, papa, you shall see! You shall see!"

"I mean to see," said her father. "I don't intend to have Essie imposed on, and you are all to do your full share."

"It is Essie that is going to be our little step-mother," said Rose, the next morning to the old serving-woman across the garden wall. "Perhaps you thought it was going to be Mrs. Putters. But it isn't. Papa says——"

"Mrs. Putters indeed!" cried that good lady, her little eyes snapping from the shelter of her vine-covered side door. "You must have thought I had precious little to do to dream of becoming step-mother to such a roaring pack of children as the Neverses! Your father's a good man, but I wouldn't marry him if he was the last man alive.

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I wouldn't marry the Patriarch of Russia if he was father to you five! But let me tell you now, Miss Rosy, if it hadn't been for me setting Essie on to learn how to manage a house, somebody'd been your step-mother—for a house can't manage itself! *I* marry again, and have a man tramping my carpets and oversetting all the bureau drawers! No thank you. Once is enough for me!"

And yet, such is the perversity of human nature, so true is it that few find out sooner than a bereaved husband does that it is not good for man to be alone, that had you passed that way the year after the little step-mother was married, and Peter had gone to college, and the other children were getting on the last of their armor in the struggle of life, helped by her hand at many a buckle and rivet, you would still have seen a little step-mother sitting by the fire, knitting silk socks for her son John, and looking at him with loving if not snapping black eyes; and if it was no longer Mrs. Puttera, at any rate it was not Essie.

The End.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

OUR FOURTH AT PLYMOUTH.

BY JEANIE DEANS.

Early in June I said to my brother, "Where shall we spend the Fourth? Don't let's stay in the city as we always have every year since my remembrance, drive out after dinner amid a shower of torpedos, fire-crackers, and everything else that will explode, and frighten Dolly; go down to the Common in the evening in that tremendous crush for the fireworks. I say, Ned, let's betake ourselves to some rural district, quite out of the way, and by the sea. If we can hit on such a place, we'll go the week before, and settle for a few weeks, before Newport or Saratoga. We'll take plenty of good reading, you your fish-pole, and I worsted and crochet hook, and we'll make life happy. Have you thought? Somewhere away from dress and people."

"Away from dress and people. I don't know, Sis."

"But you always know. You are equal to anything."

"The North Pole, then."

"Oh, Ned!"

"The South Pole!"

"How can you?"

"But you asked for a place where fashion and people were not. I know of nowhere else, unless I mention the moon."

"I have it! Ancient Plymouth,—Cape Cod!"

"Historic ground. Birth-place of a nation, but do you suppose fashion has not a foothold? and where's your hotel without people?"

"You are the most exasperating brother I ever knew."

"Probably, since I'm all you ever had."

"Well, it's settled. We shall go to Plymouth the week before the Fourth. I'm sick and tired of city life, the Hudson, Mountains, Niagara, in fact everywhere I've been before, tho' I suppose we must jaunt round to some of those places before the season's over. Mamma, you know," and a little sigh escaped.

"Yes Sis! But you shall have your wish. We'll go to Plymouth," and with this he kissed his sister, a lovely girl of nineteen years, and bounded lightly down the steps of his stately city home.

Ned and Susie Wilton were the only children of the late Christopher Wilton, Esq., a man of much wealth and position. Years before their mother had died, and a second came to preside. Then the stately mansion became a rallying place for pride and fashion, for the second Mrs. Wilton was no more nor less than a woman of the world. Susie shone, and her star not yet to its zenith was bright and clear, but the hollowness she was easy to discern; fashionable life held little for her; it had never been anything to Ned, and these two were more and more drawn together. Besides, the little sigh Ned noticed, and the wish to get away from everywhere had a cause, and he, bless his heart, understood without being told. Susie's happiness was *his* first pleasure, dearer to his heart than his own, and though no word had been spoken he knew that John Seymour and she had "broken off," and that a European steamer, months before, had taken him to the Old World. "And now she says, Plymouth, Cape Cod. Bless the child, she shall go! But does she expect to get away from herself there? and John? Well," he mused, "I suppose they know. But I know John Seymour through and through. We were in college together, have travelled together since; been like brothers. I know he is true as steel, but set as the rocks and a will of iron, yet I have trusted him always. I trust him still. But Susie! Oh, well, we fellows that never had an affair of the heart, how can we know?" and the door of his down-town office was reached, and he disappeared, this aristocratic young man with the world at his feet, for which he cared little, and half the handsome maidens, or I might say all, (with few exceptions) in the same place, for which he cared less, and far away across the Atlantic pacing his room with troubled brow and anxious countenance was John Seymour, the one to whom Susie Wilton had promised her love less than a year before, and whose betrothal ring had circled her finger. But sensitive natures—and they were both that—are quick to resent, and without a word of explanation, though he thought sufficient cause had been given, he left his home in a large eastern city, and the next steamer bore him to his present destination. The voyage had given him time for reflection, the consequence of which culminated as he now paced the room, in the expression:

"What a consummate fool I have been!"

And Susie—bright, irrepressible, irresistible, was in doubt and mystery with a terrible wound in her heart. Bravely was she doing battle. Ned knew. He could understand without being told. The one thing she dreaded and abhorred was the fashionable world. Away—away from it was her desire, especially on this gala day, birthday of the nation, for oh! how faithful was memory, distinctly did she recall where and how the last anniversary was spent. It had been one of the happiest days in her life, and now—how different! She would not stay in the city, and she would be bright and cheerful and crowd down the bitter heart-ache. She would be brave, and mamma should not suspect, and,—defiant Susie that she was—should never, never wed her to the handsome Count whose praises she was ever sounding.

Away to the shores of sandy Cape Cod "people" never came. There she would go, and with Ned, dearest and truest of brothers—forget.

What happened and how she "forgot," or remembered, we will let Susie's journal tell.

July 1. Here we are nicely settled in Plymouth—"Ancient Plymouth, Cape Cod,.' I told Ned when I planned the journey, but I find it is not on the Cape at all though lying adjacent, as the next county is Barnstable, which just embraces Cape Cod. And how delightful it is here. Here is the ocean, a never-failing source of strength and admiration; fair and large in its calm content, for I have never seen its fury.

The town is indeed "ancient," it being one of the first settled in the New World, and its history is without end. A short distance from me is Plymouth Rock—"birth-place of a nation," indeed, as Ned says. Here also is Memorial Hall filled with relics of the early settlement of the town; it would seem, one could almost view the Mayflower as it rode at anchor in Plymouth Bay. The place is replete with relics of early New England life, and the present is also here; active, restless, purposeful, effective people. So hospitable and kind, I like them thoroughly, heartily.

It is true there are hotels and fashion creeps in, but above and beyond there is a grandeur, that I like—that rests and contents me.

July 4. I hardly know just where to begin, I have so much to say, and my little book mus. have it all, but I think I will begin where my last entry ended. The morning of July 2, opened with strong wind and heavy sea. The swell was very strong, the sailors said. I visited the beach in the morning, and before noon the rain fell in torrents. What a storm came on. How the wind blew and the sea rolled and roared! For the season it was almost unparalled. The "line gale" some old sailors assured me seldom was so severe. Thro' the day and night of the second, the storm raged, and the morning of the third broke "o'er the wild waste of waters." Ned and myself were early at the beach. Crowds were there, for far o'er the deep came the steady "boom, boom," of a ship in distress. No aid could reach the sinking steamer for such it proved; but toward noon, the wind and tide somewhat abating the life-boat was manned.

The steamer was reached, which proved the latest from England bound for Boston blown from her course and stranded on the rocks. Many of the passengers were nearly exhausted with watching and exposure. Oh, if the life-boat had not reached them! The terrors of the sea I realize as never before.

There were two beautiful children sent by their parents from London to relatives in New York. One of them had an arm broken clinging to the rigging; another nearly perished in the water. These were carried to a fisherman's cottage, and Ned, with a very sober face, asked me if I could stay by, and care for them awhile. The people of old Plymouth have opened wide their doors. Nearly all the steamer's passengers and crew are in a condition of suffering or want. The government officers also do their duty well. The relief corps are here. A christian land indeed is our noble country of which to day is its anniversary.

I sat by the children until evening, when Ned came for me with a new nurse for them. They were doing well however. The doctor has telegraphed their friends and they will be here soon. After resting at our boarding place I began to feel restless. The old feeling of discontent crept over me. And the ill-fated steamer had crossed the Atlantic—left old England perhaps ten days before, and left—ah, yes——. Just here Ned came asking if I would walk a little to another cottage, another passenger needed me. We went. I entered the little chamber, and there pale, tired, a fractured arm and leg and bruises untold, but with a cheerful smile and eyes that no storm could dim, with a light in his face that was never on land or sea, was John Seymour!

I think I made a faint sound and turned to leave the room; but he said, "My darling, come to me," and presently I was passionately weeping, while his well hand stroked my hair. I could remain but a short time he was so weak, and Ned told me after, suffering untold pain with every breath, but he drew my face to his and said, "Susie, everything shall be explained, to-morrow I shall ask your forgiveness," and then Ned took me away. I was trembling so I could hardly walk. He told me he was the first to discover John wounded and faint on the shore. That thro' his efforts many lives had been saved, among them the children I had tended. That for some hours his recovery was considered doubtful, but at last consciousness was restored. He recognized Ned and his first inquiry had been for me. Last night I slept but little, and was I believe, conscious of but one thought—John had returned, and was still my own.

This morning, July Fourth, opened early. At the first break of day the cannon and guns boomed thro' the air, while bells in the steeples were rung with the spirit of seventy-six. Young America is irrepressible here in Plymouth as well as elsewhere, and fire-crackers and torpedoes made the air melodious, while the vessels in harbor floated the nation's banner from masthead. The town itself has been gay with banners, music, and processions since early morning. Ned laughingly says, "Sis, will you go to Greenland or farther north next year, to get away from people? You are not out of the world."

"And I don't want to be," I reply.

There is a picnic beyond "Great Hill," a place "where the Indians used to live," one little girl informs me. Ned and myself were invited, by these kindly people, but I gathered a handful of beautiful roses with the morning dew still resting on them, and swiftly took my way to the fisherman's cottage at the beach.

John has told me all, and I believe I am the happiest woman the earth holds. More sharply now does my wretchedness appear, in contrast with my present happiness.

I was thinking of this a moment to-day, and then, with a little of the old pride, that John says has been one-half our trouble, I thought I will never let him know just how little life held, when he took my hand again pressing it to his lips saying, "Ah, Susie, I see! your face tells me what your life has been without me."

Until late that afternoon I remained. The wise old doctor said he thought John would gain faster with me than without, and I'd better stay late and come early next day, which I certainly shall.

And now the sunset guns are booming. Far and wide o'er these ancient rocks and hills the echoes reverberate. The nation's birthday is almost over, and to me how much of joy it has brought.

Ned has just left me. He says I am constant in praises of Plymouth. He does not understand it, for are there not people here? and then adds soberly, "Susie, dear, was it not of yourself you were weary? It was not the people in the world, its pride or fashion, tho' we understand to some extent I believe what these mean, you were so anxious to run away from, but your inner self."

"Oh, Ned," I said, "you read too truly. But now——"

"Yes, now the radiancy of life has returned. Love,—human love, is the highest attribute, the dearest gift of life. But when that is denied we can live, we can work, not for ourselves alone dear, but for the many—the world around us. That was what John was trying hard to do, when he believed you false, and I think he will do it no less now he knows the truth. Good-night."

And from that day on I have resolved to set self more and more aside; weak my first attempts may be, but they shall be made. I shall try no more to make a world wherein to be happy, but be happy in the world already made.

And here the journal ends, but not the life so truly, so nobly begun.

Truth, goodness, christian love, may be and is, just as active in one place as another, if the heart is only tuned aright, and July Fourth was not only the nation's birthday, but the day of birth for a new life with Susie Wilton.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

ROUND CORNERS.

She was sitting on the edge of the wood-box, rubbers on her trim little feet, and her skirts shortened with a stout elastic pige.

Chairs, boots, chip basket and other movable furniture and rubbish, that is apt to lumber the floor of a farm house kitchen, had been removed or elevated, before the thrifty little housewoman had commenced her brisk, thorough raid with mop and clean floor cloths.

Her task was finished, and perched on the wood-box, she waited to rest and let the freshly mopped boards dry past danger of tracking before replacing furniture and laying the dinner table.

The air of the wide, sunny kitchen was a bit steamy and sudsy, but delightful with its assurance of well mopped surface and wholesome, well turned corners.

The smooth yellow painted boards glistened as though painted with fresh coats of varnish. No grey seams left between the bricks of the broad hearth, no gurry or mop rag shreds hiding behind table and stove legs, no furry wads of dirt accumulations in the square, sharply turned corners that carelessness so quickly converts into swooping round corners whether that room be parlor or kitchen.

Aunt Lucy, an old neighbor, tip-toed across the entry floor so softly, that the little housewife perched on the wood-box, did not hear her approaching footsteps, and was surprised in tears.

"What! Carrie! Crying this beautiful, sunny March day! What is it, child?"

"Oh, Aunt Lucy!" she cried, starting up in confusion. "I did not mean for you or any one else to see these foolish tears, but—I was crying over my corners."

"Corners! Carrie, what do you mean?"

"Just look at them, auntie, don't they look wholesome! Not only the four corners of the room, but all the corners; by the dish cupboard, and safe and sink, and in the little square turned jogs where the door frames meet the floor. I have just wiped them all clear of dust and dirt, these and the mop board, just as mother taught us girls, not with a clumsy linty rag of the mop, but with a clean, moist floor cloth, and they are square turned corners, just as the carpenter left them, and not made round with accumulations of dirt. I was crying because I know they are the last square corners I shall see till next December."

"Why so, Carrie? Do you intend being slovenly?"

"No, Aunt Lucy, but the farm hands will commence the Spring's work next week, and when we board our men I must have help in my housework, and with so much extra cooking and washing to do, I cannot attend to my mopping, and these young girls are careless about it, and soon contrive to have my pretty kitchen finished with round corners. Why do not their mother's teach them how to do housework properly?"

This is just the question I also want to ask the mothers? Are you sufficiently painstaking with your girls? Are you teaching them how work should be done, whether that work be kitchen work, sewing, or any branch of housework?

From time to time we have hired girls to help us carry the work of our numerous household,—girls out of good American families, whose mothers, often, are excellent housekeepers, but the shadow, even, of their mantle has not fallen on their daughters. To all appearance, they have wholly neglected teaching and training their girls in housewifery skill, neatness or thrift. And because of this inexcusable neglect, the families who employ them must bear with "round corners," unless these daughters will consent to learn away from their home, how to do things "decently and in order."

Experience leads us to think that very many of the young American girls who "work out," are teachable and ambitious to learn right ways of doing work, but pride compels them to hide their chagrin over ignorance and blunders committed, under the cloak of an "I don't care" spirit, though the cloak is only skin deep.

But when a self-willed woman of thirty or forty years, persists in washing silver in strong suds, and pouring water over your knife handles, and in spite of remonstrance and expostulation, will put your milk pans away unscalded and half dried, there is no hope for her. She and "round corners" will walk to the grave together.

Only yesterday, a bright, pretty girl of eighteen years spent the day with us. A girl with a neat, trim figure, and stylishly, even daintily dressed, and from a home where thrift and good housekeeping are not strangers. Yet, after the noon meal, when she insisted on helping with the dishes, she clattered the dinner plates into a heap, just as they were, covered with grease, and crumbs and scraps, which a five year old child ought to know should be scraped into the refuse pan, at the commencement of clearing the table, and popped them into my dish pan of hot, clean water. The consequence you can guess. Up to the surface came floating a thick, greasy scum, dotted with bobbing crusts, and rinds and peelings—a dreadful mess, not fit to wash even dripping pans and kettles, yet the silver forks and spoons were washed (!) in it.

If girls were taught, and required at home to do housework properly, why is it in an employer's home, they will scrabble the table silver into the dishpan along with butcher and chopping knives, empty dust pans of floor sweepings into the chip basket, or flirt it out of sight behind the wood box, scrape iron dinner pots with their finger nails, and leave their dish cloths in a wet, grimy, twisted wad behind the water pail?

If mothers did not shamefully neglect the housewifery training of their daughters, would they, when they go away from their homes, commit such offenses?

HELEN AYRE.

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"H. M. J." advises mothers to use magnesia, powdered through a fine bag, for heat eruptions or chafe, as it does not cake as other powders do.

FOR BROKEN BREASTS:—Double handful nice hops, two teacups water, one teacup of fresh lard or butter. Stew until water evaporates. Squeeze the grease thoroughly from the sack of hops. Use the ointment while hot. Rub as briskly as possible, and keep a flannel wet with the ointment over the inflamed parts. DOC'S WIFE.

EDITOR JOURNAL:—I wish to add my testimony to the worth of Horlick's food, as mentioned by a friend in the "mother's corner" some time ago. When my baby was born she was a plump little thing, but I was unable to nurse her, and several foods were tried for her. When two weeks old an ulcer came in one of her eyes, which reduced her strength quickly. The doctor said unless her strength was increased she could not live. My druggist recommended Horlick's food, which I tried, and found it agreed with her. From that time to this she has had nothing but the food mixed with one cow's milk, and in spite of living in a dark room six months, she is healthy and strong, is eighteen months old, weight 29¾ lbs., has twelve teeth and one eye tooth almost through, and, as the saying is, is as happy as the day is long.

For the benefit of those mothers who do not seem to know whether to cuddle their babies or to put them to bed awake, I would say, I let my little one run around and play in the evening until she appears tired, when I take her in my lap, undress her, *cuddle* her and kiss her, and presto! she is asleep, when I lay her in her crib beside my bed, and although some night she tosses round considerable, she rarely wakes until daylight.

MRS. H.

ED. LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I find many things in the L. H. J. to admire, and many sage suggestions. But in the JOURNAL for September are some notes from "Thorny Poppy" about the treatment of children, diet, etc., that are set so far out of line with the teachings of our best writers on Hygiene, as well as "14 years with five children," that I am tempted to say a word myself, even if I am a stranger.

Her point against "castor oil, cordials, soothing syrups," etc., is well taken, but when she speaks of the *coffee* and *butter*, and "a good deal of cream and sugar added," I am reminded of something somebody said—was it Gen. Grant?—about straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel. *Doctoring* and *dosing* children is unnecessary and often hurtful, but I submit that "catnip tea" is less hurtful than the "coffee" which is not "bad for the bowels," according to Thorny Poppy, but by such eminent authors as the great physiologist and phrenologist, O. S. Fowler, *is* bad for the bowels. I *know* a person (adult) for whose bowels it is bad. Fifteen years ago *one* cup of coffee for supper would cause diarrhœa with tenesmus by four o'clock next morning. *To-day* it would produce constipation, and render a purgative indispensable.

This "butter," "sugar," and sweet things thickens the already very thick blood corpuscles, and makes the child more liable to take any prevailing disorder. If, as our sister says, nature starts them right, and her dietary is good, and just the thing, what locks the liver and renders necessary "something that will change the secretions and rouse the liver to action." What say our *best* modern authors? Purgatives cause constipation, on the same principle that "the horrors" follow swift on the heels of the "hilarious spree."

Infants need little or no medicine. A proper regard to diet is generally sufficient. Of all things they should not be permitted to eat much of is *grease*, GREASE; whether as butter or *meat*. Those "two or three ripe apples" that gave Mr. Poppy a "severe attack of *bilious* colic," were they eaten *just before*, *during*, or *just after* a meal? As a rule children require no other or better liver regulator than ripe fruit, if *grease*, indigestible *grease*, and the other etceteras are kept away. For example: Rice contains 95 per cent of nutriment, and the fattest bacon only about 85 per cent, and yet a bed-ridden invalid can eat rice, but who would give them *bacon*? Why is this? No wonder grease and bacon "stay with us," "stick to the ribs," as the phrase is. They must *stay* if ever digested. After all, it depends much on temperament and heredity what food is wholesome and best for us and our children. "One's meat's another's poison."

Now I expect this will raise the battle cry against me, for "Poppy" is immensely in earnest, and has the courage of her convictions. But I think she is *candid*, in seeking light, and in favor of fair play, and will not regard this as a criticism. If we are honest and in earnest we will welcome the truth, tho' it get in the way of some of our pet "notions."

BELL.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

PICKING.

I know of no better term to designate the thousand and one out-croppings of petty jealousies that sometimes exists between children of the same family;—a mischievous jealousy that shows its green head in the way of hectoring, nagging disputes, and nettling exultations, usually strongest between any two of the children whose ages are nearest.

"Eh! I know something you don't!" In childhood, many of us grew familiar with this phrase, and some of us who now have active, young broods of our own, are renewing acquaintance with the hateful, old expression with its upward, exasperating inflection and implied, tantalizing secrets.

I wonder if there are households beside my own in which the spirit of teasing mischief seems to reign in the hearts of the little folks during some hours of long shut-in days, and the mother's patience and tact is tried to the uttermost in trying to overcome the inclinations for such mischievous fun as plaguing.

Mothers are more apt to speak and write of the lovable traits of their children, than of their trying, hateful ways; but is it not wisdom to frankly admit the latter and by exchange of thought, learn from those with richer experience and greater tact how to uproot from the little hearts the proneness to dispute and tease?

Children should never be allowed to hector and dispute each other.

Very easy it is to write and read this statement, but I do not find it so easy stamping out among my little flock the inclination, long, stormy, tiresome winter days, to "plague" each other.

"How beautifully your children get along together, Helen! I believe they never quarrel!"

Yes, honor true, this has been said to me;—not often, but once, sure, and I wish the types could put it in red ink, so all the sisters would be sure to see it, for my laurels as a disciplinarian are not many.

Out doors, in the sunshine, or out of doors anywhere, our little folks have few if any differences, but trot together from one play to another, happy and sunshiny faced and voiced all day long, but its not always so, when snow drifts bank the window ledges, and the mercury runs down into the twenties, for that means indoor unoccupied life for them.

Such days, when every amusement has been exhusted and peevish *ennui* sways their wills, nothing is too trifling over which for them to "pick a fuss," and nothing they seem to relish so well as to pick it and engage in brisk, sharp disputes that unless promptly quelled is sure to end in angry sobs.

"And you allow such disturbances in your nursery! Oh! John's Wife I am astonished!"

No, dear, chiding sister, I do not, "but," as a good woman once wrote, "I don't allow, I simply tolerate till I can put my foot on the thing that destroys household peace."

And now I come to you, asking your happiest and quickest way to put your foot on all hectoring, nagging and disputing among your little people.

When I have leisure and am rested, it is not hard. Simply start them on some new tack of amusement or gather them round my rocker and with the help of a pictured story, tell them some interesting, tender tale, calling frequent attention to the picture, and with their little heads bent together over the page, the spirit of tormenting mischief and retaliation flies away, and they listen thoughtfully to the pathetic happenings that are sure to fall to the little child in the story who is unkind to his little playmate.

Occupation is a panacea for childish troubles as well as for our own.

But in hurried hours, when the work drives and there is no time for stories or new plays, I have learned the quickest and happiest way for me to snuff out wrangling, is to promptly banish the child who "began it," into another room, there to remain till he promises he will be good.

Solitary confinement takes all the back bone out of the stubborn will and pertness, and it is not long before a crack creaks open in the doorway and a shamed, supple willed little child creeps out, saying, "I'll be good, mamma. I promise I'll be good."

Sometimes, when no second room is warmed and it would be imprudent to send a child from the fire, I squelch budding quarrels by forbidding the little, bristling, would be disputants from speaking, either aloud or in whispers, and as a dispute cannot very well be carried on without words, either spoken or written, the enforced silence quickly snuffs out any threatening insurrection.

But it is the *love* of hectoring and disputing that I find hardest to uproot.

How can it be done?

JOHN'S WIFE.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

ANOTHER MOTHER'S VIEW.

BY MRS. CLARA D. ARMSTRONG.

I am a subscriber and an appreciative reader of your valuable paper, and especially do I enjoy the Mother's Department. I feel I must "speak out in meeting" since reading Mrs. Emma C. Hewitt's article in regard to the religious training (or rather neglect of training) of children. I imagine it is a "make up" story, as the children say, to merely advance a theory. If true, I fear that mothers will regret her plan of neglecting to "train her children in the way they should go."

I admit there is danger of going too far in this as in other matters. Does this mother overlook all rudeness and fault in her child to wait until it is old enough to understand? Does she withhold her kisses and love from it, and not expect love in return for fear it will become irksome to the child? She says the children in her home often made "light" or fun of prayer, etc. Has she never heard the little rebellious tongues saying "I don't love mamma cause she don't love me," or, "I'm doin' off to find anodder mamma," etc., etc. Will a loving and conscientious mother let these words go unreproved for fear her love will become irksome to the child, and it will not reverence her? No, no, she hastens to undo these words and cause the little heart to repent. She says at home they were forced to say certain words of thanks at the table, and when they felt in a rebellious mood the words were jerked out ungratefully. This was natural. We should never force a prayer from a child any more than we should force that child to kiss us and say that it loved us when we could see rebellion in its heart. Just so it should be in teaching it of Jesus. Make his love ever bright and attractive to the child, never irksome, and God will take care of the result. I am the mother of six children, two have been "called home;" oh! how I should chide myself had I allowed Claribel and Marguerite to have gone there without a knowledge of and dependance on God the Father, and Jesus their Saviour. When people said to Claribel, seven years old, a few hours before her death, "Claribel, aren't you Jesus' child and don't you love Him?" What a thrill of joy and peace was in my heart when her face lighted up as she answered, "Yes, papa, yes, papa!" Did we then regret teaching her of Him she was so soon to see? Ask our little boy, four years old, what he expects to do first on reaching heaven, "I'm going to find Jesus first and kiss Him, and then my little sisters, and we will run all 'round heaven's pretty streets." One little example of what teaching will do and I am through. A few days ago, as aunt Jeanie and I alighted from the carriage after a tiresome shopping expedition, Edith and Bethine (seven and a-half years) met us at the gate, their little faces beaming and aglow with a project, both talking at once and holding fast to a book which we saw was the Bible.

Mamma soon called the meeting to order, and had one speak at a time. A glance in our neighbor's yard revealed confusion there also. The father, who is proprietor of a saloon, and mother were out, and their little ones talking quite as excitedly as our own. We quietly drew the little ones in and had an explanation. Our little ones had delivered a prohibition speech to the neighbor children, and wound up with "Oh Myrtle, won't you and your little sister beg your papa to quit selling that mean whiskey? Don't you know it causes the papa's to get drunk, and go home and beat the mammas, and put their little children on hot stoves, etc? Besides, Myrtle, God's book says no drunkard shall 'enter into the Kingdom of Heaven,' and it is as bad for him to sell it to them to drink as for them to drink it, and he won't 'enter into the Kingdom.' I'll go and get the Bible and read it to you." Myrtle solemnly promised to beg her papa to quit, and from appearances we suppose she would. The Book says "a little child shall lead them." How could a child lead without its first being taught the way? add who is the best one to teach it but mother? Does that mother fear to teach her child of Santa Claus? I often wonder why parents should make a hero of Santa instead of Jesus, when in a few years the story is dispelled and such sad disappointment follows, while the story of Jesus' love, coming, and good gifts is true, and becomes a part of our own lives, and a joy at thought of realization.

That mother when asked by her father, "Have you drawn away from all godly influence?" answered, "No, I am as good a church woman as I ever was." That may be, but is she a true christian, leaning upon Jesus, day by day, asking His guidance, upon her knees? Her words impress me with the thought, that the task had become irksome to her, and the evil one, ever ready to make excuses for own failings, had suggested own this dangerous theory.

[By way of note we would say that every instance related in the article referred to, is true to life, and not a mere figment of the imagination "invented to sustain a theory." It is from these, and such as these, met with in the course of a long experience, that the theory has been evolved. In regard to another matter, I can truthfully and thankfully say, that I have never even *overheard* my children make such remarks of their mother, (or of any one else whom they loved and *respected*) as those above quoted; nor can I even imagine it possible that a child, not absolutely vicious by nature, taught from infancy by daily experience to *love* and *respect* its parents, (so many parents lose sight of the latter necessity in child training) should even *think* such things.—ED.]

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

WHY?

"Why?" asks the child, "*Why* is it right?" "Because I say so," answers the mother. All wrong, mother; nothing in the world was ever right *because you said so*. You are making an untrue statement, and laying up trouble for yourself in the future at the same time.

"Children should accept the dictum of their parents, unquestioning."

But *do* they? *That* is the question.

Your child comes into the world without any preconceived notion of the kind of world it is, or the kind of people with whom his lot has been cast. Everying must be tested by him (you among the rest) from the time he begins to use his first reasoning powers, and while it would be more convenient, for a period, that our troubles should not be increased by our being obliged to answer questions about every little thing continually, don't you know that it is this very thing that builds up in the *boy* the *judgment* of the man? If you simply say to a boy "Don't do that." "Why?" "Because I say so," you give him a rule for that particular occasion but nothing that can be of any service to him at any future time.

Remember, that the majority of children are sharp-witted and clear-seeing, and if you want them to be of real, solid, use to you, give them *reasons* for their actions, so that they may act from *reason* and *principle*, and not from blind obedience to another's will. There come plenty of times, even in a child's life, when neither parent is at hand to guide or command. If such children have been accustomed to blind obedience, they have no fund of judgment on which to draw, and are utterly at a loss how to act.

The relation between parent and child should be that between a loving counsellor and one seeking knowledge—not that existing between master and slave. Children only gain such knowledge as they *seek*, and their ever expanding brains are constantly seeking wherewith to be filled.

Remember, too, that until they have *proved* your infallibility, until they have questioned within themselves or aloud, as to the motives of your actions, they are not *sure* that you always have a good reason.

If you have proved to your child that you are never arbitrary in your decisions, orders, or instructions, he will learn to trust you blindly, while *proving* the rest of the world.

If you say to a child so brought up, "Do thus or so," he will not question. He *knows* by experience that you are right, he knows it not so much from the *result*, as from the fact that he has learned a lesson from putting *reason* and *result* together.

Be careful to avoid giving orders for which you have no particular reason beyond the caprice of the moment, when that order affects your child's comfort.

Your children will judge of you as men and women, and their respect is naturally much lessened for a parent who has no other reason than "because I say so," (even if they be your own offspring) and woe to the parent who proves an autocrat instead of a loving counsellor.

If you say "Don't go out this morning, Henry," "Why, mother?" "Because I say so." To-morrow, and each succeeding day, you will be tried with the same question. "Say, mother, can't I go out *this morning* right after breakfast?" until *your patience* is exhausted, and your son's temper and sullenness, if he possess those qualities, are aroused. But if you say to him in answer to "Why?" "Because, at this season of the year the dew is very heavy, and you will get your feet very wet. After ten o'clock the sun will have dried it all off, and then you can go out every day." The matter is settled, the child is satisfied, and he knows without further question as each "to-day" turns up, that he is *not* to go out till ten o'clock *because* the grass is not sufficiently dry.

Do your best to inculcate reason and principle, and don't be too tired, or too cross, or too dignified to answer a respectful "why."

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

"Mrs. John Pace" requests directions for making a quilt called the "Tree of Liberty."

Can any one send directions of Insertion to match Fluted Lace with edge, given in January No., 1886?

INTERESTED SUBSCRIBERS will find plainer directions for pineapple edge in July number of JOURNAL.

"Ida Sloan" can finish her lambrequin with a chenille cord, or pretty fringe, either of chenille or silk. M. F. K.

Will any of the lady readers send directions of Crochet Oriental Lace? Also how to make a feather edge cap for child two years old.

Will some subscriber to the JOURNAL give directions for knitting lady's mitt, with fancy back, giving number of needles and silk used?

Numerous subscribers:—The stars in Palm Leaf Welch Lace pattern mean to repeat what is written between the stars, as many times as the directions tell you.—ED.

Putting thread over the needle makes 1 stitch, putting thread over the needle twice makes 2 stitches. Hope the above is plain to "Mrs. C. B. N.," the meaning of "make 2."

Any one having correct directions for ladies' knitted underwear, either separate or combined, will confer a great favor to many subscribers, by sending them to the editor of L. H. J.

"S. G." can procure stamped hat bands at reasonable rates, by sending to Partridge & Richardson, 17 and 19 North Eighth St., Philadelphia, Pa., who keep a full supply of fancy work articles.

"Adele H. Randolph."—We will be grateful for any directions of fancy work you please to send.

Have had both Tunisian Lace and Insertion in the L. H. J. The directions for lace are in the Oct. No., 1885. MARY.

Brainerd & Armstrong's knitting silk 300 is the right number for knitting lace. In selecting patterns, avoid those with sharply defined points at the edge, as they are apt to curl up. Scalloped edges with round or shell shaped outline suit best. —ED.

If "Mrs. J. White" will take double E, (EE) or F, of Brainerd & Armstrong's twist, and crochet in Afghan stitch, a watch guard 4 stitches wide, (wider if desired) I think she will find it satisfactory. It will wear about one year. Directions for knitting Afghan stitch are in the JOURNAL of March 1886. JENNY WALLIS.

Grandmother's Edging.

15 stitches.

1st row. Kn 2, over twice, purl 2 together, kn 7, over, narrow, kn 2.

2d row. Purl all but 4 stitches, over, purl 2 tog, kn 2. All even rows same as 2d.

3d row. Kn 2, over twice purl 2 tog, kn 3, narrow, kn 2, over, narrow, over, narrow.

5th row. Knit 2, over twice, purl 2 tog, kn 2, narrow, kn 2, over, narrow, kn 2.

7th row. Kn 2, over twice, purl 2 tog, kn 1, narrow, kn 2, over, narrow, over, narrow.

9th row. Kn 2, over twice, purl 2 tog, narrow, kn 2, over, kn 1, over, kn 3.

11th row. Kn 2, over twice, purl 2 tog, narrow, kn 1, over, kn 3, over, kn 1, over, narrow.

13th row. Kn 2, over twice, purl 2 tog, narrow, over, kn 5, over, kn 3.

4th, 6th, 8th, 10th, 12th and 14th rows are all like 2d.

When thread is put over twice before purling, the effect is only one loop over the needle, if the previous stitch is kn plain, as in the fagotting above.

Kn means knit.

JENNY WALLIS.

Apple Leaf Tidy.

Allow 20 stitches for each pattern, and 6 extra stitches for edges, (3 plain at beginning, and 3 at ending,) knit across plain before commencing the pattern. 86 is a good number, providing the yarn is coarse, and a wide border is used.

1st row. Seam 1, narrow, knit 3, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 1, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 3, narrow; repeat from edge.

2d row, and every alternate row, purl across.

3d row. Seam 1, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 3, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 2, narrow; repeat.

5th row. Seam 1, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 5, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow; repeat.

7th row. Seam 1, narrow, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 7, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, narrow; repeat.

9th row. Narrow, *over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 9, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 3 tog, repeat from * until the 4th from the end, then over, knit 1.

11th row. Knit 1, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 3, narrow, seam 1, narrow, knit 3, over, narrow, over, narrow, over; repeat, and then knit 1.

13th row. Knit 2, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 2, narrow, seam 1, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 1; repeat, and narrow in the place of knitting 1 at the end.

15th row. Knit 3, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow, seam 1, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 2; repeat.

17th row. Knit 4, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, narrow, seam 1, narrow, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 3; repeat.

19th row. Knit 5, over, narrow, over, narrow over, knit 3 together, over, narrow, over, narrow over, knit 4; repeat.

Use 50 spool cotton, and No. 16 or 17 needles.

BOX 144, CARRBON, MAINE. E. GRAY.

Handsome Crochet Edge.

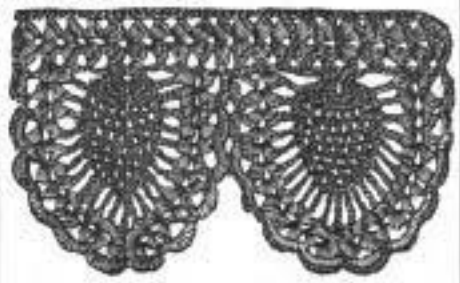
So many of our subscribers having had difficulty in working the pineapple edge from Feb. No. of L. H. J., we print what we hope will prove to be very explicit directions of that pattern in this number. And right here let me say we cannot furnish new subscribers with directions for edgings that have already appeared in our columns. Should they wish them no farther back than January, 1886, on receipt of five cents in stamps we will mail you the number you desire. But we cannot supply you with copies previous to that date.—ED.

Make a chain of 6 stitches.

1st row. Miss 4, 3 d c in 5th loop, ch 2, 3 d c in same 5th loop; this forms a shell, 1 d c in last stitch of chain; turn.

2d row. Ch 3, shell in shell, 1 d c in loop at end of first row; turn.

3d row. Ch 3, shell in shell, 1 d c in loop at end of 2d row; turn.



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

Repeat 2d row 'til you have a strip of 10 shells. Under this strip a scallop is to be worked with the pineapple in the centre. This begins on the 11th row.

11th row. Ch 1, miss 2 shells, make a shell under the ch 3, which is between the 8th and 9th shells in strip, ch 4, miss 3 shells in strip, make a shell, under ch 3, between 5th and 6th shells in strip, ch 4, make a shell under ch 3, between 2d and 3d shells in strip; chain 5, fasten with s c in last loop of strip; turn. There are now 3 shells along the edge of strip of 10 shells. A row of shells is to be worked in the 1st and 3d of these shells, while the middle one forms the foundation for the pineapple.

12th row. 10 s c under the ch 5, ch 1, shell in shell, ch 4, 10 d c under ch 2 in 2d shell, ch 4, shell in shell, ch 5, fasten with s c in ch 1 of preceding row; turn.

13th row. Work along the ch 5 in slip stitch, to the 1st shell, ch 1, shell in shell, ch 4, 1 s c between 1st and 2d d c, ch 2, 1 s c between 2d and 3d d c, and so on through the 10 d c's, ch 4, shell in shell, ch 5, fasten with s c in ch 1 of 12th row; turn.

14th row. 10 d c under ch 5, ch 1, shell in shell, ch 3, 1 s c under 1st 2 ch *ch 2, 1 s c under next ch 2; repeat from * until there are 8 s c, ch 3, shell in shell, ch 5, 1 s c under ch 1 in 13th row; turn.

15th row. Work along the ch 5 in slip stitch, ch 1, shell in shell, ch 3, 1 s c under 1st ch 2, *ch 3, 1 s c under next ch 2; repeat from * until there are 7 s c, ch 3, shell in shell, ch 5, fasten in ch 1, in 14th row; turn.

16th row. Like 14th row, except there are only 6 s c in pineapple instead of 8.

17th row. Like 15th row, but 5 s c instead of 7.

18th row. Like 16th row, but 4 s c.

19th row. Like 17th, but 3 s c.

20th row. 10 s c under ch 5, ch 1, shell in shell, ch 3, 1 s c under 1st ch 2, ch 2, 1 s c under next ch 2, ch 3, shell in shell, ch 5, 1 s c under ch 1; turn.

21st row. Work along the ch 5 in slip stitch, ch 1, shell in shell, thread twice round the needle, put the needle between the 2 s c at end of pineapple, thread over draw it through two loops, thread over draw it through two loops, thread over draw it through two loops, shell in shell, ch 5, fasten with s c in ch 1 of last row; turn.

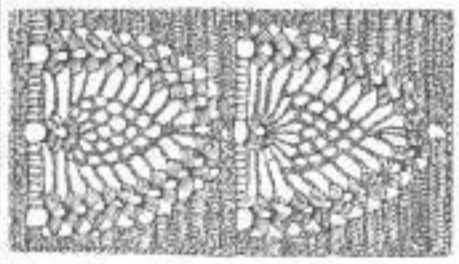
22d row. 10 d c under ch 5, fold the whole pineapple together lengthwise, so the 2 end shells lie against each other; put the needle through the centre of both shells, and join with 1 s c; open out your work, ch 5, fasten with 1 s c in ch 1 of last row; turn.

23d row. Work along ch 5 in slip stitch, then turn, and put 10 single crochet in large loop, 1 slip stitch in ch 1, and so on till you have filled in the 6 loops, ch 1, shell in shell, join with s c at end or row; turn, and continue as at first, until you have 10 shells, when you start the 24 scallop by repeating from the 11th row. The first 4 loops on the edge of each scallop are to be joined in the working to the last 4 loops of the previous scallop, by working 5 s c, then taking the needle out, putting it through the middle s c of previous scallop, drawing the loop through, and finishing the 10 s c as usual. Slip stitch is to put your needle in each of the 5 stitches, thread over the needle, and draw it through the stitch on the needle.

Pineapple Insertion.

1st row. Make a chain of thirty-two stitches, turn, make double crochet into each stitch of chain, commencing with fourth stitch from the needle, thus making a double chain of twenty-eight stitches; turn.

2d row. Ch 4, d c in next 2 stitches, ch 2, d c in 3d stitch from needle, d c in next 7 stitches, ch 2, d c in 3d stitch from needle, d c in next 7 stitches, ch 2, d c in 3d stitch from needle, d c in last 2 stitches; turn.



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

3d row. Ch 4, d c in 1st stitch of 2d row, d c 3 times in ch 2 of preceding row, ch 2, d c again 3 times in same loop, which forms a shell, ch 6, make a shell in next loop, ch 6, shell in next loop, d c 2 times the 1st stitch in second stitch from shell; turn.

4th row. Ch 4, d c once, ch 1, shell in shell, ch 4, d c 8 times with 2 ch between each d c, in the middle shell, ch 4, shell in shell, ch 1, d c twice; turn.

5th row. Ch 4, d c once, ch 1, shell in shell, ch 4, s c in first loop of 8 d c, ch 4, s c in next loop, and so on till the last, ch 4, shell in shell, ch 1, d c twice; turn.

6th row. Ch 4, d c twice, the second stitch in ch 1 of preceding row, ch 1, shell, ch 4, go across as before, ch 4, shell, ch 1, 3 d c.

7th row. Ch 4, 3 d c, ch 1, shell, ch 4, go across as before, ch, 4, shell, ch 1, 4 d c.

8th row. Ch 4, 3 d c, ch 1, shell, ch 4, go across as before, ch 4, shell, ch 1, 4 d c.

9th row. Ch 4, 5 d c, the 4th and 5th stitches being in 1 ch of preceding row, ch 1, shell, ch 4, go across as before, ch 4, shell, ch 1, 6 d c, the 1st and 2d stitches in 1 ch of 8th row.

10th row. Ch 4, 7 d c, ch 1, shell, ch 4, go across as before, ch 4, shell, ch 1, 8 d c.

11th row. Ch 4, 9 d c, ch 1, shell, ch 4, fasten, ch 4, shell, ch 1, 10 d c.

12th row. Ch 4, 11 d c, ch 1, shell, ch 4, fasten, ch 4, make only half of the next shell, then fasten it to the last shell made, make the other half of shell, ch 1, 12 d c.

13th row. Ch 4, 11 d c, 2 d c in first two stitches of first shell, 2 d c in last two stitches of next shell, then 12 d c, begin with 2d row.

MRS. CARRIE SMITH.

PERU, IOWA.

Terms in Crochet.

Ch—Chain, a straight series of loops, each drawn with the hook through the preceding one. Sl st—Slip stitch; put hook through the work, thread over the hook, draw it through the stitch on the hook. S c—Single Crochet; having a stitch on the needle (or hook) put the needle through the work, draw the thread through the work, and the stitch on the needle. D. C.—Double Crochet; having the stitch on the needle, put the needle through the work, and draw a stitch through, making two on the needle. Take up the thread again, and draw it through both these stitches. T c or Tr—Treble Crochet; having a stitch on the needle, take up the thread as if for a stitch, put the needle through the work, and draw the thread through, making three on the needle. Take up the thread and draw through two, then take up the thread and draw it through the two remaining. S t c—Short Treble Crochet; like treble, except that when the three stitches are on the needle, instead of drawing the thread through two stitches twice, it is drawn through all three at once. L t c—Long Treble Crochet; like treble, except that the thread is thrown twice over the needle before inserting the latter in the work. The stitches are worked off two at a time, as in treble. Extra Long Stitch—Twine the cotton three times round the needle, work as the treble stitch, bringing the cotton through two loops four times. P—or picot; made by working three chain, and one single crochet in first stitch of the chain.

Terms Used in Knitting.

K—Knit plain. P—Purl, or as it is sometimes called, Seam. N or K 2 tog—Narrow, by knitting 2 together. Over—Throw the thread over the needle before inserting it in the next stitch. This makes a loop which is always to be considered a stitch, in the succeeding rows, or rounds. Tw—Twist stitch. Insert the needle in the back of the stitch to be knitted, and knit as usual. Sl—Slip a stitch from the left hand to the right hand needle without knitting it. Sl and B—Slip and bind—slip one stitch, knit the next; pass the slipped one over it, exactly as in binding off a piece of work at the end. * indicates a repetition, and is used merely to save words. "sl 1, k 1, p 1, repeat from * 3 times"—would be equivalent to saying sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1. Tog means together.

Crazy Rugs.

Perhaps some one will like my way of making rugs. I use coffee bags, or feed bags; cut them the size wanted, turn the edge and hem; crochet hook about the size of a pen holder, bone or steel; material, gay colored worsted yarn, rags, old stockings, anything with color. Push the hook through the foundation, bring up the yarn in loop, repeat until hook is full, then slip off; repeat until finished, then cut the loops, shear them, and line the rug. For crazy patterns, I put the materials in irregular patches, any shape my fancy takes. Have one with bars across each end, of solid color, crazy centre, also make flowers, leaves, initials, etc., by chalking them on the mat, run with needle and thread, then fill with colors appropriate. These mats look like plush, when sheared, and wear well. Some one try, and report. It is fascinating work. For any puzzled sister sending address and 6 penny stamps I will make a piece and fully describe it. Wish other sisters would make the same offer, when describing anything. I often want to know more.

G. R. P.

BOX 1300, NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.

Child's Crochet Collar.

Use No. 30 thread, chain 163 stitches, then turn, and into every 4th st make 3 d c, separated by 3 ch. Turn, ch 4, make another row like this, except you put the 3 d c in the 3 ch. 3d row like 1st and 2d, only put 4 d c in the 3 ch. Make 12 or 15 more rows same way, and finish the edge with a scallop of 8 d c, and on the edge of that, put an edge by 3 ch put in every 2d st, and fastened with s c. To finish the neck, tie your thread at one corner, ch 9, and put *treble crochet* into same stitch you put 3 d c, ch 3, and t c again, and so on across; turn, and 5 d c in every second space. Run a ribbon in the row of t c.

AUGUST FLOWER.

Gent's Shaving Paper Case.

Take a piece of felt 13 inches long, and 8½ inches wide, pink it all round, and work a pretty design on it. Take a piece of wire the width of felt, and sew it on the under side 2 inches and a half from the top. Then get about 75 sheets (or less) of soft paper, 8½ by 4½, with holes punched on each side of top, and tie it on the wire. Hang by a cord or ribbon. This is both pretty and useful. JACK.

Seat and Back-Rest for a Garden Chair.

Can be worked on strong material. The design is worked in coarse, colored wools on horse girthing, which can be procured in various colors at any saddlers. These strips of girthing, when worked, are to be joined together firmly, and worked over each other with herring-bone stitch.

DON LUCAS.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Our new and enlarged Stamping Outfit, which we have heretofore offered for 12 subscribers, we have decided to offer during July and August, for only 8 subscribers and 25 cents extra to pay postage and packing in neat pasteboard case. Remember that, until September 1st, only, subscribers will be received at 25 cents per year. Get up your club now—at present low price.

EUREKA SILK CO., Boston, Mass.

A full assortment of above, as well as the celebrated Eureka Knitting Silks, Filo Floss, and Wash Etching Silks, all of which are Pure Dye and fast colors. For sale by all leading dealers.

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G. L. ANDROUS,

265 Sixth Ave., Cor. 17th Street, New York.

Our Factory Ends of Embroidery Silk are known far and wide, and are in great demand. Sometimes we run entirely out, but now we have a fresh lot of good colors. Price, 40 cents per box. Club orders of ten boxes get one extra. Crazy Stitches in each package. Send Postal Note or Stamps to THE BRAINERD & ARMSTRONG SPOOL SILK CO., 621 Market St., Philadelphia, Pa., or 469 Broadway, N. Y.

SEND YOUR NAME and the name of your friend to T. E. PARKER, Lynn, Mass., for his book on Fancy Work. He gives it away. Kensington Floss, 25 cts. a dozen.

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Makes Rugs, Tidies, Hoods, Mittens, etc., with ease and rapidity. Price, only one dollar, single machine, with full directions, sent by mail on receipt of price. Agents wanted. Apply for circulars to E. ROSS & CO., Patentees and Sole Manufactures, Toledo, O.; Box 184. Also, Manufacturers of Rug Patterns. Beware of infringement.

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MRS. T. G. FARNHAM,

10 West 14th Street, New York.

(Mention Stamping Design.)

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A FELT TIDY ;

And Imported Embroidery Silk to work it, for 20c.

Florence "Waste" Embroidery Silk, 5 cts per package.

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New Book, How to Use Fancy Work Materials, for 10c.

All in this advertisement for 42c. stamps. (Silk.)

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

BRUSH STUDIES AND HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

NEW SERIES—NO. VII.

BY LIDA AND M. J. CLARKSON.

Charcoal and Crayon Drawing, Materials and Methods in Use—Painted and Embroidered Discs for Decorative Work—Hints, Queries, etc.

(Copyright. All Rights Reserved.)

Charcoal may be used with such ease and rapidity as to recommend it to all students and art lovers. Of late, it has been adapted to decorative work, with pleasing results, but aside from this, as a preparation for painting in oil, or in colored crayon, it is invaluable. By its use, a freedom and skill may be attained, of very great advantage in every branch of art work.

The materials are few and inexpensive. An easel is quite indispensable, as the sketch should stand nearly upright, it being necessary to step away from it often, in order to form a correct opinion of it as a whole.

Many draw, or paint, upon a desk or table; a bad practice, as it is difficult to do good work in this way, besides the risk of injuring the eyes, there being much greater strain upon them than if the copy stood in an upright position. The best paper for charcoal drawing has neither too coarse nor too fine a grain. Lalaune's and Whatman's are both good, and a white or cream tint is generally preferred.

The paper is mounted upon a stretcher as for oil painting. If heavy, it may be simply tacked upon a frame, or stretcher, without backing. To do this it is laid flatly upon a table, right side down, after being dampened evenly with water, using a sponge, with care not to wet the right side, which would cause spots difficult to remove. While thus damp the stretcher may be laid upon it, and the edges tacked all around, stretching evenly and as firmly as possible. It is well to be expeditious in mounting the paper while damp, as it cannot be properly stretched when dry.

Sometimes it is necessary to back the drawing with cotton cloth, or muslin.

This is done by covering the frame with the cloth, tacking it on just as canvas is tacked upon the stretcher. Dampen as already described, and apply flour paste, or starch, not over the whole back of paper, but around the edges only, pressing smoothly and lapping neatly over the frame. In order to do this successfully, it may be necessary to clip out a point at each corner, so that it will fold neatly. As these instructions apply equally as well to pastel sketches, it may be well to note them carefully.

For simple practice, and ordinary sketches, the paper may be merely tacked upon a drawing board, but for pictures, or for portraits, the above method of mounting is necessary.

The choice of charcoal, or crayon, is an important point. The French charcoal is conceded the best.

This comes in soft thick sticks for the general work, while for finishing and fine details, a harder kind, styled Venetian, or *petit fusain* is used.

The crayon pencils called *conte* are better, but more expensive than the charcoal; although the expense is trifling when compared with art material generally.

Crayon is also used in a powdered form called "sauce," which artists often prepare for themselves by rubbing the crayon against rough paper, but this is not advisable for amateur work. It should be fine and smooth that it may not scratch the paper or make hard lines.

Powdered charcoal may be had of any druggist, while the crayon sauce is sold by all dealers in art materials. In order to spread crayon or charcoal in powder, as well as to soften the drawing when the point is used, stumps are required, unless it be for very large surfaces, when a bit of chamois skin, or a soft woolen rag may be used to better advantage. In fact great license is allowed as to method. The student should experiment with material until he finds that best adapted to his own use.

Stumps are made of leather, cork, paper, etc. The best are paper, pointed at each end, and it is advisable to have a number, so that a clean one may always be at hand. Beside the paper stumps, a rubber eraser is necessary, while bread is quite indispensable, as with it effects may be had, quite impossible to obtain in any other way.

It is rolled to a point between the fingers and used also as an eraser.

Stale bread is best, and it should be entirely free from any oily ingredient, which would grease the paper, such as lard, butter, or even milk.

To use bread successfully requires practice; but when once the management of it is understood, very beautiful effects may be had, in lights, half tints, etc.

The outfit is completed by a bottle of fixatif and an atomizer, or the latter may be dispensed with, and the fixatif applied to the back of the drawing with a flat brush. This is a method often preferred to spraying the face of the drawing, which is apt to destroy the soft, velvety appearance so much admired in crayon, and charcoal sketches. Milk applied in the same manner will answer, but not as well as the fixatif. If the latter cannot be had, it may be prepared by dissolving white gum lac in alcohol, the proportion being about two thirds of an ounce of the lac, to a pint of the alcohol. In applying this preparation, place the drawing in a horizontal position and spread it on evenly, taking care not too lay on too much, or it will penetrate the paper. It should be allowed to dry slowly.

It is all-important to fasten the drawing in this way, in order to give it permanence and solidity. If it is desirable to sketch out of doors, a camp stool and an umbrella, should be added to the outfit. An artist's sketching umbrella, fastened to a spiked stick, is a very useful, but an expensive article. An ordinary umbrella may be made to do duty with some such contrivance as the genius of husband, or brother may suggest. This is altogether indispensable to she out of door equipment, as a picture drawn in the sunshine, or the flickering shade of trees, will be found very unsatisfactory afterward. An even, steady light is a first consideration, either in doors or out. Having all necessary material, the method is the next consideration. The pupil naturally inquires:

[Engraved expressly for THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

PAINTED OR EMBROIDERED DISCS.

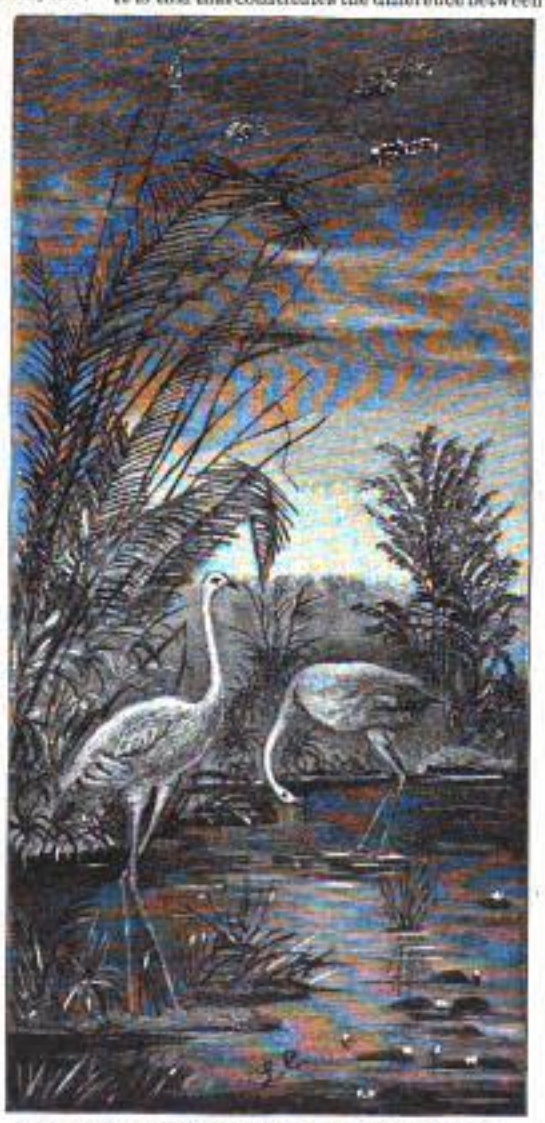
"How shall I begin?" "What is the best subject?"

This is not of so much consequence as that it be simple. Any of the various surrounding objects may be chosen, where it is purposed to work directly from life.

If a flat copy is preferred it may be sketched in outline off-hand, or a stamping pattern used, "pouncing the design," as the process is termed. This is simply to fill a thin muslin bag with the powdered charcoal, and rub over the perforations, which transfers the outlines to the paper. In March number of "Brush Studies" directions will be found of use now.

The subject should be viewed as a whole, and treated in this way, rather than in detail. The object of the student should be, not as so many erroneously suppose, to copy Nature, but to interpret her, to suggest, rather than to imitate.

It is this that constitutes the difference between



[Engraved expressly for THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

DECORATIVE PANEL—"FLAMINGOES."

the mere copyist, and the artist, a picture, and a copy.

A picture expresses something more than the outside of things. Nothing so degrades art as these literal *facsimiles* of nature, which are better suited to illustrate a botanical treatise, or a florist's catalogue, than to hang in the gallery, or studio.

Not that the importance of correct drawing is underestimated. The student should be able to portray form with accuracy, and this is an important feature of his training as a student, but when it comes to the composition of a picture, let there be soul as well as substance. Perhaps no branch of art work lends itself so readily to the composer, as charcoal, or pastel, which as to effect are one. They possess that charm of softness, and delicacy, which give scope for what the French would term the *spiritualle*, or at all events, these effects are more readily obtained by them than with oil, or water color; hence the fascination of the work to the amateur, and the avidity with which it is seized. Instruction in pastel has been promised, and will be given later, but this lesson is not without its teaching to those interested in that branch of art. He who can compose, or copy in charcoal, can easily take up the colored crayon, and do better work for having studied values faithfully, in black and white.

"What is meant by value?" some one asks. The artist would answer that value signified the comparative relation of tones regardless of color. Then the question naturally arises, "What is meant by tones, and what difference between tone and value?"

A picture is spoken of as brilliant in tone, or quiet in tone. This is a way of expressing an opinion of a picture as a whole. The prevailing tint is either bright or subdued. But when values are mentioned, it has reference to the difference in the tones, their comparative relation to one another. As for instance in the illustration of decorative panel here given, the value of the birds as seen against the foliage is lighter than the foliage, whilst the ferns and foliage are darker in value than the sky. This is an excellent subject for a charcoal or crayon sketch; and next month the scheme of color for both oil, and pastel, will be given, with manner of handling for both.

The pupil will do well to enlarge this sketch to about 37x13 inches, copying in charcoal. The gradation of light and shade may be well executed in delicate grays, lights taken out with the bread crumb, or in finer details with the rubber eraser; while for large spaces a soft rag may be used to better advantage than either.

The large masses of shadow are worked in at first with the soft charcoal, or with the crayon sauce, which may be spread on with the stump.

The half tints are covered with a softer and more delicate tint; the blending may be done with the stump, or with the finger, which is often used to advantage after practice.

Details are afterwards drawn with the pencil, or *conte* point. The pupil will be able to experiment more with charcoal, as there is not the disadvantage of wasting paint, or spoiling canvas, as in other work. The whole method may be briefly summed up as follows: Block out the masses of light and shade, broadly; the more simply the work is treated the better. Put in the deepest shadows heavily with the soft charcoal, or crayon. If too much is used, it may easily be removed with a soft rag, or piece of chamois. In the half tints it is more difficult to remedy this defect of too heavy shading, than to get it correctly at the first.

After the masses of shade are put in, the lights may be taken out with the bread crumb, or eraser, and finally, the details may be added with the sharpened point of charcoal, or crayon *conte*.

Some preliminary practice may be necessary before an attempt is made at landscape, or object drawing. A set of drawing cards will furnish useful copies. W. M. Hunt's advice to beginners is excellent. "Play with the charcoal as a child plays with slate and pencil. Scribble and scrawl until you get acquainted with it. Don't try to make nice pictures! Those can only grow out of good sketches, and you can't make those yet. When you have played long enough with the charcoal, and begin to wish to do something worth the while, try a sketch—not in *outlines*—beware of those for the present! but in *masses of light and shade*."

Our second illustration will prove of interest to workers with either brush, or needle, as the discs here shown may be ornamented in painting or embroidery.

As a decoration for table, or drapery scarfs, wall banners, lamp screens, cushions, and numerous other articles, they are both novel and attractive. A banner screen of delicate blue, with discs of either gold, or peach blossom satin, painted or embroidered, is very rich and elegant. The butterflies may be brightened with a little lustra, and if so, a few iridescent beads worked into the tufted silk fringe which fringes the banner, is a charming addition. For embroidery, the designs may be simply outlined in silk, the discs finished in gold thread; or the whole design may be filled in with the natural colors, as preferred.

Kensington stitch, or what is familiarly known as that, for any stitch taught at the South Kensington school, might with propriety be so styled, is suitable for all flower designs, as the natural colors may be blended thus very harmoniously, with an artistic regard to shading and form.

The stitches in embroidery will sometime be explained more fully as space permits.

HINTS AND QUERIES.

"M. C. A." informs us how she has ornamented her Queen Annne table, described in May number of JOURNAL.

"I covered the top with olive felt, and run in a blue, and an olive satin ribbon in the drapery, which is crocheted of common seine twine, only sixteen cents a skein. It took but little over two skeins. I procured a bottle of Japanese lacquer for 25c., and put on a coat. Next day I put on another, and it took but little. It is black and glossy, and looks well." This will answer "Mrs. S. A. G.s" query as to manner of finishing table. The ready mixed black for ebonizing may be had of most dealers in artists' supplies.

"Eleanore" does not state whether she wishes to paint her vases in design, or not, or whether she intends to do the work in mineral, or in oil colors. If she wishes to use the latter with enamel, for a tint alone, a delicate robin's egg blue will be very pretty for one, and a delicate peachy pink for the other vase. For the blue, use cobalt or Antwerp blue, silver white, black, and a trifle cadmium. For the pink, vermillion, white, a trifle madder lake, toned with ivory black. The request as to pottery decoration may be complied with at some future time.

"F. F."—The sketches you send are feathery clematis and geranium. The palette for clematis was given in an early number of "Brush Studies." That for geranium varies so much that we can hardly describe it at length. For a deep pink, madder lake, ivory black, yellow ochre, vermillion and white, with burnt sienna in the shadows, would be used. If a purplish tone is desired a little cobalt may be added. A very delicate salmon pink may be painted with madder lake, or rose madder, white, a little light cadmium, and a trifle black.

"Mrs. K. W." will find her queries as to green leaves fully answered in last No. of JOURNAL. Wild roses have also been fully described.

"Subscriber:"—The palette for morning glories in natural colors, for the pink flowers would be madder lake, white, a little light cadmium and ivory black. The white centres and stripes are painted with white, a trifle cadmium and madder lake. To paint the rich purple flowers, mauve may be used, with madder lake, white, and ivory black; or permanent blue, with madder lake, may take the place of mauve. In the shadows a little raw umber, and burnt sienna. The white flowers are painted at first a tone of gray with white, black, yellow ochre, and a trifle madder lake. The high lights are painted with crisp touches of white, and the least trifle madder lake. A little ochre and black may be used in the shading. By observing directions already given for red, pink and blue flowers, the different varieties may be painted without further detail.

"Mrs. C. L. F."—To paint orange blossoms, which are a creamy white, you will need for the local tint, white, yellow ochre, a trifle madder lake and cobalt, toned with ivory black. In the shadows use a little burnt sienna. The yellow stamens are painted with cadmium, white, a little yellow ochre and black. To paint a drop of dew, you will need to observe carefully its relation to your subject. If upon a red, or pink flower, for instance, being transparent it partakes of course of the color seen through it. It is necessary therefore, to give it the same tone made lighter and grayer, in fact a light gray, with a spot of brilliant high light in the centre. For a dew drop seen against red, or pink, or yellow flowers, you would use the same colors as for flowers, qualifying with more black and white, and studying carefully its relation to the flower.

Several queries stand over to be answered in our next.

Our premium this month, for one full subscription, or club of six, is a hand painted piece of velvet, or satin, suitable for decorative purposes, or "Brush Studies," back numbers, neatly bound, will be given for one full subscription.

We will also rent hand painted studies to subscribers to JOURNAL. Flowers, Fruit, Still Life, Landscapes, etc. The long panel "Flamingoes," 37x13 inches, now ready.

All studies are full size, and in color.

Address all letters or queries relating to this department to LIDA AND M. J. CLARKSON.
PLEASANT VALLEY, DUTCHESS CO., N. Y
Money Order Office, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

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Kensington Painting Outfit, $1.50. Lustra Painting Outfit, $3.00. **J. F. INGALLS, Lynn, Mass.**

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AND

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Receipts.—The fact that you receive the paper is a proof that we have received your remittance correctly. If you do not receive the paper promptly, write us that we may see that your address is correct.

Errors.—We make them; so does every one, and we will cheerfully correct them if you will write to us. Try to write us good-naturedly, but if you cannot, then write to us any way. Do not complain to any one else or let it pass. We want an early opportunity to make right any injustice that we may do.

NEW YORK OFFICE, 180 BROADWAY;

W. S. NILES, MANAGER.

Our New York Office is for the transaction of business with New York advertisers.
Subscribers should not address any letters to that office.

Philadelphia, July, 1886.

It is easier to run up a bill than a hill. And it is easier to run down a hill than a bill.

The husband may boast of "holding the reins," but it's generally the wife that says where the wagon is going.

Whenever you meet a woman who can tell you all about the weak points in her neighbors, you will find one who needs as much watching as an east wind.

Men always twit women with reading all the advertisements, even if they are not in need of anything.

"Not in need of anything!"

When does the time come when the head of a household is "not in need" of something! if not for her children, her house, or herself, at least for her husband!

Of such we say, wise women! to read the advertisements.

To such, whether going or sending, we say, go, or send without hesitation, to any establishment you may see advertised in our columns.

We strive to keep our advertising list free of fraud, and we carefully examine into the merits of each before we allow the name to enter our columns. By this means we are able to guarantee to our readers that the article which they need, shall be as represented.

Therefore we say again, go or send, as the case may be, feeling perfect confidence in the result.

Bernardin de St. Pierre, the great French writer, (the immortal St. Pierre of "Paul and Virginia" renown) in one of his most excellent works on nature, relates an anecdote of a certain tyrant, who obliged his subjects to fit a bed of certain dimensions. Of those who were too short, he had the legs stretched; of those who were too long, he had the legs amputated. For, meet the requirements of that bed they must.

It seems like a very ridiculous story if told for truth, does it not? But as a fable (or an allegory rather) it seems especially able.

The same process is going on daily, has been for centuries, will be for cycles, should the world last so long.

If we bear enmity toward a fellow being, impartial as we may be, justly as we may *desire* to judge him, do we not expand his failings and curtail his virtues, in order that he may better suit our ideas of what he is?

If we possess in another an ideal of goodness, do we not try our best to belittle his faults to ourselves, and enlarge his good qualities, in order that he may *exactly* fit the dimensions by which we have chosen him to be measured?

Virtue and vice have no actual standard of merit; people possess no intrinsic worth which every one will acknowledge.

Each one measures and weighs his kind by what they are worth to him, individually, and, if they fail to comply with the requirements, then something is wrong.

It is all a mistake, if one only knew in what way to correct it.

The habit of reducing all human attributes to a certain fixed standard by which we judge, is a grave fault, and one which each should strive hard to kill out in him-or-herself.

To allow other people, unmolested, to have tastes and opinions which we can neither comprehend or appreciate, is one of the hardest lessons to be learned in life. The feeling that prompts "What do you do it *that* way for? *I* don't do it so," is one to be rigidly rooted out—the sooner the better.

The sooner we learn that people may neither eat, drink, sleep, dress, nor even *think* as we do, and *still* be neither fools nor miscreants, the better, not only for all around us, but for ourselves.

POSTAGE TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

A discrimination in the rates of postage to city subscribers is made between weekly and monthly periodicals, to the great disadvantage of the latter; for, while the weeklies can be mailed to city subscribers for one cent per pound, monthlies can not be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent for each two ounces, except where the subscribers go to the post-office for their mail. And, as the JOURNAL in its present form weighs over two ounces, we are, therefore, obliged to ask Philadelphia subscribers twenty-four cents extra for postage, unless the paper is addressed at the post-office to be called for, or to any P. O. box.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

On and after September 1st, 1886, the subscription price of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL will be fifty cents (50 cts.) per year, either for single subscriptions or in clubs. We intend some great, and expensive improvements the coming autumn, such as a little better grade of paper, more and better illustrations, *more reading matter*, and the employment of a number of new contributors, (with whom we are now negotiating) whose names and reputations, are the best known in this country. Such a paper as we propose to give our readers can not be afforded—permanently—for less than fifty cents per year. We feel that the JOURNAL will be so greatly improved, and so far superior to any other domestic journal yet published, that the small sum of fifty cents will be as cheerfully given for it as the old price of 25 cts., in clubs. It will certainly be WORTH DOUBLE its price, to any woman interested in domestic affairs.

We shall continue, *until September 1st.*, to receive subscriptions at 25 cents per year, in clubs of four or more, and our readers will do well to take advantage of our present extremely low price, to secure large clubs, before September. Remember, that all who join your club before September, will receive it for one whole year for only 25 cents, so small a sum of money that clubs of 100 can easily be secured in any small town, by simply showing a copy of the paper, and telling the low price.

Will the sisters kindly aid us in extending our circulation, by showing this notice to their neighbors and friends, inducing some one of them to act as club raiser if they are unable to do so themselves. New subscribers this year at 25 cts. each, means renewals next year at 50 cents each. That the JOURNAL is a wonderful success is attested by the fact that one hundred thousand *new* subscribers were received the first four months of this year, and that it has a total circulation of nearly two hundred and fifty thousand, secured in less than three years. Can we not make it a round three hundred thousand by September? We can if you will help us.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

On and after September 1st., 1886, the rates for advertising in the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL will be one dollar per agate line (14 lines to the inch) each insertion. The circulation of the JOURNAL is over two hundred thousand (200,000) to paid yearly subscribers, independent, and exclusive of any short term trial subscribers, or sample copies.

Proof of circulation is given by sworn statements of our paper manufacturer, Mr. Alex. Balfour, our printers, Ferguson Bros. & Co., who run four presses nearly a month to print our large edition, and John F. Busch & Son, our binders, all of Philadelphia; also post-office receipts for papers mailed, and open subscription books to any one who will call upon us, or send a representative to our office.

A WORD TO OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

When our correspondents have received a communication from us, which necessitates an answer on their part, if they would kindly enclose our communication in their reply, it would make all business between us a matter of much shorter time, for two reasons. First: each communication which leaves the office is signed with the initials of the writer, as well as the stamp of the office. Consequently, when the reply comes, if the communication to which it is in answer, be sent at the same time, the reply can be handed immediately over to the party who has had the business in charge. Second: the person having the matter in charge, seeing the original letter, can tell exactly what it is all about. Merely having received an *answer*, in the multiplicity of letters which are written, the writer may very readily forget, from one day to the next, just what his or her *questions* may have been.

Therefore, to aid us in sending prompt replies to your letters, if we have first communicated with you, please enclose that communication in yours to us.

WHERE THERE'S A WILL THERE'S A WAY.

"Where there's a will there's a way," spells the school-boy slowly from his reading-book.

He has read it so slowly that he has failed to grasp the meaning, and the teacher kindly explains to him that it means that *all* things are possible. That if one only has sufficient *will* for their accomplishing, a *way* will finally but *surely* be opened. And the boy immediately sees himself President of the United States, (that one ambition of American youth) and only in after life, when he grows old enough to reflect that, if all the boys desiring this boon should receive it, we would either be obliged to change our president about a thousand times a day, or some of the boys would be several thousand years old before they reached the goal, does it occur to him to doubt the absolute truth of his teacher's statement in its fullest sense.

With the best intentions in the world, there are some things absolutely impossible from the very nature of circumstances; and to accept an adage like this literally, is often to strive after the positively unattainable; to store up for ourselves a discontented, caustic, old age; while our daily path has been spread with discomforts to others who have been sacrificed to our indomitable *will*.

The true "way" to a successful life, however, is neither an *aim*-less one, nor yet one which is *plan*-less. One should desire, Cable has written, with all possible intensity, but so desire that failure of accomplishment is a matter of indifference.

Does this sound paradoxical? It *is* not.

A lady once said, in speaking to a younger person:

"You talk like a sage. Had I at your age, felt as you do, I would not now be, as I am, a soured, discontented, woman. I thought when I was younger, that life was so evanescent, time so short, that there was no room for *plans*; that one must accept the duties of the day and be content if they were fulfilled. Consequently, my life has been a failure."

"Take no thought for to-morrow," never meant "do not plan for to-morrow;" it meant do not *worry* about to-morrow.

Let every young man or young woman starting in life, start with a settled aim; leave *details* to circumstances, but let there be an aim. True, it may never be reached, but if one has an objective point in view, (an objective point held in abeyance, not one that is constantly prominent to the discomfort of one's fellow creatures) one is much better prepared to catch at and make his own, any passing straw. Often men have lost what were the opportunities of their lives, for want of a definite plan whereby these opportunities would have been available.

Have a *will* to do a thing by all means, and do all in your power to accomplish it, but if, having done your best, you see all possible hope of achievement fled, do not spend your time in idle regrets, but start in afresh. If your efforts have failed to carry you successfully to your desired end, they have certainly gone a long way towards carrying you to some *other* goal (for no efforts are absolutely lost). Look around you carefully to discover what this goal may be, steer your bark in *that* direction, and the chances are ten to one that you reach the haven successfully. Having done so, be content to enjoy what you have; don't waste time regretting the impossible. There have been more good turns missed in life from want of *aim* than from want of *will*.

SCRIBBLER'S LETTERS TO GUSTAVUS.

NO. XII.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

Your remark, my dear Julia, that "Gustavus requires as much waiting on (and more) as one of the children," betrays a certain state of things absolutely wrong, but left almost too late to correct. When people are married, especially if they board, at first, the wife is apt to consider that the aim, end, and chief joy of housewifely existence is to wait upon her husband. She hardly allows him time to comb his own hair, (unless he is especially averse to being made a baby of) and he finally becomes a peculiarly helpless biped. It is customary to speak of old bachelors in a pitying sort of way, as "helpless mortals," whereas, a bachelor accustomed to look after himself, isn't *half* so helpless as a *married* man who allows himself to take no thought for his daily needs.

There is no more sense in a woman running upstairs for a pocket handkerchief than there is for her blacking his boots, (some women I believe do *that* even, in their desire to show how perfect is their subservience to their liege lord). "But they never can find anything. They always mess things up so in the bureau drawer that I'd a great deal rather go get them myself," I hear you say, in common with hundreds of others. Now, my dear Julia, that is all nonsense, (excuse my plainness). Gustavus is not an idiot, is he? When you say, "Gustavus, your hankerchiefs are in the right hand end of the upper bureau drawer," is there any reason why he should not find it? He certainly knows his right hand from his left, he knows the meaning of "the upper bureau drawer," *and if you have put them there*, there is nothing for him to do but go right there and get them.

I know exactly how Gustavus does. I've seen him. I had charge of him once, you recollect, and I said to myself: "My fine gentleman, you'll wait on *yourself* for a little while, and perhaps you'll appreciate the steps Julia takes in your behalf." So, when he wanted a shirt collar, one day, I called to him from below, that they were in the middle drawer in the left hand end. Of course he didn't find them, for he took the second drawer and scratched things up. Then I told him again, and this time he got the right *drawer*, but because they happened to be put neatly in a *box*, he was perfectly helpless. *If* they had been in the drawer *loose*, and had undergone the process of *scratching* that he gave the second drawer, they would have been useless. When he was dressed, and came down stairs, he was "weary." He looked as if he had had a tussle that had vexed his soul. Of course I had not been there to hold his collar and necktie, till he wanted them, nor to hand him the hair brush, and find the comb for him when he had laid his soiled handkerchief down on it. However, when he remarked, in rather an expectant manner, "There! I've come down without a handkerchief," I looked serenely unconscious, just as if he hadn't hoped I'd jump up and say, "*I'll* go get you one, Gustavus." I made up my mind that Gustavus was quite as able to run up stairs as I, at my age, and he is a good deal *more* able to do it than *you* are. You who are obliged to run up and down stairs a hundred times a day to wait on the children.

You began at the wrong end, in the beginning, my dear. The only thing is for you to retrace your steps. You can do it in whatever way you think best, but do it by all means; and above all, bring up your *children* to wait on you, not you on *them*. I've seen boys who expected their mothers and sisters to wait on them as they afterwards expected their wives to do. There are certain things that are a wife's exclusive duty. It is her business to see that her husband's clothes are in absolutely perfect order, and in their appointed place, and after that it is *his* duty to *find* them, when he wants them. You can *tell* Gustavus this with my compliments. SCRIBBLER.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"E. L. M.:"—Any book store can provide you with what you want.

"MRS. W. W.:"—Yes; any one having sent in one club of four, can at any time add to it single names at club rates.

IF "Mrs. B. G. Clancy" will refer to the March No. L. H. J., she will find out all she wishes to know in regard to her canarios.

A SUBSCRIBER, Bradbury, Ills.:—If you will write to Janeatzky & Weber, 1125 Chestnut St., dealers in art materials, they will furnish you with required article.

"MRS. M. E. TURMAN:"—The hand sewing machine for which you inquire, may be obtained of Messrs. Strawbridge & Clothier, corner 8th and Market Sts., Phila. Price, $5.00.

"INQUIRER:"—Pure alcohol is injurious to the hair, but it can be used with impunity if three parts water be added. A further addition of quinine and glycerine, (thirty grains quinine and one tablespoonful glycerine to one pint of mixture) makes an excellent tonic for the hair.

EDITOR L. H. J.:—Can a woman learn to do her own cutting and fitting for herself and children, from instructions accompanying chart? What chart is most reliable? Please answer, and oblige a SUBSCRIBER.

[1. Yes. 2. Any of the charts advertised in JOURNAL will give satisfaction.—ED.]

EATON RAPIDS, MICH., May 1, '86.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I want to write you a few lines in praise of your little paper. I commenced taking it in December, and liked it so much thought I would get up a club. I sent in 30 names, and now send you a few more. I think it improves all the time, and if you keep on, I am sure by the commencement of another year, your circulation will be twice what it is now. I never heard anything praised as it is. I had some trouble in getting subscribers. They were afraid they would not get it, for they had sent before for publications, and would receive perhaps two numbers, and then not hear anything more from them. I think I will get all these for you another year. I am a lady over 60 years old, but read a great deal, and do more fancy work than most old ladies do. Wishing you success in the paper, I am Yours with respect,

MRS. L. A. STORY.

SALADO, BELL CO., TEXAS, April 25th, '86.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Seeing so many letters from sisters in other States, I have (at last) concluded to represent Texas, thinking perhaps if I should contribute my mite 'twould not be cast aside. I would like to ask (through the columns of our ever welcome visitor) some of the sisters how they manage their small children through the long hot summer months, especially those who have *fat* little ones, like my little Leta. She is four months old, and weighs twenty pounds, and out here in the Lone Star State, where we have such warm weather during the months of July, August and September, she will almost suffocate with heat. As this is the only one I have, of course I do not know how to manage her as others do. I will do all I can for your valuable little gem, L. H. J. As I am a farmer's wife, I cannot secure as many subscribers as those who live in cities, but will do all I can. Yours, with many wishes for the success of the L. H. J.

MRS. ALICE P.

BOONSBOROUGH, MO., May 5th, 1886.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Tell "Mrs. E. Kittredge," a remedy for her moulting canary birds. Do this: Put a little oxide of iron, (iron rust from the drug store) or let a couple of lath nails be in the water they drink; take away their bath so they cannot get anything to drink but their medicine. In another water cup immerse a little saffron. Saffron gives color to the incoming feathers. The iron braces their system while moulting. Here is another recipe to make a rich food for mocking birds. Mix thoroughly together corn meal and pea meal, each one part; moss meal, half a part; add to this enough melted lard not to make it too fat or greasy, and sweeten with molasses. Now fry this mixture in a frying-pan for about half an hour, stirring it all the time, being careful not to let it burn. If not fried enough it will not keep. When properly made it will keep in a covered glass jar for several weeks. Mocking, and other birds of similar nature, are fond of this food.

Respectfully, RICHARD JONES, M. D.

TOMBSTONE, A. T., April 12th, 1886.

DEAR EDITOR L. H. J.:—Among all of the interesting letters in correspondence, I have never yet found one from Arizona, therefore, rather than this "sun kissed" land should remain dumb, I will speak, or rather write, myself.

I have long wished to say what a help I find your JOURNAL to be in every way. Miss Clarkson's articles are such a great help in their line, and I hope that she does wear a No. 30 corset, for I am sure her mind and soul are in due proportion.

I feel that I ought to tell the sisters of something I use to lighten the labor of wash day, and find it a wonderful help. This is "Thurbus Electra." Use it according to directions on paper. It is certainly worth trying.

Until quite recently the number of ladies doing their own washing, was very limited indeed; but now that the Chinese question is being agitated—in fact is the all-absorbing topic of the day—wash tubs, clothes lines and pins, are being bought, and it is considered quite the correct and honorable thing to have your clean clothes hanging out in your own back yard, instead of at the Chinese laundryman's.

Now that the Anti-Chinese club has been formed (which meets weekly with speeches, music, etc.) the undesirability of the Chinese element among us, is being thoroughly ventilated.

Every one having the welfare and prosperity of a place at heart, realizes what a curse the Chinese are. For instance, this place, Tombstone, having a population of about four thousand, supports nearly four hundred of these almond eyed heathen; and in return they drain the country of all, or nearly all, the money paid them for their services as house servants, laundrymen, gardeners, etc., sending it back to China; for it is a well known fact that they spend next to nothing with us; supplying their wants from China.

Now, the anti-Chinese reason in this matter, and very sensibly, too, that if these four hundred Celestials were not here, their places would soon be filled by white men and women, boys and girls, whose wages would be kept in circulation, thereby greatly benefitting our business men, and the community at large.

Those among us who see the matter in this light, have been prompt to discharge their "heathen chinee" and replace them with Christian help. But the queerest part is, that the people who defy the A. C. club,—more than that, hold them up to ridicule, and in the meantime cling to their Chinese (whom they evidently love better than Christian men and women)—are our leading church members. They not only sustain them as help, but at the same time pay them better wages than they would be willing to pay their sister women, and of whom more work would be expected.

It is certainly true, that in many respects they fill the bill better than a woman, however competent, could do. For instance, they never see the skeleton which many of us have hidden in our closet, or if they see, none make any remark.

If the head of the house finds it convenient to come home intoxicated, the neighbors will never learn of it from the Chinese house servant; so, you see, female domestics might take some hints from them. But I really am encroaching; will therefore stop. CACTUS.

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DOMESTIC JOURNALISMS.

HINTS FOR HOUSEKEEPERS, CONTRIBUTED BY JOURNAL SISTERS.

DID you ever use soda to clean your granite iron ware? If not, try it.

"M. J. R." says, a good way to make paper stick to a whitewashed wall, is to wash the wall before papering, with vinegar and water—one pint vinegar to four quarts rain water.

WOULD some one like to know how to clean a coffee pot? Fill it with nice wood ashes, and then with water; let it boil a few minutes each time. Be careful to rinse out all the ashes and you will have a coffee pot good as new.

I find it a good plan to look over raisins as soon as they are brought home, then, if they are forgotten till the last minute, they are still ready in time for use. M.

GRANT, IOWA, April 5th, 1886.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I have been a subscriber to your dear paper for two years. I could not get along without it, it is so instructive and interesting—tells just how to do everything. As spring is coming on, I want to tell the mothers that read the L. H. J., how I take grass stains out of my little girls white clothing. I rub each spot with lard before placing in suds, and they come out white as ever.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., April 11, '86.

EDITOR L. H. J.:—If "Mrs. W. S. Smeet" will make her starch with bluing water instead of clear water, she will have no cause to complain of the shirts looking white after ironing. The same trouble may be avoided in dark brown calicoes by making the starch with strong coffee.

I have found a capital remedy for ink stains, which are so annoying on aprons, etc. Soak the stained part in the whey that rises on sour milk. Rub gently, and soak again, and soon the stain will disappear.

I am much pleased with your JOURNAL, and if it continues as good as it is at present, I shall renew my subscription.

Will you, at some future time, publish directions for ladies who desire to become graceful horseback riders? W. WILSON.

DEAR SISTERS:—Here is a nice way to repair children's stockings, when they have grown thin at the knees. Cut them off at the ankles, turn the leg round, and sew the foot on again. And to wash baby's flannel petticoats. Rub no soap on them, unless there are spots that cannot be removed without. Have a warm suds, squeeze and press them with the hand; do not rub, for that fulls the flannel. Rinse in warm bluing water; roll up in a towel, iron in about an hour on the wrong side. Hang up to air, and dry thoroughly before using. Flannels treated this way will look like new, until worn out.

Will some one please tell how to wash black stockings so they will not fade? ARTY.

LADIES OF THE JOURNAL:—I don't really feel capable of writing a regular letter to the JOURNAL, but I often see little things to which I feel as if I would like to reply. To a subscriber who wishes to get rid of fleas, I would say, use plenty of fresh cedar. I use it all the time, gathering it fresh frequently, and I never see a flea, moth, nor ant. It is a good thing to rid one of all these household pests, and the dirt it makes is "clean dirt." I throw it under the beds and all the other large pieces of furniture, gathering fresh when I think the virtue is pretty well extracted from the old.

In regard to mice, I would say to "John's Wife," use a good smart trap baited with bread and butter. I never succeeded in catching a mouse with cheese yet. Every autumn I am troubled with them for a little while, but the trap soon catches them all, and I have no more trouble for another year.

In regard to "getting holders mixed." If all the sisters would use Mrs. Pott's cold-handled sad-irons, that difficulty would not trouble any of them. I have found a piece of burlaps, of convenient size, to be the nicest thing for handling hot pans, covers, and the like. It can be washed, too, an advantage over a regularly made holder.

I am an old subscriber to the HOME JOURNAL, having taken it from the first, and I really do not know how I should get along without it.

CRAZY PATCHWORK

[ONE of the best cloths to have for handling hot kitchen utensils, is a square of old winter knit underwear, a convenient size.—ED.]

MASON CITY, IOWA, April 29th, 1886.

EDITOR L. H. J.:—The letter on the butter question, from "M. E. F.," calls forth from me a few points on which I think she is not quite right. When I hear one say that there is no churn so easily worked or cleaned, as the old-fashioned "dasher," I am safe to conclude that that person has never used a Davis swing churn. In this progressive age there are improvements in all things, and in the way of churns, there is nothing equal to the one above mentioned.

As to the exercise of working a churn dasher being healthful and graceful, women on a farm usually have plenty and to spare, of such work, and an easy way of churning would be, to most, a blessing.

If "M. E. F." and many others, knew how much more thoroughly butter could be washed in a churn, they would discard the old mode of washing it in the butter bowl. With the Davis swing churn, the buttermilk is drawn off at the bottom, then cold water dashed in, and a few swings of the churn washes the butter evenly and well—we usually wash in three waters, or until the water looks quite clear. The butter is then left to drain in the churn a few moments, taken up and salted. We always use Ashton salt, it is best for keeping butter.

We churn our cream at 62 degrees, and never have the least trouble with it. With the Davis swing churn the butter always comes granulated, and in tiny particles like grains of wheat.

If one always uses a cream thermometer and determines the exact temperature of the cream, they will have less trouble. If the cream is too cold, set the pan or vessel containing it, into a pan of hot water until the temperature is gained. If too warm, and one has not ice, place can in a tub and keep up cold water around it.

The milk strainer we use is perfection, instead of using the cloth as "M. E. F." does, and have it slipping down into the milk, ours has a band of double tin fitted exactly on the rim at the bottom, with just room enough to allow a four doubled piece of cheese cloth to be laid on, then the ring pressed on. Thus the wire strainer catches all the coarse particles, and there is never a cow hair in our butter. The sister will find this a vast improvement on her way, if she will try it.

I think "M. E. F." is wrong in her condemnation of butter coloring. I know there is nothing wrong in Wells & Richardson's vegetable coloring matter, and how delicious a *golden* roll of butter looks, whereas a pale, white appearance detracts half the daintiness, and, (it actually seems to me) the goodness. We have used butter color for four years, when needed, and *know* it is *not* injurious in the least.

"M. E. F.'s" idea on cleanliness is *correct—cleanliness is imperative.*

I trust she will not think me hasty in arguing the question thus early—her way may be good, but I believe mine is better. This question is one of importance to us who are burdened with the dairy business, and we ought to lessen the labor all in our power, and with all be as neat as possible.

The L. H. J. is a welcome visitor, and I enjoy the letters from all the sisters very much. Too much cannot be said in praise of our JOURNAL. FERN.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SERVANT QUESTION.

"So you're going to lose Bessie, are you, Mrs. Yates."

"Yes. Isn't it dreadful! I don't know what I shall do without her. Aren't girls fools, though, for all."

"What do you mean, just exactly?"

"Well, now, here's my Bessie, for instance. There never was a girl better treated,—quite one of us in fact—nice large airy kitchen to work in this hot weather, nice room all to herself upstairs, hardly anything to do in the afternoon, after her dinner dishes are washed, and yet, what is she going to do?"

"I don't know," answered Miss Hall. "I only heard this morning that you were going to lose her."

"Going to leave me to go into a factory. Well, they never do know when they are well off. Excuse me a moment."

There was a little colloquy in the hall between Mrs. Yates and the said Bessie; then the mistress returned to her guest, a vexed, disturbed look on her face.

"I never did see anything like Bessie's family!" she exclaimed petulantly, "some of them are always sick and sending for her. She just came to tell me that it is her mother this time. She wanted to go home to stay all night, but she has been home one night this week, when they thought her little brother was going to die. I suppose they found it so easy for her to go then, that they will be sending for her every little whipstitch, but they'll find that I'm not to be imposed on. Let me see! What was I saying—O! about Bessie going into the mill. I'm sure it would be a great deal smarter to stay in some nice family and learn to keep house, than to go into a nasty, hot mill. Dear knows, few enough of them know anything about decent housekeeping. If they'd only stay in some nice families they would be trained for good wives in their own class, if they want to marry."

"But, dear Mrs. Yates, do you think—now you know I'm only an old maid, and a boarder all my life, at that, and so I'm not supposed to know anything about such things, but, really, I sometimes think that people of my ilk have a better opportunity of getting at the true inwardness of things, from the very fact that we are not mixed up in them. But, as I was saying, do you think, or don't you think, rather, that when a young man of their class looks for a wife, he generally looks among the factory girls, or those who do something else than "work out" for a living. If they are to do kitchen work with that goal ahead of them," and she laughed, "I'm afraid there is poor encouragement."

"Well, I don't know but you are right in that respect, people are so foolish. Look at most of the young girls. Nothing but gad, gad, gad, all the time, and every cent of money they can rake or scrape, put on their backs."

"I judge from something you said the other day, that you don't allow any 'followers.'"

"No indeed! not I; that is one thing I put my foot down on. My girl has two evenings every week, when she can go home and have her 'followers' if she wants, and I have nothing to say, providing she is in by ten o'clock."

"No, they think it is a big thing to go into a mill and make more money, but they don't take into consideration the fact that they have their board to pay out of it, and very indifferent board at that, while if they live with some one else their board—and good board, too—comes around every day without their paying for it, or having any concern about where it comes from. Do, my dear Miss Hall, use your influence with Bessie, and tell her what a foolish thing she is doing. She thinks the 'world and all' of you as her Sunday school teacher."

Miss Hall did not answer at once, and seemed a little embarassed, much to Mrs. Yates' perplexity.

"Will you?" she asked finally.

Miss Hall drew a breath as if of fresh courage, and answered bravely, "I couldn't, conscientiously, Mrs. Yates."

It was Mrs. Yates' turn to be embarassed. "Why not?" she asked quickly, her face flushing.

"I don't mean anything against you, as a mistress, or your kitchen, or anything personal. I only mean on general principles. We outsiders can see that the mode of life, as you say, is better for them as far as their individual selfish good goes, perhaps, just as a dose of medicine is 'good for' an invalid. But I have every sympathy for a girl who gives up living in somebody's kitchen and undertakes an occupation which will enable her to live at home. Here is just an instance. I don't mean anything invidious, but here is Bessie's mother sick. She sends for Bessie. Naturally Bessie cannot be spared. Now if she were working in a mill, after the mill door was closed, Bessie would be a free agent till mill time next morning, and her nights could all be spent waiting on the sick ones, if she wanted to do so. Now wait a minute till I finish; you asked me and I am just going to say what I think," as Mrs. Yates seemed inclined to interrupt. "Now Bessie is a young girl, fond of company and a good time. Isn't it, must it not naturally be far pleasanter to her to be at home, where one friend after another can drop in? It is all innocent enjoyment, but it is such as you nor no other mistress could have in her kitchen in the evening, but Bessie, *at home*, is 'the young lady of the house.' Now about the money. No doubt when it comes to a question of actual board, if she had to pay it, she makes as much in your kitchen as she does in the mill. But then she does not have to. It goes into the general fund, and helps the family to live; and no doubt she would far rather use it so, and help the family to get their inferior food, than to be without it, and live on the fat of the land at your, or some one's else table. They are creatures like ourselves. Mrs. Harmon told me once she had *such* a nice girl—only seventeen, steady as an old woman. Didn't care to go out, at all, very rarely even went home. Now, do you know I did not like that in that girl. I happened to know that she had a comfortable home, and hard-working, kind parents, and it seemed to me that she lacked proper feeling for them when she shut herself up in Mrs. Harmons kitchen, evening after evening, reading or writing to amuse herself, when she ought to be longing to go home to see her old father and mother.

No, I can't say that I agree with you, Mrs. Yates. If girls have no homes, I can understand their making their homes in some one's house, and being very happy, contented and useful, but if they have families and a home, and a proper affection for them, the affection that every human being should possess, no matter what the grade in life, I can understand and sympathize with their preferring to do factory work to 'living out.'"

HOME COOKING.

ORIGINAL RECIPES CONTRIBUTED BY THE JOURNAL SISTERS.

COCOANUT DROPS:—One pound dessicated cocoanut, half-pound powdered sugar, white of an egg. Work all together, roll into little balls in the hands, and bake on buttered tins. K. R.

BIRD'S NEST PUDDING:—Pare and quarter tart apples, set them around in a dish, put in a little water, and stew them. For crust, take one-half cup buttermilk, one-half cup cream, one-half teaspoon soda, salt, flour to make as stiff as soft cake, and spread over the top of the apples. Bake, then turn bottom side upwards in a deep dish, put on butter, sugar, and plenty of cream, (milk will answer, but is not so rich) and set into oven to warm. S. E. P.

FLOATING ISLAND:—One quart milk, four eggs, beaten separately, four heaping tablespoonfuls white sugar, two teaspoonfuls vanilla or essence of almond, one-half cup currant jelly. Beat yolks well, stir in sugar and add to the hot milk—not boiled—a little at a time. Then boil until it thickens. When cool flavor and pour into a glass dish—first stir well. Heat meringue, made of the beaten whites and one-half cup jelly gradually beaten in dots with bits of jelly.

CHARLOTTE RUSSE:—Make a sponge cake of four eggs, one cup sugar, one cup flour, one-half teaspoon soda, one teaspoon cream tartar. Bake in a thin loaf. When cool cut into rounds with a jumble cutter. Take one pint of cool, sweet cream, whip with Dover egg-beater, add sugar, and flavor to taste. Place the rounds of cake upon a dish, and pile cream upon each. This will make cream enough for ten.

CHEAP CREAM PUFFS:—One-half cup butter, one cup cold water boiled together, add one cup flour, simmer a short time. When partly cool add three eggs, one at a time, without beating. Drop on a pan a desert spoonful, bake *thoroughly* in a *very*, VERY hot oven. When cool fill them with cream, made of two cups of milk, one cup sugar, two eggs, two small tablespoons flour, flavor to taste.

LEMON JELLY:—One quart water, four heaping tablespoons cornstarch, one cup sugar, three or four lemons. Dissolve the starch and sugar in the lemon, pour in the water. Boil several minutes, stirring constantly. This may be moulded, and the white of an egg beaten with two tablespoons of sugar spread over the top.

RAISIN PIE:—Grate the yellow from one lemon, discard all the white rind and seeds; chop remainder of lemon, and one cup stoned raisins. Add to these a little salt, piece of butter size of walnut, one-half cup molasses, one cup brown sugar, two cups water. Boil all together five minutes, then thicken with five tablespoonfuls flour. Bake between two crusts. This makes two medium-sized pies. M. F. W.

MADE MUSTARD:—Pour one quart each, water and vinegar, over one-quarter pound best yellow mustard, add a pinch of salt, and if you like, a piece of calamus root the size of a pea. Boil 20 minutes, stirring constantly. While boiling, add one teaspoonful flour, and just before removing from the fire, one teaspoonful sugar. Bottle when cold; cork tightly.

STUFFED BEEF STEAK:—Take a thick slice of round, and sew the edges together, leaving a place at one end. Fill the hollow roll thus formed with stuffing, and finish sewing together. Have ready a stewpan with one or two slices of pork, and an onion or two fried crisp. Take out the pork and onions, lay in the steak and brown on every side, then put in two gills of water, sprinkle well with salt, cover close, and stew steadily an hour and a-half. Add water as it becomes dry. When done lay on a platter, thicken the gravy if not thick enough already, and pour over the meat. Cut into slices through the roll.

BOSTON BAKED BEANS:—(By request)—The night before they are wanted, for instance, Friday evening, carefully pick over a quart of the best pea beans, rinse and place in an iron kettle with plenty of cold water, for they swell and absorb a great deal. In the morning, pour off that water, add fresh cold water, and put the kettle on the stove to come to a boil gradually. Cook 'til the skins show signs of cracking, and before they break. Then with a skimmer put them into a deep brown earthern bean pot, with about three-quarters of a pound of fat salt pork, scored through the rind. All but the rind should be covered by the beans. Add a tablespoonful of molasses, a teaspoonful of salt, and pour over all, hot water enough to cover. Do these things in the morning, as soon after breakfast as convenient, and place the pot in the oven. Water should be added occasionally, as it evaporates, and when the top is browned, cover it. The fire should not be too hot, but steady. Long, slow baking is the secret. They will be done just right for Saturday night's supper, and of a rich brown color, fragrant and appetizing, as we have proved weekly, with exceptions in hot weather, for many years. MARY WINCHESTER.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

SUMMER STYLES.

New Features in Late Fashions—Pretty Toilettes for Various Occasions—Favored Fabrics—Graceful Mantles.

BY MRS. JAS. H. LAMBERT.

The skirt of to-day is naturally made longer in the back, than usual, to admit of wearing the braided wire bustle, which has been generally adopted, because it is lighter in weight, and cooler than the hair or wool cushions of last fall. These shapely bustles are made to fit in above the run-in steels, which are now used in all the skirts to make them stand out; and the combined result of steels and bustle is generally such as to create the desired hang of a fashionable costume.

A total change has taken place in the cut of bodies; a change prompted no doubt by the jersey bodices so much worn lately. Jersey's have not breast seams, and lined bodices are, many of them, cut on the same plan. The necessary sharp curves are given to the lines in front, and of the side pieces. This style, however, is only suitable for bodices with plastrons, or when waists are made of striped fabrics.

It is predicted that draperies will gradually acquire a more simple character; indeed even now they are rarely complicated, and in nine cases out of ten they are not voluminous; however, there are countless numbers of methods of draping, and variety in the shape of tunics, so that every lady has the privilege of selecting a becoming style, be she stout, slender, or medium in size.

The mid-summer fashions, like those of the spring, are most convenient, for they enable one to make over outgrown, or partly worn dresses, so that the renewed garment can hardly be distinguished from one formed of all entirely new material. One sensible young lady has utilized two defaced dresses in the following manner. She has used an old, dark green velveteen skirt for the underskirt of her new dress, after brushing it and steaming it. Over this are gracefully arranged draperies of Nile green cashmere, which she washed in the new Ingersoll's soapsuds, and ironed it. The velveteen basque looks new after being refreshed by the application of waist revers in fresh velveteen, and trimmed down centre of corsage, with a spiral cascade of narrow cream lace, interspersed with knots and loops of Nile green ribbon velvet, neck and sleeves finished with collar and cuffs of dark velveteen, and lace frills. The bonnet worn with this pretty costume has lace brim formed of cream lace plaitings, and is trimmed with loops of Nile, and dark green velvet.

Another lady had a dress of garnet boucle woolen material which she ripped to pieces and cleaned, and then made up with surah in a suitable shade, which cost her 85 cents a yard. To the plaited skirt of boucle, she added a ruffled side piece or plastron of surah, a puff apron front, and graceful draperies in the back. The boucle corsage is made to open in front over a chemisette of surah gathered at the neck and mounted on a velvet collar, and this ends in a long stole plaited front, laced to the edge. The sleeves are of surah with velvet wristbands. The "Maggie" dress is pretty. Its plaited surah skirt is covered with a lace flounce. Full blouse of surah plaited into a yoke beneath a surah ruche and then left free. Plaited scarf and drapery at the back of surah. Plaited sleeves, satin bows on scarf, sleeves and shoulders.

A pretty summer suit is of spotted foulard, made with a puffed skirt and draped tunic. The plain waist is finished with velvet collar and cuffs. With this dress is worn a *visite* of richly beaded gauze, with double coquille of lace in front, and deep lace flounce round the edge, headed by beaded passementerie. High collar formed of jet band. The high hat of fancy straw is trimmed in the back with loops of velvet and gauze ribbon, and is further decorated with two or three jet wings. Another stylish dress is of printed jersey silk, with skirt draped on the right side, and ornamented on the left with a long pointed panel of velvet. Jacket of fancy cloth, the back tight-fitting and the fronts loose and straight, stitched on edges, plain buttons in front and on sleeves.

Exceedingly pretty is a garden party gown of white Calais lace or *drap de dentelle* over copper surah silk, trimmed with butterfly bows; shoulder knots, and sash belt of fancy Ottoman ribbon. Ruffle and jabot of pearl lace. Bonnet of white lace, with bunch of laburnum. Transparent parasol of lace tipped with a cluster of loops in narrow ribbon, over which hovers a humming bird with brilliant plumage.

For seaside wear, there is a neat dress of chamoise colored linon figured in blue and red coral designs, and trimmed with braces and flowers of mauresque lace. Shoulder knot and neck band of red velvet. Fancy straw hat faced with red velvet, and trimmed with a huge bow of muslin wrought with white or red and blue cotton. For country wear, a novel dress has shoulder cape and redingote of biscuit beige, checked with brown, and trimmed with puffings and plaitings of plain crepon wool, surrounded with ruby velvet ribbon and bands. The becoming bonnet worn with this dress is of straw, has puckered coronet of red velvet, and is trimmed with bunch of field flowers and lace.

This is a pretty style to copy in making up a dress of plain and fancy etamine. Have the skirt of plain etamine, rather plain in front, and full and plaited at the back. Overskirt of etamine with fancy horizontal stripes on one edge of the material, which is made the full depth of the skirt. The left side is draped a little showing the edge of the underskirt; the right side is plaited, and the plaits are held together by pointed tabs of velvet fastened down with large buttons. Plain breadths at the back, caught up to form a puff far back on the right side. Plain corsage with deep basques, and narrow plastrons of the fancy stripe, front and back. Collar of velvet, parements of velvet and fancy stripe. The straw hat is of fancy lace braid, and is trimmed with etamine or gauze ribbon, velvet, and colored tips.

As etamine is one of the favored materials for midsummer wear, it will be well to describe a toilette of spotted etamine, made over a foundation of cheap silk; the skirt bordered with narrow plaiting. Overskirt of etamine falls in plaits at the side and back, draped tablier in front, and long draped puff at the back. The pretty Russian blouse of etamine over plain silk, is fastened with a buttoned tab in front. Narrow turn down collar, and full sleeves mounted on wristbands.

A light weight mantle is of surah. The wrap is entirely plaited and made up on a plain bodice lining, and confined at waist line by a sash of ribbon, which is tied on the left side. Deep full collar of black lace, forming a yoke, and caught in at the shoulders with the epaulettes, made of similar lace. Plaited pagoda sleeves, trimmed with lace, and to be worn with a pretty bonnet of lace, adorned with ribbon and light weight ornaments of jet. Another stylish mantle has sleeve portion of beaded grenadine, with back and front of surah profusely trimmed with ruffles of lace, and jet pendants.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Miss E. A. S.," Rootstown, Ohio:—You can have your hat made of shirred satine, but you will be better pleased if you use crape, or one of the light weight seersuckers, crinkled, or crazy crape, in place of satine. Why not get a becoming hat of straw, natural color, or navy blue, and trim with loops of straw colored, and navy blue ribbon; the combination will be stylish.

"Cora B.," Chicago:—Yes, the child's dress will be really beautiful, embroidered as you suggest in colors, but neither cotton or zephyr will do to use on the cashmere. Get Brainerd & Armstrong's wash silk, which comes in all shades and hues, and retains its color after being subjected to warm water and strong soap. The price is 5c. a skein. From the same company you can get 12 applique embroidered figures or flowers, in different shades and colors, for 50 cents. Yes, we could get the articles for you, but it will save time and trouble if you enclose mentioned price, and send for wash silk and appliques, direct to the Brainerd & Armstrong Co., 621 Market St., Philadelphia, Pa., and please mention that you saw this in answers to correspondents L. H. J.

"Mrs. F. H.," Montezuma, Ga.—Demorest's magazine contains reading matter, as well as fashion information. Butterick's is a reliable authority on points of style.

"Mrs. M. W."—For boys a year and a half old, large straw hats, with face finish of lace, and high trimming of ribbon loops and feathers are very fashionable; or he would look well in one of the pretty small hats of fancy straw. Make your serge dress with plaitings at one side, and plaitings on lower skirt edge on other portions. Apron front, and graceful looped drapery in the back. Basque with box plaited back, cut up high over hips, and pointed in front; finish with velvet collar and cuffs.

"Jack's Mother," New York:—By all means if the boy is fond of minerals send and get him one of the Rocky Mountain Juvenile Cabinets. The price is 85 cents, postpaid. Write for it to H. H. Tammen, Minerologist, Denver, Colorado. My boy has one, and it has given him more pleasure than a dozen toys, that cost much more money.

"The Girl With Troublesome Hair:"—Bangs are still in fashion. Perhaps if you try the new Paragon hair pin you will be able to keep up your coil and puffs with less difficulty, as they do not drop out like old style hair pins. Yes, we can send a box by mail, if you will remit 10c., with name and address in full, to Mrs. J. H. Lambert, Fashion Editor, LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

"Washington Belle:"—Your best plan is to write direct to Sharpless Brothers for estimate of outfit. Also ask for samples of the materials you desire for your dresses and costumes.

"Young Mother:"—You cannot very well nurse baby when encased in ordinary corsets, why not try Ball's elastic section nursing corsets? They are convenient and comfortable. To save time write for illustrated circular to Chicago Corset Co., 402 Broadway, N. Y. Price of nursing corsets, $1.50 a pair.

"Fashionable Estelle:"—Cushions are too heating to the spine; the braided wire bustles come in dozens of shapes, and are cool and healthful. Yes, if you send 4c. in postage stamps to Fashion Editor, L. H. J., 441 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, we will send you illustrated price list of new style bustles. The newest is built in sections, and made to support the dress drapery at the back.

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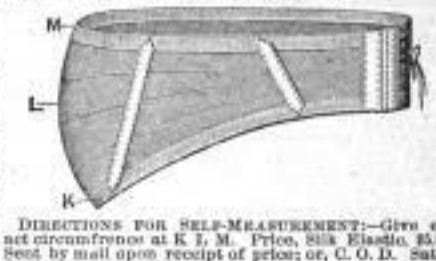

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

One of the prettiest little winter bloomers for the sitting room window is the Cyclamen. It is quite easy of cultivation, and therefore well deserves to be the favorite it is with those who have grown it. It is a bulbous plant, putting out a good many nearly round leaves, olive green above, marked with gray, and a dull shade of red below.

THE CYCLAMEN.

The flowers are borne on longer stems than those supporting the leaves, and are of a curiously twisted appearance. The centre is generally of magenta; from this the petals, which are rosy white, are sharply reflexed, and the tips of them are curved about the stem in such a manner as to suggest the closing of a convolvulus flower. They are quite fragrant, and are borne constantly and profusely through the season. It is not a showy flower, but it is a very pleasing one, and any one who loves flowers for real beauty and modest merit, will be delighted with it. I pot mine in a compost of well rotted manure and turfy loam, made very light with sharp sand. The bulb should be pressed down into the soil about half its depth, and never covered. Keep the soil moist, and syringe the leaves above and below twice or three times a week. The plant blooms until April or May. Then, when they show signs of wanting to rest, withold water, and let the bulb remain as nearly dormant as possible through the summer. In September, repot in fresh soil, give more water, and a new growth will soon begin. There are several varieties, differing more in the size of the flowers than in any other respect. The old C. *Persicum* is one of the best.

THE CINERARIA.

A correspondent asks for some information about the Cineraria, and its cultivation. This is a most charming plant when well grown; and though, to grow it well, more attention is demanded than is given most window plants, it will

amply repay one for all the care expended on it. The flowers, which are mostly in brilliant shades of purple, maroon and violet, are borne in enormous clusters, spreading well, and nearly flat on top, like those of the Verbena. Young plants can be procured of florists, who grow them from seed, or you can buy a package of seed and raise them for yourself. The seed should be sown in July. It is fine as dust, almost, and must have a very light covering. My plan is, to make the soil in the box or pot where the seed is to be sown, smooth on its surface by pressing it down with a plate, or the hand. Then scatter the seeds over it as evenly as possible, and sift a very little soil over it, after which cover the pot or box with a pane of glass, to retain the moisture which evaporates from the soil, until the seed has germinated. As soon as the plants appear, remove the glass, but be very careful, at first, about watering. Use a fine spray, or the tender plants will be washed out of place, as their roots have not gained much of a foothold in the soil. When the plants have made three or four leaves, prick them off very carefully from each other, moving each into a place of its own, so that, later, it can be taken up and potted without seriously disturbing its roots. When about an inch high, pot into small pots. When the soil is filled with roots—you can tell this by inverting the pot and slipping the earth out—shift to larger pots. As a general thing they require about three shifts, the last one being to a six-inch pot, which will be large enough for a developed plant. You will have to be very careful to keep the aphis down. He likes to feed on the soft, tender leaves, and very often, before you dream of it, you will find, on lifting a leaf, that hundreds of aphides have domesticated themselves there and are robbing the plant of its life blood. I would advise giving a tri-weekly bath in weak tobacco water. Dip the plant in, and let the tobacco flavor dry on its leaves.

PANDANUS VARIEGATA.

In a former paper, I spoke of Pandanus *utilis* as a very desirable plant for the window. Those who have a liking for variegated plants will probably admire P. *variegata* more than the plain leaved kind. The variety has a stripe of pure white running the entire length of the foliage. The contrast in colors is very striking, and a well grown specimen is always sure to attract admiration. The cultivation should be the same as that recommended for P. *utilis*.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"K. S. M."—The bulbs or tubers which you send me, are, I think, those of the plant advertised under the name of Cinnamon Vine.

"Subscriber:"—The branch sent is from Calycanthus, or "Sweet Scented Shrub."

"S. W. H."—This subscriber to the JOURNAL thinks he has been humbugged. I agree with him. When a travelling dealer in plants comes to you with blue Roses, and bushes on which six kinds of Roses grow, don't patronize him. Tell him you don't want any. You won't get any, if you want them ever so much. There is no blue Rose, and the only way in which you can grow more than one kind on the same bush is to graft it. No reliable firm ever offers anything of this sort. If a man comes with such plants to sell, you can safely set him down as a fraud.

"Mrs. A. E. K.," Shanesville:—Geranium cuttings should be started in May and June, if you want good plants for winter blooming. I have a plant of the widely advertised "Storm King" Fuchsia, which the proprietor, Mr. J. L. Childs, sent to be "tested," but as it is yet small, I cannot say whether it will come up to the description given of it, or not. Mr. Childs is a well known florist, and a man whose word I have every confidence in, and I think you can depend on getting a valuable plant in purchasing his new Fuchsia. The Chrysanthemum seed you purchased was probably a variety of the old garden Chrysanthemum, and not the Chrysanthemum which is so popular. Seeds of the Chinese, Japanese, and Pompon sections are sold by most dealers. If you want anything in the Chrysanthemum line write directly to the headquarters of this magnificent flower, Halbock, Son & Thorpe, East Hinsdale, N. Y.

"A Subscriber" finds fault with me because I advise amateur florists to confine their attention to half-a-dozen varieties. She says she grows at least fifty, and succeeds with them. That may be. But it is probably true that she has a great deal more time to cultivate them in than the average woman has. I was writing about "the average woman," not the woman of leisure. She says her pinks always fail. I cannot tell why, unless the climate of Texas is not adapted to them. Some northern flowers will bloom wonderfully in Florida, others not at all. I root Roses, Honeysuckles and other plants of that character by bending down a shoot, making a half break in it, and fastening it in the ground. Cover the bend with earth, and let it alone for a time. In most cases roots will form readily. You can tell when they have done so by digging the soil away from the place where the break in the shoot is. In fall or spring, cut the young plant away from the old one by running a sharp spade into the soil between them. Never having raised the plants you name, from seed, I cannot say how old they must be to bloom. I do not know anything about the peculiarities of your Texas climate, therefore am unable to say whether the Clematis will succeed with you or not, but think it will, as C. *coccinea* is, if I am not mistaken, a Texas plant. You say you have little snow, but severe cold weather in "sudden spells." Lay your Clematis down, and cover with leaves, or evergreen branches, as we do at the north, and I think you will succeed in wintering it. Thank you for the seeds sent.

"Mary G."—See the June number of the JOURNAL for instructions in Fuchsia growing. This plant is more easily killed by cold, than any Geranium. I would advise you to start cuttings in clear sand, keeping it warm and wet until the plants have rooted. Then transplant into better soil. I have no experience in making pits, but will endeavor to find out how to construct the kind you speak of, and let you know how to make one, before it it time to house your flowers next fall.

"Jessie Bent:"—The "loveliest of all Pansies" are—those that suit one's individual taste best. *I* prefer the pale yellows, the blues, and the whites. You might think the black ones, or the magnificently colored purple-and-gold ones finer. They are *all* fine—so fine, indeed, that it is hard to choose between them. I want *all* kinds, and so will you, when you see them in bloom. Sow at once, in a half-shady place, and some of the plants will be likely to give you a late bloom. Cover when cold weather comes with evergreen branches, or leaves, and next spring you will have flowers from them early in the season. And you will think you never saw anything more beautiful, if they bloom well.

"Mrs. M. D. W."—*Don't* pinch the buds off your Fuchsias, expecting that you will make them bloom in winter by not allowing them to bloom now. The Fuchsia is properly a summer bloomer. It *may* give an occasional flower in winter, but usually it will not. Let them bloom now, and grow other flowers for winter use, putting the plants in the cellar after they show signs of wanting to rest. *Speciosa* is the only variety that I know of that can be depended on to bloom in winter. This is almost always in bloom.

"Nellie G."—Do not take up your Tulips after they have blossomed. They will do better if left undisturbed. Dig some well-decomposed manure into the bed, above the bulbs, in September, and cover the bed well with litter or leaves, in November, leaving this covering on until the frost comes out of the ground.

"S. H. S."—This subscriber says she has a Geranium which has blossomed well for four years, but as she has been told that young plants bloom better than old ones, she asks if I would advise her to start a new plant, and throw the old one away. No, I would not if the old one blooms well, and shows no signs of giving out, what more does she want. Those who talk so much about new plants being better than two or three year old ones, don't know what they are talking about, or they don't give their old plants the right treatment. I have the best success with old plants, and never depend on young ones for many flowers.

"Mrs. F. A. R. Wharton," Raymond, Miss., writes that she will exchange, or sell, the plants to which she referred in a late number of the JOURNAL. She also has the Gandanensis, or hardy variety of Gladiolus, which she will exchange for bulbs. Anyone wishing to exchange plants would do well to correspond with her.

"A Subscriber" writes that she has an eight year old Rhododendron, which fails to bloom satisfactorily, and wants to know what she shall do with it. Not knowing how she has treated it, I cannot say. It is possible that she has not given it the right kind of protection in winter. A loose covering of evergreen branches is best of anything for this class of plants. What is needed is shelter from sunshine more than from cold, experienced Rhododendron growers tell us. She would probably be able to get the most reliable information about caring for her plant by writing to Parson & Co., Flushing, N. Y., our most extensive growers of this class of plants. In writing, tell them just how you have cared for it, and then they can diagnose its case, I think.

"Rose L."—The natural season of blooming for the Pelargonium is spring, and you cannot get it to bloom earlier without *forcing* it, and this I would not advise you to do, for you will not have as fine a crop of flowers by the process, and your plant will be left in a weakened condition. After blooming, set the plant in some half-shady, airy place, and through the summer give only enough water to keep it from drying up. In September repot it, cutting it back at least half. Your Cyclamen ought to bloom in the winter. Perhaps you do not start it into growth early enough in fall. Repot it in September.

"Mrs. E. H. L."—It never "pays" to try to grow exotics in an ordinary living room. By that, I mean that it is never satisfactory. The attempt is pretty sure to end in failure. Confine yourself to such kinds as you know can be grown there, and let the florists who have all the conveniences for plant-growing grow the exacting kinds.

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[FOR THE LADIES HOME JOURNAL.]

COUNTRY ENTERTAINING.

To the resident of a country town or neighborhood, summer brings with it delightful possibilities in the line of *al fresco* entertainments. The dweller in cities is forced to rely upon acquired accessories for making receptions, teas, and parties of all kinds pleasant. The would-be hostess must have an exceptionally commodious and well-furnished house to be able to provide the attractions which she finds ready at her hand in the rural districts. There is a charming unpretentiousness about out-of-door *fêtes* that disarms criticism and predisposes the guests to an amount of gratification which more elaborate parlor parties would never furnish. Elegant toilettes, heavy suppers, expensive amusements, are misplaced at these simple reunions, and the informality inseparably connected with them brings them within the reach of persons of moderate means and quiet ways of living. Those people who have country homes are wise when they choose the summer months instead of the winter for social pleasures.

As has been said, simplicity is to be desired above everything else in open air parties. The end of their being is defeated when they vie with city receptions in rich costumes and refreshments, or when expensive artificial means are resorted to in the endeavor to heighten enjoyment. Such attempts at once provoke comparison, and a long purse is required to raise matters to such a pitch of perfection that no contrast is to be feared.

Much has been written against the American passion for display, nor can it be denied that competition and the rage for making a fine appearance, are at the root of much unwarranted expenditure. Lack of pretension can never be absurd, while the struggle after unattainable elegance is a thousand times more apt to provoke ridicule than respect, even from those whose opinion is least valued. Let the woman, then, who lives in a village or on a farm, make no effort to compete with metropolitan fashions when she wishes to entertain her friends, but strive rather to have everything in keeping with her usual mode of life. Much enjoyment can be derived from common, every-day surroundings when judiciously employed, and a little careful study of ways and means will produce wonderful results from unpromising materials. The proverb that "it is wise to make one's head save one's heels," can be somewhat altered, and the brain made to spare the purse at the cost of slight extra exertion.

When there is a grove of trees adjoining a house, or it is furnished with an ample piazza, the hostess has the most charming of drawing rooms ready at her hand, one, too, which possesses the advantage of being easily furnished. The simple chairs and ottomans appear much better, arranged on the grass or on a porch, than when in the house. The business of providing seats is a comparatively trifling affair when there are to be young people present, who prefer clean turf or the piazza steps to any more luxurious lounging place. For the older guests, less unconventional accommodations may be devised. Light rockers, camp chairs, wooden or wicker settees are pretty, and in harmony with the rustic nature of the reception. It is well, also, to have rugs or strips of carpet laid about, for the benefit of those who dread the dampness that some imagine rises from the ground even in the midst of the most obstinate drought. Cushions are invaluable at such times, whether used as footstools for the more delicate guests, to soften porch steps, or to convert stumps and grassy knolls into divans, for those who like low seats, but yet have a due regard for their bones or dresses. A charming, and thoroughly rustic style of seat, can be formed of dry, sweet hay. Tossed up in generous piles, to make couches, or heaped against the trunks of trees to simulate arm chairs, they provide resting places that are not only luxurious, but uncommon. The costliest upholsterer can furnish no chairs or sofas more softly padded or more deliciously perfumed than these. With rugs or shawls thrown over them, to guard the garments of their occupants from any possible injury from moisture or from crushed insects, they are all that the most fastidious could demand. Hammocks, also furnished with cushions, are always comfortable and picturesque, while screens are valuable additions to the furniture of this open air drawing room. Covered with cretonne, felt, or paper, of any shape and size, these are almost indispensable for shielding from draughts in breezy weather, or sheltering from obtrusive sunlight on sultry days.

It should be clearly understood by those who are invited to such affairs as these, that elaborate dresses are in bad taste. Simple muslins, lawns or cambrics, at the most, grenadines or summer silks, fill all the requirements of the toilette. Handsome costumes that would serve admirably for city balls or kettledrums, are as unsuitable here for women as swallow tail coats and low cut vests would be for men. The very character of the party indicates this. Easily injured dresses would be entirely inconsistent with out of door pastimes and accommodations, while wash fabrics, or those that would receive slight detriment from being tumbled or soiled, are thoroughly appropriate.

Pretty effects may be sought by a hostess without detracting in the least from the unpretentious tone of the entertainment. If the "pink teas," of which so much has been heard lately, are pretty when given in the house, they would be doubly attractive when held in the open air. Girls in pink gowns would create brilliant spots of color against the green background of turf and shrubbery. Covers of pink silesia for cushions, pink Japanese paper mats and napkins, for the tables on which the refreshments were served, pink Japanese lanterns hung among the lower branches of the trees and in the piazza arches, great bows and streamers of pink cambric adorning hammocks and seats, knots of narrow pink ribbon on the handles of cream pitchers and sugar bowls, cakes with pink icing, strawberry cream and ices, —all these and many other rose-colored ornaments could be devised to give a touch of originality to an open air supper.

Those who are sufficiently wealthy to give the charge of their refreshments to a regular caterer, the arrangement of their adornments to a professional decorator, probably do not need such instructions, but the number who can afford to do this is small, compared with those who have to take their choice between managing such things themselves or leaving them undone altogether. And it is tolerably certain that the people of more limited means generally have the better part of the two. While they may be forced to assume more labor and responsibility, they feel far more complete gratification when successful results are achieved, than they would do if they had not put the work of their brains and hands into the effort.

The question of amusement is one that instantly presents itself when the matter of giving, even a small party, is under discussion. At open air festivities, dancing is seldom practicable, for in spite of the enthusiastic descriptions given by poets and pastoral writers, of the delights of "dances on the green," the reality falls far below the bliss claimed for it by its eulogist. It may serve for those unsophisticated creatures who have never known the adjuncts of polished floors or dancing crash, but to those who have once made acquaintance with these luxuries, the inequalities of even the smoothest lawn present almost insuperable obstacles. Square dances may possibly be indulged in moderately, but waltzing is usually out of the question.

The tendency of social circles in small country places is generally towards games, sometimes, it may be said regretfully, of a decidedly romping nature. When this element of "horse play" is permitted to be introduced, there is invariably an instant and very perceptible lowering of tone and loss of refinement. That real pleasure and boisterousness are incompatible seems incomprehensible to some minds, whose highest idea of "a good time" seems to consist in unlimited loud laughter and rough amusements of the roll-and-tumble order. There are plenty of occupations, however, that bring equal enjoyment, and that leave no bitter taste behind in the remembrance of actions that could never have occurred except when the perpetrators were flushed with excitement.

When there is a tennis court on the grounds, there is little difficulty in providing pastime for a portion of the guests, either as participants, or lookers on, and even the generally disregarded croquet has its devotees, who prefer an amusement which calls for less violent exercise than that required by its fashionable rival. Neither is ring toss or "ship coil" to be despised, while archery, though less of a craze than it was a few years ago, is always charming. If the givers of the *fete champetre* are so fortunate as to have boating facilities near them, one of the most delightful modes of recreation is already at hand. Even a flat bottomed scow, provided it does not leak, may be transformed into a very presentable pleasure boat by the judicious application of rugs, seat cushions, and flags or streamers.

Music is always a great addition to the attractiveness of parties held out of doors, and is really pleasanter there, when softened by a little distance, than in a parlor, where its imprisonment within walls causes it to place an efficient embargo upon connected conversation. There are few country neighborhoods which do not possess some amateur musicians who are gratified at the request to bring violin, guitar or banjo with them for the benefit of their fellow guests. A piano may be moved near the open window, where its notes can be clearly heard by those outside. It is seldom that any other diversion is desired on a warm day, than that furnished by bright skies, fresh surroundings, and congenial society. But if more is craved, cards may be produced, or some of the many pencil and paper games that make calls upon the ingenuity and quick wittedness of those who take part in them.

In choosing an evening for which to issue invitations, it is unnecessary to say that it is best to select a time when there will be moonlight. Still, if one wishes to honor a guest who makes her visit when the moon is on the wane, its absence can be partially supplied by lanterns, Japanese or otherwise, reflector lamps, and the like. If a head light can be secured, so much the better. The twilight of summer evenings lasts so long that a brilliant illumination is not needed.

The greatest drawback to preparations for garden parties is the uncertainty one must always feel about the weather. Few things are more trying than to make all one's arrangements for a charming open air gathering and have them set at naught by a steady downpour, or a succession of hard showers. Two courses are open to the hostess. Either she may make the acceptance of her invitations conditional upon the weather, and announce that in case of storm the guests will be expected upon the following day, or she may so dispose matters that, if necessary, the company may adjourn to the house or piazza. The first course has the serious objection that unhappy results may arrive to the destructible portion of the refreshments, should the bad weather last more than the anticipated length of time. Moreover, it is felt to be hardly safe by most people to sit about on the grass when it has been saturated with rain within twenty-four hours. There are, naturally, drawbacks to the second course, but still it is preferable to the other, and if the hostess is prepared for the contingency, the party may turn out to be very agreeable, after all.

A piazza tea may be rendered a pleasant affair. Pots and boxes of flowers may be ranged along the edge, where they will look pretty under any circumstances. The small tables which should be placed about on the lawn for use at supper time, may readily be transferred to the porch or parlors. The skies seldom fail to give sufficient warning when a storm is approaching to allow the chairs, hammocks, cushions, etc., to be brought under cover before it breaks.

In the matter of refreshments, although individual taste may be allowed free scope, a few suggestions may not be inopportune. To keep up the uniform simplicity which should characterize the whole entertainment, an elaborate menu must be avoided. A number of hot dishes, such as would be savory and appropriate in winter, are unseasonable and unappetizing in summer. Rich pastry, too, should be abjured. Something lighter and less heating will prove tempting where heavy food would be without relish. The prejudice against eating oysters and shell fish "in the months without an R" is an unreasonable one that is fast disappearing. Raw oysters, served in the shell, and surrounded with finely cracked ice, pickled oysters, eaten with olives and crisp crackers, or with thin bread and butter, oyster, lobster or salmon salads surrounded with fresh lettuce and covered with mayonnaise dressing, cold meats, jellied tongue, roast chicken, boiled ham, or beef *a la mode*, cut in delicate slices, and garnished with sprigs of parsley, piles of light rolls, ready buttered, dainty cakes, fancy and plain, berries heaped in pretty glass or china dishes that have first been lined with cool green leaves, or when berries are out of season, custards, jellies, or trifles. Care must be taken with jellies to secure their firmness. If too large a proportion of liquid to the amount of gelatine used is avoided, and if the jellies are put into a cold place to form, they will be tolerably sure to be clear and solid even in the most muggy weather. Ice cream and water ices are delicious in warm weather, but these are sometimes not easily purchased in the country, and many housekeepers shrink from the labor involved in manufacturing them at home. When they are available, however, they are more popular than any other kind of refreshment. An abundance of cool drinks should be on hand, iced lemonade and coffee, Russian tea, claret cup, and the endless variety of non-intoxicating beverages which are grateful to those heated with exercise or conversation.

If a less expensive and troublesome style of entertaining is desired than a regular supper party, the ever delightful afternoon tea furnishes a pleasant mode of giving a reception to a generous number of guests, at a small outlay of care and money. No other refection is required at these affairs beyond a liberal supply of the iced drinks enumerated above, with plenty of light cakes to eat therewith. Any addition desired in the line of ices or fruits can be provided at pleasure. Unless finger bowls and doilies are furnished, it is better to have such fruit as peaches or oranges served sliced rather than whole. Even in the warmest weather, it is considered "the thing" to offer hot tea, made on the table, in the English fashion, for those who wish it. Some people claim that it is in reality less heating than iced drinks.

In sending out invitations for an afternoon tea, the hours at which the reception is expected to begin and close should always be specified. The best vogue in this regard is the simplest, consisting of the engraved visiting card of the hostess, bearing her name, the date and time of the tea. For instance: "Mrs. John Smith" in the centre of the card, and in the lower left hand corner, the words "Tea, from 5 to 7, July 10th." Of course, the hours must be chosen to suit the circumstances and the hostess, and may be from four to six, or five to seven or eight.

While the wearing of bonnets is invariable at these affairs in the city, in a hot July or August day in the country, the custom is more honored in the breach than in the observance. The matter is optional, however, and at an informal gathering of this sort, individual choice may be trusted to decide the question.

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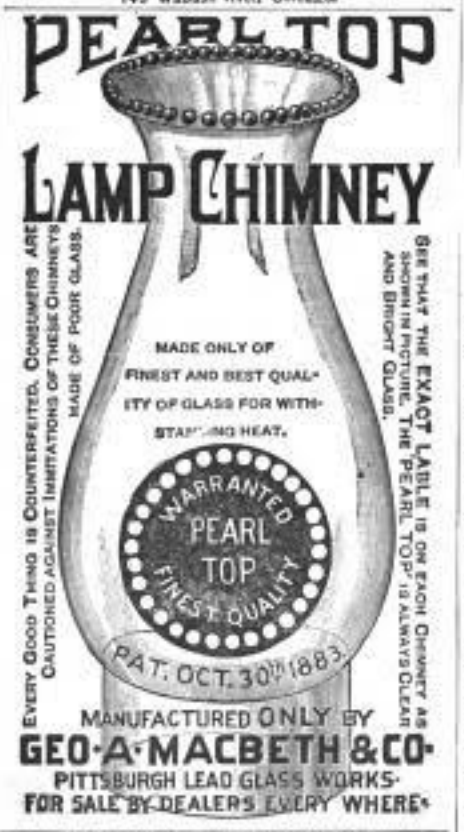

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HINTS UPON ETIQUETTE AND GOOD MANNERS.

NO. V.

BY MRS. S. O. JOHNSTON.

The Etiquette of Receiving and Entertaining Visitors.

To entertain company at home with perfect ease and composure is a fine art, that can only be acquired by long usage, and should be practiced from childhood—*i. e.* parents should allow their children to be present when their guests are expected, and teach them by example, as well as by precept, to bow, and offer the hand gracefully, and to smile pleasantly, and to express pleasure in receiving friends. A boy or girl thus taught, will rarely, if ever, lose composure, or appear ill at ease in any society.

No appearance of haste should be permitted, but a calm, quiet demeanor is very essential. Behaviour at home being one of the surest touchstones of good manners; there are many persons who, though able to appear self possessed, and perfectly well bred abroad, yet, at home, behave entirely the opposite. And this is caused by their great desire to present a good appearance. If they were as oblivious to self at home as they are in their friends' homes, they would not exhibit so much embarassment.

"Company, various company," said that model of good manners, Chesterfield, "is the only school for obtaining a good knowledge of the art of entertaining. Nothing forms a young person's manners so much as to keep respectable and superior company, where a constant regard and attention is needful. It is true, that at first, it is a disagreeable state of restraint; but it soon grows habitual, and consequently, easy; and you are amply paid for it, by the improvement you will make, and the credit it gives you."

The great secret of entertaining company well, lies in striving to make each guest perfectly at his ease, and in taking care to invite those whom you know to be in sympathy with each other, and not at variance. For, in large towns, and even in small villages, little feuds and private quarrels are *en regle*, and to invite those to meet at your table, whom you know to have antipathy to each other, is not to exhibit good tact, and tact is quite as essential as taste in giving entertainments of all kinds.

To be sure, there are many who seem to possess the faculty of setting every one at his ease, and are thus able to cheer the timid guest with a smile, and in the same manner to repress those who are apt to encroach upon one's good nature, and who seem endowed with the power to stimulate and encourage every one who comes under their influence. They are the ones who with

"A smile on the face, and kind words on the tongue.
Will serve you as passports all nations among;
For a heart that is cheerful, a spirit that's free,
Will carry you bravely o'er life's stormy sea."

If you really wish to become a successful entertainer,—and it is a great accomplishment—it is only necessary to throw self behind you, and to think *only* of your guests, and how you can make the evening pass most pleasantly for them. By so doing it will prove very pleasant to yourself, as that is one of the rules of life.

If one's early education has been neglected, and the etiquette of good society has yet to be learned, it can be surely acquired by practice. A family of sisters, or a husband and wife, if so disposed, can train themselves into the habit of receiving and entertaining guests, and can learn how to enter a room with ease, and to greet their host and hostess, or to receive guests themselves.

Servile imitations we would not advise; but to practice the arts of society is as desirable as to practice music, or to go to dancing school. The young mother can teach herself while she trains her child—not to copy the manners of others exactly, as the monkey copies—but to make them her own, and to wear them with a special grace belonging to herself alone. A woman possesses a quick perception of the right tone of the voice, the sweetest expression of the mouth, and the best pose of the body, and she can make them her own, if she will use her good sense in learning them.

It has been well said that "the quickness of woman's intuition is an inspiration, and that she is heiress to all the riches of the rare styles of the past, if she only desires to possess them. But to become the inheritor, she must train herself to modulate her voice rightly, and to padlock her tongue carefully, and to be pleasant, when not at all pleased."

It will take time to thus educate oneself, but it will pay a good dividend in the future, for

"Nature in her productions slow, aspires
By just degrees to reach perfections height,"

and the lady whose manners you so justly admire, may have attained them only through long years of careful assiduity.

Hospitality is enjoined upon us as a christian duty, and every one can practice it if inclined to be social, and it will promote good feeling in the neighborhood, and teach one to act well his part in life.

The expense need not be great, for a simple tea party is often a social tit-bit more highly relished than a grand dinner, an evening reception, or a ball. Now-a-days, it is "the fashion, you know," to give pink, or buff, or blue tea parties, in which the chosen color predominates upon the decorations of the table and house, and thus a charming effect is given to the tea table, etc.

Per example: If a pink tea party is to be given, a pink satin double bow of ribbon is tied upon the handles of the tea cups, with sharply pointed ends; and if there are other dishes which have handles, a similar bow is tied into them. If pink china is not obtainable, the satin ribbon will give all the color required. But a pink damask table cloth, or a white one with red border, and napkins to match, will give a little more color to the surroundings. Pink frosting should ornament the cake, and strawberry ice cream, or strawberries and cream, are a desirable adjunct. Then the hostess should wear either a pink and white dress, or a black, white, or colored one trimmed profusely with pink ribbons, or pink roses. At each plate a bouquet of pink, or pink, red, and white roses should be laid. The waitress can also wear pink bows in her mob cap, and a pink apron over a white gown, or rice-scrim. For a buff tea party, buff ribbons, damask, china, and roses are selected, and chocolate frosted cakes will give the toning color to the table. For a blue tea party, blue ribbons and china, with blue forget-me-nots, and white roses or daises, can be selected; and white cakes prepared, with cocoanut frostings; white and blue being mingled. A hostess can thus adorn her table and herself to form a very pretty picture, which will delight her guests, both for its novelty and its beauty. Of course it must be prepared with taste, (*i. e.* with brains), and must not be overdone, too much of the color not being used; and there must be a preponderance of white, with any color, so as not to tire the eye.

If you invite friends for a visit of days or weeks, it is a good plan to state their number, then if you desire a longer stay the invitation can be urged. Mention also the day and train upon which you would like to receive them. By thus doing you will place your guest more at ease, and avoid all embarassments. Everything must be provided for the convenience of the visitor, in the guest chamber, from towels to foot bath, pincushion and pins; and a personal surveillance is required, before the guest arrives, or some important thing will be forgotten. If the weather is cold, do not wait till your guest arrives before a fire is built to make the apartment comfortable. A physician of high repute once said: "that more deaths were caused by the chilling hospitality of northerner's homes than one could imagaine, for a disused guest room, with its badly aired beds, and a fire made only when the guests arrived, or shortly before, was the worst man-trap that ever was invented. And when he was called to visit patients at a distance, he always avoided a 'best room' as he would a pestilence." Be sure to consult your friends' comfort in every particular; not by asking them if they will have this or that, or do thus and so, but by providing for their every need, and preparing for them all the entertainments in your power.

Yet, do not over-exert yourself, or, as the phrase goes, "put yourself out too much," so that the visitor will perceive that your daily routine of life is interrupted,—and will feel that he is, as it were, in the way—but arrange your affairs so that no changes need be perceptible to the closest observer.

The guests, on their part, should understand that it is desirable to give the host and hostess a little time to themselves, and should strive not to encroach too much upon the morning hours of the mistress of the house; and will, also, retire to their own apartment in the afternoon, for a little while. To many women, it becomes irksome to have a visitor constantly on hand, and a little tact could be well displayed in this particular. "Welcome the coming, but speed the parting guest," is an old maxim, worthy of due observance at all times. After you have urged your visitor to remain awhile longer, and perceive that it is not possible for them to do so, take every precaution to make their departure as comfortable as their visit has been, by giving all desirable information concerning routes, and time tables; and order the carriage in due season to convey them to station or steamer, and provide a lunch, if needful.

The guest should return these courtesies by sending a warmly expressed letter, at the earliest hour after his return home; and should mention each member of the family, and allude to the kindnesses received from them, and express a desire to reciprocate them in the near future. Visitors should always give the servants, either small sums of money, or other little gifts, equally acceptable, as they have had extra work in their behalf. And they should also remember the Arabs maxim: "*Never speak ill of him of whose salt you have partaken.*" Such a breach of good manners is inexcusable.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

"A Subscriber" writes: "When a person wishes one the 'Compliments of the season,' should one in reply, say 'Thank you?'" 2d. "What reply should one make when introduced to a person who says: 'Happy to make your acquaintance?'"

1st. Yes, "thank you" is sufficient, but everything depends upon the voice and manner in which the reply is given. Say it with a pleasing smile, and a gracious manner, or, "throw your heart into it," as a lovely lady once said, when asked how to reply to such a greeting.

2d. "Thank you" is also a proper reply to this question, or, a polite bow and gentle smile will suffice; and something can be said relating to the surroundings.

"An Inquirer" asks: "Why is it etiquette to ask for a second plate of fish chowder, when one is not to ask for a second plate of soup?"

Ans. That is one of the unanswerable questions concerning the etiquette of the table, but it is a fact that the chowder can be renewed without any breach of etiquette.

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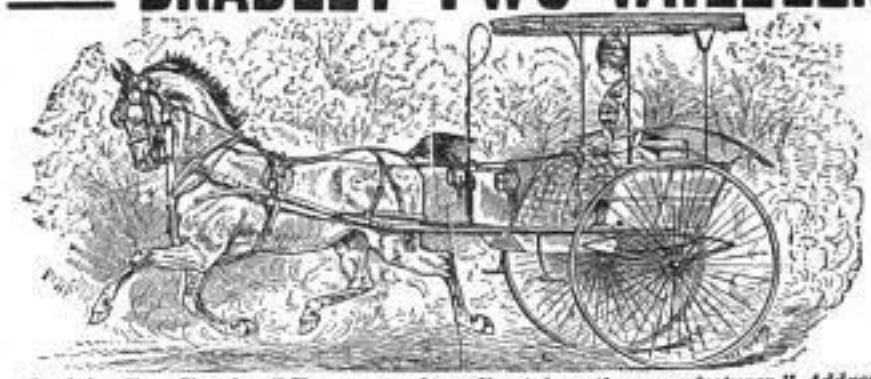
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(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

MUSICAL STUDIES.

NO XVI.

BY MARGARET S. HARVEY.

The great majority of my readers—if I am reaching those whom I hoped to reach—have never seen, or never will see, an opera performed many times in their lives. But, that does not follow that they need be unfamiliar with the opera. Many of you have never seen, or never will see, the great works of Raphael, Michael Angelo, and the other old masters—but you already know the Sistine Madonna and Moses, from photographs and engravings. You would consider your education quite incomplete, if you knew nothing of high art in painting and sculpture—but, alas! you seem to regard your ignorance of high art in music with a culpable complacency. But, suppose I told you it was possible to know even more of music than painting or sculpture, without going very far out of your way? What would you think if you could bring into your own house, the actual Madonna which Raphael painted, or the Moses which Michael Angelo carved, purchased for a few cents at your village store, or handed to you out of the post-office window? Suppose, by following a few printed directions, and manipulating an instrument of wood and wire, you could create anew, by your own fingers, Raphael's Madonna, or Michael Angelo's Moses, just as really as they had done it before you, just as truly, as God can create a new soul? Do you not tremble—with a solemn, mysterious awe—to think of such a thing? But, you can have in your home, the works of Mendelssohn, Mozart and Wagner, just as really as the great ones have them in their hearts and brains—their works, in their very essence, the very same sounds heard by their own creators. Is not music, truly, the "art divine!" It is as near pure, heavenly spirit as anything earthly of which we can conceive—impalpable to touch, taste, sight, or smell, imperceptible to all senses save hearing, which actually seems a spiritual rather than a physical one. An art, dealing with material so etherial that it can only be represented in a crude, arbitrary way, over whose symbols even its devotees disagree. Because it is etherial, is the reason that it can be carried over mountains and sea, be heard in a million places at once, and live for centuries in immortal youth, losing nothing by space, division and time, which would be death and destruction to color, form, and substance.

Perhaps you will stop me, just here, and say that the same may be said of poetry. In a degree—yes. Thought is akin to sound. But, suppose you could call out the very tones of the human voice from the printed page—suppose you could penetrate at once to his very soul, and forget the intervening medium of set words? Poetry is imperfect music—music has taken one step further into the domain of the celestial, leading us a little deeper into the realm of the unseen. When we are perfect, we can follow to another world.

If music, to me, is so holy, how do I account for the existence of a low style of music, or for perverted music? you will ask. I adopt an illustration from the Swedenborgian idea of life. All life flows from God—but it is modified by the medium receiving it. A wicked man, or a repulsive animal, receiving life or using it wrongly, does not make the life itself less holy—perversions may be made to serve a temporary use, leading to a higher end. Think of music, then, always, as something holy—its seeming degredation, a temporary perversion. Referring to my last—I consider ordinary Sunday school music quite a perversion; but if it led any one to a higher knowledge, it had a place—it will be forgotten after awhile, as its end has served.

Study the opera. It is to music what the drama is to literature. Now, here rises some good aunt, who has always been taught that the opera is very wicked, and conscientiously contradicts my advice. Very well—if your proper guardians forbid your going to the opera, I am not the one to say, Go. But, these same guardians would probably encourage you to *read* selections from Shakespeare, Goethe and Schiller; there is just as much reason why you should *play* selections from Donizetti, Rossini or Gounod. You may, in either case, never see the inside of a theatre, or opera house.

But, if you do attend the opera, don't be carried away by the scenery, the costumes, the acting, or even the story. These are not the opera—they are the accompaniment to a song, the binding to a book, the frame to a picture. The plot of an opera is often thin, the words poor—the music is the all in all. We all know of Verdi's Trovatore, Bellini's Norma, and Wagner's Lohengrin—but we think of the airs, the orchestral effects—does anybody ever ask, Who wrote the *libretto*, that is, the words? Wagner, to be sure, has raised the dignity of the libretto, by adapting stories beautiful in themselves, principally old German legends. But still, this greatest of masters has already told us by his example that music can be independent of all external aids.

An opera is a play set to music—or rather, music interpreting a play. It is only the extension of the idea o a song interpreting a short poem—but, as a number of characters are introduced, and depicted in association and action, it follows that the range of thought and passion to be expressed by one composition, may be indefinitely extended. Now, here comes in the composer's skill. Can he, with music as his magic influence, with men and women and dumb machinery as puppets, so carry his audience with him, that they shall at his command, within a short space of time, experience all the v ried emotions of love, hate, joy, grief, hope, despair, terror and ecstasy? Is not an opera, then, the sublimest product of human genius?

But, how does he do it? So far as human means are concerned, we can very readily find out. An artist accomplishes something similar, although inferior, by means of paint and brushes. Of course the paint and brushes don't make the picture, but he can't make a picture without them—and he does not forbid you to find out all that you can about his paint and brushes.

Analyze an opera as you would a poem. It does not preserve a uniform level throughout. If it deals with the lighter and graver emotions, its tone changes from light to grave. You laugh at the jokes in a tragedy of Shakespeare's, without failing, in the least, to weep, as he intended you should, over the heart-rending climax. So, in "Paul and Virginia," you can laugh at the outlandish negro dance, and weep, as Paul clasps the dead body of Virginia, cast up at his feet by the waves. Everything, as in real life, has, or should have, its proper place. But, suppose some one told you that a course jest was Shakespeare, or a negro festivity, the whole story of Paul and Virginia? Just as reasonable is he who tells you that a polka or schottische is all of music.

An opera is an epitome of all music, just as a drama is, of all literature. You can learn enough of any opera, for your own enjoyment, from a *pot-pourri*, or popular arrangement. From the same opera may be derived a dance, a march, a prayer, a hymn, a song, a descriptive poem, a chorus, and so on, indefinitely. It is easy, now, for you to see why. These are the means employed, in expressing the varied emotions of the characters, and calling into play those of the auditors. These are the paints and brushes of the artist.

Play a dance as you would recite a ballad. But, suppose you never recited anything but ballads—suppose you did not know that there were such compositions as sonnets and epics, or considered it a species of affectation in anybody to attempt to interpret *them*? Will Carleton's productions have their own, respectable place—but suppose you preferred him to Milton? What would your literary attainments or opinions be worth? You would be in the same place exactly, as the young lady who said she knew all about music, "from A to Izzard," because she could play the old "Rochester Schottische" and "Mabel Waltz." Forgive me, if I sound a little pedantic—but I can't play popular dance music. Similarly, because I have played chess, I cannot play checkers—people think it is because I don't know how. But, I never could button my shoes any other way than from the top downwards. If I have brought you to the fountain-head, you can intelligently wander as far down the stream as you please.

Make a few choice selections from operas, so as to gain your first ideas of a general musical literature. Nearly everything available for amateurs is published in sheet music form, at popular prices. I will give you a short list, such as may be supplied by any music store.

Marches: From Faust, Gounod; from Norma, Bellini; Wedding March, from Lohengrin, Wagner; Wedding March, from Midsummer Night's Dream, Mendelssohn.

Songs: Jewel Song, from Faust, Gounod; Ask Me Not Why, from Daughter of the Regiment, Donizetti; It is Better to Laugh than be Sighing, from Lucretia Borgia, Donizetti; Last Rose of Summer, from Martha, Flotow; Then You'll Remember Me, from Bohemian Girl, Balfe.

Pot Pourris: Popular arrangement of Green Hills of Tyrol, Pull Away Brave Boys, etc., from William Tell, Rossini; of, What Rapture Can Equal the Joy of the Huntsman? etc., from Der Freyschutz, Weber; of, Tempest of the Heart, Miserere, etc., from Il Trovatore, Verdi; of, Come With the Gypsey Bride, Heart Bowed Down, etc., from Bohemian Girl, Balfe.

The list is very imperfect, and might be extended indefinitely—but if you attempt but half of the foregoing, you will have your hands full. Later, however, do not bother with extracts. Buy a whole opera, and make your own selections—you will find it the shortest and cheapest way in the end. Any music dealer can give you the name of a standard edition of operas, each published in a cloth bound volume, costing $1.00—in paper, something less.

Know the opera—you will find it cropping out everywhere. Open your hymn book. The church tune Herold is the famous prayer from Zampa, undisguised, and named after the composer. Seymour, or Weber, is from Weber's Oberon, and Fading Light, arranged by Everest, from Der Freyschutz. Ovio is the celebrated "Hear me, Norma," scarcely altered. And, here is a really pretty little Sunday school ditty—it is Bellini's exquisite "Hour of Parting," fallen from its first estate. The grand "March," in Faust, and a lovely tenor solo in Martha, have formed the groundwork of two hideous comic songs. The magnificent bridal marches, one by Mendelssohn, the other, by Wagner, are now played at every fashionable church wedding. Concert music is largely derived from the opera—the beautiful chorus, "Thy Flowery Banks, O Flowing River," is from The Huguenots, by Meyerbeer. Then, "piano pieces"—horrible name, why doesn't some one invent a better one!—are frequently transcriptions. A transcription is a composition taken from a song, in which the melody is woven in with the accompaniment, the piano thus imitating the voice. A cavatine from an opera is a beautiful arrangement, frequently, of a vocal part. Before me are several, all lovely—one from William Tell, one from Trovatore, one from Bohemian Girl. With a piano, you have a condensed operatic company in your house all the time.

From the top downwards! If you take up the study of an ordinary "piece,"—a dance, a song, a march, or idyl, not from an opera, consider it only as an imitation of something similar from an opera, and give it its proper place accordingly. Thus, you may derive considerable pleasure from the perusal of "Helen's Babies," but would never think of putting it on the same plane as "Daniel Deronda," among novels. Of course, I am not now speaking of modest, minor compositions of extraordinary merit—but, of the great mass of musical trash with which average music teachers deluge their pupils, for two or three years of their studies. The average student is so exhausted over trifling "Rosebud" waltzes, and "Silly" polkas—I meant Lily, but I won,t correct it—at the end of months and years of practice, that he, or she, gives up in despair, before reaching the threshold of the higher temple of music. I hope to bring you straight to the door, and not let you lose your way, or waste your strength among bewildering by-roads.

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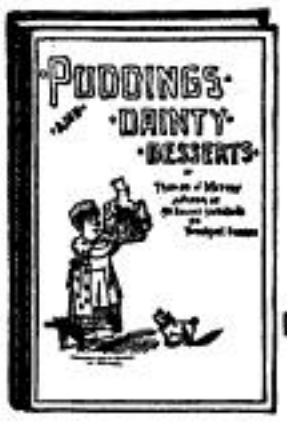

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

"NO MATTER."

BY ANABEL C. ANDREWS.

(*Conclusion.*)

"Well, I went back to that little tent you may have noticed—where they sell soda and the like—to buy a bottle and have it filled with ice water for you. The young lady who served me was nearly your size and height, had on a jersey, and looked good-natured. I told her my, or rather our, troubles, and asked her if she wouldn't sell me that jersey, since she was at home, and of course, had more clothing. Now wasn't that Yankee enterprise? She did, and here it is. Now put it on—for not a soul can see us save the angels and myself, and I'll turn my back."

How Bessie laughed as she hastily made the change, Dick being ladies' maid and pinning her collar. He rolled up the torn jersey and empty bottle, and, tucking the bundle under his arm, they turned toward the gardens once more.

"What are you going to do with that bottle, uncle Dick?"

"I promised to return it because the young lady would not allow me to pay for it; and I told her she might have what is left of the jersey."

Not one of the party could imagine where the new jersey came from, for Dick and Bessie only smiled and gave them no satisfaction.

Bessie managed to get through the rest of the day, and reach home without further accident, to find her mother sitting up for her, though it was very late. Throwing her arms around that much enduring woman's neck, Bessie cried out:

"O Marmsy, such a horrid, horrid day! all because I didn't mind what you told me. I lost my darling hat; and oh dear!—now I've cried all over your clean collar, and I s'pose the tears are running down your neck on the inside. There never was such a good-for-naught as I!" and poor Bessie buried her face in her mother's dress and cried it out.

Mrs. Crofts only smoothed her hot forehead softly, and at length she said: "There, dear, go to bed now, and to-morrow you can tell me all about it; perhaps it will be a much-needed lesson to you." As a faithful chronicler I am bound to confess, however, that Mrs. Crofts did not look radiantly hopeful of any such result.

Next morning Bessie poured all her griefs into her mother's sympathetic ears; told her of Dick's promise, and declared war against her former habit of procrastination. "And now, she concluded, "if you hear me say 'no matter,' or just about to say it, you say 'scat!' then I'll be careful."

Mrs. Crofts readily promised to "scat" in the right place; and Bessie sat down by the window to watch the rain fall, looking out with an unusually thoughtful face.

Monday morning the sun shone out radiantly, and as Bessie rose from the breakfast table she said to Hector,—who was her shadow always, "Now doggie, you and I will have a race to wake us up, and then I must go to mending. See that ring, sir? Some day I'll have a watch to go with it. Come on!" and away they sped down the walk from the back piazza. Passing by the door a few minutes later, Mrs. Crofts was just in time to see Bessie fall flat in a pool of soft mud, and Hector drag her out by the dress; she darted off again in an instant, Hector barking wildly at her heels, and her mother, "between a smile and a tear," went back to her work. Some fifteen minutes later she heard: "O my gracious goodness!" in Bessie's voice, and "Good morning, Miss Bessie," in Bert Ames' clear tones. Stepping into the kitchen, Mrs. Crofts saw Bessie sitting on the sunny piazza floor, her arm over Hector, her torn, mud-smirched dress displaying one small boot, from which at least half the buttons were gone; and one could see at a glance, just roused from the pages of the book which rested on Hector's neck.

Bert Ames was Bessie's particular friend among the gentlemen, just home on a vacation from college; and on this particular morning, taking orders for his father during the illness of one of the clerks. When he had taken Mrs. Crofts orders, and departed, that lady said, in tones of utter discouragement: "Bessie! so soon?"

"Mother I was so heated and tired, I just sat down to rest, and happened to see my book."

Mrs. Crofts said nothing, and Bessie continued, in a low tone:

"Mother I've never said I *would* do differently, because I never dared; but now I say I will do better;" and Bessie laid down her book, kissed her mother, and went to her chamber—closely followed by Hector, who first solemnly wiped his feet on the mat.

Half an hour later, a clean, tidy Bessie came down; her arms full, and a basket which Hector carried in his mouth, also full. Seating herself by a pleasant window, she went to work with a will; before evening, everything was finished; and in response to the dog's frantic appeals she went for a walk on the lawn, where she took that faithful friend into her confidence regarding certain plans she had made.

Next day, the hat which Dick had bought for her at the beach was converted into a handsome scrap basket, and hung in the sitting room; and the shawl pin—decorated with a peacock-blue ribbon—hung in her chamber where she saw it the first thing on waking. The silk handkerchief was made soon after into a sofa pillow for the parlor; these, with the ring, were perpetual reminders, and Bessie faithfully heeded them. So faithfully, that, on her birthday, a dear little Elgin watch from her uncle Dick, and a chain from her father and her mother, were beside her plate in the morning; the case of the watch bearing, in beautifully engraved letters, this motto: "A stitch in time saves nine."

Much as she prizes these, however, she counts them secondary to the comfort of being always tidy; and she has fully decided that it certainly does matter whether a duty is performed when it should be, or left to make confusion for oneself and others.

Especially Thoughtful People.

In common with other thoughtful people, clergymen look with interest upon any method of relieving suffering. But they are very cautious about giving their names as witnesses to the value of any new candidate for favor in the healing art. They see many people and hear discussions of the merits and demerits of everything asking attention. The testing thus afforded, secures them from making the mistake of hasty judgments, and gives to their utterances a value which those of few others can have. When so many therefore cheerfully make statements like the following, the seeker after health has reason to take courage:

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They All Do It!

Byron, I think it was, sang of one who, "swearing that she would ne'er consent, consented." He was old and bald-headed, but he had money. She was young and fair, but poor; she would like to marry "odd money bags," but that bald head she never, no, never could stand that, so like Byron's maid "she would not consent." But the old coon settled the business at last, and they were married. Carboline did it, transformed the old bald-headed man to a comparatively young man with flowing locks, and that is how she came to consent at last. All's well that ends well.

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As a seaside companion THE LABLACHE FACE POWDER will enjoy a genuine and enduring popularity. This powder is a medicated preparation. It removes and prevents tan, freckles, sunburn, redness, pimples, irritation and all blemishes of the skin. It supplies a want most sensibly felt by society ladies. It reproduces the bloom of youth. THE LABLACHE FACE POWDER is sold by all reliable druggists, or will be mailed to any address on receipt of a 50-cent postal note or 25 2-cent stamps. BEN. LEVY & CO., French Perfumers, 58 Winter street, Boston.

$1000 Every 100 Days Positively sure to Agents everywhere selling our New Silver Mould White Wire Clothes Line. Warranted. Pleases at sight. Cheap. Sells readily at every house. Agents clearing $10 per day. Our best agents are ladies. Handsome samples free. Address: GIRARD WIRE MILLS, Philadelphia, Pa.

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A two-cent stamp sent to SNOW & EARLE, PROVIDENCE, R. I., will obtain by mail a "trial package" of Biliousine, thus enabling everybody to ascertain by personal experience and not by the testimony of others that there is a sure cure for Headache, Dyspepsia, Constipation, Indigestion, Sour Stomach, Heartburn, Liver Complaint, and all diseases which arise from a disordered stomach.

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1,001 Important things you never knew or thought of about the human body and its curious organs, *How life is perpetuated, health saved, disease induced, How to avoid pitfalls of ignorance and indiscretion, How to apply Home Cure to all forms of disease, How to cure Croup, Old Sores, Rupture, Phimosis, etc., How to make be happy in marriage, have prize babies* SEND FOR OUR FREE RED, WHITE BLUE PAMPHLETS Murray Hill Pub. Co., 129 E. 28th St., New York.

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By the recent great discovery of substituting a DRY Gelatine film for Wet Collodion, the entire material is now prepared in large Photo. Factories, and SOLD READY FOR USE, similar to Cartridges for a Gun; Enabling Men or Women with no experience, to produce superior Photos to what formerly required long years of difficult practice; costing less than 50 cts. for one dozen large photos, that sell for $4 to $6. Is paying big with other business in stores or shops, or at home, or from house to house. The novel surprise of a man with complete apparatus, appearing at the door ready to photo, anything, Persons, Groups, Buildings, or Animals, secures profitable orders in nine out of ten homes; Affords Steady Work and pays 300 per cent. profit.

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MELODISTA AUTOMATIC ORGAN.

Most Wonderful *Musical Instrument the world has ever seen.* Plays Hymn Tunes, Popular Airs, Quadrilles, Polkas, Waltzes, Reels, and Hornpipes, with a clearness, accuracy, and degree of execution which but few performers can equal. A mere child can play it. The MELODISTA, with its automatic music sheets, represents both organ and organist, music and musician, and is adapted for Singing and Dancing Parties, and Evening Entertainments. Simply turning the little crank from the music strips, blows the bellows, and produces the music. The most exquisite trills are as easily produced as a single note, and the most difficult and complicated operatic airs are played as perfectly as a simple tune; and the music produced is as melodious and sweet as a cabinet organ. It has Two Stops, and powerful organ reeds that will last a lifetime. It is made as well as a first-class cabinet organ, and not like the cheap instruments heretofore offered for sale.

For Dance music it can be heard throughout the largest halls, and it will play a dance as long as desired, without any break, instead of stopping to replace the piece, as must be done with all Organettes.

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Price $10. Our object is to have it introduced without delay, so as to sell thousands at the regular price, and to this end I am willing to offer First One at $5, as every one sold sells others. We ask in return that you show the instrument to your friends, who are sure to order at the regular price. The instrument speaks for itself and sings its own praises.

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SPECIAL THIRTY DAY OFFER. To introduce our $10 Melodista Organ AT ONCE, we will, on receipt of this advertisement and $5 within 30 days, box and ship the Organ, exactly the same as we sell for $10. You should order immediately, and in no case later than 30 days from the time you receive this paper. If you do not wish the instrument, you should avail yourself of this great offer AT ONCE, even if you are obliged to borrow the money, as you can easily sell the Organ and realize a good profit. No such offer was ever made or will be again. Take advantage of it while the opportunity is yours. OUR PROFIT must come from future sales. OUR CONFIDENCE in its Genuine Merits is so great, that we believe when one is introduced in a town or village it will sell a dozen or more at regular price. We desire to make each purchaser our agent. If you can help us to introduce them to your friends we shall esteem it a great favor. Enclose $5 with this notice, and we will ship the MELODISTA ORGAN, in elegant Piano-Polished Case, richly ornamented in gold, at once. Address, C. H. W. BATES & CO., 106 Sudbury St., Boston, Mass.

Pall Mall Electric Association, London. Dr. SCOTT'S ELECTRIC CURLER. 50c. Sent on Trial. Postpaid.

By its aid the hair, beard or moustache can be curled any desired style in from one to two minutes. For ladies it produces the "Langtry Style," the "Patti Bang," the "Montague Curl," and any other form desired by ladies wearing their hair in the fashionable "loose and fluffy" mode. Gentlemen's moustaches and beards curled for the day in a few seconds. A beautiful article; handle of rosewood, other part nickel-plated.

Dr. SCOTT'S ELECTRIC TOOTH BRUSH. 50c.

Dr. SCOTT'S ELECTRIC TOOTH BRUSH. The finest Tooth Brush ever made, constructed by a new patented process which renders it impossible for bristles to come out in use. Each of above articles guaranteed and sent on trial, postpaid, on receipt of price, 50cts., or both for $1. They may be returned if not satisfactory. CANVASSING AGENTS WANTED for Dr. SCOTT'S ELECTRIC CORSETS, BRUSHES, BELTS, Etc. No risk, quick sales. GEO. A. SCOTT, 842 Broadway, New York. Sold at Drug and Fancy Stores. Mention this publication.

FREE To every reader of this paper who sends us their address, we will send postpaid, our Great Family Story Paper 3 months free, and the first person whose name is received, we will give a Waterbury Watch; the next 30 names received, a Ladies' Silk Sack; to the next 100, a pair of handsome sleeve buttons. We make you this offer to have you try our paper. Send your name at once and you will get a First-class Paper 3 months FREE, and one of the above premiums. This offer good for 30 days only. We want every person who reads this to send us their name now. Send 15 cents in stamps to pay postage.

Address, THE VISITOR MAGAZINE, BOX 3132, BOSTON, MASS.

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Special Summer Offer.

GOOD ONLY FOR JULY AND AUGUST !

Our New and Enlarged Stamping Outfit, which we have never before offered for less than 12 subscribers, we have decided to offer until SEPTEMBER 1st, for ONLY 8 SUBSCRIBERS and 25 cts. extra in cash or stamps.

OUR LATEST AND NEWEST

EMBROIDERY STAMPING OUTFIT !

100 CHOICE PATTERNS.

$1.00 PREPAID BY MAIL.

GIVEN AS PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 8 SUBSCRIBERS, AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR AND 25 CENTS EXTRA IN CASH.

☞ This Complete Outfit and One Year's Subscription to the Journal, Both for only $1.00.

Season after season the dealers in cheap novelties, have endeavored to injure the reputation of our outfits, by offering a larger number of patterns, or a wonderful lot of articles *of a fabulous value.*

Their advertisements and descriptions are written in such a manner as to lead people to expect something great, and it is needless to say they are always disappointed. The patterns our competitors offer are a *lot of worthless little things*, so crowded together on a single sheet that *they cannot be used*, while THE VALUE OF OUR OUTFIT IS IN GOOD, USEFUL STAMPING PATTERNS.

We have had *literally* thousands of ladies complain of these cheap outfits, who throw them away after buying ours.

We have also received thousands of letters from ladies who have secured one of our outfits, expressing the greatest delight and satisfaction.

What is the reason for this?

1st, because we never misrepresent anything.

2d, because the patterns in our outfit are what they are described to be.

3d, because *we* know what ladies interested in fancy work want, and try to please them.

WE WILL CHEERFULLY REFUND THE MONEY AND GIVE OUR PAPER ONE YEAR FREE! TO ANY ONE WHO IS IN THE LEAST DISSATISFIED WITH ONE OF OUR OUTFITS.

Description of a Few of the Patterns.

One set of initials for towels, hat ribbons, etc., worth 50c.
Two outlines for tidies, 25c. each.
One design for tinsel embroidery, 5 inches wide, for end of table scarf, 25c.
One tidy design for ribbon work, 20c.
One large clover design, 7x11, 25c.
One large thistle, 6x7, for Kensington painting, 25c.
One stork and one large butterfly, for lustre painting, 25c.
One pansy design for ladies bag, 10c.
One design for thermometer case, 20c.
One elegant spray of golden rod, 6x11, 25c.
One Martha Washington geranium for plush petals, 6x10, 25c.
One half wreath for hat crown, 15c.
One design for top of umbrella case, 15c.
One spider's web, and one new disk pattern, 25c.
One tidy design, owl's on a tree, 25c.
One vine of daises and ferns, for end of table scarf, 15c.
One wide braiding pattern, 25c.

One large bunch of daises, 25c.

75 more other designs of roses, clematis, autumn leaves, outline designs, etc. *Besides* the patterns the outfit contains: One box black and one box white powder, two distributors, illustrated instruction book, teaching stamping all the stitches, etc., one tidy, all stamped and ready to be worked, with silk to work it.

Besides all the above, we shall continue to give away with each outfit, our book on KNITTING AND CROCHETING, giving instructions for knitting all the latest novelties. Our book on FANCY BRAID AND CROCHET, giving directions for making edgings of feather-edge and other braids.

Remember this is our Special Summer Offer. Now is your time to easily raise clubs at 25 cts per year; for so small a sum of money large clubs can be raised everywhere. No subscriptions will be received after September 1st, for less than Fifty Cents per year. *Now is Your Time!*

LINEN SPLASHERS.

☞ GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR ONLY 6 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS PER YEAR EACH.

These are designed to be placed back of a wash-stand to protect the wall from being soiled by being spattered. They are embroidered mostly in outline with embroidery cotton or etching silk, and are washable. They are finished by fringing and drawn work, according to taste. We will send one Splasher and three skeins of French cotton for a club of only 6 subscribers, or 50 cents.

We have all the new and latest designs. One of the most popular premiums we have to offer. Only six subscribers required to secure it. Easily done, by simply showing a copy of the paper to six of your friends or neighbors. Splashers mailed to any address, postage paid.

These Splashers have proved to be a very popular premium, and are easily secured. Remember, these are SPECIAL SUMMER OFFERS, for July and August ONLY. Subscriptions will not be received after September 1st, at twenty-five cents per year. Now is the time to raise clubs.

DAMASK TRAY CLOTHS !

GIVEN FOR ONLY 12 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR, OR GIVEN FOR ONLY 8 SUBSCRIBERS AND 25 CENTS EXTRA IN CASH OR STAMPS.

These are designed to be placed on the tabel in front of the hostess, and is to be embroidered on the corners or ends. We will send one of these Tray Cloths of fine linen damask, with cup and saucer, sugar bowl, creamer, and teapot stamped in each corner. Given for a club of 12 subscribers, or 75 cents.

Carver's Cloths to match, stamped with knife and fork, dishes, &c. We will send at same price.

☞ This is a special Summer offer for July and August ONLY, and will not be offered again.

The editor of the JOURNAL particularly recommends the Tray Cloths as one of the best premiums we have ever offered. They are very fine and please our subscribers as well as anything we have for premiums.

THE ZEPHYR CORSET.

Given for only 12 subscribers, or given for only 8 subscribers and 25 cents extra in cash or stamps.

This is the best "SUMMER CORSET" ever made. It is made of a single thickness of *Penelope* or open-work *Canvas*, woven from strong, twisted linen thread. Each bone is encased in six thicknesses of cloth, making them exceedingly strong and durable. It comes in white or colored, and is embroidered in white, red or blue.

☞ We will mail this corset to any address, also a copy of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL for one year, for only $1.10, postage paid; or two corsets and two copies of the JOURNAL one year to different addresses, postage paid, for one dollar each.

THIS IS A SPECIAL SUMMER OFFER FOR JULY AND AUGUST ONLY.

How to Knit and What to Knit.

☞ GIVEN FOR ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.

This is the best book yet published on Fancy Knitting. It teaches how to knit, giving descriptions clear, concise, and easily understood. Everything illustrated. Shows cuts and gives Five Different Ways of casting on stitches. Tells how to knit plain knitting, and to purl or seam, how to pick up a stitch, and how to repair a half-knitted stitch; gives two ways to increase, tells how to slip a stitch, how to narrow, how to cast off and how to join ends; gives careful directions for knitting stockings, gives different ways of forming the heels and toes. Tells how to insert a new heel and sole in an old worn stocking; gives directions for common and artistic darning that will imitate the knitted stitch. Gives directions for numerous styles for fancy borders for stockings, mittens, etc., etc.; squares for quilts, afghans, and many other things.

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Sent, Postpaid, to any Address, for a Club of only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cents per year each.

Brush Studies!

BY LIDA CLARKSON.

A NEW AND REVISED EDITION.

FINELY ILLUSTRATED WITH ORIGINAL DESIGNS BY THE AUTHOR. PUBLISHED ORIGINALLY IN THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

CONTENTS:—The Amateur's Outfit.—Harmony and Combination of Color: A Panel of Field daises.—Some General Hints: Fabric Painting.—Practice on Academy Board and Sketching Canvas: A Study of Wild Roses.—A Study of Pansies.—How to Paint Photographs in Oil or in Water Colors.—Hat Marks and Linings: Appropriate Designs, Initials, etc.—Plaques: How to Paint and Frame Them.—How to Paint Trailing Arbutus, Feathery Clematis, Dogwood, and Tulips.—Panel and Screen Decorations: The Purple Clematis, Fleur de Lis, Water Lily, etc.—Dye Painting: Lustra, Iridescent and Kensington.—Lambrequins and Other Artistic Home Furnishings: Clock Scarf, Banners, and Bannerettes.—Christmas, New Year's Easter, and Birthday Cards: How to Paint Them.—Suggestions for Holiday and Birthday Gifts: Pretty Trifles for Home Decoration. Painting Backgrounds. Modeling in Relief.—Puzzling Queries Answered.—Some Useful Hints in Conclusion.

Sent post-paid for 35 cents or given for a club of only 4 subscribers, at 25 cents per year each.

Knitting & Crochet.

Edited by Jenny June.

Knitting and Crochet.—A guide to the use of the Needle and the Hook. In arranging this work the editor has taken special pains to systematize and classify its different departments, give the greatest possible variety of designs and stitches, and explain the technical details so clearly, that any one can easily follow the directions. There are a large variety of stitches and a great number of patterns fully illustrated and described, which have all been tested by an expert before insertion in this collection. The aim of the editor has been to supply women with an accurate and satisfactory guide to knitting and crochet work. This book is printed on fine paper, bound with a handsome cover, and contains over

200 Illustrations.

The knitting stitches illustrated and described are: To Cast On with One and Two Needles—To Narrow—To Widen—To Purl—To Cast Off—To Slip a Stitch—Round Knitting—To Join Together—Edge Stitch. PATTERNS.—Peacock's Tail—Vandyke—Looped Knitting—Cane Work—Leaf and Trellis—Triangular Kilted—Gothic—Coral—Knotted Stitch—Diamond—Wave—Cable Twist—Stripes, etc.

MACRAME STITCHES.—Solomon's Knot—Simple Chain—Spiral Cord—Waved Bar—Spherical Knot—Slanting Rib—Open Knotting—Picot Heading—Cross Knot—Fringe—Tassels, etc.

CROCHET STITCHES.—Chain Stitch—Single Crochet—Double Crochet—Half Treble—Treble—Double Treble—Cross Treble—Slip Stitch—Tricot—Muscovite Tricot—Shell Pattern—Basket Pattern—Raised Spot Stitch—Ring Stitch—Hair Pin Crochet—Crochet Lace, etc.

DESIGNS AND DIRECTIONS are given to Knit and Crochet—Afghans—Undervests—Shirts—Petticoats—Jackets—Shawls—Insertion—Trimming—Edging—Comforters—Lace—Braces—Socks—Boots—Slippers—Gaiters—Drawers—Knee Caps—Stockings—Mittens—Clouds—Purses—Counterpanes—Quilts—Rugs—Infants' Bootines—Hoods—Caps—Shawls—Dresses—Sod Quilts, etc., etc. Every lady will find this the newest and most complete work on Knitting and Crochet published.

Given for a club of 6 subscribers at 25 cents per year each. Price, when sold alone, 50 cents.

NEEDLE-WORK

Edited by Jenny June.

Needle-Work: A Manual of Stitches and Studies in Embroidery and Drawn Work. This manual is an attempt to systematize and arrange in an order convenient for workers, the modern methods in Embroidery and Drawn Work. The author has felt the desire and the responsibility involved in aiding women to a true and practical guide to the beautiful art of needle work. When the Angel of Mercy begged that woman might not be created because she would be abused by man, as the stronger, the Lord listened, but felt that he could not give up the whole scheme of creation, so he gave the loving Angel permission to bestow upon her any compensating gift she chose, and the Angel pityingly endowed her with tears and the love of needle-work. This book is printed on fine paper, has a handsome cover, and contains

200 Illustrations

The list of stitches, with illustrations, are: Buttonhole—Hemstitch—Brier Stitch—Crow's Foot—Herring Bone—Fodder Stitch—Two Tie—Three Tie—Drawn Work—Stem Stitch—Twisted Chain or Rope Stitch—Split Stitch—French Knot—Solid Leaf—Satin Stitch—Padding—Darning Stitch—Skeleton Outline—Couching, Kensington, Filling, Coral, Italian, Leviattan and Holbein Stitches—Applique—Interlaced Ground—Weaving Stitch—Gold and Silver Thread—Arrasene Ribbon Work, etc.

Designs in Needle-Work are given to decorate My Lady's Chamber, My Lady's Robe, the Dining Room, Parlor and Library, and for Linen and Cotton Fabrics, including embroidery designs for Mantel Scarfs—Bed Spreads—Child's Quilt—Pillow Covers—Cushion Boxes—Bureau Scarfs—Table Covers—Chair Backs—Morning Sacques—Artist Jackets—Walking Dress—Afternoon Dress—Evening Dress—Handkerchiefs—Muffers—Fichus—Piazza Wraps—Sashes—Fans—Slippers—Bonnets—Parasols—Aprons—Work Bags—Opera Bags—Glove Case—Sachets—Lunch Cloths—Dinner Cloths—Napkins—Doilies—Table Mats—Corn Napkins—Fish Napkins—Tray Covers—Tea Cloths—Curtains—Panels—Banners—Screens—Sofa Cushions—Piano Scarfs—Chair Scarfs—Sofa Rugs—Photograph Cases—Book Covers, etc., etc. This will be found to be the only standard book on the subject of needle-work.

Given for 6 subscribers at 25 cents per year each. Price, when sold alone, 50 cents.

Bracket Lamberquin.

GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBERS, AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.

These Lamberquins are made of Felt, the same as the Tidies, on any color you may choose; they are 12x20 inches in size, and are exceedingly ornamental when finished.

We will send one of these Lamberquins and the book of stitches, for only four new subscribers, or 35 cents.

Square Table Covers

Given for only 12 Subscribers at 25 Cents per Year Each.

Two great offers.

No. 1.—We will send a square stand cover 36 inches each way, and stamped as you may desire, with boquets in each corner, for only 12 subscribers or $1.00.

No. —We will send a large square table cover, 1¾ yards each way, stamped in the corners according to directions, for twenty subscribers, or $1.75.

Scrim Cloth Cushion Covers.

Given for only 5 Subscribers at 25 cents per year each.

This cut represents a cover for a cushion or toilet set. Made of Scrim cloth with drawn work of narrow ribbon in different colors. Cushions, Toilet sets, Mats, Tidies, &c., made in this way are very pretty and easy to do. Our book on Drawn work gives lots of designs which can be used for this work. We will send a piece of Scrim and five yards of narrow ribbon (in three colors) for a club of only 5 subscribers.

Table Scarfs.

Given as a Premium for a Club of Only 8 Subscribers at 25 Cents Each per Year.

Special offers in table covers, scarfs, and square covers made of felt and embroidered on each end or in each corner, to be thrown over tables, work-stands, &c.; are now among the most popular pieces of fancy work. They are very ornamental and easy to finish. These table covers are sold at the stores at from $1 to $2 each, but by a special arrangement we can make the following great offer: We will send a table scarf 18 inches wide and 50 inches long, made of any color felt desired, stamped on each end ready to be worked, with designs of your own choosing, either for Kensington embroidery, Ribbon work, Tinsil or Outline embroidery. Given for only 8 subscribers, or 60 cts. For 15 cents extra we will send 25 skeins of silk, assorted colors, with which to work the designs.

A Special Summer Offer!

UNTIL SETEMBER 1st, ONLY, we offer one of these linen Tidies and the Ladies' Home Journal one year, for only $1.00.

LINEN TIDIES, NO. 9.

Given for a Club of only 6 Subscribers at 25 Cents each; or for only 4 subscribers and 25 Cents extra.

These linen Tidies are a better quality than we have ever offered before. They are made of fine linen Crepe or Momie cloth, 15x15 inches in size, fringed on all four sides with heavy fringe two inches deep, and stamped as desired. We bought several cases of these tidies direct from the importing house, and procured them at a wonderful bargain. They are sold at the stores at 30c. to 75c. each; we will **give you one of them** if you will procure only 4 subscribers.

TIDY NO. 10 is the same as No. 9, but has a row of Drawn work on all sides. We will give you this tidy all stamped, for only 8 subscribers.

LADIES SILVER BAR PIN

Given for only 4 new subscribers at 25 Cents per Year.

SILVER BAR PIN.

A Silver Bangle Lace Bar Pin, with four bangles handsomely engraved. One of our best premiums for ladies. They are very fashionable, and cannot be bought in any store for double the money we ask, for 4 subscribers at 25 cents each.

CRESCENT LACE PIN

Given for Only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cts. Each per Year.

A little beauty, of the latest style with crescent of Oxidized Silver, and spray of Forget-me-nots in frosted silver. These pins are exceedingly neat and pretty, and are very easy to secure. Given for only four subscribers at 25 cents per year each. We sell them, postpaid, to any address for only 50 cents.

A Special Summer Offer

UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1st, ONLY, we offer the Waterbury Watch and the Ladies' Home Journal, one year for only $1.00.

☞ GIVEN FOR ONLY 20 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS EACH, AND $1.00 EXTRA IN CASH.

Now, this is an offer which certainly should be improved by all wishing to own a **beautiful, reliable and durable watch at very little cost.**

ACCURACY! BEAUTY!! DURABILITY!!!

On account of the very low price of this watch many people suppose that it is a toy. Now, as we have had **four years experience** with this wonderful watch, we can speak from actual knowledge of the facts. For **accuracy, beauty and durability** it is superior to Swiss watches costing from $10 to $22.

Tens of thousands of these watches are in constant use by all classes of people, from boys to bankers and are **keeping as good time as watches costing high prices.**

ANOTHER OFFER.

We will give this watch for a club of 40 subscribers or we will give it for a club of 20 subscribers and $2.00 extra in cash; or for 10 subscribers and $1.50 in cash extra. Postage Scents, Registered 18 cents.

This is a splendid watch for the boys. Now is the time to get one easily. No trouble to get plenty of subscribers at 25 cents per year. Remember, this offer holds good only until September 1st.

HANDSOME

Silver-Plated Sugar Shell

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MILDRED'S CONVERSATION CLASS.

NO. IX.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

"My dear Miss Garrett," began Georgia after the usual little preliminaries (as Philipa Rowland termed them) had been accomplished, "you write me that you have been undertaking to learn to paint, but that, owing to lack of talent on your part, 'the result has been both discouraging to my teacher and myself.'

If you desire to convey to me the idea which I believe your sentence is intended to convey, the 'both' is in a wrong position. Had you intended stating that the result was both discouraging and something else as well, (disagreeable, for the sake of argument) you should then have said, 'the result was both discouraging and disagreeable.' Your sentence would stand better thus: 'the result was discouraging both (or alike) to my teacher and myself.'

Do not use the expression 'they say.' It is considered quite inelegant. If, for any special reason, you cannot give your authority for the remark which you wish to quote, instead of 'they say,' use 'it is said.' 'They' is a definite pronoun, and should be used to represent some definite persons or objects.

The 'it' used in this connection represents the sentence quoted; that is, that this particular sentence is said by some person or persons unknown.

Let me tell you how I do it."

Let us subject this sentence to analysis. 'Tell' is what kind of a verb? Transitive. Good. To 'tell' one must tell something.

Next, then, what classes of words are governed by verbs? Nouns and pronouns. True again. What part of speech is 'how?' An adverb. Can we therefore say, 'tell you how?' Manifestly not. I should have said can we *correctly* say, 'tell you how?' because we not only can, but do, use the expression frequently. Not long ago I saw an account headed 'How I gained my point.' It is from such genteel errors as this that have arisen the very inelegant expression, 'That's the how of it;' even the very uneducated feeling intuitively the necessity of a noun in this connection, and making it by inserting 'the' before 'how.'

What word shall you use? The 'way.' 'Let me tell you the way in which I preserve peaches,' or 'Let me tell you my method of preserving peaches,' or 'Let me tell you the method I use for, or (in) preserving peaches.' There are various methods of expression, you perceive, by which the use of 'how' is rendered entirely unnecessary.

May we not regard the whole sentence 'how I do it,' as object of the verb 'tell.' Yes, we may do so, but even from that point of view, the former expression is to be preferred.

One thing more in regard to this objectionable word. Not long ago a young lady said to me, 'That's how many I have.' Obviously, she should have said, 'That is the number I have.'

Would it not be right for you to say 'How many have you?' Certainly.

But in the introduction of the verb 'is' lies the difference between question and answer, 'is' being a neuter verb, which takes the same case after as before it when both words refer to the same thing.

Had the young lady said 'I have so many,' her reply would have been correct. But in her saying 'that *is* how many,' consisted the incorrectness of the reply quoted.

In answer to your query, I would say, 'No, between *three* is not correct; between 'two,' or 'among' three.'

Of the two words 'recipe' and 'receipt' I prefer the former, when used to express a rule for the compounding of some mixture. I prefer it for the same reason that I prefer one or two other words and expressions of which I have written, *i. e.* that there is but one meaning to the former expression, while the latter is susceptible of more than one construction. You will find both words in the dictionary, given as meaning the same thing in one sense. For another reason do I prefer the former definition, because the word is taken more directly from the Latin, and means 'take.' The peculiar capital R seen at the head of every prescription written by a physician, means 'recipe' or 'take.'

Among the words to be entirely avoided in your conversations, I would mention first, the word 'say' used as an exclamation—'Say! let me tell you something.' Reflect how senseless is the word in this connection. Next, avoid 'Look here!' Either is sufficiently lacking in elegance, but the combination is vulgar. 'Say! look here! what are you trying to do?'

Next, avoid the word 'beau.' A hundred years ago the word 'beau' was elegant. At present it is vulgar. If the person of whom you wish to speak is engaged to be married to another, speak of him in that way. Speak of him as a *fiance*, (an occasion where a foreign word is admissible) or as an 'intended,' if you prefer the English word, which has grown to mean the same thing. Or 'the person to whom she is engaged to be married.' Any or all of these expressions may be used, but the word 'beau' should be entirely avoided. If you wish to express the idea that the gentleman in question is merely attentive to a lady of his acquaintance, say so, but do not say 'O, he's quite a beau of hers.'

There is one more word about which I would like to speak and then I am done. This is the word 'lady.' I wonder which ones of you six would rather be 'ladies' and which 'women?' For myself, I decidedly prefer to be a woman. To be a true woman, implies both, but one may be what the world calls a 'lady' without being a true woman at all. Who speaks of Florence Nightingale, or of any others of her sex knows to the world for their brave, womanly deeds, as 'fine ladies?' They are 'fine women.' A 'fine lady' and a 'fine woman' are two very different beings. How much nobler the latter title. Girls, aim to be true 'women,' and do not doubt that you will be 'ladies.' I am afraid that I have swerved a little from the path I had intended to walk, but the word 'lady' as it is used at present, is a great trial to my nerves. 'Fore-lady,' 'sales-lady!'

In asking questions, I wonder if you are particular to pronounce each word distinctly, or whether instead of saying 'What are you doing?' you say 'Whatchah doing?' The latter form is the far more frequent style of question.

"Do you pronounce your 'ings' or do you say them as if they were spelled 'un' or 'en?'"

Here Phillippa and Georgia both looked guilty. For Georgia had the latter habit, while Phillippa possessed the former.

"Well, I guess I know I do," said Phillippa, defiantly, in answer to the unspoken accusation of the others.

"You 'guess,' do you?" said Mildred. "You cannot 'guess' what you already 'know.'"

"What shall I say, then?"

"You needn't say anything, but just 'I know I do,' need you?" asked Sara Tasker.

"No, I don't suppose I need. But, oh dear! I never knew before how exceedingly useful useless words are," answered Phillippa, despairingly.

"'Doun,' 'shillun,' 'feeleen,' 'smileen,' 'sumpthin,' 'nawthin,' are all common peculiarities of speech of those who are by no means uneducated. And yet 'ing' certainly is not a difficult syllable to pronounce.

"The words 'night' and 'evening' are used by many people as interchangeable terms, which is incorrect. 'Will you go to the theatre with me to-night?' This is wrong. Will you go, etc., 'this evening?' The evening is that time after dark, occupied by people in some work or amusement. The night is the time during which they are supposed to be in bed.

"A foreigner once said to me, 'Now with you, night and evening mean the same thing, or at least I should say, I heard so many people use it so when I first came to this country, that on entering a room one evening, after supper I said: 'Good-night, ladies,' and they all smiled.' I explained to him that it was not a peculiarity of our language, but a general mistake, of which people had taken hold. One would not think of using the expression 'spend the night' unless one slept at the place mentioned. Why then should one say 'Come go with me to-night after supper?'

Do not say 'different to' or 'different than.' 'Different from' is the proper expression.

This, I think, is all that I find to correct at present.

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"AMANDA WILSON."

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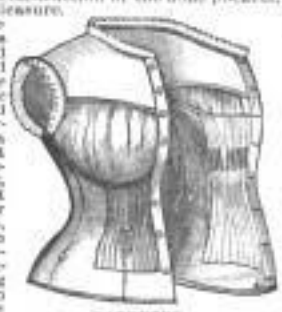

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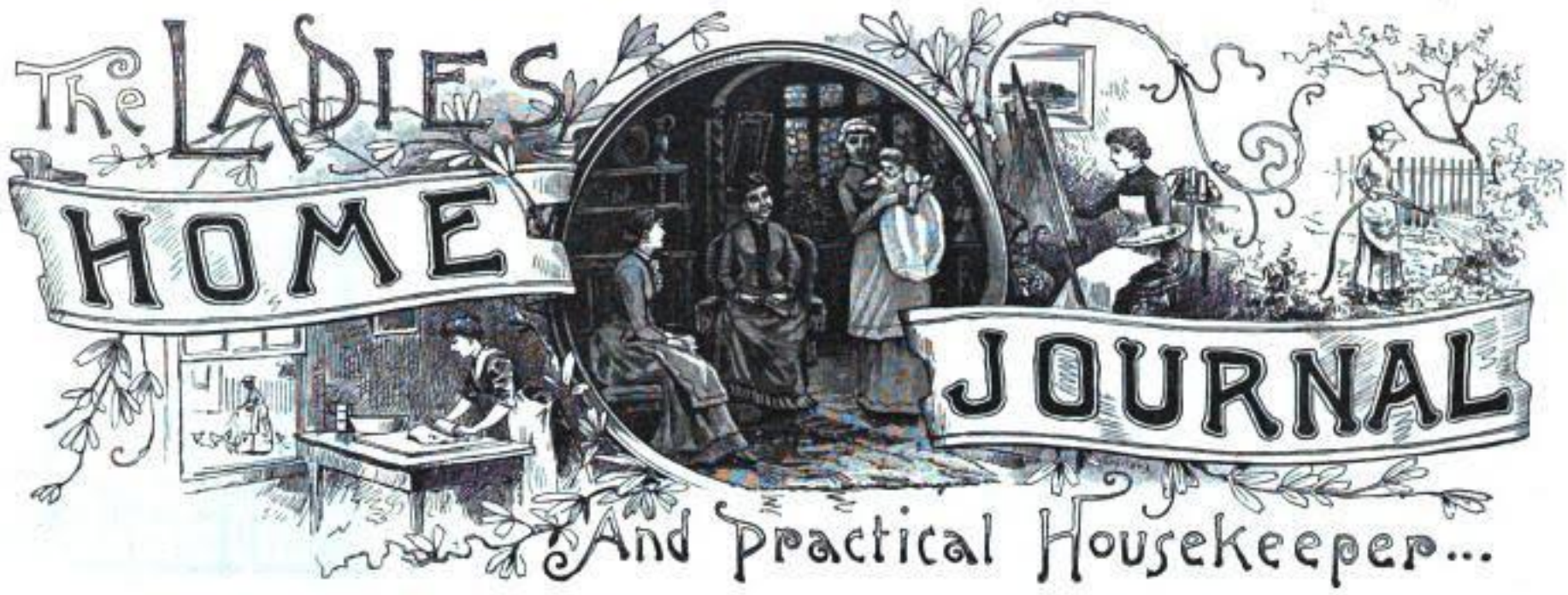

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HATTIE'S RESOLUTION.

A LESSON FOR GIRLS.

BY ADA R. HAZELL.

CHAPTER I.

"Oh, dear!" exclaimed Hattie Murch, giving her dusting cloth a little, petulant switch, "Where does all the dirt come from, I wonder? How I do hate to dust, it takes so much time!" and opening the piano, she rattled off first one lively tune, and then another, in quick succession.

Hattie was a born musician, and her talent had received the best cultivation money could afford, for her parents were wealthy, and she was the only and idolized child. She was a fine performer, her touch firm and brilliant, yet melodious.

"Hattie," called a gentle voice, "have you finished dusting?"

"Almost, auntie dear," replied the young girl, a swift blush at her neglect of duty crimsoning the plump cheeks, as she sprang quickly from the stool, and resumed her work.

Precantly she cried: "Won't you come and see how nice I've made the parlor look, aunt?"

"Dear me!" said that lady, glancing around with a critical air, "you forgot the whatnot, Hattie."

"Oh no, I didn't!" exclaimed she, eagerly, forgetting politeness in her anxiety to defend herself.

"You certainly do not wish me to think that you have dusted it. Look here," lifting one or two of the ornaments as she spoke. A faint rim showed just where each had stood.

Again Hattie's ready color rose. "I thought ——" she stammered.

"You were careless," interrupted Mrs. Larrabee, kindly. "If you wish to do things well, you must put your mind on them, and work swiftly, allowing nothing to interrupt, if possible. It is a poor way to take half an hour for what ought to be done in ten minutes. Economy of time is as important as economy of money."

"Aunt Ellen," said Hattie, who was accustomed to nothing but praise at home, and who therefore felt her aunt's rebuke the more keenly, "if one does not *like* to do anything, it always takes longer."

"Not necessarily, dear. Is it not far better to strive to do one's duty contentedly, however distasteful, than to make it doubly hard by fretting and repining?"

"I suppose so," assented the young girl. "But, auntie, mamma says you like to work, so you are not an impartial judge."

Mrs. Larrabee smiled as she replied, "At your age I did not like it any better than you do. But now I must go back to the kitchen, or dinner will be late; an unnecessary annoyance to your uncle Daniel."

Hattie followed, musing over their conversation.

"Please see if my cake is done," said Mrs. Larrabee.

"How am I to tell?" inquired her niece.

"Didn't you ever bake a loaf of cake?" asked Mrs. Larrabee, in some surprise.

"No ma'am, nor make one," answered Hattie, meekly.

"Yet you are fifteen years old," said her aunt, thoughtfully.

"Who taught you to do so many things?" asked Hattie, watching her aunt's deft motions admiringly. "Besides all kinds of cooking and housework, you can cut and make dresses splendidly, find time to teach music, to read, and even to study. I would give a great deal to be as smart as you."

"I may say I taught myself, Hattie, and hard work it was, too. Your mother's father and my own, was a rich man, and as we had no mother, we were educated at a fashionable boarding school, where we learned nothing practical. My sister married a man whose social station was equal to our father's, and to this day she has never been obliged to learn anything useful. Yet I doubt if Fannie has been as happy as myself."

Hattie involuntarily recalled the picture of her indolent, lazy mamma, idling over a new novel, or an elaborate piece of fancy work, her only employment killing time; and she could not help contrasting her mother's bored, often peevish expression, with the cheery, animated look of her aunt's plainer countenance.

"I married a poor minister," continued Mrs. Larrabee, and had to study the strictest economy, in order to make both ends meet without running in debt, of which my husband had a perfect horror.

"Mother doesn't like me to go into the kitchen, for fear I may bother the cook, and the most I ever have to do is to keep my room tidy, and my bureau drawers in order."

"If you are really desirous of learning to be a good housekeeper, and will be patient and caretaking, you will never regret the useful knowledge acquired. There is a sense of power in knowing how to do, even if one is not obliged to exercise that ability. The best mistress is she who thoroughly understands every branch of domestic labor, and is therefore capable of advising and directing judiciously. Moreover," with a loving smile, "I shall enjoy teaching you, for my great sorrow has been the want of just such a bright-faced daughter, to be a companion and comfort.

"I soon found that I was paying away a good many dollars in the course of a year, to hire things done which I could do as well, with a little effort. At first it was rather discouraging. Sometime I will tell you a few of my experiences. I can laugh at them now, though at the time they were sore trials. I was continually saying to myself: 'Oh, if I only had somebody to show me how to do this! Why didn't I find out before I was married? It would have been so much easier.'"

"Aunt Ellen," cried Hattie, impulsively, "if I will spend all the long vacation with you, will you be my teacher?"

"Nothing would give me greater pleasure, dear."

Hattie stole up and gave her aunt a sudden hug. "I'll be your daughter every vacation, if you will help me grow up useful."

"If your mother is willing," added Mrs. Larrabee, gently.

"Oh, I can win her over," answered Hattie, laughingly.

So she did, although Mrs. Murch was disposed to make fun of what she termed her daughter's quixotic notion, which she declared would not be lasting.

Whether it proved so, or not, and the experiences Hattie passed through in carrying out her admirable purpose, will be told in succeeding chapters.

CHAPTER II.

The beautiful month of June was fast passing, and the long vacation, which Hattie Murch had promised her aunt Larrabee to spend with her, was drawing near. The young girl's desire to become a capable housekeeper, had not been a mere whim, to be lightly forgotten. She had a steadfast side to her character, and was not one to be easily turn d from a purpose. Still, she now found it somewhat difficult to broach the subject to her mother. Although, months before, that lady had given a languid consent to her daughter's eager request, yet when she did so, she had thought to herself: "Hattie will not care to go when the time really comes."

Both Mrs. Murch, and her elder child, a beautiful young lady about twenty, were busy preparing for a season of gaiety at a noted watering place, and appeared to take it for granted that Hattie would accompany them.

When, therefore, the latter found a good opportunity of avowing her intention to spend the summer months with her aunt, her decision was received with extreme disfavor by both her mother and sister.

"I had set my heart, Hattie, upon having you with *me*," said Mrs. Murch, plaintively. "You are almost a young lady now, and quite passable, and ought, in order to obtain a certain polish of manner, to mingle more with society than you have leisure for, while school is in session. But I suppose you know best where inclination leads you," sighing.

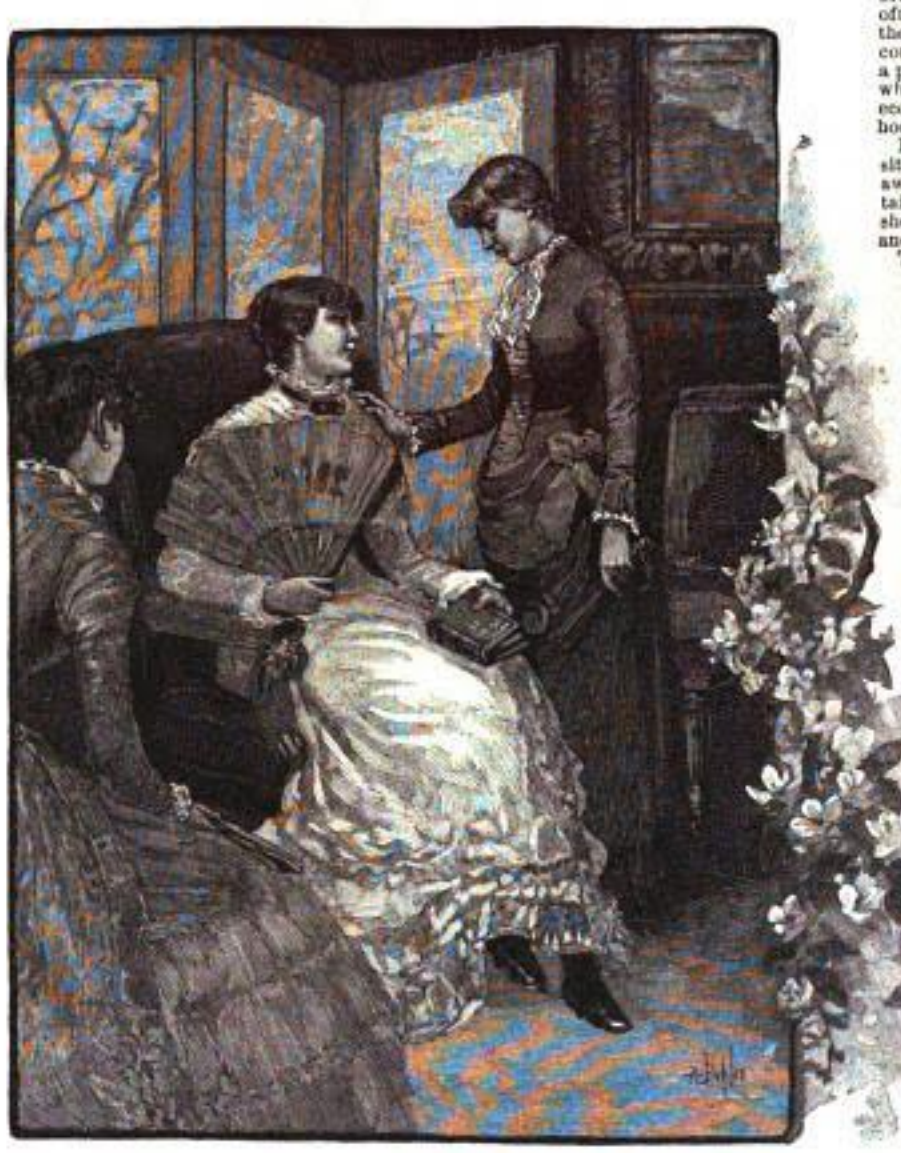
"Better leave Hat alone, mamma," chimed in Marion, looking up from the pages of a novel. "She'll be tired enough of her rural retreat before the month is out," laughing derisively. "*I* should feel as if I were buried alive, to be obliged to spend even a week in that country hole."

Hattie's color heightened, but she made no reply to her sister's scornful observation. She had early learned not to banter words with Marion. Laying a gentle hand on her mother's shoulder, she said, softly: "I will do as you desire, dearest, and give up going to auntie's."

"Oh, no," answered Mrs. Murch, "Ellen would probably be offended; do as you have promised, and don't consider my feelings," with an injured air.

Hattie kissed her tenderly, and turned away, to hide the few bright drops that would fall. How could her mamma purposely misunderstand her motive, and make the keeping of her word so hard, depriving her zeal for domestic knowledge of more than half its zest?

Mrs. Murch had not intentionally wounded the sensitive plant, and was unaware how deeply her tone and manner, even more than her words, had pierced. She really considered Hattie's resolution the height of folly, since Mr. Murch's ample means made any such drudgery, on the part of a child of his, entirely unnecessary.



How many loving mothers make the same deplorable mistake!

True, society has claims upon the wealthy which cannot be ignored, and their station has duties of which other classes are ignorant. Still, by a judicious method, space might be obtained for the domestic, as well as social life.

It is an incontrovertible fact, which many girls only learn through bitter experience, that one must be a thorough, practical housekeeper, in order to harmoniously conduct a household. It often happens that an early marriage, the loss of the mother, or some other of the many changes constantly occurring, places one unexpectedly in a position of responsibility. Fortunate that one who has fitted herself for the trust by having economised the spare hours of her care-free girlhood, in learning the common duties of daily life!

Even though there has never been any necessity for her to "lift her finger," though her awakened desire to understand the homely details may have been discouraged, as was Hattie's, she should have had sufficient pride to persevere, and to conquer.

The ability to instruct others, should occasion require, only comes from a personal knowledge of the best, and consequently easiest way of doing things.

Should misfortune deprive a young lady of the luxury of her earlier years, what an inexpressible comfort to understand how wisely to fulfill the pressing duties devolving upon her unaccustomed shoulders, instead of being entirely at sea!

Riches take unto themselves wings, and she who is wealthy to-day, may, by a turn of Fortune's wheel, become one of the laboring class. In what way can a daughter do more to repay the devotion and lavish outlay previously bestowed upon her, than by stepping bravely to the front, and taking upon herself, with the buoyant courage of youth, and its easily renewed strength, the conduct of household affairs, when trouble has darkened the parental horizon, and severe retrenchment is absolutely necessary!

But, it is not only the mothers among the wealthy, but those of the great middle class, and even of the laboring poor, who neglect their duty to their daughters, and allow them to come up in ignorance of the practical. Many reasons conspire to produce this state of affairs. Perhaps the parents have been hard-working, and desire for their dearest an easier life. Sometimes the mother herself is unfitted to give the necessary instruction—a helpless fine lady, a martyr to her servants, such as was Mrs. Murch. Again, it is easier by far, for the busy to do things for themselves, than to stop to teach others. If girls do not choose to learn, they can be very heedless, and a constant source of trial to the patient, forbearing mother. Do you ever think of this, my dear girls, fast approaching womanhood?

But little more was said on the subject of Hattie's proposed visit, and a fortnight later she started.

"You dear child!" cried Mrs. Larrabee, giving her niece a cordial embrace. "I half feared you would not be able to fulfil your promise," leading her into the homelike kitchen.

How pleasant it was, with its general air of comfort! The setting sun fell upon a comfortable lounge, which occupied one corner, and Hattie dropped on to the inviting seat, her countenance betraying her thoughts.

"It's so different from ours!" she exclaimed, half apologetically. "Our black cook says Marion sails through the kitchen like a queen;—and no wonder! I can't bear to stay in it myself. It isn't neat."

"It has many conveniences which I should appreciate," answered Mrs. Larrabee, smilingly, as she proceeded to pump fresh water into the tin tea-kettle, whose shining surface gave back a broadened, honest face, written over and over with kindly thoughts.

"Always use fresh water," she explained, "if you would have a sparkling cup of tea. Delmonico, the famous N. Y. caterer, gave that as one great reason why the tea and coffee served at his establishment was considered so excellent.

"Why, I shouldn't think it would make any difference," said Hattie.

"Water that has been long standing, or kept boiling, undergoes a change. I believe the heavier particles settle to the bottom. At any rate, it is not so good for the purpose of making tea."

"May I not help, Aunt Ellen?" asked Hattie, watching her aunt's swift, quiet movements, as she laid the cloth, and tastefully arranged the table.

"Hadn't you better be company to-night, dear?"

"No, thanks. Besides, 'It's alay larn me,'

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as a green girl just over from the 'old counthry' once told ma.mma. So, if you please, I'll set to work at once."

"Then you may slice the bread and the cake. So," cutting a thin slice from the handsomely browned loaf of bread, and a thicker one from the latter. "There is little to be done, because I try to have tea an easy meal. It is better for the stomach, and less work for me. I can toil cheerfully until after the dinner dishes are put away, but I feel that I must have the balance of the day for other than housework. A just division of labor, I call it, and it prevents my becoming heart-sick of the routine, as so many weary, worn-out women are."

Hattie laughed. "I knew there was some particular reason why you always managed to be so bright and cheery," she cried, "and now I have discovered it. You are one of the few who appreciate the need of change."

"'A fair exchange is no robbery,'" quoted her aunt, mischievously. "Who steals my time deprives me of my most valuable possession. Shall housework steal from the reading hour, or that for sewing, or for my brisk daily constitutional? Nay. One set of muscles needs to rest while another labors. Certainly after one has worked deftly all the morning long, it ought not to be necessary to allow the labor of the household to encroach far into the afternoon."

"How can it be helped, auntie? I should think there would be so much to do some days, such as washing or sweeping day, that the morning would not be long enough."

"It is so, occasionally, even in the best regulated families. But by so planning the question of food, that the meals can be quickly prepared, much valuable time may be saved. Then, too, if the washing is heavy, I strongly advocate hiring assistance. I question if the money saved is not spent more extravagantly."

"What do you mean?" queried Hattie, with interest.

"If I go beyond my strength, and know that I am doing so, I am drawing in advance upon the capital intended to last me through future years. Strength recklessly expended is worse than money wasted, for it means, perhaps, not so much loss of actual existence, as of vital power. An overworked woman is a mere drudge, too fatigued to exercise her intellect, or to arouse herself to be a companion to her husband, an interested, loving friend to her sons and daughters. I pity all such, yet often they have only themselves to blame."

Hattie drew a long breath. "I am afraid they wouldn't agree with you, auntie," she said. "They would answer that they could not spare even half a dollar for hired help."

"The closest planning is required in many homes, I am well aware; but something could be done without, rather than prematurely break down the woman upon whom the responsibility of the family rests."

"I agree with you. But here comes uncle," as a mild-spoken individual gave her a simple, sincere greeting. Mr. Larrabee was a quiet man, but a benign air pervaded his being. "Trustworthy" was stamped indelibly upon his high brow. "Affectionate" shone from his clear blue eyes. "Tender," and "charitable," lurked in the corners of his strong, sweet mouth.

"Aunt Ellen made a wise choice," thought Hattie, involuntarily, as she bowed her head while the simple blessing was uttered.

So Hattie's new life began auspiciously. The atmosphere of aunt Larrabee's home was that of peace and love. Discord could find no abiding place there.

Next month we will relate some of Hattie's experiences while under her aunt's roof.

(To be Continued.)

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HOPE REYNOLDS.

BY CECIL EARLE.

"If I could *only* do something," sighed pretty, bright-eyed, sixteen-year-old Hope Reynolds, as she wiped the breakfast cups and saucers.

"What's that you said, daughter?" asked Mrs. Reynolds, a busy, contented looking woman, with a big heart.

Hope blushed, and looked confused. Then, looking straight into her mother's eyes, she said:

"I want to attend the seminary this fall, but there is no way to pay for my tuition, or buy the necessary books; and I was just wishing I could earn the money myself in some way."

"I sincerely wish you could, Hope. It's hard to be poor," and she in her turn sighed. "But then, we're a great deal better off than some of our neighbors," she added, brightening up.

"I know it, mother, and I am thankful every day of my life that we have as many comforts as we do. I am young and strong, and can work, if only I can find something to do."

"If you can, you shall have all the time you need. Keep your eyes open, and maybe they will spy some work for you. But, Hope, we could not spare you to go away from home."

An hour later, Hope was on her way to the south meadow to pick strawberries. She made a pretty picture as she walked across the green fields. There was a bright flush on her cheeks, a thoughtful look in the soft brown eyes, and the fluffy curls of her bang peeped coquettishly from under her wide brimmed sun hat. Her print dress fitted perfectly her slender figure.

She was the oldest of the Reynolds children. Next to her was a crippled brother, Horace, twelve years old. Everything had been done for this boy that could be done, still he was no better. Poor fellow! he felt his helplessness keenly, and often would say:

"If it wasn't for me, father wouldn't have to work so hard, and Hope could go to school. It would be better if I were dead."

"Please don't talk so, Horace. I'd rather have you, than go to the best school that ever was. There'll be a way for me to go, sometime," Hope said.

Carrie was five, and Bernard seven. These, with the father and mother, completed the household band. It was a happy family, despite their poverty. The farm was not large, but under good cultivation, and would have been paid for long ago, had Horace's expense not been so great.

Hope found the berries very plenty that June morning, and her pail was filling rapidly, when her attention was attracted by a carriage coming along the road. When about opposite her it stopped. A big black bonnet was thrust outside the carriage, and a shrill voice called:

"Come here, Hope Reynolds. I want to see your berries."

As Hope was only a short distance off she soon stood beside the carriage.

"I haven't tasted a strawberry this year," said Miss Graham.

"Help yourself to mine," said Hope, politely.

"Thank you. You're a good girl, Hope. These berries are very nice." And she *did* help herself. Hope looked on in dismay. The sun was hot, and it was very tiresome picking the berries.

"How many did you have?" abruptly inquired the old lady.

"The pail holds four quarts, and it was more than half full."

"Call it three quarts. That would be forty-five cents, at fifteen cents a quart. I'll take them. I'll return the pail when you bring me five quarts more to-morrow morning."

Putting the money into the astonished girl's hand, Miss Graham drove off before Hope could find her tongue. A sudden thought came to her. She hurried home and upstairs to her room. On a shelf stood a small tin savings-bank, with a slit in the top just large enough to admit a silver dollar. She put the forty-five cents into the bank, and then ran gaily down stairs.

"Mother," she cried, going into the kitchen, where her mother was preparing dinner, "I picked three quarts of berries, and sold them to old Miss Graham for forty-five cents. The money I've put away towards my school fund."

Mrs. Reynolds paused from her work a moment. "The very thing, Hope. Queer we never thought of it before. You are sure of going to the seminary this fall." And then she went quietly on with her work, while Hope ran to Horace's sofa in the sitting room to tell him about it.

"If I do get money enough so I can go, I'll each you everything I learn," she said enthusiastically.

Hope and Horace were both very fond of study. Horace had never attended school a day in his life. Indeed, most of his days were passed on the sofa, and many of them were filled with so much pain that study was impossible. People were very kind to him, and loaned him books and papers to amuse himself with.

"Oh Hope! Wouldn't it be lovely!" and his eyes shone with delight. "I believe you can. How much would it cost?"

"Ten dollars for tuition and five for books for one term."

"Fifteen dollars. It seems a lot, but I almost know you'll get it. I'll help you."

"And then, Horace, maybe I could teach next summer, and earn enough to take two terms. I tell you, I'm determined to go till I graduate. Then won't I earn the money! I'll give it every bit to father."

That afternoon, Hope went again to the berry field, and staid till the five quarts were picked. Five times fifteen are seventy-five. Seventy-five and forty-five are one-hundred-and-twenty. One dollar and twenty cents. Enough to pay my way one week," she repeated, over and over to herself that afternoon.

When Hope carried the berries to Miss Graham, that lady said: "I will take twelve quarts more at the same price."

While in the village, Hope thought it best to call at Dr. Bell's and Judge Mayhews, and several other places, to see if they would buy any of her strawberries. Mrs. Bell and Mrs. Mayhew each engaged ten quarts, another lady two, another four, and so on, making in all thirty-six quarts that she must deliver by Saturday night.

She did some reckoning on the way from the village to her home, a mile distant, that day, I can tell you. This was Tuesday. Hope spent a good many hours in the south meadow, that week, and at seven o'clock Saturday night she started for the village with the last five quarts of berries. It was a lovely evening, and Hope felt very happy as she walked along. Certainly the pail of berries was rather heavy, and made her arms ache, but *they were worth fifteen cents a quart*, and when they were paid for she would have six dollars and sixty cents.

"Pretty good, Hope Reynolds, for the first week," she said. "But, of course, I cannot expect fifteen cents a quart much longer—maybe not any. Then I will sell them for ten. Anyway I will sell all I can."

As hope prophesied, strawberries did not being fifteen cents a quarts any more. Monday she got twelve cents a quart for them, for the next two days ten, and at the end of the week only seven. By Saturday night there was ten dollars in the little tin bank. At the end of the next week there were two dollars more; almost enough for one term.

When the strawberries were gone, raspberries were ripe, and hop.d picked them for sale. She found a ready sale for all she could pick, at first getting eight cents a quart, but at the last only four. When the berry season was over, Hope, in the presence of the whole family, opened the bank, and counted the contents. It was just twenty-one dollars and fourteen cents.

There was joy in the Reynolds' house that night. Hope was so delighted she could hardly sleep.

When the seminary opened, the first week in September, Hope Reynolds occupied one seat. She studied hard, improving every minute.

"You will attend the winter term, Miss Reynolds?" asked the principal, just before the close of the fall term.

"I am afraid it will be impossible," answered Hope.

"We have talked the matter over, and had concluded to try to persuade you to take a few of the younger classes, but if you are not coming, it cannot be."

Now, this was a thing which had never entered Hope's wise little head. It was some time before she could manage to say a word.

"Thank you," she said. "In that case I could come. That is if I could earn enough to pay for my books and tuition."

"That was the offer I was about to make. Shall we consider the matter settled?"

"Yes sir, if my parents do not object."

They did not. And that was the way Hope Reynolds paid her way for the next two years, until she graduated. Then she returned to the seminary as a teacher, at a good salary. It wasn't long before Horace was sent away to a hospital, where he could receive skillful treatment. In two years he returned, not entirely cured, but improved so much that he could walk, with the aid of a cane.

This is what one girl did. There are a great many who could do the same as she did—perhaps not in the same way, but in some way. Try it, girls.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE SUMMER EXODUS.

The wise Portia has said: "I can easier tell twenty what were good to be done, than be one of the twenty to follow my own teaching," and perhaps an old maid like myself has no right to dictate to a married woman on the subject of her wifely duties.

But, I do think my wedded sisters make a great mistake, when, leaving their lords and masters to their own devices, for a longer or shorter period, they flit away to drink in new life from the air of some mountain resort, or to disport themselves in the surf which breaks along the shore of some fashionable watering-place. For, in my opinion, the seeds of conjugal infidelity, are, in many cases, first sown in this abandonment of home.

Oftentimes, it is the children's need of health-giving air which serves as an excuse for the summer flitting; and I know that many a little one drags out a puny existence in the vitiated atmosphere of the town. Still, think of the thousands of children who grow to be healthy men and women, in our close city streets, without any more idea of the country than is afforded by our municipal parks; and to whom the polluted water about the ferry slips, stands for their only knowledge of the grand, the free, the glorious, old ocean!

I love babies—none better—but let no mother assail me with maternal wrath, when I say that the lives of two of them are not worth the price of *one* husbands fidelity; for I again assert, that many a man who would otherwise have remained true to his wife in thought and deed, has swerved from his allegiance, solely through this "summer exodus;" and my spinster heart beats with sympathy, for the husband, who turns from the traveling carriage, with its crew of happy faces, and enters the deserted house, to sit down in the dull rooms, with their furniture swathed in brown linen, and to look forward to solitary meals, served by some Bridget, or Dinah, in hap-hazard style.

What wonder, then, that when evening comes, he strays to the next door-step, where laughing girl voices tempt his melancholy; or hangs entranced over the skillful fingers of the lady in the next street, as she weaves melody after melody to charm his senses; and, siren-like, casts a spell over him by the witchery of her voice; or drifts down town to meet "the boys" in some seductive beer-garden, or other haunt of pleasure.

Perchance you ask: "Are there, then, no men who can be trusted?" I sorrowfully answer: "Very few, when temptation in some alluring form assails them."

"And must we married women hold all pleasure, all freedom, subservient to the one purpose of retaining the fidelity of our husbands?" "Yes, for so I interpret the solemn marriage vows. Devote yourselves to your chosen partners; make their homes pleasant. If they cannot get away in the summer, do not you. Stay by their sides; refresh them with cooling drinks and tempting viands, when at the close of day, they return, weary with the toil which gives you so many luxuries. Try what simple dressing, the comfort of bath tubs, the reliable family doctor, and plain diet, will do for the ailing little ones; for country board often means, a glaring, unblinded house, pork and potatoes, no doctor within five miles, and the most primitive bathing facilities. Then when John or Tom can get away for a week or two, with what pleasure you will set off in his company! Every delight will be enhanced, and every joy doubled."

I have in my mind, a husband and wife, whose wedded years lack but two of reaching a quarter of a century. Together they have passed through sunshine and storm, and have seen their children grow to fair manhood and womanhood around them. Their income has been small, and they have practiced much self-denial in the way of summer outings, and kindred luxuries. This year they are to take a trip together; and to see the glow on their faces, as they mention it, and the evident delight they take in anticipating this, their second wedding-tour, would make the most cynical mind believe that there is such a thing as a real union of souls, in this unregenerate age.

If I had ever taken to myself that useful appendage—a husband—be sure that I would stick by him closer than a brother. His home should be a pleasant one in summer as well as in winter. If *he* could not get away, neither would *I*. My place should be at his side, to bind him to domestic life by all the arts a woman's love and devotion could devise, believing that an attractive, peaceful fireside, is a safeguard from much that is evil, and the bulwark of morality and conjugal felicity.

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WILL "John's Wife" please tell how that lady kept children's hair clean without soap and water?
M. A. M.

"A Hawkeye Sister" sends her hearty approval of the method of weaning recommended by John's Wife. She has tried it with great success and hopes that her experience may encourage some other young mother. We cannot very well publish her letter in full just here.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., May 21, 1886.

"INQUISITIVE" would like to ask the editor of the HOME JOURNAL, what she thinks of never wetting the hair, mentioned by "John's Wife" in the May number. Does not the head require washing, and is there such a thing as washing the hair too frequently? I refer to children's hair.

[It has been the result of my own experience that baby's head needs almost as much washing as his face. As a rule, a child's head, unprotected from the heat by a thick growth of hair, perspires almost as freely as its face, and requires the same cleansing processes to keep it sweet and clean. Children, too, (especially the very small ones) go into all sorts of dusty places, all of which will get into the hair, and on the scalp. Except in cases of a certain disease of the scalp, I have, personally, never seen any but good effects from the everyday washing of baby's head.—ED.]

PORTSMOUTH, OHIO, June 2, '86.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—For some time, the JOURNAL has been a welcome visitor in our little home. Sometimes I hear mothers ask the question, "What can we do with our little girls to keep them busy and at the same time afford them pleasure?" I don't know as I've solved the question, but I thought of something the other day.

We have a flower garden in front of our house, and I sometimes sit at the window and watch the children coming along the street. Some will stop and admire the pretty flowers. Others will slip their little hands in between the fence palings and help themselves to the nearest flower within their reach. Children love flowers; even the baby will stretch out its little hands for some bright "posy." Years ago, when sister and I were little girls, mother told us one day, that we might have a little garden of our own. She furnished us with a few plants and several kinds of flower seeds, and showed us how to plant them. Four-o'clocks, petunias, zinnias, touch-me-nots, and one bright scarlet geranium, budded and blossomed all summer long. How well I remember the picture of two little girls in sunbonnets and aprons, holding aloft the great, heavy watering can, from whose spout poured down refreshing showers.

Who were more delighted than we, and how we enjoyed to tackle that four-o'clock bush and rob it of all the fragrant blossoms. Good old bush that it was. It never seemed to care in the least, and every evening was decked out in red and white again as gay as ever. Years have passed by since those happy childhood days. Sister and I no longer wear the sun-bonnets and aprons, and the watering can does not seem so heavy as of yore. The duties of life have called our attention to other things, and the little garden is no more, but the memory of it will remain forever. What has given pleasure to two little girls years ago, will do the same for some little girl to-day. It will not only keep her busy, but will afford her much pleasure and happiness for the long summer months that are to come. TANSY GREEN.

CLEONE, MENDOCINO CO., CAL., April 22, 1886.

DEAR EDITOR:—I have been taking your paper six months. I have just received the February and March numbers from you; my April and May numbers were sent on to me from Santa Rosa, so I have them all now, for which I am so thankful. I do not want to lose one.

I have been trying for a long time to write to the sisters of the JOURNAL, but I have so much to say. I do so enjoy your letters; it reminds me of the class meetings I used to attend. I have three babies now, so I must content myself with reading.

The mother's corner is so interesting. In the January number I was very much touched with the answer given "Perplexed Mother,"—how her heart must have ached when she read it. I have been through the same perplexities, and am not through with them yet. My oldest (little May) is not four till next month, and my baby is seven months old. How she would love to have mamma rock her and pet her; but no, instead, she has to be little mother to brothers Willie and Addie, while mamma washes, irons, gets papa's dinner, etc. How the mother's heart aches when she hears baby coaxing for her, but a certain thing must be done. We would all like to have the motto "Baby first, always," pinned over everything, but there are a certain class of mothers that cannot; but do you infer it is because we do not want to? Think you, that the woman who has to be Biddy, chambermaid, and nurse, all in one, does not love the jewels God has lent her, as well as the one who has nothing to do but fondle her babies? God forbid! I believe the most ignorant negro on the globe loves their offspring as tenderly as the most cultured Anglo-Saxon.

I wonder how you warm baby's feet when they get cold. My first two I used to hold to the fire and toast them, but I always felt it was more of a torture than a pleasure; so, with my third, I tried holding them in nice warm water. Oh! how quiet he will lay and let me splash the water on his little legs. I have found, with my last one, if you keep babies warm and quiet, (the quieter the better) colic will not stay around. My first two had it every day, the first six months, but the last one has never had a severe attack.

I am wondering where "John's Wife" lives. I see she is a Yankee—God bless her. I was born on the outskirts of "yankeedom," and how I love it. I am but a stranger here; lacks seven days of being a year since we reached California; and to eastern sisters I would say: be content with the East. There are a great many wonderful and beautiful things here. Yes, it is nice to gather shells, stand on the beach and let the waves lash at your feet, gather calla lilies, roses, etc., all winter, but California is not perfection; when you get here you will find as many drawbacks as beauties. MAC'S WIFE.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE CHILD SOVEREIGN.

When we now view the pitiable sight of parents that are governed wholly by their children, we would fain go back to old Puritanical days when parents held full sway. Surely that were better, unless we can strike a happy medium. Not long since I heard a poor distracted mother lament her inability to hold her sixteen year old daughter within bounds. "She just *will* go to every dance, or show, that comes along, said she, to the neglect of her school and music lessons. I can now see, continued she sorrowfully, where I made my mistake. Had I not let her go at all till now or until she is older, it would have been so much better." And wiser, thought I. Alas! she's not the only mother that has made the same lamentable mistake. Another misguided mother has allowed her fourteen year old girl—at her own solicitation of course—to neglect her music, and school, for a time, because said she: "Carrie's so delicate, I must not crowd her, in her studies." In the meantime, this same delicate child is allowed to go out night after night, seldom getting to bed till midnight, and she a growing child needing much sleep. Humph! Who would not be delicate under such a regimen? I call to mind another mother who was over persuaded, by her sixteen year old miss, to let her remain from school during the entire winter to pursue, the better, her musical studies. But of course her music was neglected the more; since, being out of school, she had more leisure to run about. Another foolish mother, aye! criminally so, allowed her seventeen year old daughter to drive a distance of twenty miles too Circus, with a young man devoid of principle, and she well knew that the return trip was to be made in the night. When we see such a sorry lack of judgment among mothers, the wonder is that there are not many more "Jennie Cramer" cases. Surely the strict English surveillance over our daughters with a necessary chaperon or companion, were far better than such license! Many of us who hail from the past generation can perchance, recall a time when we over persuaded mother to grant some privilege, that *now*, in our mature, and wiser years, we see the folly, aye! and the danger of it. To day, if boys are held the least in check *i. e.* if full license to roam the streets at pleasure be not granted them; they'll say: "*I* won't stand it, I'll skip." But fortunately, some do try the 'skipping' process, and are as glad as the 'Prodigal Son' of old to return to fathers roof-tree. This condition of things begins in infancy and babyhood. I have often called when a child of three, or four, years was allowed to scream, and cry at some fancied grievance, during the extent of my stay, to the spoiling of my visit. But of course the mother and family, had become accustomed to the howling of the young autocrat; hence *they* did not mind it.

I now call to mind a little five year old miss standing in the middle of the room angrily screaming, and dancing, because her mother had to leave home for a short time. Other mothers, however, fortify themselves beforehand against such tarantula demonstrations, by the purchasing of quantities of confectionary with which *their* offspring are *coaxed* into good behavior. I have seen a little child scarce four years of age that has 'tantrums'—that are well nigh hysterical convulsions—if every whim is not gratified. Pray what can her parents do with her in years to come? But I might—if I had time, and space—mention such cases *ad infinitum*. We are told in the good Book: "Woe to thee, O land, when thy king is a child!" FANNY FANSHAW.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TREATING.

BY MRS. E. C. HEWITT.

Mothers, let me tell you what a mother said to me once and see if you do not find much truth in her argument.

She had growing boys and one of them, about fifteen, wanted some money. "I gave you some money yesterday, where is it?" "I treated Harry to soda water at the drug store, and bought some candy for Nettie and Mary Wild."

"My son, I have told you that I objected to your treating your boy and girl friends to *anything*. Soda water and candy are harmless in themselves to a degree, and if you had felt the necessity of two glasses of soda water and had brought the candy home to your sisters I would not have had one word to say but I do not like it."

It seemed to me at the time counsel that was likely to do the boy harm by teaching him to be selfish, but my talk with her, and sober reflection showed me that the harm the sons were likely to receive in that way was not nearly so likely to be lasting as the evil which she dreaded for them.

"No," said she in continuance to me afterward "I am convinced that the habit of treating even ice-cream, soda water, peanuts or candy is a bad one. It leads to extravagance, and very often, instead of arising from a desire to be generous, it is the outgrowth of a desire to "look big" and outdo some fellow creature. I believe that most of the harm done in liquor drinking is done by the "treaters." One treats and another treats and by the time five have treated the whole five are intoxicated.

A boy falls into the habit of spending his money on his companions, and soon the time comes when soda water and peanuts are no longer cared for by those companions, and candy is childish. Then what? The habit of treating is strong upon him. 'What will they have?' 'What must he do?' Mentally canvassing the tastes of his companions, he thinks cigars or cigarettes will be about the thing though he doesn't smoke himself perhaps because 'Mother' has been able to guard him from that vice. So it goes. Then some one else 'treats' to cigars and so he takes one because he 'don't like to look queer.' Don't you see how it works up step by step?"

I did see, and I thought it was a question which called for careful thought on the part of all mothers who wish to do their "very best" for the darlings of their hearts, their growing sons.

"Reflect" she added after a few moments' pause.

I did "reflect" and to this point have my reflections brought me.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

BABY'S NAP.

"When baby's nap hour comes, don't let it be spoiled with noise and glaring light and flies, but carry the sleepy little one into some still, darkened, cool chamber, even if it be the housetop, and there, with no fear of annoying or startling sounds and broken slumber, let the baby have opportunity to sweetly sleep out his sleep." So a writer in a late article tells us, but unless there is a trusty watcher to sit with baby while he sleeps in this remote room, I would not dare put him there.

Baby's nap hour is apt to come at eleven o'clock, an hour in our country homes which is crowded with the work of dinner getting, and with but one pair of hands at our command, who is there in the household that can be spared from the work to sit with baby in the "housetop," or where the sound of slamming oven doors and dinging dinner pots cannot reach him? No one; and a down stairs nap with its possible disturbances are preferable to one out of sight and sound of mother's watchful eye and ear.

"Why do you take baby up from her rightful sleep and carry her down stairs with you when you go to prepare breakfast? Why not leave her here alone in this still chamber to sleep and amuse herself as long as she will?" the mother of an eight months old baby, was asked not long ago.

"Because, I dare not," was the quick answer. "She may wake at any moment, and I dare not leave her here alone while I am down in the kitchen."

"Why, what possible harm could befall her?"

"A thousand things!" was the cautious mother's decided answer.

Hardly a thousand, but very many sad accidents are possible to baby if he is left without a watcher.

Asleep or awake, I never dare leave my babies alone, only for the moment, and if I cannot plan baby's nap to come when I have leisure to sit by her in a "still, darkened, cool room," she must bear with noise, and possibly with "heat, and light and flies," in a room adjoining the kitchen, whose door stands ajar, rather than run any risk of finding her smothered or choked or burned or stunned, in a remote room beyond my sight and hearing.

I do know a young, weak infant can so turn her face upon a pillow as to suffocate herself in it, unless a watchful eye is there to prevent the dreadful accident.

When baby grows stronger, the restless, active turnings of the little head may tumble the pillows so that they fall over the little face and suffocation be the result. I think I never shall forget the moment when I found my six weeks old boy gasping for breath under a heavy feather bolster that had fallen across his face. His crib was in the family sitting room. What if he had been put away for a long nap?

A friend could tell you a heart-aching story, of a day when she put her active, beautiful, ten months old little daughter to sleep in her quiet bedroom. She was unusually busy that morning preparing for expected company, and did not look in on baby every half hour, as was her custom.

"What a long nap the dear child is having!" she thought as she hurried from pantry to cook stove. "If she will only sleep a little longer I can finish my work."

That day's work was finished and the mother has had opportunity, for all of that little baby's hindering, to do the work that has come with all the years since, for when she did softly unlatch the door to see if baby had waked, she found her in the sleep that knows no waking. Her bed was an old-fashioned, high-posted one, and the little girl, in trying to get down from it to trot to mamma, had slipped into the narrow space between the bedstead and wall, and since the little feet could not reach the floor and her head was too large too slip through the aperture, she there hung until choked to death.

Another mother, whose heart will never cease to ache with torturing regret, rocked her nine months old baby to sleep in his swinging crib, and then went about her work congratulating herself that her little hinderer was off her hands for one good, long hour. He was, and he has been in all the long, sad years that have since followed, for when she went to him, she found him cold in death. He had attempted to creep from the crib, and slipping between its bar and the wall, had caught his chin over the sharp edge and there hung until choked.

One August afternoon when our eldest girl was a year old baby, I got her to sleep and laid her on a comforter on the floor in the coolest corner of our coolest chamber. I darkened the room and then turned to leave it for a moment on some errand. I stood with my hand on the latch, wondering why I could not seize the hour to do necessary work down stairs. "What *could* befall baby?" I asked, "even if she should wake. No bed from which to fall; no tumbling pillows to cut off her breath; wire screens in all the open windows; nothing in the room with which she could wound herself or climb to fall, and the match safe nailed high. Surely, nothing can happen to baby if I leave her alone one little hour," and down stairs I went with the intention of remaining there till I heard her wide awake call, but hardly a half hour had passed, before the blessed angel who never yet has failed to warn me when one of my little ones has been in danger, whispered, "go to baby," and I went, quickly. I found her cooing gleefully over an aproufuf of matches which the wind had blown from the safe. Baby had picked them up, scratched them on her little boots or the floor until they had ignited, as tiny holes burned in her apron testified.

Quiet and coolness are delightful and desirable for baby's nap, but if we must choose between them and a faithful watcher over the little sleeper, let us choose the latter.

There is a great stir in these days that it is wisdom to accustom baby to sleep by himself; that warm, loving, mother arms are not comfortable or advisable for the soft, little bundles that love so well to nestle in them; that mother and baby are both better off without any blessed, sleepy time rocks or wide awake trots; in fact, that baby must not be allowed to "take time" or "make trouble." But the dear babies are tame, timid, cuddling, little things, expecting and demanding so much love and tending and watching, that she who cheats herself into believing that lonesome naps or wakes—away from mother's arms and sight in that "quiet upper room" are best for baby, may find a twisted blanket or tumbled bolster, or a sunken pillow or a pit-fall space between crib and wall, caused baby choking cries and gasps for breath which no one was by to hear, and so the precious little life went out, when one quick out-reaching of the yearning arms that were being schooled to put and keep baby out of them whenever possible, could have saved all this misery and remorse.

CLARISSA POTTER.

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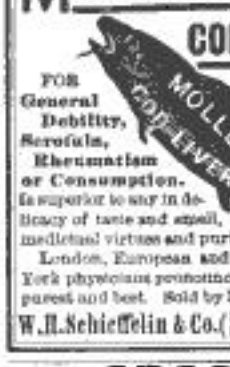

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For fifty cents I will send ten patterns for a baby's new style Health Wardrobe, or ten patterns first short clothes, Health Garments, at same price. Full directions for each pattern, also kind and amount of material required for each. MRS. F. E. PHILLIPS, (FAYE,) Brattleboro, Vermont.

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

Can any one send directions for crocheting the "Horn of Plenty" tidy?—ED.

Will some of the sister readers of L. H. J. send directions for making a jet collarette?

In the 3d row of Double Oak Leaf Lace given in May No. the figure 5 should be a figure 3.

"Mrs. G. F. W."—Shall be glad to receive any pretty patterns you can send us. M. F. K.

"Bessie" wishes directions for crocheting mittens. Can any of the readers send them to the editor?

A subscriber would like directions for knitting a gentleman's undershirt, high neck and long sleeves, of Saxony yarn.—ED.

Will "C. M. B." who sent directions for Roman Key be kind enough to send a sample to M. F. K. 20 Linden St., S. Boston, Massachusetts?

Will "E. S. M.," Nooksack, W. T., send her address with 2 cent stamp to M. F. K. 20 Linden St., S. Boston, Mass? I will send the directions she asked for.

Will "Mrs. M. B. Cooper" please send directions for making children's stockings in star stitch, also kind of needle and material used, and describe the star stitch?

Can any one send directions for game bag, with quantity and quality of material used? also, have any of our readers directions for crocheting child's sacque in crazy stitch, made all in one piece? H. V. R.

Can some of the JOURNAL sisters furnish directions for crochet infant's hood? and oblige a subscriber. Have any of the sisters directions for crocheting an infant's hood of linen thread? —ED.

Deep Knitted Lace.

Cast up 35 stitches.
1st row. Knit 4, over and narrow 15 times, over, knit 1.
2d row plain.
3d row. Knit 7, over and narrow 14 times, over, knit 1.
4th row plain.
5th row. Knit 10, over and narrow 13 times, over, knit 1.
6th row plain.
7th row. Knit 13, over and narrow 12 times, over, knit 1.
8th row plain.
9th row. Knit 16, over and narrow 11 times, over, knit 1.
10th row plain.
11th row. Knit 19, over and narrow 10 times, over, knit 1.
12th row plain.
13th row. Knit 22, over and narrow 9 times, over, knit 1.
14th row plain.
15th row. Knit 25, over and narrow 8 times, over, knit 1.
16th row plain.
17th row. Knit 28, over and narrow 7 times, over, knit 1.
18th row plain.
19th row. Knit 31, over and narrow 6 times, over, knit 1.
20th row plain.
21st row plain.
22d row. Cast off 10, knit the rest.
Repeat from the 1st row.

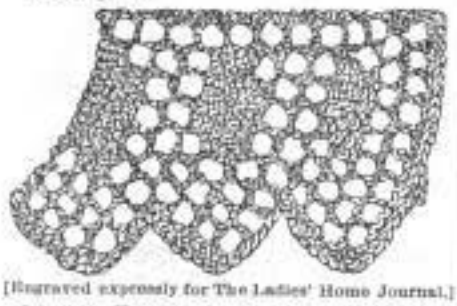
It does not show its beauty until you have knit a few scallops; is nice either in cotton or wool.

MRS. RICHARDS.

WEST POINT, N. Y.

Mikado Lace.

Cast on 22 stitches.
1st row. Knit 2, over twice, narrow, knit 10, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 2.
2d row. Knit 4, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 12, purl 1, knit 2.
3d and 4th rows plain.
5th row. Knit 2, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 12, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 2.
6th row. Knit 4, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 11, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2.
7th row plain.



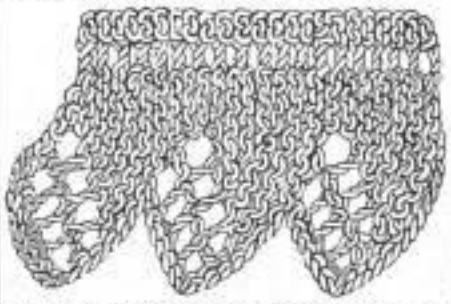
[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

8th row. Knit 2, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 1, narrow, knit 3.
9th row. Knit 2, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 2.
10th row. Knit 4, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2.
11th row plain.
12th row like the 8th.
13th row like the 9th.
14th row like the 10th.
15th row plain.
16th row. Bind off 9; knit rest plain.
Repeat from 1st row. MRS. S. A. K.

PENACOOK, N. H.

Oak Leaf Lace.

Cast on 10 stitches; knit across plain.
1st row. Slip 1, (take off without knitting) knit 1, throw thread over, narrow, knit 1, thread over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 1.



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

2d row. Slip 1, knit 2, seam 1, knit 2, seam 1, knit 2, seam 1, knit 2.
3d row. Slip 1, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 3, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 1.
4th row. Slip 1, knit 2, seam 1, knit 2, seam 1, knit 4, seam 1, knit 2.
5th row. Slip 1, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 5, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 1.
6th row. Slip 1, knit 2, seam 1, knit 2, seam 1, knit 6, seam 1, knit 2.
7th row. Slip 1, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 7, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 1.
8th row. Slip 1, knit 2, seam 1, knit 2, seam 1, knit 8, seam 1, knit 2.
9th row. Slip 1, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 14.
10th row. Slip and bind 8 stitches, knit 6, seam 1, knit 2.

Should have 10 stitches left on the needle; begin at 1st row again.

IDA E. DECKER.

Knitted shawl.

Cast on 225 stitches; knit across 6 times plain.
7th row. Take off the first stitch, knit 5, knit 3 tog, knit last stitch without slipping it from the needle; then bring the wool forward and purl it, still keeping it on the needle, then put the wool back, and knit it this time, slipping it off; this makes 3 stitches out of one; knit 3 together again, then as before, and so on until but 6 stitches remain; knit these plain. The last stitch before the 6 plain, must be widened, always, if you narrow on commencing the row.
8th row knit plain.
9th row. Same as 7th, excepting widening the 7th stitch, and so on; that is, always widen the stitch that was narrowed before, and vice versa. Knit in this manner 230 times across, then knit 6 times plain, and bind off loosely.

Two pounds of Shetland floss will knit three shawls.

Tog means together.

STRETCHING SHAWL.

Wring a sheet in clear water, and pin it to the carpet, then stretch the shawl, and pin closely around the edge. Pin it at night, and in the morning the sheet will be dry, and the shawl stretched. Crochet any border; the one I saw had deep scallops with fluffy edge. Use long needles to knit the shawl, size of a pipe stem.

This shawl is lovely, and easy to knit.

HELEN VAN LANDT.

AVON, N. Y.

EDITOR L. H. J.—In answer to L. F. B.'s request for rick-rack, I send the following directions: Leave two points at the end of braid; commence in the third point, 1 d c in each of next nine points, (no stitches between) join the tenth d c into the first, with a s c, make a chain of three, fasten the next point to the first point left at the beginning, chain three, fasten the next point to last point left, chain five, carry across to the point opposite where you commence the wheel. This is a simple pattern to make, but rather difficult to explain in writing; if these directions are not plain, send stamped envelope and I will send a sample of this to them.

Would like directions for making crocheted cotton tidy. MAGGIE JOHNSTON.

KEOSAQUA, IOWA.

Half Square for Sides of Quilt Which Was Given in Dec. No. of L. H. J.

Chain 6, and join together with a slip stitch.
1st row. Ch 3, d c 2 in ch of 6, * ch 2, d c 3 in same loop; repeat from star 3 times; turn.
2d row. Ch 3, 4 d c in loop, 2 ch, 4 d c in same, * 4 d c in loop, ch 2, 4 d c in same; repeat from star twice; turn.
3d row. Ch 3, 4 d c in shell, ch 2, 4 d c in same, * 4 d c in next shell, ch 2, 4 d c in same; repeat from star twice; turn.

Proceed according to directions for square given in paper; be sure your nubs all come on one side of square. MARY.

Tatting! That is one thing that I never *could* learn!

I beg your pardon, madame. Will you try *once more*? I have never yet seen the person who earnestly desired to learn the art, and who was slowly taught, who failed to acquire it. I have just taught an old lady, who at once made a tatting purse for her son, and was justly proud of her success. Take a piece of coarse, soft cord, such as grocers use for parcels. Choose a retired spot, where you can feel that no eye but your own will note your failures. Wind the cord once around the fingers of the left hand, holding it firmly between the thumb and fore finger. With the free end make a loop upon the part around your fingers. Now hold the free end taut, throwing the loop upon the other portion of the cord, so that you can pull the free end readily back and forth through it. The total depravity of the second finger of the left hand will generally dispute this part of the process. When you have taught that finger to be humble and yielding, you will be ready to learn any pattern in tatting. Add as many loops as you please, and draw the whole into a close scallop. If it will not draw up, then all the loops are not made by the cord that is around your hand. Try again.

JENNY WALLIS.

"Mrs. J. White" asks how to crochet a watch guard. I made a lovely one this winter with knitting silk, in afghan stitch. Cast on nine stitches.

SAM'S WIFE.

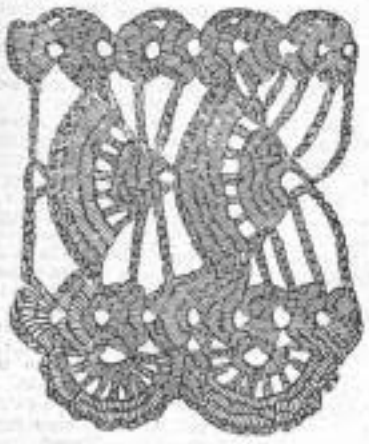
A treasure of interesting matter—the new LADIES' BOOK. Beautifully printed with illustrations on cream super calendared paper, all sent postpaid, with pretty picture cards and other interesting enclosures, for only four cents in stamps, by addressing the old reliable house of R. H. McDONALD & Co., N. Y. City.

Part of a Square for the Top and Bottom of Crochet Quilt Which Was Given in the Dec. No. of L. H. J.

Chain 6, and join together with a slip stitch.
1st row. Chain 3, d c 2 in loop just made by ch 6, ch 2, d c 3 in same loop, ch 2, 3 d c in same loop, ch 2, 3 d c in same; turn.
2d row. Ch 2, d c 3 in loop, ch 2, 4 d c in same, * ch 2, 4 d c in shell, ch 2, 4 d c in same; repeat from star once; turn.
3d row. Ch 2, 3 d c in shell, ch 2, 4 d c in same, ch 2, 1 d c in space between first and second shells, * ch 2, 1 d c in same, ch 2, 4 d c in shell, ch 2, 4 d c in same; repeat from star once; turn.
4th row. Ch 2, 3 d c in shell, ch 2, 4 d c in same * ch 2, 1 d c in loop, ch 2, make a nub by putting 6 d c in next loop, then draw out the hook, and put it through the top of the first of the 6, d c on the other side of work, and take up the stitch dropped from the hook, and draw it through the one on the hook, ch 2, 4 d c in shell, ch 2, 4 d c in same; repeat from star; turn.
5th row. Ch 2, 3 d c in shell, ch 2, 4 d c in same, * ch 2, 1 d c in loop, make a nub, ch 2, make a nub in next loop, ch 2, 1 d c in loop, ch 2, 4 d c in shell, ch 2, 4 d c in same; repeat from star; turn.
6th row. Ch 2, 3 d c in shell, ch 2, 4 d c in same, * ch 2, 1 d c in loop, ch 2, make a nub in next loop, ch 2, 3 d c in loop, ch 2, make a nub in loop, ch 2, 1 d c in loop, ch 2, make a shell; repeat from star; turn.
7th row. Ch 2, 3 d c in shell, 2 ch, 4 d c in same * ch 2, 1 d c in loop, ch 2, make a nub in loop, ch 2, 2 d c in loop, 1 d c in top of next 3 stitches, 2 d c in loop, ch 2, make a nub in loop, ch 2, 1 d c in loop, ch 2, 4 d c in shell, 2 d c in same; turn.
8th row. Ch 2, 3 d c in shell, ch 2, 4 d c in same, * ch 2, 1 d c in loop, ch 2, make a nub, ch 2, 2 d c in loop, 1 d c in each of next 7 stitches, ch 2, 2 d c in loop, ch 2, make a nub in loop, ch 2, 1 d c in loop, ch 2, make a shell; repeat from star; turn.
9th row. Ch 2, 3 d c in shell, 2 ch, 4 d c in same, * ch 2, 1 d c in loop, ch 2, 2 d c in loop, ch 2, 1 d c in each of next 11 stitches, 2 d c in loop, ch 2, make a nub in loop, ch 2, 1 d c in loop, ch 2, 4 d c in shell, ch 2, 4 d c in same; repeat from *.

Crochet Fan Lace.

Make a chain of 24 stitches.
1st row. 3 d c in 4th stitch, ch 2, 3 d c in same stitch, ch 4, 1 d c in 10th stitch from 1st shell, ch 3, 1 d c in same stitch, ch 4, 1 shell in last stitch of chain, ch 3; turn.



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

2d row. Shell, in shell of 1st row, ch 3, 8 d c in ch 3, ch 3, shell in centre of next shell, ch 5; turn.
3d row. Shell in shell, ch 2, 1 d c between each one of 8 d c, with ch 1 between, ch 2, shell in shell, ch 3; turn.
4th row. Shell in shell, 3 d c between each d c in last row, shell in shell, then put 8 d c with ch 1 between, in ch 5 at end of 2d row; catch with single crochet in end of 1st row.
5th row. 1 d c, ch 3, 1 s c, all between the d c's of last row, ch 2, shell in shell, ch 4, 1 d c between 3d and 4th groups of 3 d c in last row, ch 3, 1 d c in same place, ch 4, shell in shell, ch 3; turn.
Repeat from 2d row.
Shell means 3 d c, ch 2, 3 d c in one stitch.

AQUILLA, TEXAS JESSIE GRIFFIN.

Terms in Crochet.

Ch—Chain, a straight series of loops, each drawn with the hook through the preceding one. Sl st—Slip stitch; put hook through the work, thread over the hook, draw it through the stitch on the hook. S c—Single Crochet; having a stitch on the needle (or hook) put the needle through the work, draw the thread through the work, and the stitch on the needle. D. C.—Double Crochet; having the stitch on the needle, put the needle through the work, and draw a stitch through, making two on the needle. Take up the thread again, and draw it through both these stitches. T c or Tr—Treble Crochet; having a stitch on the needle, take up the thread as if for a stitch, put the needle through the work, and draw the thread through, making three on the needle. Take up the thread and draw through two, then take up the thread and draw it through the two remaining. S t c—Short Treble Crochet; like treble, except that when the three stitches are on the needle, instead of drawing the thread through two stitches twice, it is drawn through all three at once. L t c—Long Treble Crochet; like treble, except that the thread is thrown twice over the needle before inserting the latter in the work. The stitches are worked off two at a time, as in treble. Extra Long Stitch—Twine the cotton three times round the needle, work as the treble stitch, bringing the cotton through two loops four times. P—or picot; made by working three chain, and one single crochet in first stitch of the chain.

Terms Used in Knitting.

K—Knit plain. P—Purl, or as it is sometimes called, Seam. N or K 2 tog—Narrow, by knitting 2 together. Over—Throw the thread over the needle before inserting it in the next stitch. This makes a loop which is always to be considered a stitch, in the succeeding rows, or rounds. Tw—Twist stitch. Insert the needle in the back of the stitch to be knitted, and knit as usual. Sl—Slip a stitch from the left hand to the right hand needle without knitting it. Sl and B—Slip and bind—slip one stitch, knit the next; pass the slipped one over it, exactly as in binding off a piece of work at the end. * indicates a repetition, and is used merely to save words. "Sl 1, k 1, p 1, repeat from * 3 times"—would be equivalent to saying sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1. Tog means together.

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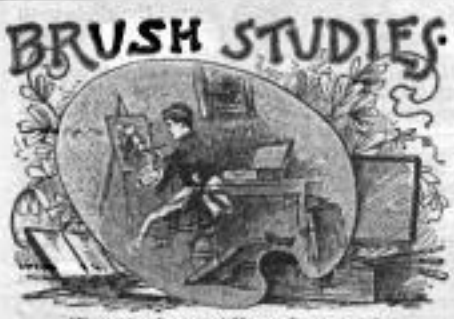

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

BRUSH STUDIES AND HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

NEW SERIES—NO. VIII.

BY LIDA AND M. J. CLARKSON.

Long Panel "Flamingoes." How to Paint it in Oil and in Pastel—Dining-room Screen—Home-made Jardiniere, etc.

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The flamingo design illustrated in last number, shows an excellent subject for the decoration of long panels, so fashionable now, and so well adapted to certain purposes of household furnishing.

For narrow sections of wall between windows, for door panels, or screens, it is a novel and charming design.

The best materials, where the work is to be done in oils, is undoubtedly a good quality of canvas, which should be mounted upon a stretcher of at least 37x13 inches.

[Engraved expressly for THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

SUGGESTION FOR DINING-ROOM SCREEN.

Begin the work first by laying in the sky, the palette for which is silver white, cobalt, a trifle each of madder lake, ivory black, and light cadmium. This tint gradually merges into a yet more delicate pinkish tone, which extends down to the distant foliage, and is painted with white, madder lake, a little light red, light cadmium and ivory black.

Lay the paint on broadly in these sky tints, using a large bristle brush, No. 5 or 6, with a strong enough touch to work it well into the canvas. Paint may be broadly spread, and yet the tones kept light and delicate, especially when merging from one to another. Take the strokes in every direction which is an easy way of completely covering the threads of canvas.

The palette for distant foliage, which is very bluish in tone, is white, cobalt, or Antwerp blue, and light cadmium, qualified by madder lake, and a trifle ivory black. For the middle distance add more cadmium, to produce a greener tint. For the palm trees in middle distance add a trifle light red and ivory black. The feathery grass heads at the top of panel, are painted with white, cadmium, and a trifle ivory black, with shading of a purplish cast. For this use Antwerp blue, madder lake and white.

For the tall brakes, or tropical ferns, the best colors are light zinnober green, terre vert, white and black, with Antwerp blue in the shadows. The palette for grasses is the same, varying the tone from dark to light.

The nearer bank is always painted with same colors.

The water repeats the sky in the lighter tones. In the dark shadows use terre vert and black with Antwerp blue, and a trifle cadmium. For the lily pads use the same palette given for ferns. The birds will doubtless prove the most difficult feature of this study to the amateur. They should be of a most delicate pink, with the exception of the tip of the wings, which are a bright scarlet shaded with black. For the local color use simply white, vermillion, a trifle light cadmium and ivory black. In shading, add more vermillion and a trifle madder lake, cobalt and black.

For the high light add more white to the same colors used for the local tone. The upper part of mandible is painted white, with a trifle cadmium and black in the shading. The very tip of bill black, with a little cadmium. The scarlet with which wings are tipped, is vermillion, shaded with a little madder lake and black. The color of the smaller bird is reflected in the water. The local color mingling with the blue of the water, is more subdued and purplish in tone. For this effect a trifle more cobalt, or Antwerp blue is added to the local color. The greens of the immediate foreground are the same as already given, with the addition of a little burnt sienna.

When the panel is thoroughly dry finish with Soehnee's French retouching varnish. This is applied with a large flat bristle brush.

Pastel is so similar in detail to charcoal and crayon drawing, that it will be quite unnecessary to repeat what was given under that heading last month. To paint the "flamingoes" in pastel an assortment of colored crayons will be needed. Colors corresponding to the oil paints may be had. These are put up in boxes, for either landscape or portrait painting, in beautiful gradation of tints, from the deepest, down to the most delicate of shades.

Each color is thus graduated, so that it is very easy to match the tints as required. Pastel paper is sold at twenty cents a sheet. The best velvet paper may be had at that price. This should be mounted as described in last number. To paint the flamingoes, sketch, or pounce the design lightly, in either charcoal, or brown crayon.

After a general outline is had in this way, the shadows may be laid in, in simple masses, using a medium tone of color. Then the local tint of the sky; in the same way the water, and the foreground, until the whole effect is had in simple masses of color, which are now united by rubbing lightly, either with the finger, or a bit of chamois twisted to a point. If the finger is used, care must be had not to dull the color, or to lose its transparency and freshness. After a little practice a few skillful touches will serve to blend the tones, the finger, or chamois being used to remove any hardness of line, and to harmonize the colors sufficiently. In this same way tints may be worked one into another, modifying them as is necessary. The sky of the panel is a most delicate shade of blue, gradually blending into the creamy pink tint, which is carried down to the distant foliage. A luminous, atmospheric effect may be had by a correct handling of the subject.

It should be borne in mind that only the more delicate colors should be used in the sky tints, as it is much easier to deepen them afterward than it is to lighten, or give them transparency.

The details, such as the brakes, grasses, and surface marks in foreground, are drawn lastly with the point, that is, hard crayons are used wherever careful drawing is necessary, although for fine lines, the sharp edge of the crayon may be employed. In laying in the masses of color, the crayon may be applied flat, holding it between the thumb and fore finger. The paper stump may be used instead of the finger, though with practice the latter gives perhaps better results.

The hard crayons for details and finishing, come in small paper boxes, from 25c. to 50c. per box. The large soft crayons come in flat wooden boxes at different prices, according to quality, and number of colors. A very good quality of crayons, assorted colors, for landscape or flower painting can be bought for $4.00. Lower priced boxes may be had, but in these many of the desirable colors are wanting.

In the execution of the above subjects either in oil or pastel, it should be observed that the scene is a tropical one, and to be painted accordingly.

The tones are mellow and luminous. The brilliant light of a southern clime, the roseate plumage of the birds, with their tapering forms and gracefully curved necks, form an enchanting color piece, with effects not to be had in pictures of our northern regions. This will doubtless prove a favorite with those fond of the novel in art, who have been searching for something different from the ordinary run of subjects.

It is also well calculated to please either landscape or decorative painters, and as such, pleasure is taken in presenting it in these columns.

Two original designs for household decoration are given this month, which will be found attractive and desirable to those requiring economical devices, as they can both be made at home at a moderate cost. Almost any one at all familiar with carpenters' tools, can furnish the frame for screen, while the *jardiniere*, or window box for plants, is constructed from a simple wooden box. This can stand upon a small table, the window shelf, or a light bamboo framework, as preferred. The latter when draped with some rich material contributes still more to it beauty. For parlor or drawing-room decoration this is in excellent taste.

The dining-room screen will be found as useful as it is ornamental, especially for housekeepers in close quarters, where the kitchen must serve as general sitting or dining-room. The screen may effectually conceal a cook stove, while it also intercepts the heat so unpleasant to the devotees of the tea table.

Although in appearance an elaborate affair, it is quite simple in construction. A strong clothes horse may be made to answer for the framework, or a similar piece of furniture put together by carpenter or amateur workman. It should be well made, and joined, so as not to become rickety with use. A poorly constructed screen frame is a nuisance, and an aggravation.

[Engraved expressly for THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

DESIGN FOR A HOME-MADE JARDINIERE.

In some screens the canvas is tacked directly upon the frame, and then painted. A better way is to mount it upon stretchers made to fit into the frame. These can be handled much more conveniently, and if the canvas gives in painting, it can easily be tightened, as it cannot be, if tacked directly upon the screen frame itself.

Those unfamiliar with the brush may accomplish the decoration with what is known as Lincrusta Walton. This is a fabric so easy to paint upon, that little, if any instruction is necessary, as the designs come already stamped in clear outlines, which need only to be followed with the brush. Lincrusta is made to imitate metal, wood, and other substances, and may be either painted, or beautifully bronzed in metallic colors. Fruit or flower subjects are effective painted in their natural colors, and our design shows the two upper panels decorated with fruit branches. The two lower sections are simple marine views, although landscapes or flowers may be substituted with good effect. Fruit designs are always attractive for panel painting or screen decoration, when rendered truthfully as to color, and delicate bloom, with graceful arrangement of branches and foliage.

The contrast between the bright-colored fruit and the glossy leafage, is not only effective, but restful and pleasing to the eye. Various subjects of this kind may be had in lincrusta, in what is called filling, or wall hanging, and can be bought by the yard at reasonable cost.

Directions for painting fruit in colors will be given in another number by special request. The *jardiniere*, or flower box, here illustrated, is an ordinary wooden box, neatly covered with lincrusta filling, and finished with a bronze molding such as is used for picture rails, and which may be purchased by the foot at any wall paper establishment. The corners are finished with ornamental knobs, at a trifling cost; in fact the article is very inexpensive, yet handsome enough to justify quite an outlay. The decoration is a design of dogwood painted in silver and green gold and bronzes. The effect is novel and elegant.

SUGGESTIVE HINTS.

Our correspondents furnish many useful hints from time to time, which we shall always be happy to use under this heading when of general interest to readers.

"L. H. P." sends the following:—"I have made a handsome picture frame by giving a plain board frame a coat of hot glue, and immediately sprinkling thickly with smooth sawdust, and gilding when dry—quite a success. Another of door molding covered with a coat of varnish and three coats of gilt, is also very pretty. In our place they are decorating beer schooners with a solid color inside, and a spray of flowers or a small landscape, on the outside, using them as vases."

"Mrs. H. C. Field," Andover, Kans., sends us some suggestions for which we regret not having space. We shall hope to give them as opportunity allows, and thank her very kindly for the favor. We append one which we doubt not will be welcomed by readers.

"Let me tell our sisters how to ebonize the panel for Miss Clarkson's lesson for January.

Procure either extract or chips of logwood. If first, simply dissolve in water, but latter must be steeped until strong; then apply to board, which must be nicely dressed to begin with; then give a good application of tincture of iron, or vinegar in which rusty iron has been steeped, and let dry. Give one or two coats of copal varnish, which is one of the polishes, and should be applied with a soft cloth instead of brush."

This will be found useful also for Queen Anne table given in a former number. "Mrs. George Brown," Rochester, N. Y., gives a helpful suggestion to economical readers as follows:

"In all grocery and cigar stores they have signs, advertisements of soaps, etc., which have plain wood frames with a glass. I got one where I trade, for nothing, as the sign was faded; then I took my package of bird gravel, and took all that would not go through a flour sieve; brushed over the frame with good glue, then sprinkled on the coarse gravel all that would stay on, and when dry I gilded it, and had a very pretty frame for Millias' "Northwest Passage," that came with the Christmas number of *The London News*."

A four panel screen may have fleur de lis, peonies, hollyhocks and dogwood, upon the different sections. For a small screen white mole skin velveteen may be used with a pretty effect.

The sewing machine, when not in use, is much more presentable when decorated with a handsome scarf, either painted or embroidered.

A pretty use for colored silk handkerchiefs is to tie chair tidies with them. Gather the tidy up in the hand, and pass the handkerchief around it, spreading the ends of tidy out fan shape, and tying the handkerchief in a tasteful knot.

ANSWERS TO INQUIRERS.

"A. R." To tell how to paint trees would require more space than is to be had in this column. In painting foliage, try to copy the actual shape of each space, large or small, and your trees will not look flat. Each has its peculiar form, and is made of irregular curves, semi-circles, angles, or points, according to the character of the foliage, which seldom appears distinct unless in the immediate foreground. The general character only is had by carefully studying the forms given by the light as it falls upon the foliage, and a little different handling may be necessary to indicate certain peculiarities of form.

Thank you kindly for your warm expressions relative to "Brush Studies."

"F. P. G.," Mass.—To ebonize the Queen Anne table, buy a bottle of ready mixed ebonizing black. This costs but 25c. After it is applied brisk rubbing will give a fine polish.

"H. S. L. Wyo" will find the "flamingoes" a good subject for landscape practice.

Some soft fabric would be pretty for drapery over valence. India silk, surah, rhadame, any of these make very graceful draping, as they hang in soft, lustrous folds. They come in all the new shades, at reasonable prices.

"Sadie" can make her own transparent paper by waxing strong tissue paper with paraffine. Buy a cake of the wax, lay several thicknesses of the paper upon a smooth ironing board, rub the wax across the flat of the iron, which should be moderately hot, then upon the paper, until all is evenly waxed. If the transparent paper is wished for copying, lard oil should be used instead of the wax.

"J. M. D."—A simple and inexpensive fringe may be made of felling cut in fine strips. Several colors can be combined with excellent effect. A fringe resembling soft chenille may be had by ravelling turcoman, knotting it at intervals, or leaving plain, as preferred.

"Edith."—If you have a fancy for painting spiders, a black one with yellow spots would be the most effective on your satin cushion. Ivory black, with cadmium and orange for the markings will answer. The web may be painted a light grey with white, black, and a trifle yellow ochre, in order to show upon your white satin. A moth, or butterfly, caught in the spider's meshes, would be a pretty fancy, and will give you a chance to introduce some bright color into your design.

"Mrs. H. L. S."—Chinese white is quite indispensable to your water color outfit. You will find Payne's gray also very useful. The moist colors are by far the best. Those in pans will dry up after a while, and on this account many prefer the cylinder cakes. These are convenient to handle, do not chip off on the edges, and work almost as easily as the half moist colors. Each cylinder is wrapped in tin-foil, to protect the color from air and dust.

"Elida D."—Kensington painting has been already fully described in these columns. Cattails are painted with ivory black, white, yellow ochre and burnt sienna. The leaves are rather bluish in tone, and are painted with Antwerp blue, white, ivory black, a trifle rose madder and light cadmium.

***

Our premium this month for one full subscription, is, either a copy of "Brush Studies" neatly bound and illustrated, or a piece of decorated velvet for fancy work. The same given for six names at club rates. We will continue to rent hand painted studies to subscribers to JOURNAL. Flowers, fruit, landscapes, still life studies in Kensington and Lustra, for fabric painting. We have ready now panel of "flamingoes" described above, 37x18 inches, suitable for oil, water color, or pastel painting. Send stamp for list and particulars.

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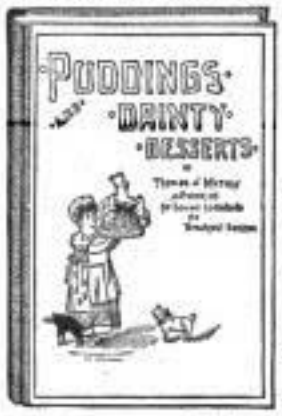

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THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL

AND

PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER.

A NATIONAL ILLUSTRATED FAMILY JOURNAL.

MRS. LOUISA KNAPP, EDITOR.
MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT, ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

Published Monthly at 441 Chestnut St.,
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

THE CURTIS PUBLISHING COMP'Y
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Receipts.—The fact that you receive the paper is a proof that we have received your remittance correctly. If you do not receive the paper promptly, write us that we may see that your address is correct.

Errors.—We make them; so does every one, and we will cheerfully correct them if you will write to us. Try to write us good-naturedly, but if you cannot, then write to us any way. Do not complain to any one else or let it pass. We want an early opportunity to make right any injustice that we may do.

NEW YORK OFFICE, 180 BROADWAY;
W. S. NILES, MANAGER.

Our New York Office is for the transaction of business with New York advertisers.
Subscribers should not address any letters to that office.

Philadelphia, August, 1886.

Attention is called to our change in subscription price, September 1st. Now is the time to take advantage of our present exceedingly low rates for clubs.

Some one has wisely said of late: "So many people pray that two and two won't make four, and then cry out against Heaven because God has refused to answer their prayers."

We wish to thank the many correspondents who have accepted the hints published in one or two former JOURNALS, in regard to the most satisfactory method of conducting correspondence with this office. They have saved themselves and us much trouble and unnecessary writing.

Do you ever have occasion to erase a written word with a penknife and afterwards write over the place? And does it not nearly always blot or look much blacker than the rest of the document?

Try another way. Write the second word over the first, and then scratch out all such lines as are unnecessary. You will thus have a clear word, which has not run, and very few will detect the fact that anything has been erased.

Whatever occasion you may have for mental distress, try, at this season of the year, to put all worry as far away from you as possible. Mental distress causes predisposition to physical ailments. And as the warm weather increases, and the system is depleted by profuse perspiration, and the body taken possession of by the languor and lassitude caused by the heat, if to it is added worriment of mind, the strain upon the physical organization becomes too great, and fevers and like ailments follow.

Hence, during the heated term, keep as cool as possible, both mentally and physically.

Since our December issue we have received several letters of expostulation from various sections of the United States, in regard to two or three recipes published in that number.

The recipes mentioned contained among other ingredients, liquor of some kind.

Being just at Christmas time, and the recipes having been sent to us, (our recipe column being one that has always been open to our subscribers) we published them. Nevertheless, had we given the matter sufficient thought, we would have excluded those particular recipes from our pages, even under the circumstances mentioned, as, personally, we are opposed to using liquors in cooking, believing the practice to be one conducive to creating and fostering an appetite for such things.

Hereafter, all such recipes will be carefully excluded from our columns.

Every day or two we receive a letter from some reader inquiring as to the reliability of some particular firm advertising with us. If such writers could realize it, they are taking much unnecessary trouble, as, the fact that the advertisement in question was seen in our columns, answers the inquiry at once. It is one of those things which proves itself, and requires no further explanation.

If therefore one of our readers notices among our advertisements an article which she desires (which she is pretty sure to do as our columns contain advertisements of nearly everything necessary or ornamental) let her send to the firm so advertising. It is not necessary to write to us first in regard to the reliability of that particular firm. In answering her letter we cannot say more than we are saying now, or than we have said heretofore. So we say to all the sisters, scan our advertising columns closely, feeling perfectly safe to trust your money with firms who advertise any article that you want.

POSTAGE TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

A discrimination in the rates of postage to city subscribers is made between weekly and monthly periodicals, to the great disadvantage of the latter; for, while the weeklies can be mailed to city subscribers for one cent per pound, monthlies can not be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent for each two ounces, except where the subscribers go to the post-office for their mail. And, as the JOURNAL in its present form weighs over two ounces, we are, therefore, obliged to ask Philadelphia subscribers twenty-four cents extra for postage, unless the paper is addressed at the post-office to be called for, or to any P. O. box.

☞ TELL YOUR FRIENDS.

Friends and readers of the JOURNAL should remember that UNTIL SEPT. 1ST ONLY, subscriptions will be received at 25 cents a year. This is the last month in which to raise clubs at so low a price, and JOURNAL sisters can easily help us start the autumn with that 300,000 list, by simply calling the attention of friends and neighbors to this notice and showing a copy of the JOURNAL. For a full list of premiums consult back numbers. It will pay you to send us four or more new subscribers, and select a premium for your trouble, that probably could not be bought in the stores for less than the cost of the whole club.

Tell your friends the JOURNAL *is to be made still better, and can be had a whole year for so small a sum as 25 cents, if subscribed for before September 1st. After that date no subscriptions will be received for less than 50 cents per year.*

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

On and after September 1st., 1886, the rates for advertising in the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL will be one dollar per agate line (14 lines to the inch) each insertion. The circulation of the JOURNAL is over two hundred thousand (200,000) to paid yearly subscribers, independent, and exclusive of any short term trial subscribers, or sample copies.

Proof of circulation is given by sworn statements of our paper manufacturer, Mr. Alex. Balfour, our printers, Ferguson Bros. & Co., who run four presses nearly a month to print our large edition, and John F. Busch & Son, our binders, all of Philadelphia; also post-office receipts for papers mailed, and open subscription books to any one who will call upon us, or send a representative to our office.

"HANDSOME IS AS HANDSOME DOES."

One of the axioms impressed upon us from infancy (and perhaps to the youthful mind the most aggravating of all trite sayings) is the above quoted proverb.

That it is to a degree true, is beyond question, but that it is *absolutely* true, as children are intended to believe it, is a matter admitting of very strong doubt.

That a patient, pleasing spirit—a desire to please for the sake of principle, and not for the sake of attracting temporary admiration—does beautify the expression of the face till it takes on newer and lovelier curves, no one will deny.

But one may do and effect all this and not be handsome, either; *loveable*, certainly, but not handsome.

"What! is it not better to be lovable than handsome?" Certainly, my dear madam, better, far better, if one cannot be both; but why not *be both*, if it lies in one's power?"

The most lady-like child in the world never was *handsome* in a purple dress and blue hat, or in a dark blue hat, by itself, if she was afflicted with a sallow complexion; nor should she be taught to feel that she was a harmonious whole, even if draped in inharmonious colors, providing her behavior was all it should be; nor should she be allowed or taught to think that if her behavior was perfect, no one would notice her appearance.

Teach her to bear patiently an incongruous combination (if such a combination be unavoidable) just as you would teach her to bear any other affliction, but do not permit her to sustain such an injury (for injury it is to a sensitive eye and mind) for one moment after it is avoidable.

It is not true that it makes no difference. People will notice her dress, and she will become an eye-sore and source of annoyance to all who may be compelled by circumstances to look at her.

Everyone has some good point or points, and it should be the duty of each one to make as much of that particular beauty as possible—to do otherwise is an insult to society at large. That many spend too much time upon themselves, and that a goodly portion of those only succeed in making themselves elaborately hideous, is no argument against the principle.

Napoleon is recorded as having been first attracted towards Madame de Beauharnais by the pleasing effect produced in the contrasting colors of her drapery and that of a crimson chair upon which she was sitting.

How often have we ourselves been personally *attracted* by the appearance of some man, woman or child, when we knew nothing of them at all—an attraction that led to a desire for nearer acquaintance—a desire which culminated in a life-long pleasant friendship.

If a child have pretty, curling hair, don't plait it in tight braids on the plea that it is less trouble, or that you do not wish to encourage vanity. The innocent pleasure that the child may take in her curls will be far less harmful in its effects upon her general character, than the chafing and fretting against the injustice will be. She is innately conscious of the fact, and "Don't think so much about yourself," "Handsome is as handsome does," will not alter her opinion of herself, indeed it will only tend to increase the evil you are trying to guard against by *making* her think about herself; whereas, the chances are ten to one that if some little attention is paid to her personal appearance, she will be a better, because a more *contented* child. We all know the feeling of satisfaction, the content with all the world and its doings, that pervades every fibre of our being when we look at that same world, and ourselves in the glass, through the medium of an especially becoming bonnet, or dress that we know to be well fitting.

Above all things never permit a child to acquire the notion that he or she is possessed of a homeliness so hopeless that nothing can modify it but perfection of behavior. Perfection of behavior is unattainable, and the sense of defeat in having lost our chance of being passably good-looking, by some lapse, is absolute torture to an over-sensitive mind. On the contrary, teach a child that *everyone* has some good points in appearance, and that to note and make the most of these without being vain of them, is not only a commendable thing but an absolute duty; that the reverse is an insult to society at large, and that no woman has a moral right to neglect *this* gift of God, any more than she would have to neglect a talent for painting, music, or any of the thousand and one other things she is expected to cultivate if she has the slightest turn for them.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"T. O."—Peruvian Syrup may be obtained at any drug store.—ED.

CAN any one tell "M. A. C." where to buy patterns to form rose leaves in ribbon work?—ED.

"MRS. A. A. SHERWOOD:"—In our estimation pink sateen is absolutely beyond help when soiled or faded.—ED.

"M. J. K.," ROBERTSDALE, PA.—Send to any reliable dealer for the catalogue of kindergarten materials.—ED.

EDITOR L. H. J.—Will some one please tell how to take ink out of carpet without destroying the color of the carpet? PINKIE.

CAN any of the readers of the L. H. J. inform me, through the columns of this paper, where I can get carpet reeds? A SUBSCRIBER.

WILL "Betsey" kindly send her full address to the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL office. The associate editor desires to communicate with her personally.

"CARRIE BUTLER:"—You sent us directions of Wide Lace—44 stitches. There is a mistake in the first row. Will you please correct it and send to 441 Chestnut St., Phila.—ED.

WILL some one of your many readers tell me what is good for Ivy or Dogwood poison? and oblige the mother of four boys.

HIGHLANDVILLE, MASS.

DEAR EDITOR:—Will some of the correspondents tell me how to keep bright a swinging lamp of copper and brass? and how and where to get prisms, to replace those lost?

WILL you inform me, through the columns of the JOURNAL, where, and for what price, Marion Harland's Calendar can be bought?

MISS VIOLA ARTIS.

SANTA ROSA, CAL.

[It can be bought at any large book store for one dollar.—ED.]

"SUBSCRIBER" asks me where she can get "Blush of Roses." Of any druggist, I suppose. It is made by Miss Flora Jones, Utica, N. Y. It removes pimples and freckles, and gives a lovely complexion. LAUREL.

ANSWER:—Any article in the Gorham plate which cannot be obtained through a local silver merchant, may be procured from the Gorham Silver Co., Broadway and 17th Sts., New York City. CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

HARMAR, O., May 18, 1886

DEAR MADAME:—While I was reading in the LADIES HOME JOURNAL, some one wanted to know if any one could suggest a way of keeping gold fish alive. I have had them nearly a year; change the water every other day; running spring water is best; feed them rice wafers, not too much. L. M. S.

KEENE, May 28th, 1886.

Will some of the ladies of the HOME JOURNAL please give a recipe for the old fashioned bean porridge, such as our grandmothers used to make, that was best when it was nine days old? and oblige a subscriber. MRS. E. F. BROWN.

GOODLAND, IND., May 14th, 1886.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Could you, or some of the ladies, tell me how to remove sour apple stains from white and cotton goods? and oblige a subscriber very much, as I have a white dress ruined with stains of sour apples. I think the L. H. J. is the very best paper ever printed. MRS. J. H.

[I think "Mrs. J. H." will find oxalic acid effectual in removing sour apple stains. Stretch the stained part tight over a bowl, pour on the acid, and immediately pour boiling water over the same place. The stains will then be removed without injury to the cloth.—ED.]

HOTTON, JACKSON CO., KAN., May 28th, '86.

EDITOR L. H. J.—Will some of the sisters tell me where I can get the old fashioned steel clasp for a bead bag, and the purse silk?

And oblige, MRS. S. W. HAMM.

[Write to Partridge & Richardson, 17 and 19 N. Eighth St., Phila., Pa.—ED.]

"A READER" says to her sisters in the country: "As so many are troubled with potato bugs, I have found an unfailing remedy, which I would like them to know of. Sprinkle the vines every evening with the water in which potatoes have been boiled. If the bugs are not very bad, once or twice a week will do."

"M. A. C.," St. Louis:—You can obtain English crochet cotton, Geary's make, for 6 cents per spool, numbers run from 2 to 20; also, lee wool, done up in balls; it comes in colors, and is used double; price, 16 cents per ball. These you will find at Partridge & Richardson's, Eighth St. above Market, Phila Pa.

BANGOR, ME., March 5, 1886.

DEAR EDITOR L. H. J.—I don't know when I've seen a paper that I like half as well as I do this one. Everything that a nineteenth century individual could possibly want is found in its columns. I have a few ideas that may possibly help others, and as each one seems to add her mite I will venture again.

Have any of the ladies tried painting on glass? Get a panel, have it cut the required dimensions, (for example one 18x8) paint one side a fancy background, (a clouded sky is very pretty) then after that has thoroughly dried, put on another coat, then turn the glass, and on the smooth side put a design of roses, field daisies, or spray of apple blossoms with butterflies or bees hovering near, and the effect is charming. Another way is: use common black paint, and go through the same process, and when sufficiently dry, paint cone flowers, (or the yellow daisies as they are called) grasses and ferns: the yellow of the flowers against the black is very rich and effective. I have had pupils who have done very artistic painting, with cost of not more than thirty-five or forty cents.

Get your carpenter to make you a panel or a plaque from a piece of fine board, but be sure to have the lumber well seasoned before hand, on account of warping. Have the surface on which you paint perfectly smooth, (and free from any little imperfections that may happen to occur in the wood) with a beveled edge of two or three inches as your taste may decide. The one I am thinking of is 28x12, the background is sky, in the left hand corner shaded down to an indistinct green (terre verte) which gives distance and an aerial look. The panel goes lengthwise, and springing from the bottom are different varieties of tulips, with the leaves; the beveled edges are gilded. For the plaque, mark a circle of an inch or two, put the scene (a winter view is very striking with diamond dust sprinkled in the snow) in the inclosure, and after painting scrape up the bits of paint and put them around the circle until you have an edge that is heavy and rough; use the palette knife for this, and be sure you cover the board; after the paint is dry enough, gild.

Some make a glue cover, put on rice or oat meal, and gild that; but either when finished make an unique picture frame. Something "useful as well ornamental" is always acceptable. A very handsome mirror may be made by using one of those old fashioned ones with mahogany frames. Get a bottle of gilt powder and the medium for making, paint the entire frame with the preparation, be sure and put on enough to give it a rich appearance, then take a piece of charcoal or chalk, draw the design, clematis would be beautiful, the white petals of the flower blending harmoniously with the gilt. In this way many an old fashioned piece of furniture can be made very artistic with but little cost.

I am shocked at the length of this letter but will stop only to add this bit. I have half-a-dozen cup and saucer designs, with written directions for painting, which I will let or sell very reasonably, if they will write to my address; also some simple studies for butter plates.

I am in receipt of quite a number of letters asking information about amber enamel, the poppy design, and the C. S. F. A. The most I have answered individually, but for the benefit of "Mrs. H. C. H." Cambridgeport, Mass., and others that did not fully understand, I will, by the kind permission of the editor, answer through the JOURNAL. Amber enamel is used chiefly for decorative purposes, and where there will be little or no water used. The commode set which I spoke of, the design was put where there would be no need of water touching it, and in that way will last for a long time; for directions see page 5 of the February No. of the JOURNAL. I have not the design of either the rose or poppies, as I arranged to suit myself when I was painting, and did mostly from memory; but I could easily make a design for any one.

The C. S. F. A. is comparatively new, and the course is for amateurs who cannot conveniently study art at home, as there are no advantages.

Mr. Frank Fowler, of New York, is Art Director, and criticises all studies that are sent to him. You are classed accordingly as far as you are advanced. Very truly,

MAUD H. BUZZELL.

DEAR EDITOR:—I would like to correct some impressions made on the minds of the readers of this dear little paper, by some one who signs herself "Bell," in the July number; at least I would like to set *her* mind at rest. Poor woman! has she been studying all these long months over that poor little letter printed so long ago? She is evidently spoiling for a "racket" with some one, but why not pick out a "foe worthy of her steel," or, if she simply wishes to criticise, why not, at least, use *truth*, and *fairness*.

I did not think of setting myself up as any authority whatever, only giving my convictions, based on an experience of 15 years with children, which I supposed any mother was at liberty, through the kindness of the editor, to do. Of course any of us could go to our *books* and quote the words of our "best modern authors," but, it never occurred to me, that *that* was the object we had in view, so much as an interchange of ideas, concerning things that came under our own actual observation; and, let me remark right here, that if "Bell" had spent half as much time over her Bible, as she has over the works of the celebrated O. S. Fowler, she would have known, that the author of the words she so flippantly quoted, was *not* Gen. Grant, but *our Savior*.

I do not know whether she intended to convey the impression that she was the mother of those five children, or whether it is the title of a book; the latter, I presume; for, between you and I, dear JOURNAL, I don't believe she ever had the care of a child in her life. I think she is an old maid, for if she *had* had any children of her own, she would have *known* that they could not exist on fruit from their birth, as she *must* think, the way she condemns cream and butter, and sugar, all of which is contained in mothers' milk; nor at the age when mothers are giving their babies catnip, and other "teas," would *anyone* think of giving them *coffee*.

The welfare of my children has ever been my highest aim; denying myself of all pleasure, that I might thereby take the better care of them, and watching carefully for the first symptoms of disease. We have had as little trouble with diarrhœa, in our family, as any one, I presume, and constipated bowels are unknown; nor have they ever had any "prevailing disorders," so their diet cannot be so wonderfully out of the way. It was of teething babies I was speaking, when I said they would never eat "fixed-up dishes," but always wanted stronger food, but I never thought of giving them "grease, *grease*," as she frantically exclaims, or bacon. I spoke of their liking baked beans, but I never *cook* them in *hot* weather. Pies, cakes, puddings, etc., they never care for. I *said*, if she had *read rightly*, that they *would* eat "*toast* prepared with cream, and a little butter and sugar, or a little coffee and bread, with a good deal of *cream* and sugar;" meaning, of course, only enough sugar to make it palatable, and it *did not* hurt *their* bowels. Because, forsooth, she knows *one* person who cannot use coffee, must it be banished from the face of the earth? Saints forbid! We use *coffee*, like all other christians, but with the stuff that causes "horrors," and "hilarious sprees," we have no acquaintance whatever. Our childrens' diet consists mostly of milk, that has not been skimmed on *both* sides, (or one either) from cows who have all the blue grass and pure spring water they want; this, with fresh eggs, fruit of some sort, and good *bread* and *butter*, which of itself contains all that is necessary for the nutrition of the human body. If those things, taken with everything else that can be obtained from a farm, do not constitute a diet both good and wholesome, then I am no judge, even *there*. All I said against fruit, was, using apples *raw* in the sickly season; and, by the way, if "Bell" has a good remedy for bilious colic, would like her to send it on, as apple season is rapidly rolling around, and the "gude mon" might indulge too freely again.

The condition of bowels I mentioned in little children, has been of very rare occurrence with us; but as I had been warned against it, as an almost certain symptom of the dreaded cholera infantum, I thought some other mother might be glad to know it also, so as to be able to check the disease in time. And now, dear mothers all, if you can find children with rosier cheeks, or more exuberant spirits, or who sleep more soundly, or wake with better appetites, than do our own unfortunate little ones, and then decide that we are so far "out of line" with our "pet notions," as to have proved our entire failure in our efforts to raise a family of children, I will solemnly promise to intrude on this circle no more.

THORNY POPPY.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

POTATO BALL BREAD AND SCIENTIFIC BREAD-MAKING.

In the February number of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL "Mary" asks how to start bread with what is called "potato ball," how the potato ball is made and what it starts from in the first place.

As bread making, both practically and scientifically, is something of an experiment to many housekeepers, a few remarks on both points may be acceptable.

The process of fermentation is so clearly explained at the present time, and its product, as applied to bread making, occupies so important a place that every housekeeper should understand it thoroughly.

Cooking schools and the progressive, scientific movements of the times are accomplishing wonders towards the developement of a more comprehensive knowledge of cause and effect in food preparation.

Liebig's theory, that fermentation is caused by the action of oxygen on fermentable substances, was long accepted, but M. Pasteur, that greatest French investigator, settled this point by conclusively proving to scientists that oxygen deprived of its germs is incapable of producing fermentation, and that this process is caused by minute organisms floating in the air. These he divided into two classes: *anaerobes*, beings which live and develope without air, and *aerobes*, those which require air for their developement. To the former belongs the yeast plant, of which Pasteur said: "Whether plant or animal, it is no matter; it is a living being endowed with motion, that lives without air and is ferment." To the latter class belongs the *Mycoderma aceti* or acetic acid, which and vinegar are the same. These two are intimately connected in bread making and are all with which we have anything to do in this connection.

Albuminous substances are the only ones capable of fermentation. In bread making a certain amount of heat, moisture and sugar is necessary. The most suitable temperature is from 65 to 77 degrees, though fermentation will take place at a much lower temperature, but is destroyed at 212 degrees.

The gluten of the flour supplies the necessary albuminoid, and upon the addition of yeast and water, and exposure in a warm atmosphere, part of the starch of the flour is converted into sugar, which is supposed to be assimilated by the developing yeast plant. At this point the sugar is converted into alcohol, and carbonic acid gas is evolved throughout the mass. As this gas possesses great expansive power it makes the bread what we term light. Just here lies the relation between the yeast plant and *Mycoderma aceti*; the next step after alcoholic fermentation is acetic; and, if the dough is allowed to remain in a warm atmosphere after it is thoroughly light, the alcohol is soon converted into acetic acid or vinegar and, unlike alcohol, does not escape in baking, and sour bread is the result.

Chemists distinguish two kinds of yeast—viz.: the *ober-hefe* or surface yeast, which is the foam that rises to the top, and is the yeast buds, and is quick and spasmodic in action. The *unter-hefe* or sediment—yeast which settles to the bottom and is the spores, and is slow and regular in action.

There are different methods of preparing yeast, and which is best each housekeeper must decide for herself.

I will first speak of "potato ball."

When in Ohio last September I ate delicious potato bread, and, as no one knew how or where the first ball started, each having obtained hers from a neighbor, I proceeded to originate one by boiling and mashing through a sieve two cups of potatoes, add one cup of sugar, and four cups of warm water, and put in a warm place for twenty-four hours, when it ought to be very foamy and lively, and should not taste of the sugar, as it has been converted into alcohol if fermentation has gone far enough. This thin yeast is now ready to be converted into dough by adding flour and proceding in the usual manner of making bread. But first a potato ball must be provided for next time. To about one cup of potato add one tablespoonful of sugar, mix with this a little of the foam and a little (one tablespoonful perhaps) of the sediment if any has been formed; cover this closely and let it stand for a few hours in a warm place; then put it, still covered, in a cool place. A dessert spoonful of salt must be added the last thing. This will keep for a week or two. When ready to bake again, prepare two cups of potato and one cup of sugar; thoroughly mix the reserved potato ball with this and allow it to stand one hour or more, then take out a cupful, add salt and set away. Into the remaining potato, stir four cups of water and let it remain over night. Be sure that the sugar is converted into alcohol before adding the flour, if not, sweetened bread will be the result. I had this happen twice but now always taste the ferment, and also mix the potato ball with the potato at noon and allow it to stand till night, when a cupful is taken out and warm water mixed with the remaining potato.

When one makes one's own yeast this seems the easiest way, as fresh is prepared at every baking without extra trouble, and bread made in this way raises quickly.

A simpler way to prepare the potato ball would be to add half a cup of baker's or distillery yeast to the proportion of potato and sugar given, and, when lively, take out a cupful for the potato ball, and add water to the remaining potato for the sponge. Two cups of water and half a cup of sugar to one cup of potato are the proportions, but if the bread is desired more moist more potato may be added.

In these directions I have explained the exact method which I followed in making my first potato ball, and which process produces what is called artificial yeast. It is well for those living in remote districts, who cannot obtain yeast, to know that it can be made in this way. Flour, either cooked or raw, answers the same purpose as the potato.

We have seen that potato ball yeast may be produced either artificially or by adding any form of yeast made.

Distillery yeast is the purest and most natural form, and when the surface and sediment yeast are collected from this and dried under pressure, the result is the most powerful and concentrated form known. It is quick in its action, thereby giving the greatest amount of nourishment from a given amount of flour; as the faster bread dough is fermented, the sweeter and more nutritious will be the bread. Those who can obtain it, waste time and material by fussing with anything else.

When, however, compressed yeast cannot be obtained, there remains potato, both raw and cooked, flour and hop yeast; all of which I have used and found satisfactory.

According to "Mrs. Lincoln's Boston Cook Book," (which is the most excellent work of the kind that has come under my observation) chemists consider potatoes the best yeast medium. They contain sufficient albuminous matter and starch, and do not sour easily.

It is probable that cooked potatoes produce quicker results than raw, as in the process of cooking the starch grains are partially broken, and dissolved, and present a greater surface to be acted upon.

When fermentation has ceased in yeast it must be excluded from the air, which contains the *Mycoderma aceti* which would soon convert it into vinegar; but experience teaches that this must not be done until the yeast becomes quiet, otherwise carbonic acid continued to be evolved until there is sufficient force to blow the cork out or burst the bottle.

From the foregoing explanation of the developement of the yeast plant and the conditions necessary to this developement, we may conclude that the more closely we comply with these conditions the better results we may expect to obtain in yeast and bread.

The first condition to be observed, is that the yeast is sweet and free from acetic fermentation. It is said that to whatever degree of fermentation the yeast has attained, to that same degree the resulting bread will reach. It is probable that as soon as the slightest alcohol is produced by the yeast fermentation, it is immediately acted upon by the *Mycoderma aceti* present in the sour yeast, and converted into vinegar; thus yeast and acetic fermentation proceed side by side almost simultaneously.

This acidity may be overcome by the addition of more or less soda, but this practice is strongly and wisely condemned in the "Boston Cook Book." Nearly every one knows the pernicious effects of taking pure soda into the stomach, and, if more than enough is added to the dough to neutralize the acid, the result is bad; and, if just enough is added, the acitate of soda formed by this combination, is a questionable article of wholesomeness.

It is said that, in Germany, a large quantity of sour bread is consumed, and is not considered unwholesome; whether it is or not, depends upon the question whether vinegar is or not. At any rate sour bread is less nutritious than sweet because of the starch and gluten destroyed to produce the acidity.

Some have an idea that the oftener bread is kneaded and fermented the better. This is quite erroneous. The more homogenous becomes the mass, the better the bread; but, as we have just stated, each successive fermentation destroys a little more of the nutritious starch and gluten giving place to the innutritious yeast and acetic acid. The quicker dough ferments the sweeter and more nutritious the bread. Consequently, it is a wasteful practice to frequently cut or knead bread down, when it becomes light, and postpone baking it after it is ready. One thorough kneading, after which it may rise and then be formed into loaves, is all that is necessary.

The French, it is said, always have sweet bread; one reason for which being that they always make their bread into shallow loaves, which are soon penetrated by the heat of the oven, thereby arresting fermentation, whereas, if the loaf is large, fermentation continues for a considerable time in the interior, and the bread may even become sour.

Add all of the flour and knead thoroughly at first, using only sufficient flour to keep from sticking, after the dough is of the right consistency. Cutting frequently with a knife liberates the large gas bubbles. Some chop the dough. As fine and good bread as I ever ate was made by a lady who always beat the sponge twenty minutes. In her cook book, Marion Harland says something to the effect that large holes in bread indicate a careless housekeeper.

Some use shortening in bread, but faithful kneading, which liberates the gas bubbles and presents all parts of the starch and gluten to be equally acted upon, produces a fine tenderness more to be desired than that which shortening gives. When it is used it should be added late in the process, as it hinders fermentation by forming an impenetrable coating around the starch and gluten grains.

The yeast plant works to the best advantage in a thin batter. This and the succeeding dough should be kept covered, not merely on the ground of cleanliness, but, as we have seen, the the yeast is an *anaerobe* and develops better when not exposed to pure air. Besides, heat is generated in the fermentive process, and a close cover assists in partially retaining this, which is desirable. It is a good idea to turn a warm plate over the dough, as it gives and retains the heat, and excludes the air.

Bread mixed with milk is whiter and more tender than when water is used. According to "Notes and Queries," the genuine Viennese bread, which is considered so very nice, is mixed with milk.

Potatoes are used to make bread moist, and also by bakers sometimes to increase the bulk. A part of the flour is sometimes scalded and used for the sponge to produce the same moisture. Too much of either will make the bread stick.

There are several foreign, patent methods of increasing the bulk and nourishing qualities of bread; the principle being, to steep grain and use the water, thus obtained, in mixing the bread. It is said: "No matter what the quality of the flour, the water prepared in this manner facilitates the separation of the sugar and dextrine, while it imparts more body to the gluten and the starch, which explains the increased amount of bread obtained." It is evident that, unless the steeped grain is utilized, a waste must occur which more than balances the grain in the bread. New Process, or whole-wheat flour, which latter is the most nourishing and wholesome of any made, produce bread sufficiently nourishing without employing any unusual means for enhancing the food value.

At what period salt should be added, I have never seen discussed. One yeast recipe directs to add the salt after the fermentation has ceased. This seems correct, as the yeast and salt seem to have no affinity except that an effervescence occurs when they are brought together, due, no doubt, to the action of the alkaline salt upon the acid of the yeast, when the salt settles and is not easily dissolved. Moreover, salt, having a cooling tendency, probably does not assist in the fermentive process, but should be added as a preservative.

Hops and ginger are both used in yeast and bread. One lady, who unfailingly had delicious bread, always mixed her sponge with hop water. In yeast, both these articles are supposed to have a preservative tendency.

Alum is the most pernicious article ever used in bread, and should never be tolerated. It produces white bread from an inferior quality of flour, and according to W. Mattlen Williams, whose excellent articles on "The Chemistry of Cookery" have been running through the *Popular Science Monthly* for several years, it imparts a silky appearance to the bread and causes it to break apart smoothly. It gives a toughness to the bread, and by these characteristics its use may be suspected and condemned, even if the ideal, though wrong, is realized, and the popular taste seems satisfied.

LILLIAN S. WELLS.

HOME COOKING.

ORIGINAL RECIPES CONTRIBUTED BY THE JOURNAL SISTERS.

LIGHT CORN BREAD:—(by request) One cup corn meal, one cup flour, one cup sweet milk, one egg, two teaspoonfuls cream of tartar, one teaspoonful of baking soda, a little salt and sugar.

POOR MAN'S PLUM PUDDING:—One cup *beef* suet, shred fine, one cup raisins, seeded, one cup currants, washed thoroughly, one cup molasses, one cup sweet milk, one teaspoonful baking soda, a good pinch of salt, enough flower to make a medium stiff batter, about two and a-half cups; sometimes it takes a little more, and sometimes a little less, according to the flour; steam in a mould two and a-half hours. To be eaten with hard or liquid sauce, as preferred. I use both, as some like one, and some the other.

"SUBSCRIBER," in the December No., wants to know how to make a lemon pie without cooking the custard first. Here is a recipe that I got at the cooking school: Put one cup of granulated sugar, and two tablespoonfuls of flour, into a bowl; stir together; break in two eggs, add the juice and grate the rind of a lemon, and one-half pint of milk; beat all together with a Dover egg beater; bake in a slow oven in a deep plate. I sometimes leave out one of the whites, and frost the pie. Allow two tablespoonfuls of powdered sugar to the white of one egg, beat, spread on the pie when done, return to the oven to brown.

Here is another cooking school recipe, perhaps you would like to try:

ORANGE SHORT CAKE:—One quart of flour, one-half cup of butter, one egg, well beaten, one tablespoonful of sugar, three teaspoonfuls of Royal baking powder, milk enough to make a soft dough. The baking powder must be sifted into the flour the first thing. Roll out half an inch thick, bake in round tins in a quick oven, split and butter when done, and fill with the following: Roll, and squeeze the juice into a bowl from three good sized oranges and one lemon; take off the peel, chop the pulp fine, add it to the juice, stir in one cup of granulated sugar. This is a nice recipe for strawberry or blackberry shortcake.

ANTY.

NORWOOD, May 20, 1886.

DEAR SISTERS:—May I add a word or two? I want to plead, here in the cook's corner, for a little more graham bread. I know the subject is not a new one, but it is really surprising, in view of all that has been said, how many people there are, who never, from year's end to year's end, have a loaf of graham bread in the house. Many people have said in my hearing: "I cannot make graham bread," or, "I never have success with it," and so have given it up on that account, and the husband or son who asked for it, have had to make up their minds to go without. Then there are a few (at least I hope so) foolish sisters, who think it is not as genteel as white bread, and labor under an idea that it is a coarse food. I am almost ashamed to write such a ridiculous idea, but it is really so. Another reason, also, why graham bread is banished from some tables, especially where there are children, is, that it is more physicing than flour bread. I think if mothers who are troubled in this way, will sweeten their graham bread with sugar instead of molasses, (as is so common) they will find no trouble. Graham bread should be given to growing children, if for no other reason than on account of their teeth; for any dentist will admit that graham is better to make bone than rye, buckwheat or Indian meal.

To those who have not had success with graham meal, I would say, please try once more, the following recipe, and I am sure if followed carefully, they will come out all right, and you will have a wholesome, nutritious loaf of graham bread to set before the "gude moon;" for it is wonderful how much better it is liked by the "men folks."

CREAM OF TARTAR GRAHAM BREAD:—One qt. of *sifted* meal, (the bran mixed with water is good for the hens) a pinch of salt, two teaspoonfuls of cream tartar sifted with meal, two tablespoonfuls granulated sugar; mix with milk to a *stiff* batter, adding, of course, one teaspoonful of soda in a little water. An egg improves it greatly. Bake in a moderate oven. Molasses can be used for sweetening, instead of sugar, but I prefer the sugar. The above recipe is the one I use for making graham gems, only mixing thinner. These are very nice, especially warm, and are almost the only kind of warm cakes which a dyspeptic member of our family can eat without injury.

Graham meal is also excellent made into gruel, for the sick, and is much more nutritious than the ordinary flour and Indian gruel. But I have talked long enough, and will step one side and let some one else talk.

MAYONNAISE DRESSING:—(by request.) One teaspoonful mustard, one teaspoonful powdered sugar, one-half teaspoonful salt, one-quarter salt spoonful cayenne, yolks of two raw eggs, one pint olive oil, two tablespoonfuls vinegar, two tablespoonfuls lemon juice. Mix the first of your ingredients in a small bowl. Add the eggs; stir well with a small wooden spoon. Add the oil, a few drops at a time, stirring until it thickens. If by chance you add too much oil, do not attempt to stir it all in at once, but take it up gradually. When the dressing is thick, thin it with a little lemon, then add oil and lemon alternately, and lastly the vinegar. When ready to serve, add *half a cup of whipped cream*, if you like. The cream makes it whiter and thinner. The oil should thicken the egg almost immediately, and the mixture should be thick enough to be taken up in a ball on the spoon, before adding the vinegar. Should the egg not thicken quickly, and have a curdled appearance, *half a teaspoonful* of the unbeaten *white* of egg, or a few drops of vinegar, will often restore the smooth consistency. Be careful not too use too much, or it will make the dressing thin. The dressing liquifies as soon as mixed with vegetables or meat; therefore it should be made stiff enough to keep in shape until used. Many prefer to use a Dover egg beater, and others succeed best with a fork. Never mix the dressing with the meat or fish until ready to serve, and then only part of it, and spread the remainder over the top.—*Mrs. Lincoln's Cook Book.*

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MID-SUMMER FASHIONS.

Lately Introduced Points of Style—Sensible and Tasteful Costumes and Dresses—Materials Worth Buying—Convenient Wraps—Becoming Hats and Bonnets.

BY MRS. JAS. H. LAMBERT.

The great advantage resulting from the variety of styles now in favor, is, that every lady can be most becomingly attired; this result, however, depends greatly upon the taste or judgment of the maker of a garment, and its wearer; for a magnificent silken robe, if trying in color, or badly cut and put together, is not half so desirable as a neat dress of lawn, or satine, well chosen, perfect fitting and stylishly fashioned.

In utilizing the numerous popular materials, but little difference is noticeable in the methods of constructing suits and dresses, for woolen, cotton, and even silken fabrics are made up after one and the same model, deciding first, that the original garment selected to copy from, is in a shape adapted to the figure of the prospective wearer.

Thus, at leading dry goods houses here and in New York, handsome dresses are made in the various camel's hair, and woolen goods, and copies of them are daily constructed in some one of the lawns, zephyrs, corded suitings, tufted crapes and batistes, as these stuffs are now woven so like woolens and silks, that they can hardly be distinguished from their more costly cousins, hence the less expensive materials can be adopted for country and seaside wear, where more delicate textures are apt to be ruined by exposure, or at least seriously injured.

SERVICEABLE COSTUMES

To be worn out of doors without any any other wrap, are suits with plastrons, showing under the straight fronts of the open jackets; and in many cases such a dress is accompanied by a plain bodice for indoor wear, over which may be worn a light jacket for walking or riding.

Fabrics with wide printed borders, or those richly embroidered, are made with deep flounces, over plaited skirts of plain material to correspond. The tunic is usually formed of one long, straight breadth, each end of which is caught up with plaits to the waist on the right side, and very simply draped with a few plaits on the left. If costly fabrics are used it will not be found necessary to cut them recklessly, as they can be arranged when whole just as gracefully.

Cool and pretty is a promenade costume with full skirt of striped surah, in Oriental colors, mounted with fullness and falling in natural pleats. The tunic of self-colored cashmere is plaited, and arranged to conceal the skirt on that side, while at the left side it is carried up in plaits so as to form a graceful rounded sweep, which leaves quite a large portion of the striped skirt exposed. The corsage fastens in the center half-way down beneath a plaited plastron of surah, and then closes diagonally to the left hip with four large silver buttons.

All materials with pile, such as plush and velvet, will be much worn during the fall and winter; and just here a hint may be of advantage to our readers. Very fashionable ladies, in place of using Lyons velvet for summer costumes, have selected Arcadia velveteen, because it is not injured by salt or damp atmospheres, and will wear to advantage, while it has every appearance of silk velvet, at a far less cost. A combination of this costume with lace striped etamine, is worthy of description, as it can be copied in silk and *La Precious*, or any of the fashionable fabrics.

In this neat suit the skirt of Arcadia velveteen is in a peculiar copper color, it is plaited in the back and at the sides, but is plain in front. The tunic of the figured etamine, is plaited diagonally from the left side of the waist, is draped with plaits on the right side, and falls in a draped puff at the back. The corsage of etamine opens over a narrow plastron of velveteen, and is filled in at the neck with a draped fichu of *crepe de Chine*. The hat worn with this costume is of fancy straw, and is trimmed with gauze ribbon the rich cream shade of the etamine, and lovely wild flowers.

LACE AND EVENING TOILETTES.

Over foundations of silk, satin, and velvet or velveteen, so many pretty dresses are formed of lace, which one authority divides into three classes: the always useful and lady-like black lace dresses, which are now generally made in the very best Chantilly and hand-run laces, for in the long run, dresses of good lace, are more economical than those which are made of inferior qualities. Then there are the heavy dark ecru laces, which are made up with velvets or velveteens in dark colors, and trimmed with pendants made of varnished acorns, beach nuts, and other natural tassels, or wooden beads; while the third class includes the fine woolen laces, made in white, black, and colors. Some of these woolen lace flounces are as fine and light as thread and silk laces, and finish colored toilettes most effectively.

A most exquisite dress is of lace, that is, fine black Chantilly over a foundation of rich garnet rhadames. The lace skirt is draped in vague folds on the right, and on the left is a panel of black net, bearing a brilliant mass of gem-like blocks and pendants, forming part of a design worked on the net with smaller but equally brilliant beads. The center of the back is draped, on each side of it is a lace panel guaged at the top over four or five narrow bands of ribbon. Two long pointed pieces of violet velvet, lined with satin, are arranged to fall with long ends on the center of the back drapery, and with shorter ends on each side of it. Lace corsage on satin, trimmed with velvet, and draperies of jeweled net.

An exquisite evening dress for a young lady just going into society, has the skirt of kilted white satin draped with a long tablier of lace muslin, falling in plaits on the left, and draped on the right. A large panel of the skirt on the left is visible to the waist, except where the long ends of a bow fall over it. The corsage of satin closes diagonally beneath a drapery of muslin, which enters the satin waist belt on the left. The neck is cut away a little at the back, and is open in a point in front. The sleeves just reach the elbow, and are trimmed with a drapery of muslin at the edge, finished with a small bow. No jewelry is to be worn with this dress, but a band of white satin ribbon encircles the neck, and is finished in a bow, and a spray of white lilac trims the front of the corsage.

DESIRABLE DRESS GOODS.

About the middle of July is the best time to buy fabrics suitable for the cool days of early Autumn; of course it is not expected that novelties will be in then, but all spring dress goods left over, are marked down, to be sold out, to make room for incoming lines of Fall and Winter materials; hence, July and August may be termed bargain months, especially in regard to silk and woolen goods.

Some of the cotton goods hold their own in styles and prices all through the summer; for instance, French satines, which are marked at 31, 37½ and 45c. a yard. So do the linon's, which are all cotton, although termed linon's, and Egyptian lawns, half cotton and half linen, both marked at 15c. a yard. Most fashionable just now are the skirtings for lawn tennis, seaside and mountain wear, which are 27 inches wide, and cost only 16 and 19c. a yard, but are worth fully 40 and 45c. a yard; they come in five color combinations, in three styles of stripes, narrow, medium and wide, and are to be made up in plaited skirts with tunics and sashes, and worn with jerseys or jersey bodices made of self-colored light or dark fabrics; elastic goods are best for this purpose. Other marked down goods are seersuckers, best American make, in five or six colors and styles, which were 15c. a yard, but now sell at $1.00 for a dress pattern of 12 yards.

La Precious in cream is in great demand at 40c. a yard, and is really worth double that money, for seaside and home wear, and dentelle etamines, 46 inches wide, give splendid value for 55c. a yard.

Among the reduced black goods may be seen a new 44 inch wide canvas boucle, in two designs, at 50c. a yard, which is really worth $1.25, and a 55c. camel's hair canvas cloth, which is like boucle, suitable for mountain, seaside or traveling wear, is 56 inches wide. All-wool grenadine can now be bought for 40 and 65c. a yard, and a good black batiste is sold at 65c. a yard.

In silken fabrics, surahs in lovely shades are 85c. a yard; rhadames in the same colors are $1.00 a yard; while China and Japanese silks and pongees are very generally reduced. To combine with these silks there is a trimming velvet at only $1.00 a yard; at that price it is an actual bargain; but still cheaper, because more durable and wider, are the Arcadia velveteens at $1.00 and $1.25 a yard, which come in all desirable colors for full dresses for day or evening wear, as well as in trimming colors.

The novelties in cotton specialties are the tufted batistes and tufted crepes; while in camel's hair, the art fabrics, may be seen choice specimens showing pin stripes, like the cloth seen in gentlemen's pantaloons.

PRETTY MANTLES AND BONNETS.

Exquisite little mantillas of gauze are covered with shaded bead embroidery; one of these is plomb and steel beads, which, on the black ground, gives a most lovely shaded effect. Another model, embroidered with plomb, jet and ruby beads on black gauze lined with ruby, is more brilliant, and equally beautiful; while a vestment or wrap is of jetted grenadine, with wing sleeve of Chantilly. Some models of jetted grenadine are lined with Orphelie, suede, or red silk, but the dress should be of black silk or lace.

Plain and fancy straw hats matching the costumes are very much worn; these are trimmed with double bows of ribbon in two colors, one ribbon forming a lining and wide border on one side of the other ribbon; or else they are draped with lace, and trimmed on one side with bows of ribbon or velvet, and a bunch of flowers.

Light shape bonnets are made of fine white willow shavings, interlaced and plaited together with white cotton, the whole forming a species of network of the most airy description. These are unlined, or lined with colored silk, which shows through the network, and are trimmed with a fanciful arrangement of bows or loops of striped gauze ribbon, in white or some delicate shade, and sometimes a few flowers are added.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Anxiety:"—Black, dark brown and navy blue stockings or socks are worn by small boys, with white dresses. At two years of age he can wear one of the large leghorn or straw hats, trimmed with long ostrich plume and loops of ribbon. Lace face finish inside of crown.

"Mrs. S. J. Gilbert," Mechanicstown, Ohio:—You can procure the magazine premium book, Dictionary of Stitches, by sending the 50c. for a year's subscription to editor of *Fashion Magazine*, 804 Market St., Phila., Pa. This journal of styles and domestic economy, is the best of its kind published.

"Mrs. Dameron," St. Louis, Mo.—Very few of the pin stripes in cloth are to be found. By writing to McCreery & Co., corner 11th St. and Broadway, N. Y., you can get later novelties, the pin striped camel's hair goods, which are the most stylish fabrics in the market.

"Bereaved:"—To trim your mourning costume, of black silk-warp Henrietta, by all means use Courtauld's crape, and your dress will be very elegant, for the sample shows you have selected handsome material for the toilette.

"Mrs. Lester," "Ripon," and "Mrs. E. H." We do not publish a catalogue, but have sent you one from a dry goods house.

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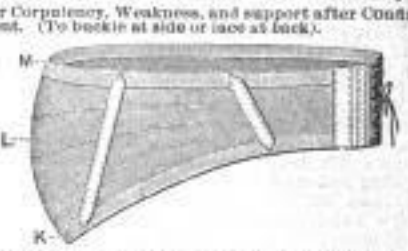

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(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

A Good Plant.

The new Pyrethrum, Little Gem, is a valuable addition to the list of good plants for the house.

PYRETHRUM, "LITTLE GEM."

It blooms freely, and is a beautiful flower, and has the merit of being a pure white, and on this account will be extremely useful for cut-flower work in bouquets and baskets. It is very double, and resembles the white pompone Chrysanthemum, though of course it is much smaller. For buttonhole bouquets and similar uses, it will be found excellent. It requires only ordinary care, and whoever can grow a Geranium can succeed with it. It is a profuse bloomer.

For large baskets, we have few better plants than the Ivy Leaf Geranium, after they have become well established, and judicious treatment has made them compact, well branched specimens. If a plant is left to follow out its own inclinations, it will generally have but few branches, and these will "straggle" to a great extent. But if it is cut back at an early stage of its growth, and *kept* cut back until a dozen or more branches have started, you can have a fine specimen. Keep cutting and pinching in until you have all the branches started that you think will be needed to cover your vase or basket.

IVY LEAF GERANIUM.

Then let them grow. The lately-introduced varieties are very free bloomers, and the double ones are quite as fine as the ordinary double Geranium.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Annie W. S."—Do not put your Hoya Carnosa out of doors. It is a plant that likes heat, and if you give plenty of air, it will do much better if kept in the house over summer. It is a plant that is easily injured by moving it about, and to move it safely requires more care than it will be likely to get. It is the same with large plants of English Ivy. I prefer, always, to leave them in the house, for, if removed, it is next to impossible to get them back just as they were before removal, and much of their best effect will be lost if the branches become twisted or disarranged.

"S. T. D."—You can save yourself much trouble by planting your Chrysanthemums out in the beds during summer. If kept in pots, it will be necessary to give them very careful attention in regard to watering, for, if allowed to get *dry* at the roots, the plants may receive a check from which they may not recover in time to become good specimens for fall blooming. We have no plant which can be transplanted with greater ease and safety; therefore, by putting them out in the ground to grow over summer, it is easy to avoid all risk in their culture, for they will make a good, robust growth, and they can be lifted in September and potted without damaging them in the least, if they are kept in the shade for four or five days. After that, give them a semi-weekly watering with liquid manure, until they come into bloom.

"A. M. M." and others write to say that they do not always find the varieties I name in their catalogues. I did not expect they would, unless they have the same catalogues I have. Every dealer has his own list, and many dealers give one name to a variety, while other dealers give it another. Until some general and systematic plan of nomenclature is settled on, all catalogues will differ. If these correspondents will send me a postal card addressed to themselves, specifying what varieties of plants they want, I will write opposite, the name of the firm from which my plants were obtained.

"Mrs. Waite" asks if she shall cut her Begonia *rubra* down, and grow new branches for future flowering. At present it is full of flowers, and has a healthy look. If this is the case, let it alone. What more can you ask, or expect from it? I have a plant that has not been cut back for three years, and during that time it has not been out of bloom, and as long as it blooms well, and keeps its present robust appearance, I shall leave it as it is. If a plant blooms well, and grows well, you need not worry yourself about it. When it does not bloom, and looks sicks, then do something for it. Plants don't want doctoring until something of that sort is really needed. Many persons injure, and often kill, their plants by mistaken kindness. If a plant is unhealthy it will generally show it.

"W. D. B."—The double Petunia is an excellent summer flower for pots. It is also good for winter flowering, if it can be kept cool enough to insure a rapid and healthy growth. In most windows it makes a weak growth, and in consequence, the buds blast. For bedding purposes the single varieties are best.

"Mrs. W. W. H."—It is an excellent plan to get your bed ready for bulbs before the time comes to plant them. Work the manure you give them well into the soil, and turn it over frequently to make it mellow and fine. Select a location for your bulb bed from which the water runs off readily. If you have the least idea that water will gather about their roots, without draining, see that some provision is made to get rid of this water, for no one can grow bulbs unless they have a well drained place for them. They will often rot from too much moisture, and almost always they will fail to bloom. Dig out the bed to the depth of a foot, at least, and put in stones, brick, and anything that will leave crevices through which the water can drain away from the soil above. Put in five or six inches of this drainage material, and then put back the soil that has been removed. You will have a bed raised considerably above the level of the garden, and this will allow the water from melting snows and early rains to run off before it sinks into the ground to any great extent. Plant Tulips and Hyacinths about five inches deep, and eight inches apart. Keep each class by itself. A bed in which Tulips and Hyacinths are mixed is never as satisfactory as when each kind has a bed to itself. They do not "harmonize" well.

"Ben. W. Bushnell."—Why should not a man grow flowers for his own pleasure if he has an inclination to do so? I am aware that a great many persons think it an indication of womanishness for a man to acknowledge that he finds pleasure in cultivating flowers. But I have always had my own opinion on the subject, and what others have thought about my flower-growing has never had any influence on me. I hold that it is manly to love what is beautiful and pure in art or nature, and that God intended we should do so, else he would not have created pure and beautiful things. Don't let the thought of what any man or woman may say about your fondness for flowers influence you in the least against them. You are with safe companions when you are in your gardens, and that is more than can always be said of human associates.

"Etta P."—The seed of your double Hollyhocks can be sowed as late as August. Cover the young plants with litter, or, better, leaves, on the setting in of cold weather. Such plants ought to bloom well next season.

"To several correspondents."—I have nearly a score of letters from persons who say they have read my "advertisement" of plants, and want some like them. Let it be distinctly understood that I have not "advertised" anything for the purpose of selling it. I write about such plants as grow in my garden and greenhouse, with the view of telling others who may not be acquainted with them, what their merits are. But, *I have none to sell*, and in future I shall pay no attention to letters from readers of the JOURNAL who persist in thinking so after I have repeatedly stated that such is not the case.

"Mrs. J. E. J."—This correspondent asks how to grow the Poinsettia. This is one of those flowers that always attracts the lover of the beautiful and curious among plants. It is a native of the tropics, and therefore requires considerable heat to grow it well. Unless you have a very warm room to grow it in, and can give it a moist atmosphere, I would not advise you to attempt its cultivation. If it cannot have the requisite amount of warmth, it will not bloom, and if the air is not kept moist, the red spider will be very likely to attack it. If you can give it the treatment it needs, you may grow good specimens by potting them in a soil composed of leaf mold, sand, and well-rotted manure, mixed with good garden mold. Encourage a vigorous growth during the summer by giving the plants all the water they want. Do not put them out of doors, but keep them in some sheltered place, where you will be sure to see them often and attend to their wants. After bringing them into the house, give them a weekly watering with some fertilizer. Somewhere along about the holidays, they ought to show signs of an intention to flower, if they intend to do so this season. The "flowers" of the Poinsettia, or what most persons take to be the flowers, are bracts of brilliantly colored leaves, which are produced at the ends of the branches, the real flowers being small and inconspicuous. After the scarlet bracts have faded, cut the branches back well, and let the plant rest for some weeks. Give only enough water to prevent it from drying up. Do not be at all alarmed if the old leaves fall off. Start it into new growth in May.

"Annie T."—I would not advise you to put your Dracenas and plants of that class out of doors, unless you can give them a good shelter from strong winds, and the hot sun. If exposed to these, they will be injured more or less, and they will show these injuries during the remainder of the season, and plants kept for their foliage ought always to be in good trim. If they are not, they are the most unsatisfactory of all plants.

"B. B. C."—The Lantana is a great favorite with many, but I never liked it, and on that account I have not said much about it in my "talks about flowers." The flowers are very freely produced, but they do not last long, and the outer row of small blossoms fall off, generally, before those in the center of the cluster are open. This gives the bunches a kind of ragged look that detracts from their beauty. True, a large plant in full bloom, is quite showy, and many persons admire it, but I would much prefer a Petunia, or a Paris Daisy, or, in fact, almost any flower you could select. The prettiest variety of the Lantana, is the white kind, having a yellow "eye" or center. They are often grown in the house, and they bloom well there, with only ordinary care.

"R. S. T."—I think you are mistaken in your plant. The Vallotta is often called Agapanthus, because of a resemblance of the foliage. Both have evergreen leaves, but the foliage of the Agapanthus is much larger than that of the Vallotta, and the former has tuberous roots, while the latter is a bulb. The Agapanthus blooms in May or June, and the Vallotta blooms in August or September. I think you have the latter plant. The Agapanthus sends up a stalk three feet high or more, and bears dozens of small, lily-shaped flowers, of a delightful, porcelain-blue color. The Vallotta has Amaryllis-like flowers of a most brilliant scarlet. Several are borne on one stalk. Whichever your plant proves to be, do not disturb it as long as it seems to be doing well, for neither like to be repotted unless they have filled the pots in which they have been growing with roots. In shifting them, disturb the roots as little as possible. Give them a soil of garden loam mixed with well-rotted manure. Old plants will require quite large pots.

"Mrs. Waite."—The tobacco-dust that I spoke of is not snuff like that sold in the stores, but is the coarser part of tobacco, ground fine. In using it on your Chrysanthemums, apply it when the dew is on, or sprinkle the plant first. I presume you cannot obtain it of your local dealers; if you cannot, you can send to some florist for it. It is cheap, and a little of it goes a good ways. Apply it thoroughly, taking care to reach all parts of the plants, more especially those where the insect is likely to seek for shelter.

"Chima."—I presume the Begonia you ask about can be grown from cuttings, but I have never tried to grow it in that way, as I find it more satisfactory to buy my plants of some florist.

"Dora T."—You ask me a hard question when you want me to tell you which is the *best* plant for a hanging basket. There are a great many good ones, but of course some are better than others. One of the best is the Tradescantia. This plant will stand more neglect than almost any other one I know. It will bear drought, and dry air, and dust, and, in fact, almost anything but frost. There are several kinds. One is green, another green striped with white, and another is a dark, bronzy olive, with bright pink and red stripes. This last kind is extremely showy, especially when grown with the green variety. It roots readily from cuttings, and grows very rapidly. The Saxifrage is a good plant for a basket. It has a leaf prettily marked with white veins. It throws out runners like a Strawberry, from which tufts of leaves are borne, and this has given it the name of "Strawberry plant."

"Mrs. M. E. Ward."—In my reply to Mrs. Waite, you will find an answer to your question. I comply with your request, and publish the item about the use of ammonia on Chrysanthemums. A writer in the *Gardeners' Chronicle* says: "Last year I was induced to try an experiment in my Chrysanthemum growing. For this purpose I purchased one pound of sulphate of ammonia, which I bottled and corked, as the ammonia evaporates very rapidly. I then selected four plants from my collection, and putting them by themselves, gave them a teaspoonful of ammonia in a gallon of water twice a week. In a fortnight's time the result was most striking; for, though I watered the others with liquid cow manure, they looked lean when compared with the ammonia-watered plants, whose leaves turned to a very dark green, and were carried to the edge of the pots until the flowers were cut. As a matter of course the flowers were splendid. The ammonia used is rather expensive, as I bought it from a chemist's shop; this year I intend getting agricultural ammonia, which is much cheaper. I have also tried it on strawberries, with the same satisfactory result, the crop being nearly double that of the others. It is very powerful, and requires to be used with caution."

"Jennie Williams."—The trouble with your Snowball's leaves is most likely a species of aphis, which works on the under side of the leaf, and causes them to curl up. The best remedy I have tried is the preparation sold under the name of "slug-shot." Dust it over the leaves when they are wet with dew. Bend the branches over so that you can get at the under side of the leaf, and dust the powder up among the foliage well. Endeavor to hit the under side of the leaves more than the upper, for the insect does not work so much on the surface as below it. On account of the depredations of this aphis, many persons have given up trying to grow the Snowball, of late. I think if you give the preparation I have named a thorough trial, you will have no further trouble with the pest. But in order to get rid of him you must be thorough. There must be no half-way work. If one application does not bring about the desired result, keep the old adage in mind, and "try, try again."

"A. A. A."—Palms do best when kept away from the hot sun. If put out of doors during the summer, give them a partially shaded location. If you have a green-house or conservatory, which can be well ventilated, I would not advise you to put them out of doors at all. They like a great deal of water overhead as well as at the roots, and they should be syringed daily. This keeps them clean, and prevents the red spider from establishing himself on them. If the scale insect attacks them, remove it by force. Take an old tooth-brush and go over the stalks and leaves with it, and after having loosened them, wash the plant well in soapsuds. Let the soapy water remain on the plant for a little while, and then wash it off with clean water. Repeat this operation a few times, and you will not be troubled much with scale. In trying to rid plants of any insect, you must not expect that one trial is going to accomplish the desired result in every instance, or, in fact, in one instance out of ten. Some of the pests will escape, at first, and the operation must be repeated until the plant is free from them. If something is not done to rid badly infested plants of this insect, it will eventually spoil them.

"Inquirer."—The Dahlia is a plant that requires a good deal of moisture at the roots in order to bloom well. If the season is a dry one, water ought to be supplied at least every other day, in sufficient quantities to thoroughly wet the soil as far as the roots go down. Save the suds of washing day, and apply it at night, and you will be well pleased with the result. Dahlias are always most satisfactory in a cool, wet season. You will notice that they bloom best after the weather becomes cool in the fall.

"F. S. R."—The Coleus is not a very satisfactory winter plant. It requires a higher temperature than can be given it in most living rooms, and it does not like the sudden variations of temperature to which our rooms are subjected. It is one of our best summer plants, however, and every collection should include a few of the finest varieties. I notice that I have said that it requires a *higher* temperature than can be given it in the sitting-room. I should have said that it needs a *moister* air. The temperature of our rooms is generally high enough, but it is too dry, and is too liable to sudden fluctuations, and these conditions are not favorable to the well-being of the plant.

"W. W. R."—the Daphne Cneorum is a very pretty evergreen shrub. It blooms quite early in the season, and after that at intervals during the summer. The flowers are a soft pink, borne in clusters at the end of the branches. They are very fragrant. This plant is hardy at the north, and is one of the best ones we have for use in front rows where we do not want tall growers. It is a most excellent plant to use in cemeteries.

"T. E. S."—The American Banner Fuchsia is all that the florists claim for it. It is single, but the corolla is so widely expanded that, at a little distance, it seems to be double. The sepals are a very bright coral red, and are well reflexed. The corolla is a rich blue, striped and flaked with rose. The tube is short, and the flowers are borne on short stems. It is a very profuse bloomer. It is a stout grower, and needs no rock or trellis to support it. I like it best of all the new varieties I have tried.

"A Subscriber." No. 1 of the specimens you send is an Asplenium. The others were so badly crushed that I could not tell what they were. Begonias and Farfugiums require a light, fibrous soil to grow in, with considerable moisture at the roots, and shade, rather than strong sunlight. Shower often to keep the red spider down, unless the Begonias you grow happen to be of the kind having hairy leaves. Smooth-leaved kinds like water on their foliage, but the Rex and kindred varieties, while liking air to grow in, do not like to have water applied directly to their leaves. Peter Henderson's "Gardening for Pleasure" is a good book on the cultivation of plants, also, Williams' "Window Gardening."

"Mrs. M. F. J."—If your Camellias are too thick, cut out the branches until the top suits you. Do this just before the new growth begins.

Some prefer Roses on their own roots, others prefer grafted stocks. *I* prefer them on their own roots, for there is no danger of a rank growth of suckers from below the place of grafting, of an inferior variety.

I use tobacco-water of a strength which gives it the color of strong tea, without having it damage plants in the least. Perhaps you used a tobacco which contains a drug of some sort. Nearly all fine-cut and smoking tobaccos are highly drugged to give color or flavor. Tobacco stems are best for your use. However, if the repeated use of weak infusions accomplishes the desired result, you can "stick to them" and feel safe in their application.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

COUNTRY BOARDING.

Long before the first warm weather makes itself felt in city and country, extensive summer preparations are being made both by boarder and landlord. The far-seeing father or mother engages lodgings three months ahead at the popular sea-side hotel, the famous mountain resort, or the quiet country boarding place, as inclination or purse may dictate, while the proprietors of these different establishments are no less prompt in their provisions for the reception of their guests. With the advent of the heated term comes the rush from the town to cooler abiding places; an exodus that is perceptible in the packed hotels of Coney Island, Cape May and the White Mountains. A less notable, but almost equally formidable move along the line is made at the same time upon mountain farm houses and obscure sea-shore villages, by quiet mothers, with an accompanying escort of children and nurses. To their hostesses, these arrivals are of far more importance than are the guests to the proprietors of the mammoth fashionable caravansaries.

The latter have their improvements and additions done to order and by wholesale, while to the women who eke out their own and their husband's incomes by taking summer boarders, each convenience or adornment represents an investment, made generally at some personal sacrifice, in the hope of a liberal return at the end of the season.

The plain, common-sensible housewife, who devotes the summer days that mean rest and recreation to her boarders, to added toil in their behalf, commits a grave blunder when she attempts to imitate, even in a slight degree, the elegancies and luxuries furnished in expensive hotels and showy boarding houses. One great charm and benefit to her city visitors is derived from the complete contrast most of them find between their usual surroundings and those among which they spend the hot months. There are few of them so lacking in wisdom or in good taste, as to draw invidious comparisons. When they do, the criticism reflects more discredit upon themselves than upon those under whose roof they are sheltered.

There is nothing vulgar or absurd in neat, plain furnishings. Ingrain carpets, painted cottage sets, and holland shades, are as respectable and appropriate in the farm house, as are Brussels floor coverings, solid mahogany furniture, and lace or plush draperies, in the handsome "brown stone front."

There are luxuries that are necessaries to most people, however, and these, fortunately, are not difficult to provide. Prominent among them are ample washing accommodations. Sojourners in the country cannot expect stationary wash stands, and bath tubs with unlimited hot water, but they have a right to demand good sized bowls, pitchers, and foot tubs, plenty of clean towels, even though they may not be of the finest quality, and an abundant supply of fresh water. That these requirements are not always fulfilled need hardly be said. There are too many summer resorts where fresh water for bathing purposes would seem to be one of the most expensive of commodities, from the trouble one has to obtain more than a stinted share of it, while the boarding school allowance of two towels a week apiece is rigidly observed. Naturally, generosity in these respects involves extra toil in carrying water up and down stairs, and adds materially to the work of the laundry. But all these facts should be taken into consideration by the housekeeper before she opens her home to guests. What is worth doing at all is worth doing well, and it is a very poor policy to exercise an economy that will result in deterring people from ever again engaging accommodations in the same establishment. On the other hand, no hostess can be expected to accede to unreasonable demands, nor can a boarder expect regular hotel service for the moderate sum asked for board in most country places.

Another prime requisite is absolute cleanliness in every department of the house. The sheets may be coarse, but they must be spotless, and the mattress they cover, whether excelsior, cotton or hair, must be sweet, and free from any musty odor. The weighty calico-and-cotton spreads, misnamed comfortables, should never be used in summer. They are too heavy for comfort or healthfulness, and should have as substitutes light, cheap blankets, that can be easily washed. The windows may be guiltless of draperies, but the glass must be clear, while perfect purity and neatness lend a charm to even the plainest and least costly furnishings. So many farm houses are built with especial reference to keeping out the cold blasts which howl about them in winter, that the bedrooms are apt to be provided with small windows, thus rendering ventilation extremely difficult. On this account it is all the more necessary to have everything so thoroughly clean that bad air will find it hard to gain a lodging place. All receptacles for holding water, and particularly those reserved for holding slops, should be scalded daily, and if possible, have an hour's sun bath; while the tin vessels should be subjected to a tri-weekly scrubbing with washing soda or household ammonia. A thorough sweeping, once a week, is essential, and the dustpan and brush should always be in readiness to remove daily accumulations of dirt or fluff.

The housewife who already owns carpets cannot afford to discard them from her chambers, but if she has to purchase some kind of floor coverings, mattings will be found far cheaper, more serviceable, less given to harbor dirt, than anything else. Hard wood floors are excellent, but are not usually attainable in the country, while painted ones manifest a disagreeable tendency to show every dusty or muddy footprint, and to require a wet cloth to remove the traces. Matting is cooler and much more easily kept clean than a carpet, and a touch of luxury may be granted, if desired, by the addition of strips of carpet or some of the many varieties of home-made rugs, laid in front of the bureau and washstand, and beside the bed.

Many ornaments and draperies in a bedchamber are now voted to be inadvisable, both on the ground of health, and of the additional labor caused by the care of them. Plain linen shades at the windows, a few pictures on the walls, a neat cloth or nice towel spread on top of the bureau, a pincushion, catch-all, match safe, etc., are all the adornments that are absolutely required, although others may be added at pleasure. One useful adjunct to a bedroom, is a neat shelf, of plain or stained deal, upon which can be placed the guests' books, work-box and little knick-knacks. The lack of something of this kind is often painfully felt by the summer boarder, who is obliged either to keep her Bible, prayer book and novels on her bureau, in a jumble with combs, brushes, cologne bottles and toilet articles, or else is forced to dive into her trunk for her books whenever she wishes to sit down for five minutes reading. A light rocking chair, and even the most unpretentious footstool, will also be heartily appreciated by the woman visitor who is principled against using the bed as a lounging place, but whose spine is wearied by the straight-backed high chairs which are often the only seats offered.

The question of the table is one which is especially likely to exercise the soul of the housekeeper. Unless she is one of those for whom this paper is not intended, whose chief aim is to squeeze every penny she can from her boarders, regardless of their comfort or her own future patronage, she has an honest desire to furnish her city guests with tempting food, and a natural pride in giving them as good a table as they have been accustomed to at home. In pursuance of this, she too often falls into the error of endeavoring to procure such viands as she imagines they would have in the city, not reflecting that to them a greater treat would be a complete change. She purchases, at a high figure, sea fish, that are brought to her after being carted over miles of hot, dusty, country roads, while she leaves untouched treasures of lake and stream almost at her door. She buys tough steak and roasts, stringy veal and bony mutton six days in the week, and provides poultry so seldom that its appearance is marked as a red-letter day in her guests' calendar. She outdoes herself in the number and variety of canned goods she places on her table, while her boarders are rarely treated to fresh vegetables, berries or fruit. She spends strength and money upon elaborate assortments of cake, and omits to furnish the fresh eggs, milk and cream which are craved by the visitors from town, to whom they would be a delicious rarety. Nine times out of ten the hostess commits these errors through sheer ignorance. Although she may not go as far as did one landlady, who wrote to a city friend begging for directions for cooking "fashionable" dishes, yet the desire—a very natural one—is the same with all, to prepare suitable and acceptable fare for their guests. It is a pity that so much energy and good will should ever be misdirected. Employed in the right quarter, it might produce the happiest results.

The housekeeper who carefully plans for the accommodation of summer boarders, will have little difficulty in procuring tempting fare for the inmates of her house. She can arrange so that the early broods of chickens may furnish a stock of broilers, and those of the older fowls who are not devoting their energies to the production of eggs, may serve for soups, fricassees, and chicken pies. She can secure what is so seldom found in the country, a supply of fresh vegetables, so that she may be free from bondage to canned goods. She can contract with the urchins of the neighborhood for goodly supplies of berries, and she can resolve to make less butter for market, and keep her milk and cream for free use at the table. If there are streams or ponds in the vicinity, she can almost always have fresh fish to order. In a word, she can secure her provisions from sources immediately about her rather than from a distance, and profit immeasurably by the course. When her visitors see set before them poultry and eggs instead of country butchers' meat, trout, pickerel and bass for cod, mackerel or halibut, fresh fruit and berries in place of heavy puddings and pastry, it is not likely that there will be complaints uttered because the menu does not compete in elaborateness with one concocted by a Parisian *chef*.

Sensible people do not expect to find fine damask, solid silver and French china in a rural hotel or boarding house, nor does the ambition of the hostess often lead her to attempt to imitate metropolitan fashions in this particular. She cannot be too solicitous, however, to preserve a high standard of neatness in everything pertaining to the table. This is not always the simple matter it might appear at the first glance. With the crush of visitors during the few weeks of midsummer, compelling extra labor from a housekeeper already taxed to nearly her full powers, with the difficulty of obtaining faithful and competent service in the country, and with a hundred apparently equally important duties claiming her attention in different parts of her *ménage*, it is no wonder that occasionally a sticky spoon, a rough-edged tumbler or a streaked plate should find its way to the table, or if the linen should not always be immaculate. Constant vigilance must be exercised to prevent the *contretemps* being of daily occurrence. Too frequent repetition will wear out the patience of the most charitably disposed. Nothing is more de-appetizing, especially in warm weather, than the suggestion of any want of neatness about the utensils used for eating. The mere suspicion that the glass or crockery has not been thoroughly washed since its last use has a sickening effect, that leaves its trace in the doubt of the cleanliness of everything else about the establishment. A guest does not wish to be forced to follow the example of one ultra-particular tourist, who, when traveling on the Continent, never began a meal without first satisfying herself as to the state of her plate, glass, knife, fork and spoon, by polishing them vigorously with her napkin. The effect produced by this preliminary to each meal, at a table about which were seated twenty people, may be more easily imagined than described.

In the country, there is no excuse for not always having the table bright with flowers, though they may be nothing more than a bunch of wayside blossoms or grasses in a common tumbler. These should never be suffered to become faded or mal-odorous, and strongly perfumed flowers should be avoided. There is generally one, at least, among the young people of the house, who is ready to undertake to gather bouquets for the table, and often there is an embarassment of riches, the only trouble being to find receptacles for the woodland and meadow beauties brought in by flower loving ramblers in forest and field.

Country residents are apt to under-estimate the passion for out-door life felt by the dwellers in cities, whose only breathing spell is found in their summer vacations. The farmer and his wife view with good-natured amusement the enthusiasm their visitors will devote to the getting up of picnics, *al fresco* teas or lunches, and mountain or boating expeditions. In this idleness—perhaps incomprehensible to her—the housekeeper may find a suggestion for lightening her own labors. Few are the country neighborhoods that do not possess some attractions to be visited; a glen, a waterfall, a cave, a view. Excursions to these are regarded as part of the pleasures of rural surroundings. The wise hostess will utilize this desire, and at the same time give herself a relief from the constant strain of devising and cooking hot meals, by making at least one day in the open air a part of the weekly programme. It would be a real boon to a hard-worked woman to have a nearly empty house on washing day. By the aid of a little foresight she may make most of the necessary preparations on Saturday. One or two extra pans of cake, cookies or gingerbread, a beef or veal loaf, a pair of roast or broiled chickens, will form only a small additional item in her weekly baking; and these provisions may be supplemented by biscuit baked before breakfast on Monday morning, hard-boiled eggs, and bottles of cold coffee, tea or lemonade. Raw potatoes and green corn may be taken along to be roasted in the ashes or boiled in a gypsy kettle when the picnickers are ready for them, and will have a far finer relish than when cooked and served in the ordinary and orthodox method. An entertainment of this sort costs no more than would a regular dinner eaten at home, while the time thus gained by the housewife for other duties is of inestimable value.

So many crusades have been waged against the heavy midday meal that it seems almost uncalled for to attempt further warfare. It may be said, however, that every objection urged against them in winter is intensified a hundred fold by the coming of hot weather. In fact, there should be a marked difference in the commissary department during the two seasons. The amount and quality of food required when cold weather demands animal warmth for comfort, and when hearty eating may be counterbalanced by corresponding exercise, varies materially from that needed when the dog-days have enervated the system, causing debility of the gastric forces as well as to the other powers of the body. Yet the man who would not think of starting on a long tramp or row when the mercury is up in the nineties, does not hesitate at the same temperature to burden his stomach with a load that exacts its utmost vigor of assimilation.

It is hardly practicable to contemplate abolishing one substantial meal per diem, but let its items be carefully considered. Abjure everything heating in its tendency; fat meats, fried food, rich pastry, etc., and choose rather, fish, eggs, poultry, cereals, green vegetables, salads and fruits. Let the noon repast be a compromise between lunch and dinner, and provide a substantial tea, where there will be less cake than one usually sees on a farm house table, while the eggs thus saved are poached, scrambled, boiled or converted into savory omelets. It seems to many localities impossible to effect the compromise between stinginess and lavishness that will result in a simple yet appetizing meal. Let a pleasing variety be studied, and too regular a repetition of any one bill of fare be avoided. Simplicity can be preserved withal, for elaborate cookery is wearying and unwholesome in hot weather.

While an open fire in each bedroom is usually out of the question, a charm is imparted to the general parlor or sitting room if there is a blaze of sticks on the hearth cool mornings and evenings. The care will be slight, and more than atoned for by the pleasure gained. One of the pleasantest hostelries in Berkshire county, owes much of its homelikeness to the generous wood fire that crackles in its broad chimney place whenever a touch of chilliness in the air renders it advisable. Brass andirons and fender contribute to the cheery effect, and it serves as a loadstone to draw back all who have gathered about its hospitable light.

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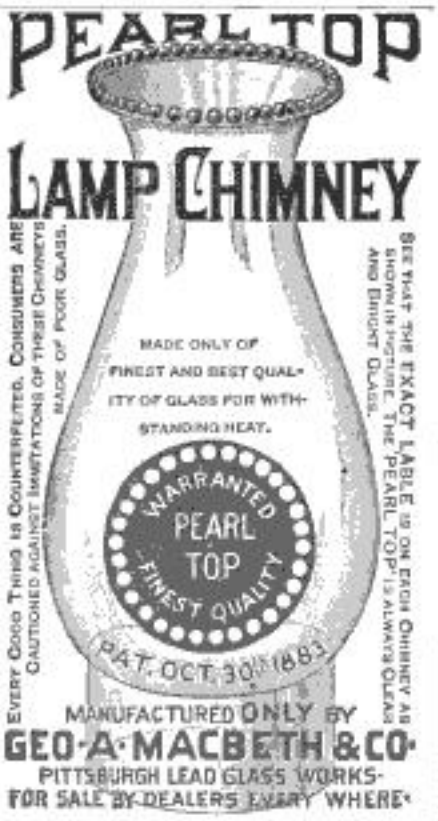

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HINTS UPON ETIQUETTE AND GOOD MANNERS.

BY MRS. S. O. JOHNSTON.

NO. VI.

How to Make Visits of Ceremony, Etc.

Fashion dictates that visits of ceremony, visits of congratulations upon the birth of a child, an engagement, and a wedding, visits of condolence, upon the loss of relations, or intimate friends, and visits of friendship, should all be observed with strict attention to the forms of etiquette, and good breeding.

It has been well said that "morning calls are the small change of social commerce; parties, balls and receptions being the heavy drafts upon one's time and purse." In fashionable parlance, morning means any time before dinner, and a ceremonious call should never exceed ten minutes, in the city. In the country it can be extended a little, but due attention should always be given to the valuable time of the person upon whom the call is made.

Visits of ceremony are those that are paid after a call has been made or invitation given to a dinner, lunch, tea party or evening reception has been received, or a card to a wedding reception, a christening, has been sent, and they should be made within the week upon which they were to take place. To postpone a visit of ceremony to a later date is not good form. In the large circles of society it is very essential to keep a visiting book, and to note down the date of your ceremonial visits. Days pass so quickly, that unless some account is kept, you will not remember at what time you paid such and such visits, or returned calls. But if some date is made, you can then form an estimate of the position you hold with your acquaintances, by noting at what an interval your calls are returned or invitations repaid.

Some women in society pay particular attention to this matter, and if a visit is not paid until some weeks or even months have elapsed, they let the same time pass before they make another call upon that person. Yet there are instances where the age or health of acquaintances prevent the prompt return of a visit, and, if they request you to call frequently, stating their inability to go out often, it is only decent kindness on your part to do so.

Cards pay a very important part in the realms of fashion, and the word *etiquette* is said to be the synonym of "ticket" or "card," and one should be left for each member of the family upon whom you call. Thus: one for the mistress of the house, and one for each of her daughters who are in society, also one for any visitor to whom you desire to pay attention. Take with you your husband's card, and place it with yours upon the card receiver, which usually stands upon a small table near the outer door in the hall. Do this as you leave the house, if you have not already given them to the servant who opened the door for you, —which is the usual custom—and she will carry it or them to her mistress, who will then be informed who waits to see her. If your call is made at an inconvenient hour, such as near the luncheon, or dinner time, retire as soon as you notice the fact, even if politely requested to remain, but withdraw quietly, saying you will come at a more appropriate hour, and take a cordial leave.

"Not at home" is a phrase that is universally used; not only when the lady is absent, but when she is at home, but not able to receive her friends. Yet there are those who are ready to take offense if these words happen to be frequently repeated to them by servants, and imagine that the mistress of the house does not desire their acquaintance. Jealousy prompts such ideas, and it should be quickly stifled in the mind, as it is a hydra-headed serpent which will some day destroy your peace and comfort, if it is made a welcome guest to the soul.

It is very bad form to take a child with you when paying visits of ceremony, as its presence may not be agreeable to the lady, who will naturally tremble for the fate of her bric-a-brac or costly books, if the child is allowed to touch them. "Touch not, handle not," is a trite maxim, not as rigidly enforced in these later days of our republic, as it was in the times or our great-grandmothers, and, therefore, young children are not in place in the drawing rooms of the period, which abound in rare vases, statuettes, and knick-knacks, etc., all so attractive to childish hands.

Pet dogs are also a decided nuisance when one is making visits of ceremony. There are women to whom dogs are positively disagreeable, and, who would as soon have a snake in their parlor as a dog. Then they require constant attention lest they should make some disturbance, as leaping upon a chair or sofa, and a well-bred woman will, therefore, leave her dog at home upon such occasions, and not annoy her friends by their presence. "Love me, love my dog" is out of fashion.

If other visitors are announced, you should remain until they are seated, and a little interchange of conversation has taken place with their hostess, and then rise quietly, without the least show of haste, and take a cordial leave of the lady, bowing politely to her guests, and leave the room. Thus you will prevent your friend from having to entertain two sets of visitors. If the callers are strangers to you, it is optional with the hostess to introduce them or not. In large cities such introductions are rarely made. In small towns, or country villages, they are usually given, as persons do not often object to knowing slightly nearly every one who lives in such places.

Morning calls are divided into three classes—those that are paid as above specified; frequent visits between intimate friends, and by young women to those who are much older than themselves, but who take pleasure in the society of youth, and strive to make their homes agreeable to them; and such elderly women are always possessed of youthful hearts; though their hair may be whitened with age, their is no frost on their souls. The third class of visits are semi-ceremonious, *i. e.* they are not made at long intervals. There are these, however, in every social circle, who seemingly have little interest in home avocations, and whose pleasure consists in paying visits daily to some one of their acquaintances, until they obtain the sobriquet of "a day goblin," or a social bore. They are light-headed, giggling girls, whose mothers do not possess enough discipline over them to keep them in bounds, and therefore, without knowing it, permit them to become social nuisances to their neighbors and friends, by making constant inroads upon their time; wholly ignoring the fact that time can be of any value to them. Domestic affairs often engross a portion of the morning in almost all well organized households; and the mother and daughter have their several occupations, which should not be interrupted by these frivolous girls or women, who have no other way to pass their time than by trespassing upon that of their neighbors, and who inflict themselves upon them almost beyond the verge of endurance; then leave with a light laugh, saying: "Oh dear! how late it is! Well, I hope I have not staid too long!" and take their leave, to return again in two or three days, to repeat this boring process.

Would it be ill-bred to tell the servant to say "not at home" when the "day goblin" appears? We think not; for she who steals your time, does not steal trash, but that which you have lost beyond recovery.

When gentlemen pay morning calls they usually carry their hats in their hands, as it answers every purpose of a ladies card-case, fan or bag; and there is a graceful manner of holding the hat which every well-bred man fully comprehends. If not a well known, constant visitor or relation, a card should always be given to the servant, as he asks if the lady will receive him; and some men of fashion say: "Tell your mistress Mr. —— has called," mentioning their own names. If lady callers enter the room, the gentleman will rise and bow, even if not acquainted with the visitors; while the hostess always mentions his name, as it is optional with the ladies to continue the acquaintance, for they have the privilege of recognizing the gentleman, and it is never his place to bow first. If ladies are calling, when they leave the room, the gentleman will rise, and bow, and accompany them to the hall door, and open it for them, and if a carriage is in waiting, he will go down the steps and assist them to enter it. If a male relative of the hostess is present, however, it is his duty to pay these attentions to the visitors. If the visit has been of a proper length, they can, at the same time, bow, and take their leave; but, if cordially urged by the hostess to return, it will be well-bred to do so, unless one has engagements to be fulfilled, which can be pleaded as an excuse. Unmarried gentlemen call frequently on married ladies, but their husbands should always be cognizant of their visits. After an invitation to the house has been given, it is a decided breach of etiquette not to call before the week has passed, either before dinner, or in the evening, as one prefers.

The custom of appointing a day for receiving calls, is a decided necessity in a large town or city; as, thereby, the lady is always ready to receive her guests, and does not keep them waiting; and the visitors are, also, sure of meeting the lady, and her friends. Such calls are made in street dress, as handsome as the wearer's purse permits her to select; but due regard must be given to its suitableness—*i. e.*, it should not be so arranged as to attract attention by its gaudy colors, or *outre* designs. A well-bred lady always recognizes the fitness of things, and attires herself accordingly. When entering the house, place your card in the card basket, or hand it to the servant as above mentioned. Intimate friends will often select the same day for their ceremonious receptions, and are then at more liberty to make or receive calls of friendship. Visiting cards are engraved with the name of the lady and her husband, and "At Home Tuesdays from 12 o'clock until 4." P. M. is engraved below the name. Of course the day of the week one has selected is put on to the cards.

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NEWARK, N. J., June 1.
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MRS. L. C. SPENCER.

Holls Centre, Me., August 29.
I suffered severely from back trouble for years, and found no relief till I wore Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets. They cured me, and I would not be without them.
MRS. H. D. BENSON.

Memphis, Tennessee, November 28.
Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets have given me much relief. I suffered four years with breast trouble, without finding any benefit from other remedies. They are invaluable.
MRS. JAS. CAMPBELL.

De Witt, N. Y., June 11.
I have an invalid sister who has not been dressed for a year. She has worn Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets for two weeks, and is now able to be dressed and sit up most of the time.
MELVA J. DOE.

Chambersburg, Pa., October 8.
I found Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets possessed miraculous power in stimulating and invigorating my enfeebled body, and the Hair Brush had a magic effect on my scalp.
MRS. T. E. SKYLICK, Fancy Goods Dealer.

South Abington, Mass., July 8.
Dr. Scott—My sister and I are very much pleased with your Electric Corsets. They have given us great satisfaction. For weak stomach and nervousness they are unexcelled. I have felt uncommon well since wearing them, and can confidently recommend them. FLORA E. COLE.

Niles, Mich., January 5, 1885.
Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets have cured me of acute dyspepsia, from which I am suffered for eight years. His Electric Hair Brush cures my headache every time.
MRS. WM. H. PEAK.

Princeton, Minn., June 5.
Your Corsets have accomplished wonders in my case. I was previously thoroughly incapacitated, and could not help myself. I have worn your Corsets now for two weeks, and I am able to be up and around, helping to do house work, etc. My friends are astonished. With many thanks, etc.,
JULIA J. MCFARLAND.

Streator, Ills., January 7.
Dr. Scott—Your Electric Corsets are beautiful in appearance, wonderful in effect, and elegant in fit and finish.
M. J. BRIGGS.

2121 Henrietta St., Philadelphia, Pa., Nov. 21, 1884.
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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MUSICAL STUDIES.

NO EVIL.

BY MARGARET B. HARVEY.

Just now, I do not think of any special difficulties to be encountered in attempting to interpret operatic music. Your scale practice will help you, of course—so will the practice of sonatinas. A few more exercises might be beneficial. Czerny's are mechanical—they will strengthen your fingers. Loesschorn's display pretty conceits in melody—they will train your ear. Duvernoy's are noticeable for sweeps and changes—they will give you confidence. All of these come in sheet music form like Kohler's. But, to tell the truth, the better class of compositions are often not nearly so difficult of execution, as some of the popular "pieces," which are intended merely to "show off." The best poets were too sincere to think much about externals—the truest poets chose the simplest words. Some of Wagner's music is difficult—but, then, he was sincere, too. He had a theory to work out. He uses double chords where anybody else would have employed simple intervals—but he labored to enlarge the sphere of harmony, as no man before him ever did. What do you think of a simple melody in the base, with a running accompaniment of heavy chords of five or six notes in the treble?—this carried on for page after page? Yes, I know it is the fashion to laugh at Wagner—to compare his effects to tin pans, and fighting cats, and choruses Calisthumpian. But nobody denies that he was a strong, daring, original genius. In these days, musical culture is advancing, with rapid strides—I have learned more, in the year I have spent with you than I did in all my life before—and, I feel impressed to tell you that I believe Wagner was right, when he so confidently predicted a "music of the future." You may be able to help create it. But first—believe in Wagner. Know something of him, if only a simplified arrangement of his "Bridal Chorus."

Suppose you begin a systematic study of operatic music, so as not to interfere with your regular musical (and other) routine. It will not be long before you find you taste developing, and yourself in a fair way to become literally educated in music as well as in literature.

But, after awhile, you will feel more and more disinclined to spend time over "common pieces." This is all very well. A little caution here, however. Don't carry this very good feeling too far. Apply Ruskin's test of true taste, "Universality." There is some merit in everything, if it is only kept in its own place. I have inveighed against dance music, trifling songs, and Sunday school hymns, not because I altogether despise them—but, because the general public, even some people who ought to know better, overrate them, and I wish to correct this too prevalent error. But, if you refuse to please some child, or very old lady, who does enjoy something of the kind, you will get no credit at all for good taste, and a great deal, for being conceited and disagreeable.

How many of your young friends and acquaintances are students of music? If half-a-dozen, or more, of you live in the same neighborhood, or meet very often, I know exactly how you feel toward each other. You are all half afraid, half defiant. "I won't play before Lillie Henry," says Mamie Smith, "she plays the same pieces I do, and she'll criticise every note." "And I won't play before Mamie Smith," says Lillie, "she plays my pieces, and I won't rehash them for anybody." "Oh," cries trembling Sallie Gray, "I don't play anything but waltzes—I can't play before Mary Potter, she plays classical music, and despises my trash." But, Mary trembles too. "I *would* play if Sallie Gray wasn't here—but she can't appreciate sonatas, and she'll think they're my old exercises." "Oh, I'm so nervous," moans Emma Hamilton, "I forget everything, as soon as anybody comes into the room. I wish I had confidence, like Ella Lee." But, Ella has her griefs, too." "I can't get rid of that thump. If I only had a soft, gentle touch, like Emma Hamilton." They, poor girls, generally underrate their own abilities—but, now and then, they "pitch into" each other. "Lizzie Walters always makes a fuss, and hangs back—she likes to be coaxed." "Clara Weaver walks straight up to the piano as soon as she's asked—she likes to show off."

Now, older readers, you know why every young lady, at some time or other, even if she has spent years with the best masters, positively declares that she "can't play." "She could, if she tried," you say. Oh, yes—it is not a physical impossibility for her to face a cannon—but, being asked to play, is alas! too much like being required to face a cannon. "What is her music for, then?" She feels what it is not for—it is something too beautiful, too lovely, too sacred, to be cast, like pearls before swine. No girl likes to be forced to the piano, as to the rack, and rise with a blush, feeling that she has been rash in allowing herself to be made a fool of—how else can she feel, when half the company talk, her musical rivals criticise, the remainder are politely indifferent, and no one present thinks it worth while to say that he has received any pleasure? If one child murmured "Pretty," it would be compensation enough.

How is it when Liszt plays? No one dares ask *him* to play—as well ask the king for his crown jewels—sounds from these fingers are too precious to be wasted on common ears. In breathless expectation, the company wait, scarce venturing to hope for the honor of his notice. If he condescends to drop before the piano, they bow their heads as though an angel was in their midst—that angels scatters his benediction unasked, like the gentle raindrops. When the shower has ceased, that piano is broken to pieces, its fragments distributed, like relics of saints—it must never be desecrated by other hands. Conceit! There is no more conceit in that than there is in the sun's shining.

What woman in this country would dare do such a thing as that? But, why should she not? Because she cannot—that only proves that music is not yet incorporated into our common life as it should be. Who ever heard of a woman afraid to smile? Who dares not allow her countenance to assume its most heavenly expression, for fear somebody will think her conceited, or for fear that those she loves most will not appreciate it? And, after she has been coaxed into bestowing a forced caricature of her own natural smile, is afraid that she may only have succeeded in making herself ridiculous? There is something wrong in such a case. Music should flow as naturally as song from a bird,—and so it would, if the sympathy around us were deep enough. But, we cannot all play like Liszt! Yes, we can—to all intents and purposes—or, we could, if the hearts around us helped us, as they do him.

Half-a-dozen young persons, bound by a common sympathy, could do much to remedy this state of things. Copy the unwritten code in use among journalists, the substance of which is, "Stick together." In journalism, the element of professional jealousy is a thing almost unknown—alas! that there should be so much of it in musical circles, especially, strange to say, amateur ones. Form a club. Not one modelled after the high-toned organizations of cities, involving large fees, expensive dress, annual dinners, or anything of the kind. I know of one, in West Philadelphia, just as simple in its character as any association might be in the remotest country village. It was composed of eight or ten young women, who met in each others' houses weekly, for an hours' musical practice. Some were fine musicians, some ordinary, one or two mere beginners. One was a church organist, one a music teacher, one a student at the conservatory, the others, school teachers and girls who had no other means for intellectual improvement. The only rule which they adopted was, that, at every meeting every member was required to sing or play. Every one knew, then, that no matter how poor, or how fine her performance, she was sure of a sympathetic, intelligent audience. It encouraged the diffident, checked the conceited, and helped and strengthened all. It would soon be easy for any one to play before a mixed audience, when she knew that two or three of her allies, who could give the correct tone to the whole, were always at hand. They wasted no time, money, nor strength over a club-room—the club could meet, at five minutes notice, wherever there was an instrument. They never dressed for the occasion—they went, in their everyday clothes, just as they were. They didn't even get up a concert, or *musicale*, to show off their acquirements—it would be time enough for all these things after the clubs real work was done. I believe they didn't even have a name for it—no dues, fines, banners, officers, constitution, by-laws, nor property. Of course, you may have all these, and more, if you want them, or need them, but they are not necessary. But, now, if never before, a universal musical sympathy is necessary—and this is one of the ways in which we may have it. I would like to have such clubs in every community in the land, with influence as silent and as potent as the ballot-box. If only one grows out of this, I should like to know it,—and will do all in my power, personally, to further its prosperity. Oh, I thought of this before—but I did not think you were quite ready then. In another month, then, I hope I shall be gratified to find that you are.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"J. R.," Newburgh, N. Y.—There was an error in my answer to you, last month. The key-note of the major-scale of three flats is E flat.

"Mrs. S. McWilliams," Newburgh, N. Y.—Never received your letter.

"A Subscriber," Colchester, Ct.—To *sing* well, practice singing the scales daily, with the syllables do, re, mi, fa, sol, la, si do; with *la*, and *Sol*, to every note; and sing simple exercises, founded upon the scales. Kohler's piano exercises are excellent studies for singing—of course, *sing* every note, as well as play it. Learn to control the abdominal muscles, using them to pump the air out of the lungs, as the pedals of an organ pump the bellows. Open the mouth wide, and let the voice flow freely, without straining the larynx. This will aid in forming clear, pure tone—chest tones are never nasal. Show the staff, notes, etc., as soon as possible.

"A Student of Music," Meadville, Pa.—If you cannot get my first letters, I would say, get Scales and Cadences, and Kohler's exercises, and practice them faithfully, for an hour or more every day, throughout your whole lifetime. Scale practice is the foundation of all instrumental music—everything else you can learn, incidentally,—but it takes *work*.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

REMEMBER THE "SHUT-INS."

BY HELEN AYRE.

Those who have never been called to lay aside active life, and to spend long, weary, pain-filled days on a sick bed, cannot understand how very great little things become to such invalids, and on what trivial matters their day's courage or disheartening depends.

A healthy person—and that means good digestion and comfortable, sleep-fed nerves—cannot understand the morbid sensitiveness and racking torture that he or she endures who is a victim of "nervous prostration," yet, if we cannot understand, it is no excuse that we be lacking in sympathy—*expressed* sympathy, by kindly words and deeds to the "shut ins" who come within range of our cheer.

When a sharp, sudden disease or accident befalls our neighbor, we are usually ready with our sympathy and help, but we grow so accustomed to the weaknesses of the chronic invalid who lives in our midst, and who no doubt is the greater sufferer, that we seldom—perhaps never—think to go to her with cheery words, or send her tempting delicacies from our table, or bright pictures and entertaining papers and books from our shelves.

"This has been such a comfortable, happy day," said a bed-ridden lady whose days were made long and weary with pain and deprivations, "the shortest day that I have seen for many weeks, though, this morning when I heard the drizzling rain, I wondered how I could endure its dragging hours, but they have been made very short and bright by kind remembrances by my friends." And the invalid's pale face flushed with pleasure, and her heavy eyes grew bright and eager in telling how one neighbor had sent her that day, a mould of jelly, another, an interesting letter to read from a distant, mutual friend, and how a church sister, in spite of the rain and mud, had run in to sit with her an hour, and had comforted her sore, tried spirit by saying that the invalid's sweet patience and submission in suffering was helping her and others, to live a better life.

These dear, sensitive "shut-ins" need a great many cheery, comforting words and kind reminders, that they may not grow discouraged and morbid; but we do not always think to give them out of our own busy, perhaps overworked lives.

If you have an invalid friend or neighbor who you think is sweetly patient under her deprivations, and doing a blessed mission on her sick bed, do tell her so, for little danger is there that conceit will take root in her pain-purified spirit, and even our Saviour Lord hungrily craved human sympathy and love and approval if that approval was also that of his Father's.

"I would gladly help cheer the weary hours of my invalid friends," said one busy housemother, "but I have neither money to buy them delicacies and reading matter, nor time to often sit with them or to work bright mottoes for their prison walls. I can think of no way I can help." But jellies and fruits and savory broths and beautiful floral cards and books are not all that one can send into the invalid's chamber that will brighten her hours. Any reminder of your sympathy, however trifling the gift or simple the message, will be gratefully received. Remember an invalid's day is not like your own, every moment crowded with occupation, if not pleasure, and flying swifter than a weaver's shuttle," but, instead, dragging, shut-in hours, day after day, night after night, with little to break the monotony of pain and weakness and deprivation. Imagine yourselves thus cut off from society and work and all the blessed privileges of being *active*, and you will not again plead that you have nothing to give that will cheer such a life.

A lady who has seen thirty-three years of bed-ridden life, said of all the beautiful gifts sent her, not one had given more pleasure than a wide old dripping pan, which a little country girl gave her, filled with wild woodsy mosses and plants in their soil from a green nook in the woods. "Wild Benjamin's" and "wild oats" and spotted leaves of the "adder's tongue" were there, ready to send up rank, juicy flower stalks, and tiny seedlings of noble forest trees, unfurling their tender, baby leaves in the two inch soil of the old baking sheet.

"The rarest hot house flowers," she said, could not have given me the keen pleasure that I derived from that bit of fragrant, woodsy soil, greenly packed with its treasures of wild ferns and trailing vines."

If your home is in the country, and you have strength and opportunity to ramble in its fields and woods, you can gather much that is fitting and beautiful for gifts to the sick room.

A great branch of evergreen loaded with fragrant, resinous cones, I saw suspended on one prison wall, and very restful must it have been for tired, aching eyes.

A lady, who had not a penny to spend for any little treat for a sick neighbor, swung a great, half-moon shaped toadstool, which she broke from a decaying log, on the wall close to the sick bed, making a pretty, rustic shelf which proved very convenient for holding small articles.

A friend keeps on hand a quantity of comforting hymns, printed in large type on illuminated, stiff card board, and as she has opportunity, mails or hands them to invalid friends. (A generous package of such leaflets can be obtained from Anson D. Randolph, publisher, 38 W. 23d St., New York City.)

"I am so busy every week-day, I cannot find time for an extra effort, but on the Sabbath, when baby is asleep, I look over the papers and magazines that have come into our home through the week, and sort them: some for waste paper, some to lend and others I wrap, ready to mail to "shut-ins." Since I cannot attend church, I take this way of serving Christ on the Sabbath day, by bringing a ray of sunshine into the lives of his afflicted ones."

A delicious dish for a sick person is prepared by beating two roasted sifted apples with the white of one egg and a tablespoonful of sugar. Egg and apple should be very cold before commencing to beat them, and you may expect a pint bowl heaped with stiff, snow white foam to be the result after half an hour's beating.

Weakness, pain, deprivation and dependency is what invalidism means. Let us bring into the lives of such sufferers, every ray of sunshine we can, and maybe, by so doing, some sick, discouraged one may be tided over a desperate point where insanity or suicide or lost faith in human and divine love might ensue.

It is a mistaken economy to buy a cheap indelible ink as a substitute for the ever reliable Payson's. Quality is more important than quantity. Sold by druggists.

ROCHESTER LAMP Co.'s LAMP has taken first prize at London, Paris, Berlin, Antwerp, & American Institute Fairs. Send for circulars to, 682, 684, or 1201 Broadway, New York.

Felt Bannerettes and Panels.

Given as a Premium for a Club of Only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cents Each per Year.

Long pieces of Felt or Satin, embroidered and trimmed top and bottom with plush and suspended from a brass banner rod, make handsome pieces to be hung in appropriate places upon the walls. Shorter pieces finished in the same way may be used as lamp shades, etc.

We send them at the following prices:

9 x 18 inches, any color felt, and stamped as desired, for 4 subscribers.

8½ x 24 inches, any color felt, and stamped to order, for 6 subscribers.

HANDSOME

Silver-Plated Sugar Shell

Or Butter-Knife

Given for Four New Subscribers at 25 Cents Each per Year.

A new, handsome, neat and stylish pattern, tripple-plated, on finest English white steel. Will wear for years. Almost as good as solid silver. All the objectionable qualities of German Silver and brass, which are known to have a disagreeable taste, and are, when a little worn, poisonous, will be avoided in the use of these goods. They are also stronger, and of greater durability than any goods produced.

A Butter Knife will be given instead of the Sugar Shell, if prefered.

For 12 subscribers we will give a set of Tea Spoons, same quality, and for a club of 20, a set of forks.

At 25 cents per year, in clubs of four or more, every lady in the land can afford the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. Send for sample copies to distribute among your friends and neighbors. Address:

LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, Phila., Pa.

Usages of the Best Society.

The Usages of the Best Society: A manual of social etiquette. By FRANCES STEVENS. Nothing is given in this book that has not the sanction of observance by the best society. Contains 21 chapters. Introductions and Salutations—Visiting Cards and Visiting—Strangers and New-comers—Engagements and Weddings—Receptions and Debuts—Private Balls and Germans—Fancy Dress and Masquerade Balls and Costumes—Opera and Theatre Parties—Dinner and Dinner Giving—Table Decorations and Etiquette—Luncheons, Breakfast and Teas. The Art of Entertaining—Letter Writing and Invitations—Musical "At Homes" and Garden Parties—Traveling Manners and Mourning Etiquette—Wedding and Birthday Anniversaries and Presents—New Year's Day Receptions—Important General Considerations—Brief Hints for everyday use. This book is indispensable to all who wish to obtain the most enjoyment from daily intercourse with their fellow beings. Handsome cloth binding.

Will be found useful by all who wish to obtain instruction on matters relating to social usage and society.—Demorest's Magazine.

Given for a club of only 6 subscribers at **25** cents per year each. Price, 50 cents when sold alone.

LADIES SILVER BAR PIN

Given for only 4 new subscribers at 25 Cents per Year.

SILVER BAR PIN.

A Silver Bangle Lace Bar Pin, with four bangles handsomely engraved. One of our best premiums for ladies. They are very fashionable, and cannot be bought in any store for double the money we ask. for 4 subscribers at 25 cents each.

THIS OFFER is good only for such Sewing Machines as are enumerated below. Unless you write us WHAT machine you want it for, we cannot fill the order, without the delay and expense of writing you and waiting for an answer.

Ladies! Make Your Own Stamping Patterns,

WITH THE "LITTLE WONDER" PERFORATOR.

GIVEN FOR ONLY 16 SUBSCRIBERS, OR FOR ONLY 12 SUBSCRIBERS AND 25 CENTS EXTRA, OR FOR ONLY 8 SUBSCRIBERS AND 50 CENTS EXTRA. PRICE, $1.25, INCLUDING ONE YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION TO THE JOURNAL.

THIS **SEWING MACHINE ATTACHMENT** makes *PERFORATED STAMPING PATTERNS* from the most elaborate and intricate designs, either original or those from Art Books. After being traced on paper, this placed over from **1** to **10** sheets of Linen paper and passed through the machine, perforated duplicates are obtained, each of which will stamp the design a hundred times. Designs may be taken from wall paper, crestonnes, carpets, laces, etc.

Patterns perforated in this way are superior in every way to those made by the old method. There is no rough side from which you are obliged to stamp, but being *ALIKE ON BOTH SIDES* they are *REVERSIBLE* and one can stamp from either side. There is no possibility of the patterns "filling up" and thus becoming useless, for each perforation is made by actually removing an atom of the paper the size of the needle or punch used. Different sized punches are furnished so that the operator can choose a fine or coarse line as best suits his work.

By setting the machine with a short stitch so the perforations come close together, beautiful stencils can be cut from card-board, paper, etc.

The "LITTLE WONDER" is applicable to transferring designs for *Embroidery, Braiding, Quilting, Ornamental Painting, Pressing, Wood-Carving, Feet-Sewing*, and for instantly copying designs on the blackboard for the use of teachers illustrating lessons in Botany, Geography, Natural History, etc., etc.

Accompanying each outfit are instructions, showing how to perforate, how to stamp on any material *WITHOUT LIQUIDS* (the simplest and most perfect method known) and how to set stamping on velvets and plush by steam; various minor uses to which the "LITTLE WONDER" is applicable are also fully noted.

Attachments Furnished for the following Machines Only:

Light-Running Domestic.—Wheeler and Wilson No. 8.—Remington No. 3.—White.—Household, double or single feed.—Wood "New Hartford."—New Home.—Singer "New Family."—Singer Improved.—Elias Howe and New Howe "G."—*In case you do not have one of the above machines; possibly your neighbor has, and would allow you to use it in exchange for some patterns.*

We CANNOT supply them for any other machines. Name your machine with your order, (and it must be one of the above) or we cannot send it.

Ladies who have our stamping outfit will need this Perforator. With it you can make all the stamping patterns you want. A nice business can be done making patterns for others who have outfits.

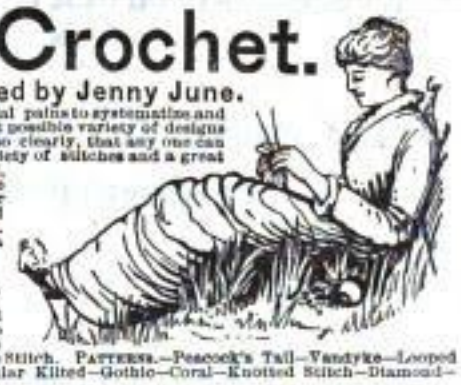
PERFORATING PUNCHES (in packages of one dozen—we do not sell less) Forty Cents Postpaid.

PEARL LINEN PERFORATING PAPER, Size 11 x 21, per quire—we do not sell less—Forty Cts. Postpaid.

When ordering, write your name PLAINLY, give towns or city, county and state; either send money by Registered Letter, P. O. Order, Postal Note or Draft. One and two cent (clean) postage stamps received for small amounts. Address, *CURTIS PUBLISHING COMPANY, Phila., Pa.*

Knitting & Crochet.

Edited by Jenny June.



Knitting and Crochet.—A guide to the use of the Needle and the Hook. In arranging this work the editor has taken special pains to systematize and classify its different departments, give the greatest possible variety of designs and stitches, and explain the technical details so clearly, that any one can easily follow the directions. There are a large variety of stitches and a great number of patterns fully illustrated and described, which have all been tested by an expert before insertion in this collection. The aim of the editor has been to supply women with an accurate and satisfactory guide to knitting and crochet work. The book is printed on fine paper, bound with a handsome cover, and contains over

200 Illustrations.

The knitting stitches illustrated and described are: To Cast On with One and Two Needles—To Narrow—To Widen—To Purl—To Cast Off—To Slip a Stitch—Round Knitting—To Join Together—Edge Stitch. PATTERNS.—Peacock's Tail—Vandyke—Looped Knitting—Cane Work—Leaf and Trellis—Triangular Kilted—Gothic—Coral—Knotted Stitch—Diamond—Wave—Cable Twist—Stripes, etc.

MACRAME STITCHES.—Solomon's Knot—Simple Chain—Spiral Cord—Waved Bar—Spherical Knot—Slanting Rib—Open Knotting—Twist Reading—Cross Knot—Fringe—Tassels, etc.

CROCHET STITCHES.—Chain Stitch—Single Crochet—Double Crochet—Half Treble—Treble—Double Treble—Cross Treble—Slip Stitch—Tricot—Muscovite Tricot—Shell Pattern—Basket Pattern—Raised Spot Stitch—Ring Stitch—Hair Pin Crochet—Crochet Lace, etc.

DESIGNS AND DIRECTIONS are given to Knit and Crochet—Afghans—Undervests—Shirts—Petticoats—Jackets—Shawls—Insertion—Trimming—Edging—Comforters—Lace—Braces—Socks—Boots—Slippers—Gaiters—Drawers—Knee-Caps—Stockings—Mittens—Clouds—Purses—Counterpanes—Quilts—Rugs—Infants' Bootines—Hoods—Caps—Shawls—Dresses—Bed Quilts, etc., etc. Every lady will find this the newest and most complete work on Knitting and Crochet published.

Given for a club of 6 subscribers at 25 cents per year each. Price, when sold alone, 50 cents.

CRESCENT LACE PIN

Given for Only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cts. Each per Year.

A little beauty, of the latest style with crescent of Oxidized Silver, and spray of Forget-me-nots in frosted silver. These pins are exceedingly neat and pretty, and are very easy to secure. Given for only four subscribers at 25 cents per year each. We sell them, postpaid, to any address for only 50 cents.

LACE BAR PIN

Given for only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cents per Year Each.

A very pretty and stylish Pin of frosted silver. They are the very latest style and are very popular. Given for a club of only four subscribers, or sold for 50 cents and sent postpaid, to any address.

SPECIAL SUMMER OFFER!

THIS OFFER HOLDS GOOD ONLY UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1ST, AND WILL NOT BE OFFERED AGAIN. THIS IS THE LAST CHANCE FOR A HANDSOME MANTLE ORNAMENT.

MANTLE LAMBERQUINS.

Given as a present for a club of only 12 subscribers at 25 cents per year each, or given for only 8 subscribers and 25 cents extra.

For the past year or two it has been the fashion to cover the mantlepiece with an embroidery a foot or more in width in front.

These draperies usually cost from $1.50 to $2.00, but we send a lambrequin made of the best quality of felt, 13½ inches wide and 2 yards long, of any color, and stamped as desired, for a club of only 12 subscribers, or $1.20.

This is one of our best premiums, and has pleased our subscribers so well that almost every one sent out results in the sale of from 2 to 6 more. As soon as your friends see it they all have the fever to secure one just like it.

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Special Summer Offer.

GOOD ONLY UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1ST.

Our New and Enlarged Stamping Outfit, which we have never before offered for less than 12 subscribers, we have decided to offer until SEPTEMBER 1st, for ONLY 8 SUBSCRIBERS and 25 cts. extra in cash or stamps.

OUR LATEST AND NEWEST

EMBROIDERY STAMPING OUTFIT !

100 CHOICE PATTERNS.

$1.00 PREPAID BY MAIL.

GIVEN AS PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 8 SUBSCRIBERS, AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR AND 25 CENTS EXTRA IN CASH.

☞This Complete Outfit and One Year's Subscription to the Journal, Both for only $1.00.

Season after season the dealers in cheap novelties, have endeavored to injure the reputation of our outfits, by offering a larger number of patterns, or a wonderful lot of articles *of a fabulous value.*

Their advertisements and descriptions are written in such a manner as to lead people to expect something great, and it is needless to say they are always disappointed. The patterns our competitors offer are a *lot of worthless little things*, so crowded together on a single sheet that *they cannot be used*, while THE VALUE OF OUR OUTFIT IS IN GOOD, USEFUL STAMPING PATTERNS.

We have had *literally* thousands of ladies complain of these cheap outfits, who throw them away after buying ours.

We have also received thousands of letters from ladies who have secured one of our outfits, expressing the greatest delight and satisfaction.

What is the reason for this?

1st, because we never misrepresent anything.

2d, because the patterns in our outfit are what they are described to be.

3d, because we know what ladies interested in fancy work want, and try to please them.

WE WILL CHEERFULLY REFUND THE MONEY AND GIVE OUR PAPER ONE YEAR FREE! TO ANY ONE WHO IS IN THE LEAST DISSATISFIED WITH ONE OF OUR OUTFITS.

Description of a Few of the Patterns.

One set of initials for towels, hat ribbons, etc., worth 50c.
Two outlines for tidies, 25c. each.
One design for tinsel embroidery, 5 inches wide, for end of table scarf, 25c.
One tidy design for ribbon work, 20c.
One large clover design, 7x11, 25c.
One large thistle, 6x7, for Kensington painting, 25c.
One stork and one large butterfly, for lustre painting, 25c.
One pansy design for ladies bag, 10c.
One design for thermometer case, 20c.
One elegant spray of golden rod, 6x11, 25c.
One Martha Washington geranium for plush petals, 6x10, 25c.
One half wreath for hat crown, 15c.
One design for top of umbrella case, 15c.
One spider's web, and one new disk pattern, 25c.
One tidy design, owl's on a tree, 25c.
One vine of daises and ferns, for end of table scarf, 15c.
One wide braiding pattern, 25c.

One large bunch of daises, 25c.

75 more other designs of roses, clematis, autumn leaves, outline designs, etc. *Besides* the patterns the outfit contains: One box black and one box white powder, two distributors, illustrated instruction book, teaching stamping all the stitches, etc., one tidy, all stamped and ready to be worked, with silk to work it.

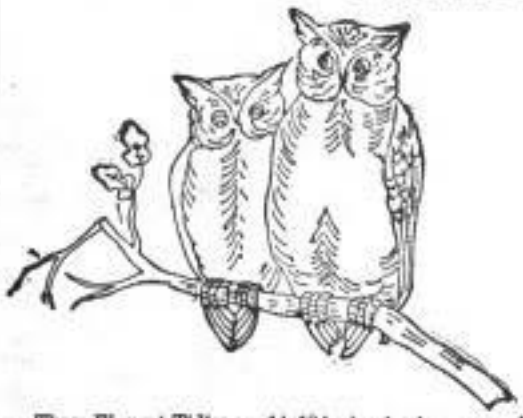
Besides all the above, we shall continue to give away with each outfit, our book on KNITTING AND CROCHETING, giving instructions for knitting all the latest novelties. Our book on FANCY BRAID AND CROCHET, giving directions for making edgings of feather-edge and other braids.

Remember this is our Special Summer Offer. Now is your time to easily raise clubs at 25 cts per year; for so small a sum of money large clubs can be raised everywhere. No subscriptions will be received after September 1st, for less than Fifty Cents per year.

Now is Your Time!

TIDIES STAMPED READY TO BE WORKED.

GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBERS, AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.



These Elegant Tidies are 14x18 inches in size, are made of the very best quality of Felt, and the same as are sold in the stores at from 40c. to 50c. each. You can select the color of felt you like, and have it stamped with any design you wish, either for Kensington or Outline, or Ribbon embroidery, all ready to be embroidered.

With these Tidies we give also, a book, which teaches the stitches used in art embroidery,—giving such clear and explicit descriptions as to be easily understood; and also a lesson in Kensington and Lustra painting.

We will send one of these Tidies and the book of stitches, for a club of only 4 new subscribers or 25 cents.

KENSINGTON PAINTING OUTFIT.

GIVEN FOR 16 SUBSCRIBERS, OR 12 SUBSCRIBERS AND 25 CENTS EXTRA IN CASH, OR FOR 8 SUBSCRIBERS AND 50 CENTS EXTRA IN CASH.

This delightful new branch of fancy work is very fascinating. By this process ladies can do the most elegant painting on plush, velvet, or other materials. No previous knowledge of painting is necessary. The book accompanying the outfit teaches the exact method of doing the work so plainly that a child can understand it. No other teacher is needed.

The outfit contains ten Stamping Patterns, of elegant designs, suitable for painting, as follows: 1 elegant bunch of Clover, 7x10 inches; 1 branch of Thistle, 6x10. These are two of the handsomest flowers for Kensington painting. 1 Moss Rose; 1 Daisy design, 1 Poppy design, with two large full blown flowers, with buds, leaves, etc.; 1 spray of Forget-me-not; 1 bunch of Pansies; 1 branch of Apple-blossoms; Fuchsias, Rosebuds, etc., These patterns, together with Powder Pad, Instruction Book, etc., make a complete Stamping Outfit of Large Patterns, worth at least $2.00. Besides the patterns this outfit contains all the implements with which to do the work, and Patent Collapsable Tube Paints, sufficient to paint all the designs in the outfit. The book teaches how to mix these paints to procure the shades and tints needed for all kinds of flowers, and all other needed information.

The outfit is put up in a nice box, and will be sent by Express, *prepaid*, for a club of 16 subscribers, provided 25c. extra is sent to pay the express charges.

TISSUE PAPER FLOWER OUTFIT.

Given for only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cents each per year.

The latest craze, and a very pleasant occupation. Our outfit consists of Book of Instructions for making paper flowers, our 60 samples of imported tissue and flower papers, samples of flowers made up patterns and materials. Everything complete. Book of instructions gives every possible and minute detail, so clearly that any person can, with a little practice, become an expert in this fascinating and beautiful art.

Secure 4 subscribers and we will send this outfit postpaid.

A Special Summer Offer !

Until September 1st only, we offer one of these Bureau or Sideboard Scarfs and the Ladies' Home Journal one year for only $1.00.

Bureau or Sideboard Scarf.

Given for a Club of only 20 Subscribers at 25 Cents per Year; or for only 8 subscribers and 75 cents extra.

This is a very popular, useful and pretty piece of fancy work to throw over the sideboard or a dressing case or bureau. It is made of the finest quality of crepe linen, 16 inches wide and 40 inches long, with fancy woven border all round, and fringed ends. We send this scarf stamped on each end similar to the illustration, for a club of only 20 subscribers.

Kensington Embroidery

And The Colors of Flowers.

Given as a Premium for a Club of Only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cents Each per Year.

A new book just publish'd It contains illustrations and clear descriptions of the stitches used in Kensington embroidery; also the Plush stitch, Bird's-eye stitch, Ribbon embroidery, etc. Tells how to work Golden Rod, Coxcomb, Snow Ball, Pussie Willow, Clover, Sumac, and sixty-three other flowers. Gives the proper colors to use in working the Petals, Stamens, Leaves, Stems, etc., of each flower; contains also a chapter on finishing fancy work, with numerous illustrations; tells what colors look best together, how to press embroidery, how to wash silk, etc.

It is the best book ever published on embroidery.

A color card containing 168 samples of silks showing the exact shades indicated in the book and card by numbers, is sent with each copy when desired.

We send the book for 4 subscribers, or 25 cents; and book and card for six subscribers, or 50 cents.

A copy of the JOURNAL will be given for a club of 4, instead of a premium, if so desired.

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☞ OTHER PREMIUMS WILL BE FOUND DESCRIBED IN BACK NUMBERS OF THE JOURNAL. SEE APRIL AND MAY NUMBERS PARTICULARLY.

THE PEARL RUG MAKER.

GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 12 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.

LADIES!

Save Your Rags

DELIGHTFUL AND PROFITABLE EMPLOYMENT. FASCINATING AND EASY TO LEARN.

MATERIAL COSTS YOU NOTHING! USE YOUR RAGS, YARN AND SCRAPS, AND MAKE THEM INTO HANDSOME RUGS. BEAUTIFY YOUR HOMES.

The *easiest* and most *economical* process ever invented for making *Rag* and *Turkish Rugs, Ottoman and Furniture Covers, Cloak Trimmings, etc.* Every lady has enough material in her rag-bag to make several handsome, durable rugs. *Any Cloth*, old or new, *Yarn, Carpet, Waste, etc.*, can be used. Small pieces of silk, too much worn for Patchwork, make pretty Stool or Ottoman covers. *THE PEARL RUG MAKER* is a set of *Steel Forms* and *Tines*, on which the material is wound as shown in Fig. 4, then sewed through the center to a cloth foundation—with *Any Sewing Machine*, or by *Hand*—forming loops which are readily cut open, making a *Soft, Close Pile* or *Tuft* a *Half Inch Thick*, all on the *Upper* side. Rags when used do not have to be sewed together. Small pieces, cut in stripes on the *Bias*. *Turkish* Designs, Conventional Flowers, etc., are readily made, from the printed directions, and a handsome Rug, 2x3 feet, with a border, can be made in a day. Folks who have talked *Hard Times* for years must have an abundance of old clothes.

THE PEARL RUG MAKER

is the *only* invention that will utilize them without being obliged to go to further expense than a *Spool of Thread*. *You are not obliged to buy Stamped Patterns, Frames, Hooks and Expensive Yarns, costing from Sixty Cents to a Dollar and a-Half a Pound.* Of course, for *Expensive* Rugs, this material is very nice—but with scraps of cloth, odds and ends that accumulate in every home, you can make Rugs that will adorn any parlor. *LADIES, DON'T BUY A CARPET.* If you wish to be *Economical* you can cover those worn places with *Home-made* Rugs. If you do not have enough *Bright Colored Pieces* in your rag bag, you can color them at a trivial expense. With the *PEARL RUG MAKER* many ladies make an *entire carpet.*

RUGS CAN BE MADE BY HAND

just as well as on a sewing machine, but any sewing machine can be used.

From Wheeler & Wilson Manufacturing Co.

"We find it to be a practical attachment to the Sewing Machine. The Rugs are handsome and durable. It is a decided success."

White Sewing Machine Co., Cleveland, writes:

"Our opening was a great success. Sold a quantity of Rug Makers and shall do well with them.

We consider the "Pearl Rug Maker" the only practical device for making Rugs on the Sewing Machine. From the work it produces, we commend it as a most useful labor-saving invention.

DOMESTIC SEWING MACHINE COMPANY.
WEED " " "
THE HOWE " " "
NEW HOME " " "
HOUSEHOLD " " "

THE PEARL RUG MAKER is made of Bessemer Steel, Silver Finish. It is put up in a handsome case, with explicit "Directions for making Rag and Tufted Rugs," containing illustrations, which will enable anyone to do the work.

Given as a premium for 12 subscribers to the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

Price, including one year's subscription to LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, $1.00.

Postage paid by us in each case.

Address all letters plainly to LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, Philadelphia, Pa.

SPECIAL SUMMER OFFER!

Remember, August is the last month we offer these handsome Silver Forks, at Special Club Rates.

SILVER PLATED FORKS

GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 20 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR; OR FOR ONLY 12 SUBSCRIBERS AND 50 CENTS EXTRA.

We give a set of six table Forks for only 20 subscribers. They are heavily plated with pure coin silver on white steel, and will wear for years. They are new and handsome patterns. Price $2.00. We use only the very best quality of silver-plated goods, on the finest English white steel. We will give these forks for only 12 subscribers and 50 cents extra in cash, if you cannot secure 20 subscribers, or for 6 subscribers and $1.00 extra in cash.

Silver Plated Butter Knife,

GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS PER YEAR EACH

A new, handsome, neat and stylish pattern, tripple-plated, on finest English white steel. Will wear for years. Almost as good as solid silver. All the objectionable qualities of German Silver and brass, which are known to have a disagreeable taste, and are, when a little worn, poisonous, will be avoided in the use of these goods. They are also stronger, and of greater durability than any goods produced.

Butter Knife given for only 4 subscribers. Price, 50 cents.
Set of Six Tea Spoons given for 12 subscribers. Price, $1.00.
Set of Six Table Forks given for 20 subscribers. Price, $2.00.

For a club of 30 subscribers at 25 cents each, we will send the Sugar Shell, Butter Knife, Tea Spoons and Forks, a good, serviceable present for a young housekeeper. Price, $3.00 for the set.

Special Summer Offer.

GOOD BOOKS FOR ONLY EIGHT SUBSCRIBERS.

And 10 Cents Extra for Postage.

A MOST EXTRAORDINARY OFFER!

We will send to any address, any one of the following books, for a club of ONLY EIGHT SUBSCRIBERS, at 25 cents each per year,—provided 10 cents extra in stamps is sent to prepay the postage on the books.

We have before offered these books for 12 subscribers, we make this offer as a special inducement

DICKENS' WORKS:

The books are all handsomely bound, good print and good paper, and are sold in all bookstores for $1.50 and $1.75 per volume.

Pickwick Papers.
Martin Chuzzlewit.
Oliver Twist, Pictures from Italy, and American Notes.
Nicholas Nickleby.
David Copperfield.
Child's History of England. By Charles Dickens. New edition, large type.

Robinson Crusoe. By Daniel De Foe.
Arabian Nights Entertainment.
Swiss Family Robinson.
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(FOR THE LADIES HOME JOURNAL.)

MILDRED'S CONVERSATION CLASS.

NO. X.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

O no, Miss Gleason, I do not believe, I cannot believe, that you "have been having horrid weather." "Horrid," though a word much abused by extravagant talkers, refers to something only *really*, "a horrid murder," "a horrid crime," etc., but not horrid weather. The terms "horrid," "awful," "sweet," "lovely," "splendid," "dreadful," "grand," and a variety of others which I will not name, (but with which, no doubt, you are as well acquainted as I) are used, especially by the young, with a frequency that entirely deprives them of their true meaning. Listen to the conversation of a lively, careless girl, and what do you hear:

"An awfully splendid time."

"The flowers smelt just grand."

"He was perfectly horrid," (because perhaps he did not speak with enthusiasm upon a subject upon which she was specially interested.)

"She looked a perfect fright, my dear," (because perhaps the "fright" happened to wear her hair high when low hair was in vogue, or the reverse.) Another case of extravagant expression in which the youthful indulge, is in regard to food.

One girl "loves pie," another "adores gravy," a third is "very fond of lobster salad." One cannot help hoping that some day these same young ladies may find something more worthy on which to place their affections. One young lady whom I know of, used habitually, "wrapped up," when she desired to express any especial liking.

One day, in reply to a schoolmate's question, she answered enthusiastically: "Jelly cake!! why I'm just *wrapped up* in jelly cake!!"

Extravagant expressions of dislike are equally common. One "hates that color." Another "despises a sweet apple." A third "detests a dress made that way," etc. It is not necessary for me to multiply instances.

All these expressions cannot be too carefully avoided by her who desires to make her conversation attractive to all. You tell me that you "dislike large parties and never attend them any more than I can help."

"That sounds innocent enough, I'm sure," remarked Phillippa. "Who would regard *that* as an incendiary sentiment I should like to know."

"If you could help it," proceeded the reader, "you would not go." Evidently you cannot help it. Therefore, you do not attend parties oftener than you "cannot help."

I dislike to take exception to your next sentence because of the kindly sentiment expressed. But "duty calls."

You say you cannot be grateful enough for my letters. "Enough" is properly an adjective, "grateful enough" makes "enough" an adverb qualifying the adjective "grateful."

What shall you say?

The true definition of "enough" is "sufficient." As you cannot say "enoughly" it naturally follows that you should say "sufficiently," transposing the words and bringing the adverb first. "You cannot be sufficiently grateful," etc. Thank you for the kindly sentiment. I am sorry that I felt the necessity of objecting to your method of expression.

You say a little further on in your letter: "I cannot but feel," etc. You should say "I *can* but feel," etc. "But" is here used in the sense of "only." "I can only feel," etc. "I *cannot* but feel" would mean the reverse of what you intend to say. It would imply "I cannot only feel *that* but I feel something else as well."

Classed with this error (a "genteel error") is another incorrect usage of the word "but." It is not but five miles."

Again, in speaking of drawing, you say: "You don't know how untrue an eye I have."

You have by this method of expression separated the adjective "untrue" from the noun "eye." This should not be done even by an article. Your sentence should read: "You know how untrue my eye is," or, "You know what an untrue eye mine is (or I have).

Again, the expression "It is better than the giving offence." This is a very common error. But if you use "the" you must introduce the preposition "of." Otherwise your sentence is incomplete. If you say "the giving," "giving" becomes a participial noun, and as a noun, ceases to govern the noun "offence." There must, therefore, be introduced into the sentence some word whereby "offence" may be governed or it stands alone, without any connection with any other word or words. You may either say "It is better than giving offence," or, "It is better than the giving of offence." In the first instance "giving" is a participle and governs offence as any other form of the verb would do.

In speaking of the word "beau" I also should have warned you against the use of the word "friend" in this connection. Do not speak of your friend's intended husband, (or of your own) as her or your "friend." A "friend" is one thing, an intended husband is another. One may have many "friends," true friends, of the opposite sex, at one time, but one has but one *fiance*, or intended husband, it is to be hoped. There is a species of vulgarity in using this expression which detracts much from the dignity of the position of the engaged couple. It, and all similar perversions of the true terms, have arisen from a false, frivolous, undignified view of matrimonial engagements and subsequent matrimony.

"I don't know, somehow I kind of hate to use any definite word," said Phillippa Rowland, thoughtfully, with a blush.

"Why, Phillippa Rowland, have you got, I mean have you, a "friend!" exclaimed the other five in a chorus of varied phraseology.

"Well, he was a "friend" till last evening, and now I don't care to call him that any more in the face of Miss Wilson's solemn warning. But please don't say anything about it just yet. Let's go on with the reading."

"I thought Phillippa looked uncommon solemn," said Georgia Garrett.

"Georgia Garrett, that's one thing you always *will* say, and it sets my teeth on edge every time."

"What?" asked Georgia, her eyes opened wide in wonder.

"Why you always say 'uncommon' this or 'uncommon' that. I don't believe that Miss Wilson would call that a genteel error. You *know* better or perhaps it would not annoy me so much."

"Well, uncommonly then. I *know* I say it. It would be hardly worth while for me to deny it."

"Well, let's go on."

You say again: "I shall try and get some photo's taken," etc. Now, my dear child, there are two serious faults in that sentence.

What are you going to try? To *do* something is it not? Therefore, "I shall try *to* get" (only, if I were you, I should expunge the word "get" altogether, and use in its place) "I shall try to have some," etc. If you say *try and* get "get" is left entirely without any dependence upon the rest of the sentence; it certainly is not in the infinitive mood, and still more certainly is not in the indicative, because there is no nominative visible or understood.

We now come to your next mistake. It is a decided vulgarism to speak of anything in terms of abbreviation. Do not say "photo" for photograph, "loco" for locomotive. Do not write "Sat," "Sund," "Wed," etc., for the days of the week, or address a lady or gentleman as "Mr. T," "Mrs. S." There are men and women who speak of their husbands or wives (as the case may be) as "Mrs. A," "Mr. B," etc. This is decidedly ill-bred.

One thing more and I am done "at this sitting." Do not introduce a "why" into your conversation at every available point. And above all do not start a sentence with a lack of ideas and fill in the interstices with a long drawn "why-a" while you are waiting for something to say.

I think this is all for this letter.

Sincerely your friend,

AMANDA WILSON.

"Now tell us about 'him,' demanded the five.

But Phillippa shook her head and escaped, leaving them to "talk matters over." It is safe to suppose that the conversation contained but little of Miss Wilson and her corrections.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

My reply (sent at once upon receipt of her letter) to Miss Lizzie Wheat was returned to my hands in a day or two. Can she tell me why? It was addressed according to her letter, Salem, Mass.

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(For The Ladies' Home Journal.)

HATTIE'S RESOLUTION.

A LESSON FOR GIRLS.

BY ADA E. HAZELL.

CHAPTER III.

The shrill crowing and cackling of the fowls, as they were let out for the day, awoke Hattie with a start, to find the bright sun streaming in at her window.

It was a glorious morn, and the young girl's heart was filled with a sense of blissful content, as she gazed out upon the quiet country scene.

Away in the distance rose hills covered with verdure, darkly blue against the cloudless sky. In the nearer range of vision lay many a simple homestead, with its fertile, carefully-tilled acres. Close at hand were the orchard trees, the out-buildings, the well, with its "old oaken bucket," the poultry yard, and in the door-way, scattering corn to the expectant chicks, good uncle Larrabee himself, a smile upon his placid countenance.

Hattie sprang up, and dressing swiftly, ran down stairs, exclaiming "How late I must be! Why didn't you call me, Aunt Ellen?"

Mrs. Larrabee had been churning, and the reward of her efforts was ready to be balled.

"I rise an hour earlier, twice a week, in order to make my butter while it is cool," she explained. "Your uncle and I have had breakfast, but you are not so very late, as it is only about seven."

"Mamma is just taking her morning nap," laughed Hattie. "She would think it a great hardship to have to get up so early. I always have time to study an hour or more before breakfast."

"Then let me beg of you not to do so," said her aunt, earnestly, "unless you wish to permanently injure your eyesight. Break your long fast of the night with a piece of bread and butter, at least, before attempting any brain work."

"Perhaps that is the reason I have had so much headache," mused Hattie. "I never thought of it before."

"I am certain of it," answered Mrs. Larrabee, as she carefully weighed the golden mass. "Would you mind getting your own breakfast, dear? You have only to boil the eggs."

"Certainly not," and soon Hattie was enjoying the toast prepared with real cream, the fresh eggs, and glass of new milk, which composed the simple, yet wholesome, and delicious fare.

"What are you going to do to-day, auntie?" she inquired, when the things had been cleared away.

"Well, first I must make cake for the strawberry festival to-night, and ice-cream, if the ice man comes. He only goes by once a week, and yesterday was his regular day."

Hattie watched her aunt with much interest, as she carefully sifted her flour twice over, measured it, and also each article needed, greased the tins, and in short, got everything ready, so that the putting of the ingredients together would be the labor of only a few moments.

Next, she ascertained whether the oven was of the right temperature, and fixed the fire.

"How can you tell," asked Hattie, whether it is right or not?"

"By the feeling. I know from experience just about how it should be."

"Why do you put your bare arm into the oven?" queried Hattie, with some curiosity.

"Because the hand, being constantly exposed, is not so susceptible, and moreover, its temperature varies, while that of the arm, which is protected, remains about the same."

"I remember I tried to make some cake once, and it was just as flat and heavy as lead," said Hattie, with evident disgust at the remembrance.

"Perhaps your oven was too hot," said her aunt. "Cake which rises too quickly is almost certain to fall. Or, if you used firkin butter you omitted to wash out the salt. But didn't you really ever make any successful cake. I thought every young lady understood fancy cooking, if not the plainer sort."

"I never had the courage to try again, they all laughed so much; and, indeed, I don't have any time, with school, music and everything else," in eager self-excuse.

Aunt Ellen smiled affectionately. "The time could easily be found, I imagine, if you knew just how to go to work to make the best of every minute. Economy of time is a very valuable lesson to learn. How many hours, for instance, did you put into that exquisite drawn handkerchief, which you gave me last night?"

Hattie colored. "It did take quite a little while, but it was a pleasure."

"And believe me, dear, I appreciated it. Cooking also is pleasant, if attended with success. Now will you please see if the cake is done? Open the oven door gently, lest you jar the tins. How does the nearest loaf look?"

"Good enough to eat," was the laughing response. "It is just a handsome brown."

"Select a clean, fine straw from the middle of the broom, wash it, and run it carefully through thickest part of the cake. Is there any dough sticking to it?"

"No." "Then it is done and you may take it from the oven, as carefully as possible, for many a well-baked loaf has been made to fall by careless handling. Let it stand a moment, and then run this knife around the edges, turn the pan over quickly, so,—and with a deft hand, Mrs. Larrabee placed the tempting cake upon a clean, old cloth. "It must remain there until perfectly cool, before it is ready to be put into the cake box, but I shall frost the loaves while warm, as I think it is better to do so."

"Do you have any exact rule for your frosting?"

"No, only the general one of allowing one cupful confectioner's or powdered sugar, to one beaten white of an egg, and beating them together until stiff. One loaf I shall frost with chocolate, and for this I allow one square to every cupful of plain frosting. Scrape and melt the chocolate, and add vanilla flavoring. One loaf I shall frost with plain white, the other with yellow, using the beaten yolks in place of the whites, thus economising the whole of the egg."

"I guess the muscles of my arm need developing," exclaimed Hattie, after a few minutes, pausing at her work of beating the whites. "How easy such a simple thing looks, until you try to do it for yourself."

"It is just like piano practice," answered Mrs. Larrabee. "The scales and exercises which in the beginning seemed so difficult, and tiresome, are only play when once the fingers have become well-drilled. There is nothing like having the muscles in good working order. They are great shirks, and many of them would remain idle all the time, unless compelled to become active."

"If the frosting is too stiff, what is the remedy?" asked Hattie.

"Thin with a little lemon juice, or possibly, hot water. But I hear your uncle pounding the ice for the freezer, and the cake is ready," surveying the three handsome loaves with pardonable satisfaction.

"What is your rule?"

"For ice-cream? A very simple one. A cup of thin cream, a cup and a-quarter of sugar, a tablespoonful of the desired flavoring. I long ago gave up the old-fashioned way of boiling the cream, and we like the taste of this much better."

"It is certainly easier."

"Yes indeed, and the freezing does not take over twenty minutes for this quantity. To-day, I shall make double, as it is for the festival."

The preparations for the early dinner came next, during which Hattie's keen eyes took in many facts, simple in themselves, yet new to her. She was like a little child in a kindergarten, learning chiefly by observation. Eyesight teaches many things not to be learned from books.

The remainder of the day passed quickly for Hattie, who was busy unpacking, writing home letters, and preparing for the church festival.

Very sweet and lovable the young girl looked as she entered the vestry with her uncle and aunt. Her dress was a plain one of cream-white bunting, brightened by a nosegay from the old-fashioned garden of the parsonage. Her dark eyes were aglow with interest, for all was strange, and far from being bored, as her sister would have been under similar circumstances, she felt a keen delight in trying to read character, as depicted in the faces about her. Over yonder was a knot of young girls, and one, in especial, attracted Hattie immediately, she was so bright, in spite of her plain face. Near her stood a young man whose countenance was not less striking. A latent nobility of purpose, an aspiration above his circumstances, seemed to speak from his earnest blue eyes, and mental attributes of no mean order showed in the finely-formed, well-balanced head. Withal, there was something strangely familiar in the expression of the tender, serious mouth.

"My nephew, John Gardiner," said her uncle, noticing the direction of her gaze, and the resemblance was at once accounted for. "He's studying for the ministry. Intends to be a missionary, I believe."

"What a pity!" thought Hattie, involuntarily, yet respect blended with her admiration. What sublime courage it would be to give up all for such a life!" was her unspoken comment, and after that she observed him much more closely. Later, introductions followed, as a matter of course, and then and there, a pure, deep friendship sprang into being, which nothing thereafter had power to shake.

Gardiner walked the few steps to the parsonage gate with them, and Hattie's last dim recollection as she laid her head upon the pillow, was of that strong, noble face, alive with its devotion to the service of Christ. "Such lives as his and uncle's are better than sermons," was her verdict.

So closed the first day of her visit.

CHAPTER IV.

The first week amid unaccustomed surroundings is always a long one, and so Hattie Murch found it, although the slowly-passing, hot summer days were happy ones, and her gentle aunt was the best of companions.

Mrs. Larrabee possessed the rare faculty of adapting herself to the individual, so that her society was appreciated alike by young and old.

An intuitive perception of character, joined to a warm, sensitive heart, made her capable of entering with ready, sincere interest into such part of the lives of others as came within the circle of her influence, and her counsel and sympathy were eagerly sought.

It seemed almost a pity that such a woman should not have had the privilege of rearing children, so nobly would she have performed a mother's mission, yet a life-work of this sort might have narrowed her power for good, confining it largely to the home-circle, whereas now, it was, or seemed to be, to her admiring niece, without limit; at least, among those who knew her.

In addition to her many excellent qualities, Mrs. Larrabee also possessed great executive ability, and this appeared even in the management of her own household. Nothing was ever out of place or season, nor could any unforeseen difficulty ruffle the calm spirit of the mistress. The home wheels were so nicely oiled, and moved so smoothly, that the jar of the necessary machinery was scarcely perceptible.

This apparent absence of care-taking was in fact the essence of thoughtfulness, quietly fulfilled.

In fact, Mrs. Larrabee was a pattern housekeeper, and withal, a modest, unostentatious one. That man is to be pitied who is at the mercy of a bustling, fussy housewife, no matter how superior her qualifications. The wear and tear of nerves is a large item in the expense account, and one we Americans can ill afford.

The silent, but nevertheless deep influence of this peaceful, well-regulated home, was not without its beneficial effect upon Hattie, who was now experiencing the reaction of months of hard study. Her nerves lacked tone, because her system needed rest, and from a purely physical standpoint, it was the best thing that could have happened to her, to have this long interval of quiet before the next school year should open.

A semi-weekly letter from her mother and sister, teasing her to give up her silly scheme, and come to them, broke in upon her peace of mind without disturbing it. Hattie felt she could afford to laugh at their commiseration, the reality was so different, so wholly delightful.

One evening during the second week of Hattie's visit, Mrs. Larrabee was called to attend a sick bed. "Now," thought Hattie, gaily. "Is my chance to try my hand at bread-making, and give Aunt Ellen a surprise. I have watched her carefully twice, and I am sure I remember just what to do. Let me see. Three and a-half quarts of sifted flour. Auntie says she always warms it in winter. "Oh!" with a glance of dismay at the flour on her pretty blue satine, "I forgot the 'regimentals,' at aunt Ellen calls them, and going to the closet she took down a long apron with a bib, a cap, and a pair of sleeves, all made of a neat figured calico, in which she laughingly arrayed herself.

"Now for the shortening. It's just fun to rub in these two tablespoonfuls of lard. Next dissolve my yeast cake in a little lukewarm water, and pour it into the middle of the flour, then add the wetting, stirring all the while. Was it a quart of lukewarm water auntie took? What a sticky mess! But it must be right, for she says it needs to be mixed as soft as possible. If I keep on, I shall know enough to organize a cooking-school next winter," soliloquized Hattie, merrily.

Thus far all had been easy, but with the turning of the dough out of the pan, the trouble began. It stuck to Hattie's fingers, to her knuckles, to the board. In desperation she floured hands and dough liberally, again and again. She had yet to learn that the knack of swiftly tossing and turning bread dough, until all the elements are thoroughly mixed, is acquired only by practice.

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Indeed there is no one thing in the department of cookery, which *seems* so easy, and is really so difficult. However, just as Hattie felt like giving up in despair, the mass began to assume something like consistency. The process was tiresome to unaccustomed muscles, and the young girl had been obliged to stop several times, therefore she was glad when the dough was once more consigned to the pan, and covered for the night.

Hardly had she begun to clear away, when the front door-bell rang.

There was no one else to answer the summons, for her uncle had gone to a business meeting of the society, and hastily washing her hands, never once thinking of her unusual attire, Hattie ran to the door.

There stood young Gardiner, whom she had seen but once since the strawberry festival.

"Aunt Ellen sent me," he announced, simply, "with this," following her into the kitchen.

Hattie quickly read the few lines which told her that the sufferer was entering the dark valley, and that Aunt Ellen would remain until the end, and ready tears of sympathy gathered in the dark eyes.

In John Gardiner's memory lingered forever the lovely picture of Hattie Murch, thoughtfully reading her aunt's note by the light of the student lamp. A few rings of soft brown hair, escaping from their unwonted confinement, curled about the intellectual brow, and putting her hand to her head, a custom when interested, Hattie felt the cap, and an infectious ripple of mirth escaped her, while the tender, serious expression which had given her mobile face so great a charm, faded instantly.

The change from grave to gay annoyed the young man, it was so unexpected, and his honest eyes protested, even while a faint, answering smile dawned upon his lips.

"I had been trying my hand at bread-making, in auntie's absence," removing the cap. Then, with graceful dignity, replying to the unspoken comment of his gaze. "If you will excuse me, I will prepare the few things she needs."

In five minutes more Gardiner had departed, and Hattie was again alone. But the little episode had upset her strangely, and a good cry came to her relief. "It was so childish of me to laugh in such a fashion, at such a time," she thought, her cheeks glowing with mortification. "I know he despises me for a vain, heedless child."

"Why, puss, what's the matter, homesick?" queried her uncle, coming in.

"No, no indeed," answered she, handing him her aunt's message.

"I ought to go, myself," he remarked thoughtfully, "if it were not for leaving you in the house alone."

"Your nephew said he should stay as long as auntie did," replied Hattie.

"All right, then, they will not need me. John is worth a host at such times. You have no idea how gentle and tender he is in a sick room."

While speaking, the minister had taken down the well-worn bible, and the usual evening devotions followed.

Hattie was up betimes next morn, feeling that the responsibility of preparing the meal devolved upon her; but yet, early as she was, her uncle was before her, and the tea kettle was singing cheerily as she entered the pleasant kitchen. The first thing she did was to take a peep at her bread. It had risen splendidly, and her delight was great. Her aunt had not returned, but towards noon she arrived. Weary with her long vigil, she at once retired to her chamber, and it was not until tea-time that she joined them.

"Uncle tells me you have done wonderfully to-day," she said, addressing her niece with a pleased smile, as her careful eye noted the neatness of the room, and the attractiveness of the spread table. "Bread, too!" she exclaimed.

Hattie colored with pleasure. "It seems light enough, auntie, but somehow it isn't nearly as good as yours."

"It looks nice, certainly. Tell me just how you made it. "Why," as Hattie paused, "did you not leave out two essentials?"

"How stupid of me!" cried Hattie. "No wonder it is so tasteless! I remember now. Two tablespoonfuls of sugar, and one of salt. Am I right?"

"Yes. But you have done very well as it is, and I feel quite proud of my pupil."

"Although the bread *is* rather full of holes," laughed Hattie.

"For a beginning it is not to be laughed at," said her uncle, and the conversation changed.

The next time the "staff of life" was needed, Hattie performed the work under her aunt's supervision, and being naturally apt, she found the kneading much easier. She also learned not too have the oven too hot at first, lest the bread should become crust-bound, nor to bake entirely with a slow fire lest the loaf should have a raw taste. Bread that becomes of the consistency of putty when introduced into the mouth, is slack-baked, and unwholesome.

In fact, more judgment is required in the baking of any article of food, than in its preparation, and in this, as in everything, experience is the best teacher.

"I don't wonder, auntie," Hattie exclaimed one day, "that so many hired girls are poor cooks! I never realized before that *brains* told, even in the performance of the simplest domestic duty."

Mrs. Larrabee smiled. "The wonder is, that so many of them are even tolerably fair cooks, for the best intentions alone are not sufficient to produce successful results. Many servants, too, seem incapable of improvement. As they were first taught, so they must continue. I only," thoughtfully, "every young girl who is obliged to go out to service, could have the advantage of careful training in the first place, by a competent person, there would be less complaint of poor cooks. Perhaps I might go farther, and add, fewer unhappy households, for most of these girls marry, and it is certain that even a laboring man's home can be rendered cheerful, or otherwise, according to the capability of its mistress. Poor cooking affects the health, and this, in turn, the temper."

"A lecture might be given on this subject, with benefit," said Hattie.

"Your uncle has had a few vestry talks upon this and kindred topics," replied her aunt, "and another winter he proposes to elaborate these talks, and have them printed in pamphlet form, at his own expense, for free distribution among his parishioners. We believe they will do good, for many of our people are hard-working men and women, with little leisure or opportunity for self-improvement, but always eager to adopt our suggestions."

After a pause, Mrs. Larrabee resumed: "I have invited a few of our young friends here to-morrow afternoon to meet my niece. How would she like to have tea served on the lawn?"

"Oh, that would be just splendid!" cried Hattie, "if it wouldn't be too much trouble for you."

"I shall have a reliable woman to help, so that I can devote the most of my time to making the visit a happy remembrance for these young folks, many of whom have so few pleasures," was the answer. "Now, dear, run and play me something. You have worked steadily for quite a while."

Hattie eagerly complied, for music was a part of her very self. The hours she spent at the piano were golden ones, and time flew by unheeded in this labor of love. Fortunate those to whom practice is not drudgery. Theirs is an enjoyment which less favored ones never know.

CHAPTER V.

"Now auntie, said Hattie, a few mornings after the lawn party referred to in our last chapter, "will you teach me to make crullers, or doughnuts, as father always calls them. It is very seldom that we have a cook who can make decent ones, and father says he can hardly make a breakfast without them, whatever else he may have."

"Very well," replied her aunt. "You will find a good rule in my collection."

Hattie smilingly took down an old ledger, in the back part of which her aunt was in the habit of copying recipes tested by her, which had pleased her.

All the cookery books ever printed are not worth one such home-made one, for practical value.

"Here are three different rules!" exclaimed Hattie, presently.

"Each is good, but the last is quite plain, and I would advise your attempting that to-day. First, however, put on the lard, as it takes considerable time for it to heat."

Having done as directed, Hattie proceeded by "Ellen's rule," as it was labelled, which read: "One and a-half cups granulated sugar, one tablespoonful of butter, measured before melting, two beaten eggs, two cups of sweet milk, in which has been dissolved one teaspoonful of soda, two cups of sifted flour, in which has been stirred two teaspoonfuls of cream of tartar, and a pinch of salt; flavor with two teaspoonfuls of cinnamon, and same of nutmeg, or essence of lemon."

When it was all mixed, in the order given, Hattie unthinkingly poured out a portion, and her exclamation of dismay, caused Mrs. Larrabee to look up inquiringly.

"It's running all over the board!" cried her niece.

"Scrape it back into the lip bowl, and add more flour," said Mrs. Larrabee.

"I'm sure I put in all that the rule calls for," answered Hattie.

"No doubt, but if I had been copying that recipe for any one's use but my own, I should have added: 'flour enough to make a soft dough.' Put in only a little at a time, and stop before you think it stiff enough, as the softer the dough, the more tender the cakes."

"I don't believe these will be very nice," said Hattie, dubiously, after a few moments. "I know I'm using a good deal more flour than you would."

"Very likely, but this is your first attempt, remember. Try the fat with a bit of the dough. I think it is ready, as it has ceased to bubble. Yes. You see the dough comes up almost immediately.

Be careful to keep the fat at the same temperature, for if it becomes too hot, the doughnuts will be brown on the outside, and raw within; and if too cool, they will soak fat."

Hattie hovered over the kettle anxiously, desirous that her doughnuts should be at least, eatable. "I suppose, she remarked, after a while, "that by next summer I shall have forgotten everything I have learned during this visit"

"If so, I shall think myself a most inefficient teacher," answered her aunt, with a smile, "I expect that by the time you are obliged to go home, you will so thoroughly have mastered the first principles of cookery, as never to be able to forget them."

"I hope so. What a wonderful thing is memory," mused Hattie. "That lame girl who was at our party interested me greatly, she seemed to have so much intelligence."

"Poor child! She has had plenty of time to cultivate her mind, since the sad accident which five years ago rendered her a hopeless cripple. Lena has a lovely character."

"She, and every one else, seemed to be having such a pleasant time, it was a real treat to watch the animated countenances," remarked Hattie, as she took the last cake from the fat.

"Pretty well done, little girl," said uncle Daniel, coming in, as he helped himself.

"But not quite equal to Aunt Ellen's."

"Couldn't anybody come up to her," was the cheery response, and the glance which accompanied the words revealed their deepest meaning.

"I wonder if anyone will care so much for me," thought Hattie, wistfully. Deep, grave eyes seemed looking earnestly into her own, and she hastily busied herself with clearing away to hide her burning face.

The lawn party had indeed been a success, and had been the means of making Hattie Murch very popular with the young folks of her Uncle's parish.

As the girls expressed it: "She wasn't a bit stuck-up, spite of her fine clothes;" while the young men felt the charm of a manner superior to any they had known, that nameless attraction which good-breeding, naturally refined tastes, and a sensitive heart, combine to produce.

During the succeeding weeks of her visit Hattie made friends whose appreciative love never failed her during the remainder of her earthly existence.

Perhaps the one whose power for good over the impressible girl was the strongest, was her uncle's nephew, John Gardiner. Some six years her senior, grave and steadfast by nature, Hattie's temperament, so entirely different, so sunshiny and bright, entirely won his regard. He saw more clearly than did even her loving aunt, the grand possibilities for good dormant within the blossoming soul, and he rejoiced that, if only for a short period every year, she was to enjoy the benefit of a sojourn in this christian household, under the gently-working influence of worthy uncle Daniel, and his energetic, enthusiastic, more practical wife.

The temptation to try and obtain a nearer place in the young girl's heart was almost overwhelming, but Gardiner manfully fought it down. His future path stretched away out into dark places, where one so delicately nurtured as Hattie, would mayhap perish like a dainty floweret, unused to such rough transplanting. His feeling for her was too noble to be selfish;—for love which can bring its object only hardship is most certainly self-seeking.

Friendship was therefore his solace, and he endeavored to speak to her only such words as should sink deep into her thought, and bear good fruit in time to come.

Little did he or Hattie then realize how powerful for the right his quiet influence was. Afterwards she knew, when, less than a year later, she heard of his sad demise among a strange people, in a distant clime.

Not in vain did his promising career come to an end, for it was to his revered memory that belonged the glory of a bright young life henceforth devoted to the service of the Master. Hattie's christian life commenced with the hour when John Gardiner's loss taught her how dear *he might have become, And he so willed.*

As the last few days of Hattie's stay drew to a close, Mrs. Larrabee realized more and more keenly how sweet the companionship of her beloved niece had been, and how lonely the house would seem, deprived of the bright spirit which had so enlivened it.

"Why, auntie," exclaimed Hattie, having surprised her aunt in tears, "I should think you would be glad to be rid of such a mad-cap as I am."

"I could not feel the parting more were you my own child," kissing her fondly.

"But remember, I am coming again next summer."

"I hope and trust so," was her aunt's earnest response. "But if your sister should marry you will not be able to leave your mother."

"Marion has been engaged once or twice before," laughed Hattie, "so I do not feel very certain as to the result of this recent betrothal. She is so hasty, and over-bearing in her demands her lovers will not put up with her whims, although I wouldn't say so to any one but you, auntie," coloring at her own frankness.

Mrs. Larrabee, who well knew that Marion came by her disposition by direct inheritance from her mother, smiled half sadly. To her it was ever a marvel that Hattie should be so unlike both mother and sister. Of Mr. Murch's nature she could hardly judge. Absorbed in business, he was a comparative stranger even to his own children. Marion had always stood in awe of him. Possibly he had had his dreams of a more domestic life, of a wife thoughtful of his comfort, daughters anxious to please. If so, he had been disappointed. Servants had relieved ease-loving Mrs. Murch of all care, and his eldest daughter had been too much afraid of the self-contained man whom she called father, to attempt to become a companion to him.

Hattie alone had sometimes felt the thawing of the really warm heart, and one result of her absence from home had been to open her eyes to the vast difference between a harmonious household, where affectionate consideration for others is the secret of happiness, and one regulated by self-interest wholly, wherein each is indifferent to the comfort of the other.

She made a resolve, never forgotten, to try and be more of a companion to her father, whose life, she now realized, must indeed be lonely, and his heart starving for affection.

As long as he lived, Mr. Murch had cause to bless that visit of his "little girl's," for that was the beginning of her thoughtful care for others, which in future years rendered her as greatly beloved by all with whom she came in contact, as was her dear aunt Ellen.

Mrs. Murch and Marion were at first disposed to tease Hattie, after her return, but she parried their sarcasms mildly, and appeared not to mind. Of her tearful hours alone in her own chamber they knew nothing. Later, she learned the lesson so hard to realize, that it is just as wrong to give way to despairing thoughts when alone, even though it affects no one else.

Much of this life is made up of "petty, carking cares," which, if smiled down, vanish, but if nursed, grow doubly heavy to bear.

Then be brave, and be brave, fainting soul! Yield not for an instant to the temptation to brood over trouble, lest mole-hills become mountains, and fancied grievances, terrible wrongs.

Even the most deep and sacred grief should be struggled against, lest it would crush the spirit it would ennoble, if rightly borne.

Would that opportunity permitted to accompany our young heroine in succeeding visits to that peaceful country home, to witness not only her efforts to acquire skill in the various branches of domestic labor, but also in practical dress-making and millinery. To go with her in her visits to the poor;—in fact, to sit at the feet of holy, humble Uncle and Aunt Larrabee, and learn from their example how to lead a contented, useful life, in an environment calculated to hinder the growth of less unselfish souls. How vast the ever-widening circles for good thrown by the unassuming deeds, and modest words of truth, of people like these!

Even Mrs. Murch, who had been disposed to ridicule Hattie's quixotic resolution, and who had always rather looked down upon her sister Ellen, was forced to confess to herself, that Hattie had greatly improved under her aunt's guidance, and therefore, when the time for her second visit came around, no objection was interposed.

In after years, when Marion had moved west, and Mr. Murch had lost the greater part of his wealth, it was Hattie who was the mainstay of the family. Her bright, serene countenance never showed the anxiety her heart was often obliged to bear, in spite of the clever management of her clear head, and capable, willing hands.

Hattie Murch is not yet thirty, and the future may hold for her some inexpressibly sweet reward, but of this she thinks not. For the present, at least, she feels that her duty is to her fast-aging parents, whose comfort and joy she is. Daily she gratefully thanks Aunt Ellen in her heart, for the loving patience which taught her how to fulfill a woman's truest mission, that of being a thorough "homekeeper" in its best, and highest sense.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

CHILDREN'S NERVES.

BY MRS. E. C. HEWITT.

"Children's nerves! Nonsense! Children haven't any nerves!"

"O but they have!"

"Well they *oughn't* to have any then!"

Ah, *that* may be, or at least perhaps we ought not to be able to recognize their action in a child, but on whom is the blame to rest that we are constantly compelled to note the fact that children *do* have nerves.

Upon the parents, without doubt. (Unless the deplorable fact of nerves be developed by some untoward accident over which the parents have no control.) That nerves are given to each human organization is something no sane person will deny; and, in a sound, healthy condition, they perform a very important part in the physical economy, being those parts of our system by which we especially "live and move and have our being." But, when by circumstances or careless rearing, these same nerves have been rendered hypersensitive, then indeed are they a curse.

So closely is the whole economy of the nerve system connected that it is absolutely impossible to abuse the set of nerves in one part of the body without the effect being more or less remotely felt in every other part, in the course of time.

But that which more nearly and quickly affects the whole system, is abuse of the nerves of the brain. Hence the especial necessity of keeping the brain of a child as quiet as possible. I do not mean to restrain the child from the normal excitement of acquiring knowledge of all kinds; I allude at present solely to rude or violent shocks, and more especially do I refer to the habit of startling children, "just to see them jump."

A parent can hardly compute the train of evils which may follow from permitting one child to start out at another unexpectedly from some dark corner; nor can such a practice be too severely condemned. Parents themselves themselves will often run ahead, hide behind the door and jump out with a "Boo!" just as the child reaches the spot. It seems strange that parents can be so criminally thoughtless, but so, unfortunately, it is. The child may laugh and enjoy the fun at the time, but the *effect* remains. And where such tricks are encouraged or permitted, the amount of nervous strain and mental torture or excitement, undergone by the more sensitive from the expectation of being startled at any moment, is beyond calculation.

Many children, too, for some reason, are afraid of the dark.

This is due to two causes. Some children are apparently born with this fear. Hence the first cause.

The second cause is the injudicious training of an ignorant nurse or a mother who has sought to frighten the child.

If a mother discovers a child to be afflicted (for it is indeed an affliction) with this disease, (for it certainly is a disease of one set of nerves,) let her not seek to rectify the evil, either by "firm treatment" or ridicule. Either course is much to be deprecated. If a child be found to have an unreasonable fear about *anything*, the very best course is to take no notice of it, so as to make no circumstance of the fact. Then by degrees, by example show the child how unreasonable is such a fear.

Some children are very much afraid of horses. Don't oblige such children to touch a horse. But whenever occasion offers, in the presence of such a child pet and pat a horse without seeming to notice the fact that the child is afraid. By degrees your example, if he have perfect faith in his parents, will have such an effect upon him that he himself, almost without knowing it, will do the same thing, unless the fear be one of those inexplicable "rooted aversions" which nothing can erase.

The same system can be practiced with those children who are so unfortunate as to be afraid of the dark.

Try sitting with the child from the latest light on through twilight into the dark talking to him pleasantly the while. Perhaps after a few times of such treatment you can say: "Wait here a moment, I am going to get a lamp." Perhaps he will stay, but if he does not feel inclined so to do, don't force him. Wait a few days longer. Try sitting in the absolute dark some evening, and when he calls to know where you are, say quietly "Here I am." "But you have no light." "No, I like to sit in the dark." "But I can't find you." "Listen to my voice now, and see if you can't tell where I am, and then see if you can't come straight to me without the use of your eyes." In the interest of trying to do something and feeling that you are near, almost all fear is lost and the battle won. Then is the time to tell him quietly that it is foolish to be afraid, but that you know and thoroughly understand how he feels, and that you hope that some day he will have conquered the trouble. If you can recall for his benefit, some time when you were just so foolish, it will do him a tremendous amount of good, and you will be bound together more closely by a bond of sympathy.

Next, don't allow your children to be tickled, if to ever so small a degree, under the chin, round the neck, *anywhere*. It is ruinous to a child's nerves, and thoughtless young mothers who tickle their babies to bring out the "lovely smile" do an immense amount of irreparable mischief, and are storing up for their children numerous future ills.

In short, let children alone as much as possible. To amuse one's self or any one else at the expense of one's children in any way, is to encumber one's self with a debt to nature which there is never going to be any possibility of repaying.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS WITH MOTHERS.

NO. 1.

BY VAY VIOLET.

What an opportunity for studying human nature is afforded by watching the throng of people passing in and out of the waiting-room, at a railway station. All classes and conditions of life are represented, from the elegantly clad family group, with children's nurse, and maid in attendance, to the emigrants, with their coarse clothing and bewildered air, awaiting the arrival of the train which is to bear them away to the land of their golden-hued dreams—the Great West. On a fair summer's afternoon, sitting in the ladies waiting-room at the Boston and Albany station, waiting rather impatiently, it must be confessed, for the next train to Longwood, my attention was attracted by the entrance of two ladies, each leading by the hand a little girl. The children were perhaps three and five years of age respectively.

Seating themselves in a different part of the room, the two ladies were soon engaged in conversation. The sweet face and artless manner of the elder of the two children, could not fail to interest a lover of children. The simplicity of the white dress, cut Gabrielle, its only trimming a tiny ruffle on the edge of the skirt, and the straw hat, ornamented only with a blue ribbon band and streamers, spoke volumes for the common sense and good taste of the mother. With her simple dress, and happy, contented air, Daisy, for so I involuntarily named her in my thoughts, presented a striking contrast to the other little girl, whose restless, fretful face, and blue silk dress, puffed, pleated, and trimmed until no possible space to put trimming upon was left vacant, and whose blue silk bonnet, shirred, and trimmed with flowers, told of weary hours spent by the fond but foolish mother in plying the needle unnecessarily.

I was musing on the difference in mothers, when my reverie was interrupted by the stentorian voice which resounds through the station at train time: "Train ready," and hastening into the car which was rapidly filling with passengers, I found seated in the seat directly in front of me the same two ladies, and the two children I had seen in the waiting-room. "Be careful or you will get dust on your clothes. Let me smooth out your dress," were frequent admonitions of the careworn mother, to the overdressed child beside her, while Daisy sat contentedly gazing from the window, or prattling to the fretful child, who, at every fresh caution from her mother, would pout and whine in a manner sad to hear. "Cottage Farm" called the brakeman. My ten minutes ride was over, and as I left the car, my parting glance dwelt upon the fair, happy face of Daisy, and my homeward way was brightened by thoughts of the beautiful child.

Do mothers fully realize that the chief charm of childhood is its simplicity and artless manner? a charm which does not need the addition of overtrimmed garments; for the more simply a child's dress is made the more becoming and suitable it appears. Dress the children neatly and plainly. Let them wear a dark print or gingham in the morning hours, and enjoy themselves making mud pies and cakes; gaining in this way, not only enjoyment, but rosy cheeks and health. They will get tanned, and their complexions may not be so fair and white, but the tan will wear off in time, and after having played all the morning, they will enjoy the bath and clean dress which you will undoubtedly find it necessary to give them.

The duty of a mother to her children is not to dress them as elaborately and expensively as possible, but to use her leisure time in watching over, instructing and amusing the innocent children committed to her care. No amount of time spent by a mother in trimming and embroidering her children's garments, can compensate for the lack of their mother's care and companionship; for no mother who has a family of children, and does her own sewing, can afford to waste her time and strength in useless work. She can recruit her strength, and at the same time be a companion to her children, by daily walks in the fresh air with them, and her children will be happier and better, than if every moment had been spent in trimming garments which will soon be worn out and consigned to the rag man.

How many mothers spend almost their whole time at the sewing machine, too busy even too answer the child who lingers near, questioning "mamma" until, tired and nervous, "mamma," deep in the mysteries of braiding, says: "Run away dear, mamma is busy making your dress. I cannot talk now," and Johnnie or Bessie saunters away, longing for a little of their mother's time and attention; but sewing is of more importance, the mother reasons, than talking to the children. O mothers! the golden hours of your boy or girls childhood will soon pass away; far better to let all dresses be worn untrimmed than to lose the sweet society of your children. Strive to be a mother to them in the truest and fullest sense of the word. Answer their questions with gentleness, and long patience, for at the best, the happy time of your children's prattle and innocent questions will all too soon pass away. They will soon become big boys and girls, and the memory of a mothers loving care and patience, will afford them far more pleasure than the thought that they wore more costly and elaborately trimmed clothing than did many other children. But enough of this subject of dress. In our next article we will speak of another subject connected with child life.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

AN UNCANNY BEDFELLOW.

I wonder that I dare express views contrary to those of so wise a physician as Dr. Tomlinson, of Chicago, who, when questioned by anxious mothers in *Babyhood*, whether puss is a fit bedfellow for baby, says: "What good do you suppose it would do a cat to draw into its lungs breath which a human being had just exhaled!" but an experience with one of these uncanny bedfellows when twelve years of age, leads me, not only to differ in opinion from that of the doctor, but to fearlessly express the same, lest some young mother may place too much confidence in her little child's pet—a cat.

Until this experience, I dearly loved pussies, big cats and little cats. From babyhood, I always had a pet kitty who shared my heart and dinner and—bed if mother would allow it, or if my sly, purring pussy could by cunning strategem secure warm night quarters with me.

One cat I especially loved. She seemed almost human in her understanding and expressions of affection and sly wit. There were those in the home who dubbed her "that old jade," because of her cunning in unlatching doors and gaining forbidden places and food.

Mother did not allow her in the house after bedtime, but many a night she would stealthily come creeping out at midnight from some hiding place in my bedroom, and with loud, happy purring, smuggle under the blankets in her best resting place.

If I had been told that that tame, loving old pussy-cat would sometime attempt my life, I could not have believed it. I had petted her so much and she loved me so well, many times, she would bring the choicest half of a fat mouse which she was devouring, lay it at my feet and look up as though saying: "See here! I have saved the best for you."

When I had refused her tid-bit and praised her for being so generous, she would finish her dinner with contented licks and purrs.

One midnight, she woke me creeping into the bed. I guiltily tucked her in under the coverlet, knowing I ought to put the cat out-of-doors, but instead, I soon felt asleep. How long I slept I do not know; I only know that I woke gasping for breath and with a sharp prickle of pain on my lips. I shall always think that the sharp sting of that old cat's claws on my mouth was what saved me that night. I think I was nearly suffocated when I was aroused from the heavy sleep of healthy childhood.

In the dim light, I could see my old cat crouched on my breast, her ears laid back, her eyes flashing with yellow fire, and her tail fiercely lashing as though on the spring for prey. Her nose and mouth were pressed close to my nostrils, while she sucked my breath with fierce, greedy eagerness.

She sucked faster than my breaths came—great, strong, gulping sucks that even, after all these long years, I remember with vividness and horror.

That no breath might cross my lips, she had sealed my mouth with her two paws: heavy, sharp, desperately firm, they were pressed on my closed lips. I gasped and struggled, but not one breath could I get. I tried to push her away, to lift my head, but I could not. I was a strong, twelve years' old girl, and at last in convulsive agony, I struck her so hard she lost her grip on my face, and she slunk away, an evil, uncanny black imp.

Her life was short after that, but no cat has ever been my bedfellow since that dreadful night. The proverbial "man under the bed" that nervous people look after every night of their lives, with me is a crouching, evil-eyed cat; and at bedtime I never fail to look for her.

No possible chance for life could any baby have, if a cat should take their breath as mine was taken. I do not think I have ever put one of my little ones down to sleep, but I have made sure no cat was in the room, unless I could sit near baby through her nap.

A playful, half-grown kitten I did not fear to leave curled asleep on baby's crib, till one day when I found him crouching on her stomach, scenting the sleeping child's breath with quick, eager sniffs and a look in his eyes that I did not like.

If I needed more to convince me that cats are evil, treacherous, uncanny, I have it in the remembrance of two terror-filled nights when I watched with a corpse. Of the unearthly sounds about the house that came from clamoring, watching, keen-scenting cats: cats on the window ledges, thrusting their black, grasping, hooking paws through the inch space that had been left for air; cats in the cellar, rubbing their eager, slinking bodies against the beams above which the still, white form lay; and cats, thirsty, lapping, purring, dodging cats at every door.

It may be a foolish thought, but when I hear of some feeble person who has been found in their bed with life extinct, and the sad providence is ascribed to "heart disease," I remember with a shudder, my midnight, feline visitor, and wonder if a cat had not been in the sleeper's room some hour of the previous night.

JOHN'S WIFE.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

DON'T FIND FAULT.

No heart is insensible to words of praise or the kindly smile of approbation, and no one is entirely above being affected by censure or blame. Children are particularly sensitive to both. Nothing can more discourage a child than a spirit of incessant fault-finding, and perhaps nothing is more productive of evil to both parent and child.

If parents never express their gratification when children do well, but on the contrary, always censure when ought is amiss, the child becomes discouraged and unhappy, feeling that it is useless to try to please; he becomes hardened by the ceaseless fretting, and at last relinquishes all effort.

It sometimes becomes politic on the part of a parent not to notice every improper word and act, in order to make a deeper impression on some more serious occasion. If your little one has been pleasant and obedient throughout the day, and you say to him: "My son, you have been good today and it makes me very happy,"—and if, with a more than usually affectionate tone you say: "Good-night, my dear child," a throb of suppressed feeling fills his heart, and he resolves on *always* earning such approval.

If your son or daughter has accomplished some difficult piece of work, rendering you grateful assistance, or has climbed some step in the daily drill of study, or has acquired some new accomplishment or added grace, or, better than all, has gained the victory over a bad habit, or besetting sin—or, in some struggle of heart and will has given way to the parent's wish,—not only *see* it, but *acknowledge* it; *praise* him, encourage him, let him feel your satisfaction and approval.

Believe, oh father and mother, by such a course you will bind your child's heart to yours with bands stronger than iron; and good resolutions shall so deepen their hold, that, riveted to the rock of right, temptation shall be powerless for evil.

HELEN C. S. THOMPSON.

EDITOR L. H. J.—Please let me have a corner, (not in the W. B., I've been there) for I want to shake hands with "Belle" and to talk to Texas sister about that fat baby. I know some by experience. I've lived near her and had seven fat babies. I think a hammock fixed with rope like the squaws do is wise; it is cooler for baby. Bathe good, and rub oil where they chafe, and wipe off with a soft rag, and use browned flour, it is best for a chafed skin; then the saffron tea is good for heat breaking out, and altogether the best thing a baby ever had for teething, fever, and bowel trouble. My father is a doctor, and I have his word for that he has practical thirty years. I want to tell the mothers that I have a diaper drawer pattern; that there is no better or safer made; no baby should be dressed without one. Accept best wishes for all,

MRS. M. A. LAUGHLIN.

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For fifty cents I will send ten patterns for a baby new style Health Wardrobe, or ten patterns first short clothes, Health Garments, at same price. Full directions for each pattern, also kind and amount of material required for each. MRS. F. E. PHILLIPS, (FAYE,) Brattleboro, Vermont.

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

Crocheted Lace in June No. should have a foundation chain of 35 stitches, instead of 50. In second row, pass by 8 stitches of 11 ch, instead of merely saying pass by 8 stitches.

MRS. F. SMITH.

EDITOR L. H. JOURNAL:—I sent a communication some time since—subject, "Crazy Rugs." You printed it in July number. Well, at the present time I have answered over one hundred: (Is there a State in which you are unknown?) As my time and material are being sadly demoralized, will you kindly print in your next issue the following:

The Novelty Rug Machine advertised in L. H. J. does the same stitch, very quickly and accurately. I wish to say I can send no more samples unless ten cents be enclosed. G. R. P.

BOX 1200, NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.

ORO FINO, SIS CO., CAL., May 24, 1886.

EDITOR L. H. J.—I send directions for crocheting bead watch chain, in answer to request in June number:

Four ounces of small black beads, four skeins of purse twist; beads to be strung on twist; then crochet a chain of seven stitches, unite with a single stitch into a ring, work around ring in double stitches, taking up a bead each time; thus: Insert hook in a loop, push a bead close to the work, pull silk through the loop; in this way the bead is kept tight. Go on with these rounds until chain is long enough. Attach black swivel at the end where chain is joined. These are pretty chains for mourning instead of jet.

ROSA WRIGHT.

Diamond Insertion.

Cast on 27 stitches, knit across plain.

1st row. Knit 4, over twice, purl 2 tog., knit 8, over, narrow, knit 5, over twice, purl 2 tog., knit 4.

2d row same as the 1st.

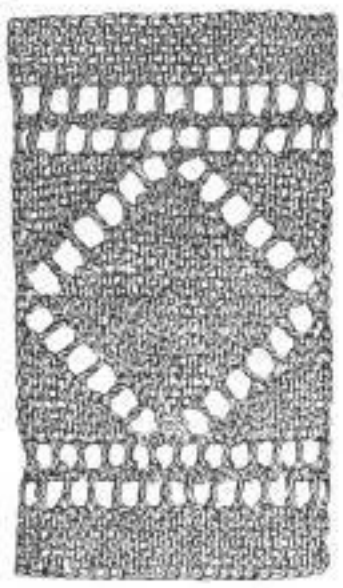
3d row. Knit 4, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 9, over, narrow, knit 4, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 4.

4th row same as the 3d.

5th row. Knit 4, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 10, over, narrow, knit 3, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 4.

6th row same as 5th.

7th row. Knit 4, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 11, over, narrow, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 4.



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal]

8th row same as the 7th.

9th row. Knit 4, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 12, over, narrow, knit 1, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 4.

10th row same as the 9th.

11th row. Knit 4, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 13, over, narrow, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 4.

12th row same as the 11th.

13th row. Knit 4, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 15, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 4.

14th row. Knit 4, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 12, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 4.

15th row same as the 14th.

16th row. Knit 4, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 11, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 4.

17th row same as the 16th.

18th row. Knit 4, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 10, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 4.

19th row same as the 18th.

20th row. Knit 4, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 4, over, narrow, knit 9, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 4.

21st row same as the 20th.

22d row. Knit 4, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 8, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 4.

23d row same as 22d.

24th row. Knit 4, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 6, over, narrow, knit 7, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 4.

25th row same as the 24th.

26th row. Knit 4, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 15, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 4; repeat from 1st row. Tog means together.

J. H. W.

Aunt Hannah's Edging.

If for edge of ruffles, knit it loosely with No. 80 cotton; 5 stitches knit across plain.

1st row. Thread over twice, purl 2 together, thread over, purl 2 together, thread over, purl 1.

2d row. Knit 1, make 2 of loop, knit 1, make 2 of loop, thread over, purl 2 together.

3d row. Thread over twice, purl 2 together, the rest plain.

4th row. Bind off 3, knit 2, thread over, purl 2 together.

JENNY WALLIS.

Newport Lace.

Cast on 40 stitches; knit across plain.

1st row. 3 plain, narrow, 2 plain, over, 1 plain, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, 2 plain, narrow, 4 plain, narrow, 2 plain, over, 1 plain, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, 3 plain, narrow, 2 plain, over, 1 plain, over, narrow, over, 1 plain.

2d, and all even rows purled.

3d row. 2 plain, narrow, 2 plain, over, 3 plain, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, 2 plain, narrow, 2 plain, narrow, 2 plain, over, 3 plain, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, 2 plain, narrow, 2 plain, over, 3 plain, over, narrow, over, 1 plain.

5th row. 1 plain, narrow, 2 plain, over, 5 plain, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, 2 plain, narrow, 2 plain, narrow, over, 5 plain, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, 1 plain, narrow, 2 plain, over, 5 plain, over, narrow, over, 1 plain.

7th row. 6 plain, narrow, 2 plain, over, narrow, over, 1 plain, over, 1 plain, over, 2 plain, narrow, 2 plain, narrow, 1 plain, narrow, 2 plain, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, narrow, 5 plain, narrow, 2 plain, over, narrow, over, narrow.

9th row. 5 plain, narrow, 2 plain, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, 3 plain, over, 2 plain, narrow, 2 plain, narrow, 2 plain, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, narrow, 4 plain, narrow, 2 plain, over, narrow, over, narrow.

11th row. 4 plain, narrow, 2 plain, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, 5 plain, over, 2 plain, narrow, 2 plain, narrow, over, narrow, over, narrow, 3 plain, narrow, 2 plain, over, narrow, over, narrow; repeat from 1st row.

MRS. J.

EDITOR L. H. J.:—To the sister who asks for a crocheted baby sack with shells I will give the following, which I think is very pretty.

Make a chain of forty-two stitches, crocheted loosely enough to be nine inches long. This is the neck.

1st row. Make three more stitches, turn, and put a shell of three trebles into every second stitch of the chain. At the beginning of each row make three stitches to keep the edge straight.

2d row. In the centre of each of the shells of the first row, make a shell of two trebles, one chain, two trebles. All the shells are now made in this way.

3d row. Same as second row, except widening by making an extra shell between the fourth and fifth shells, fifth and sixth, sixteenth and seventeenth, seventeenth and eighteenth shells in the preceeding row.

4th row. Widen between the twelfth and thirteenth, thirteenth and fourteenth shell.

5th row. Widen between the fourth and fifth, seventh and eighth, twentieth and twenty-first, twenty-third and twenty-fourth shells in the fourth row.

6th row. Widen at the beginning and ending.

7th row. Widen between fifth and sixth, tenth and eleventh, twenty-third and twenty-fourth, twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth shells in the sixth row.

8th row. Plain.

9th row. Widen between fifth and sixth, twelfth and thirteenth, twenty fifth and twenty-sixth, thirty-second and thirty-third shell of eighth row.

10th row. Plain.

11th row. Widen between the fifth and sixth, fifteenth and sixteenth, twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth, thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh shells of preceding row.

12th row. Widen between fifth and sixth, sixteenth and seventeenth, twenty-ninth and thirtieth, fortieth and forty-first of preceding row.

13th row. Work the first five shells plain, then skip thirteen shells and put the next shell in the nineteenth shell of the twelfth row, work twelve more shells plain (these are across the back) then skip thirteen more shells and work the last five shells plain. The shells skipped are for the sleeves.

14th row. Widen under each sleeve and on each side of the back. Crochet six times across plain.

Now, for the sleeve, work plain shells across the thirteen you skipped and your last shell to where you began. Chain three and go around, joining as before. Continue until you have seven rows around. The other sleeve should, of course, be made the same, and don't be alarmed, if there is a large hole under each sleeve, for this should be filled with a few shells to form a small gore.

For the border, which should be made all around the sack except the neck.

1st row. Make loops of five stitches each, fasten them into the edge of the shells.

2d row. Make loops the same and fasten into the top of those in the first row.

3d row. Same as second row, except two stitches should be made in place of the five. This forms crosses to run ribbon through.

4th row. Shells in every second loop of the last row.

5th row. Scallops of five trebles in every shell.

6th row. Small loops of four chain in each treble of scallops.

Make this same border around the sleeves.

For the collar, make twenty-one shells. Make the same border across and around each end. Now run ribbon through all the crosses and finish with ties of the same.

These directions may seem difficult on account of the length, but they are very easily followed, and any one who makes the sack will be repaid for the work.

A. D. B.

BROCKTON, MASS.

The Vine Insertion.

22 stitches; knit across plain.

1st row. Knit 3, thread over twice, purl 2 together, knit 6, put 3 of these over the last one knit, knit 6, thread over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

2d row. Knit 3, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 6, thread over 4 times, narrow, knit 1, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

3d row. Knit 3, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 2, make 4 of loop, (knitting plain and purl alternately) knit 6, thread over twice, purl 2 together, knit 3.

JENNY WALLIS.

Handsome Crochet Edging.

(For Saxony.)

Chain of 12 stitches.

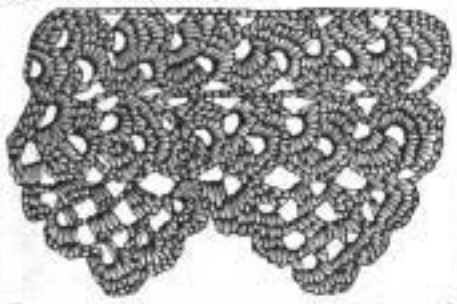
1st row. 3 d c in 4th loop of chain, 2 ch, 3 d c in same; this forms a shell; ch 2, skip 2, 3 d c in 3d loop, 2 ch, 3 d c in same, 1 ch, 3 d c in next 3 loops; turn.

2d row. 3 ch, 3 d c between 1st and 2d d c in 1st row, 2 ch, shell in shell, 1 s c in first stitch of ch 2, 2 ch, shell in shell, 1 s c in last stitch of lower shell; turn.

3d row. Ch 4, shell in shell, 1 s c in first st of ch 2, 2 ch, shell in shell, ch 2, 3 d c in ch 2 below; turn.

4th row. Ch 3, 3 d c between 1st and 2d d c in 3d row, 2 ch, 3 d c in ch 2 below, 2 ch, shell in shell, 1 s c in 1st st of ch 2, 2 ch, shell in shell, 1 s c in last st of ch 4; turn.

5th row. Ch 4, shell in shell, 1 s c in 1st st of ch 2, 2 ch, shell in shell, ch 2, 3 d c in ch 2 below, ch 2, 3 d c in next ch 2; turn.



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6th row. Ch 3, 3 d c between 1st and 2d d c in 5th row, 2 ch, 3 ch, 3 d c in ch 2 below, 2 ch, 3 d c in next ch 2, 2 ch, shell in shell, 1 s c in 1st st of ch 2, 2 ch, shell in shell, 1 s c in last st of ch 4; turn.

7th row. Ch 4, shell in shell, 1 s c in 1st st of ch 2, 2 ch, shell in shell, 2 ch, 3 d c in ch 2 below, 2 ch, 3 d c in next ch 2, 2 ch, 3 d c in next ch 2; turn.

8th row. 3 ch *5 d c between 1st and 2d d c in group of 3, 1 s c in ch 2,* repeat from star twice, then ch 2, shell in shell, 1 s c in 1st st of ch 2, 2 ch, shell in shell, 1 s c in last st of ch 4. This completes one point. Repeat from 3d row.

MRS. G. F. W.

BROCKPORT, N. Y.

Knitted Knee Caps.

Cast on 72 stitches; plain 2, purl 2, for nearly 3½ inches. Mark off the middle 12 stitches.

A. Knit 2 plain, purl 2, bind off loosely 26 stitches; knit the middle 12, bind off 26 stitches, knit 2, seam 2.

B. Knit 2, seam 2, seam across, picking up the top of each stitch that was bound off; knit 2, seam 2 for last four stitches as before.

C. Knit 2, seam 2, knit plain till you have knit all the middle 12 and 1 more stitch.

D. Turn and knit back all the middle 12 and 1 more stitch. Continue in this way adding one more stitch each time you knit across, till you have taken all again.

You will be on the wrong side when you pick up the last one that was bound off, and have only the four on the left hand needle. Return on the right side knitting *every* stitch, the last four plain, and seam as before. Then on the wrong side to end of needle. Now on the right side knit across till you have 8 stitches on left hand needle. Turn and seam till you have 8 at the end unknit. Continue in this way, leaving 4 more unknit each time till you have only 12 in middle. Now take all the stitches and knit 2, purl 2, till you have the same length of ribs as at the beginning.

N. B. After the first 3½ inches of rib, and the middle 12 stitches have been knit across 15 times, widen twice, ten stitches apart, by picking up a loop, and do the same again after the same space has been knit, making 76 stitches for the upper part. Bind off; sew up.

JENNY WALLIS.

Crochet Rugs.

Cut the strips from three-fourths of an inch to one inch in width, according to thickness, (if silk, an inch and a half.) Take a very large crochet needle, half the size of your little finger if you can get it. If not, then whittle one out of a stick. In single crochet make your rug round or oblong, as you see fit, adding stitches as needed to keep the work flat. There can be no rule, as the strips are apt to vary in thickness, and the work being quite elastic it can often be pulled into shape.

Each row should be finished off as evenly as possible, and the next commenced in a new place.

A rug just completed has one row of white; the second is drab; the third a darker one of various shades; the fourth quite dark followed by a row of red. The shades are then repeated. The row of mixed shades giving the appearance of chenille.

A good good effect is produced by introducing a row of two prettily contrasting colors. Crochet a few stitches of each alternately, working the other color out of sight. When resumed it should be drawn through the two loops of the last stitch of the preceding color.

These rugs are rapidly made, and if the material is strong will wear well. The stitches of thread should be concealed as much as possible in the work.

JENNY WALLIS.

Terms in Crochet.

Ch—Chain, a straight series of loops, each drawn with the hook through the preceding one. Sl st—Slip stitch; put hook through the work, thread over the hook, draw it through the stitch on the hook. S c—Single Crochet; having a stitch on the needle (or hook) put the needle through the work, draw the thread through the work, and the stitch on the needle. D. C.—Double Crochet; having the stitch on the needle, put the needle through the work, and draw a stitch through, making two on the needle. Take up the thread again, and draw it through both these stitches. T c or Tr—Treble Crochet; having a stitch on the needle, take up the thread as if for a stitch, put the needle through the work, and draw the thread through, making three on the needle. Take up the thread and draw through two, then take up the thread and draw it through the two remaining. S t c—Short Treble Crochet; like treble, except that when the three stitches are on the needle, instead of drawing the thread through two stitches twice, it is drawn through all three at once. L t c—Long Treble Crochet; like treble, except that the thread is thrown twice over the needle before inserting the latter in the work. The stitches are worked off two at a time, as in treble. Extra Long Stitch—Twine the cotton three times round the needle, work as the treble stitch, bringing the cotton through two loops four times. P—or picot; made by working three chain, and one single crochet in first stitch of the chain.

Terms Used in Knitting.

K—Knit plain. P—Purl, or as it is sometimes called, Seam. N or K 2 tog—Narrow, by knitting 2 together, Over—Throw the thread over the needle before inserting it in the next stitch. This makes a loop which is always to be considered a stitch, in the succeeding rows, or rounds. Tw—Twist stitch. Insert the needle in the back of the stitch to be knitted, and knit as usual. Sl—Slip a stitch from the left hand to the right hand needle without knitting it. Sl and B—Slip and bind—slip one stitch, knit the next; pass the slipped one over it, exactly as in binding off a piece of work at the end. * indicates a repetition, and is used merely to save words. "sl 1, k 1, p 1, repeat from * 3 times"—would be equivalent to saying sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1. Tog means together.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

BRUSH STUDIES AND HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

NEW SERIES—NO. IX.

BY LIDA AND M. J. CLARKSON.

Fruit Painting—Peaches, Cherries, Plums, as Subjects for Household Decoration—Hints, Queries, etc.

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Beautiful color studies are found in fruit of various kinds, and as repeated requests have been received for instruction in fruit painting, it is thought best to introduce it this month, as the season affords opportunity to study these subjects from nature. Although too late for cherries, peaches are now in their glory, and in some sections of the country plums are yet tempting in a two-fold sense the artist's palette [palate.] The engravings given of the subjects chosen for special instruction, should be carefully studied, and followed as closely as possible. The same contrast may be given in color, and the same agreeable effect maintained throughout. Work-

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]
PEACH DESIGN FOR PANEL OR SCREEN.

ers in pastel will find these designs well suited to that branch of art. It should be remembered, that in order to attain brilliancy and clearness of color, the first lay-in of pastel should be warm and transparent. If a dull, cold color is used, it is almost sure to show through in the blending, and will impart the same coldness to the unfinished picture. An underpainting of King's yellow has been strongly recommended for warmth and transparency. This color is very useful in oils, although not given in the regular palette. It may often supply the place of the more expensive cadmiums, but it lacks without doubt the permanency of the latter color.

The panel of peaches here illustrated is one of the sections for dining-room screen given in last number of JOURNAL. It is rich and warm in coloring, and one of the most pleasing subjects for dining-room decoration, either as a screen panel, or for framing.

The dimensions of canvas should be at least 16x24 inches in order to the successful handling of the subject.

Ovals are very handsome for the purpose, but the amateur should never attempt to mount canvas upon an oval stretcher, as it is a nice piece of work requiring skill and experience. Such stretchers may be had ready-made of art dealers, who will mount the canvas at a reasonable cost. Odd shaped sizes are always, however, more expensive. A square stretcher of the above mentioned size would cost but 25 to 30 cents, whereas, an oval of same dimensions, could not be had for less than 60 or 70 cents, and the cost of the frame would be proportionately high. Those, however, fond of the *unique*, and to whom expense is no consideration, will find this shape novel and attractive.

The same general directions given in previous numbers for flower painting, will apply equally well to fruit, and need not be repeated here in full. The sketch is of course made with charcoal, and rendered permanent by a fixative. Those who can have the natural objects to paint from directly are advised to do so; and even where a painting is copied it is well to consult Nature at the same time. The study of natural flowers and fruit cannot but be of great value to the amateur who desires to take up, later, figure or landscape painting, as by it a knowledge of color may be obtained, as also judicious handling of the brush, blending, harmony, perspective, etc.

Flowers and fruit, on account of their perishable nature need to be painted rapidly, and for this reason the broader style of work is eminently well adapted to catch these fleeting expressions of Nature, as it can be completed in one painting as to general effects, leaving only details and finishing touches to be completed afterward. A background is first to be considered, and this is perhaps a more serious matter than is generally supposed. Many paintings have proved failures, by reason of inharmonious grounds, otherwise meritorious. Take, for example, the peaches upon a dull, leaden ground; they will be found very ineffective; while too yellow or too red a tone would be equally unsatisfactory, as either would detract from the beauty of the subject. While a ground needs to be lower in tone, than the subject shown against it, or the brilliancy of coloring is lost by juxtaposition, neither should it be too dull, which gives insipidity and coldness. Plain drab grounds, while advocated by many teachers as harmonizing with almost any subject, never make rich pictures. It is for this reason, doubtless, that many of our most successful artists' choose for their backgrounds hangings of warm hue, textiles of velvet, or plush with rich touches of color, in harmony with their subject; for harmony is in this case more agreeable than contrast. In fact, violent contrast between a background and its subject, is inartistic. One method in use, is to mix all the colors of the palette used for the subject, for the general tone of the background, which thus partakes of the characteristic coloring of the subject and produces harmony. This is always in good taste, and a better method for the amateur than doubtful experiment. An effective ground for the peaches, is a warm, rather pinkish gray at top of panel, shading down to a deep brown slightly purplish in tone at bottom. Beginning at left hand upper corner use for this, silver white, light red, a trifle cobalt and ivory black. Use the largest bristle brush that can be conveniently handled, for this work, and take care to cover the canvas well. Vary the color in painting towards the bottom, deepening gradually by using less white, and in the deepest accents adding Vandyke or madder brown, burnt sienna and a little cadmium.

This ground is one that harmonizes perfectly with the subject, and heightens its brilliancy. While the ground is still wet the foliage is laid in, not in detail, but in simple masses of light and shade. The leaves of the peach tree are a warm, yellow green, requiring a good deal of cadmium, with Antwerp blue, silver white, vermilion, and ivory black. Zinnober green may be used to advantage in the lighter accents, and raw umber in the shadows. The young tender leaves are a pinkish shade underneath. This is painted with white, light red and a trifle cobalt. The young branches show also this pinkish tone, but require black and Vandyke brown in the shading. The peaches are painted in first a general tone of silver white, light cadmium, cadmium orange and ivory black. Afterwards the deeper accents are given with Reuben's madder, or madder brown and madder lake, toned with with ivory black. For the medium tone, light cadmium, silver white, madder lake and yellow ochre are used, and the high lights are painted with white, light cadmium, a trifle Antwerp blue and ivory black. The velvety texture of the peach, it will be observed, is rather grayish in effect, unlike the high lights observed in other subjects. This should be put on very lightly, using the brush so as not to disturb the under painting. This is best executed by dragging it along, thus uniting the edges gently. A flat bristle brush is best for the purpose. It is well to make the most possible of light and shade in painting this subject, throwing some of the foliage back by effective shading, and bringing other parts forward by bright, crisp lights. Some little brown touches may be given to leaves here and there for a pleasing variety, although the general effect of foliage as a mass, rather than in detail, should be carefully studied and noted with the brush. The veinings of leaves are somewhat indistinct, as our subject is viewed from a proper distance, and these minute details are overlooked almost entirely. Both flowers and fruit are blended in with the background by either overlapping edges or mere suggestion of outline, so that some portions seem partially lost in hasty indistinctness. This effect is, in fact, one of the charming features of the picture.

To paint the cherries the same rules are to be observed which have been given for other subjects. The background suggests a landscape with foliage and sky, but not much detail is given. Begin by sketching the fruit branches with charcoal, and secure the outlines with fixative, or else go over them with burnt sienna thinned with turpentine. The background may be laid in first.

The blue patch of sky shown through the opening between the distant tree tops is painted with white, cobalt, trifle light cadmium, a little madder lake and ivory black. For the distant greens use white, a little cadmium, Antwerp blue, madder lake and ivory black. The greens of middle distance are somewhat warmer in tone, and are painted with white, Antwerp blue, light cadmium, vermilion and ivory black, using in the deepest accents burnt sienna and raw umber. Paint the trunks and branches of trees with Vandyke brown, light red, ivory black and white; in the warm lights using a little yellow ochre. The foreground

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]
CHERRIES—DESIGN FOR PANEL.

is a grayish yellow. This is painted with white, yellow ochre, a trifle light red and ivory black.

The cherries should be laid in at first with a simple, flat tone of vermilion, and allowed to dry in order to give them their rich, brilliant color by glazing. While this undertone is drying the green leaves may be painted, using for the local color Antwerp blue, white, light cadmium, light red and ivory black. In the high lights a little vermilion may be added to same palette. The shadows are painted with Antwerp blue, cadmium, burnt sienna, raw umber, ivory black and white. The branches are a rich, deep brown. Use for this silver white, light red, raw umber, ivory black and a touch of cobalt. In the high lights add a little yellow ochre and white. When the vermilion is dry upon the cherries they may be glazed with madder lake. This is done by thinning the color with oil, and rubbing in with brush or fingers. This is also allowed to dry, and the process may be repeated several times in order to give the desired brilliancy of color. Finally, the deeper accents may be given in the shadows by painting black and burnt sienna into the last glaze.

The high lights are added last of all, using yellow ochre, light red and white.

To paint the plums will, with the exception of fruit, require a similar treatment to that given for peach branches. The ground is a silvery gray, the deeper tone being at top of panel, which shows the heavier portion of design, growing gradually lighter, until it merges into a warm, roseate shade at bottom.

The palette for this ground is simple, the deeper tone being painted with white, black, a little cobalt and madder lake, using more white and madder lake at lower part of panel. The plums are painted with white, cobalt and madder lake. Madder brown may be used in the shading, or black and burnt sienna, and for the lights, white, cobalt and madder lake. The abrasions of the skin shown in a number of places are touches of light red, cadmium and ivory black. The palette for leaves is very similar to that given for peach

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]
PLUMS—DESIGN FOR PANEL OR SCREEN.

branch, although the general tone is rather cooler, yellow being less predominant. There are touches here and there of burnt sienna and cadmium, and the under side of young leaves lack the pinkish tone of the peach panel.

The background and the painting of the fruit should proceed together; in this way hardness is avoided, and the edges united, giving a tender outline.

HINTS AND QUERIES.

Very handsome frames, for photographs, engravings, or water color sketches, may be made by gumming vines, berries, the more solid grasses, or grains upon ordinary pine frames, and gilding them with several coats of best gold paint. The effect is excellent, and similar to modeling. Handsome panels may be made in the same way. Oak leaves and acorns may be bronzed, or gilded, with charming effect; as also the smaller pine cones, or tassels. The colored bronzes are very pretty when used for this work. The pine cone tassels, as ornaments for valences or scarfs, are unique and beautiful. Bronzed or gilded, they are fastened with a small wire loop, also gilded. Acorns may be used in the same way. Carmine and green are the most showy of the colored bronzes.

"H. G." of Ogdensburg, N. Y., gives a very pretty description of an easel scarf she has been painting. We will let her describe it in her own words:

"I would so like to have you see my scarf, which is odd, to say the least. I have a Japanese lady on one end, with a dress quite gorgeous, and beside her a large flower pot with an impossible plant growing in it; while above her at the left is a tree laden with gay blossoms, growing from the side. The other end has another flower pot, blue and gold, a different shape, and beside it trees of Japanesque design, growing luxuriantly. There are gay little parrots in the foliage, and I used gilt with all the work, in the costume, foliage and all parts. The effect is good, the absurdity of the design being its chief charm."

"A New subscriber" asks after hand-books upon drawing. There are a number of excellent books upon this subject. "Drawing in Black and White," by Susan N. Carter; "Drawing in Charcoal and Crayon," by Frank Fowler, are excellent works, designed to prepare students for the study of drawings from life. Either of these books will answer your second query. If you will send your address to us in full we will reply to your third query by mail.

"D. C. A."—To paint a crane you will need to lay in at first a general tone of light, ashy gray, using white, ivory black, yellow ochre, burnt sienna, and a trifle madder lake. Use more black, with burnt sienna and cobalt in the shading, and for the high lights, white and yellow ochre toned with the least trifle black. The legs of the bird may be painted with light cadmium, white, a little yellow ochre and ivory black. The wings are tipped with pure black, and the bill painted with ivory black, madder lake, cobalt, burnt sienna and white.

"Roxy."—Water colors may be mixed with a little alcohol when used upon velvet. This will prevent them from spreading, and will enhance their brilliancy. Moleskin velvet or velveteen, will answer your purpose best.

"Subscriber."—Any art dealer could furnish you with picture frames and glass. Some of these firms advertise in these columns and are entirely reliable.

"S. H. P.," Mass.—Your paints must have lacked body, or they would not have cracked so badly upon your brass plaque. A glaze of madder lake and oil alone is certain to crack. An underpainting of vermilion and white would have prevented it. No, there is no remedy except repainting.

We regret that several of the above queries came in just after the August number of "Brush Studies" went to press, and were consequently left over till this month.

***

We will continue to rent hand painted studies to subscribers to JOURNAL. Flowers, Landscapes, etc. The fruit panels described in this number are now ready. All studies full size and in color.

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LADIES' HOME JOURNAL,
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Renewals can be sent now, no matter when the subscription expires, and the time will be added to that to which the subscription is already entitled.

Notice is always sent of expiration of subscription. If not renewed it is immediately discontinued. No notice is required to stop the paper, and no bill will be sent for extra numbers.

Receipts.—The fact that you receive the paper is a proof that we have received your remittance correctly. If you do not receive the paper promptly, write us that we may see that your address is correct.

Errors.—We make them—so does every one, and we will cheerfully correct them if you will write to us. Try to write us good-naturedly, but if you cannot, then write to us any way. Do not complain to any one else or let it pass. We want an early opportunity to make right any injustice that we may do.

NEW YORK OFFICE, 180 BROADWAY:

W. S. NILES, MANAGER.

Our New York Office is for the transaction of business with New York advertisers.

Subscribers should not address any letters to that office.

Philadelphia, September, 1886.

A callous realist describes the *decollette* basque as a garment lined with pleuro-pneumonia and trimmed with rheumatic congestion.

If you want your friends to have the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL for another year at 25c., now is the time to get up clubs, as we raise our price to 50c. to all, after Sept. 1st.

He who attempts to mediate between husband and wife is like him who tries to walk under two umbrellas—he receives the drippings of both, and the protection of neither.

In answer to many letters of inquiry we would state that we cannot furnish Nos. of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL of an earlier date than April, 1886, as we are entirely out of all the earlier editions.

Mothers or fathers who confine their punishment of the children to threats of telling the other parent, are laying up a store of future trouble for themselves, besides showing themselves to the children in the present, in a very unenviable light as weak, contemptible, creatures.

Eat your dinner at an hour (be it early or late) when you have time to digest it. The blood, like anything else in the economy of nature, cannot occupy two places at once. Blood used by the brain cannot at the same time be in the stomach to digest the food. There is more dyspepsia from a hurried dinner in the middle of the day, than from dinners eaten at night after the brain work is over.

As military discipline is to the army, so is etiquette to society; it is the framework upon which all social life is built, and without which the whole structure would fall to pieces.

And he who excuses his own rudeness with the plea of hatred of form, intrenches himself behind a prickly hedge; a rampart which, while it repulses all who come near, will just as surely thrust its spines into his own soul, should he desire to approach another.

Do not be alarmed when your children dislike the drudgery of study. In some infant minds the love of study is innate, but the "desire for education for education's sake," the knowledge of the necessity as well as the appreciation of its value, are all things that only come with some amount of experience. To some this experience does not come as early as to others. And often the very children of whom the parents have most despaired, are the ones to be altered by circumstances or experience into the most brilliant scholars.

If those who make inquiry in regard to a failure to receive their paper, would kindly state the date at which their subscriptions were sent, the matter would be much more quickly rectified, as we must always have that information in order that we may be able to refer to our file of letters. Many sending in inquiries desire that they may receive an answer through our columns "in next month's issue." Let us explain a little: Our paper is sent to press at least two months ahead of date of issue, our August number, for instance, being made up early in June. Any inquiry, therefore, coming in later than June, cannot by any possibility receive an answer in the July issue, nor even in that for August. It must wait over until September. Many questions, consequently, much to the disappointment and considerably to the disgust of the inquirers, necessarily remain unanswered until long after the time has gone by for the information to be of any available use.

We say this word in order that our subscribers may free us from any imputation of neglect or discourtesy which they may have been inclined to attach to us in this respect in regard to enquiries we receive daily.

POSTAGE TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

A discrimination in the rates of postage to city subscribers is made between weekly and monthly periodicals, to the great disadvantage of the latter; for, while the weeklies can be mailed to city subscribers for one cent per pound, monthlies can not be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent for each two ounces, except where the subscribers go to the post-office for their mail. And, as the JOURNAL in its present form weighs over two ounces, we are, therefore, obliged to ask Philadelphia subscribers twenty-four cents extra for postage, unless the paper is addressed at the post-office to be called for, or to any P. O. box.

☞ THE LAST CALL.

This number of the JOURNAL, although dated September, is printed and mailed from the first to the 25th of August, and as the majority of our subscribers receive it the first half of the month, we take this opportunity to remind them that August is the last month in which to secure clubs at 25 cents per year.

Large clubs can easily be raised everywhere at so low a price. Remember, this is your last chance to secure a premium with so little effort.

Many of your neighbors will be glad to try the JOURNAL for a year if you will only take the trouble to show them a copy, and explain the low price, which holds good ONLY UNTIL SEPT. 1ST.

Remember, this is

THE LAST CALL!

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

On and after September 1st., 1886, the rates for advertising in the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL will be one dollar per agate line (14 lines to the inch) each insertion. The circulation of the JOURNAL is over two hundred thousand (200,000) to paid yearly subscribers, independent, and exclusive of any short term trial subscribers, or sample copies.

Proof of circulation is given by sworn statements of our paper manufacturer, Mr. Alex. Balfour, our printers, Ferguson Bros. & Co., who run four presses nearly a month to print our large edition, and John F. Busch & Son, our binders, all of Philadelphia; also post-office receipts for papers mailed, and open subscription books to any one who will call upon us, or send a representative to our office.

GNATS.

Who is not familiar with the story of the bull, who having successfully combatted with larger foes, was finally driven to desperation and even death by such insignificant things as gnats?

Who in his own experience has not met with the same thing? Who does not remember the day, when the gentle breeze displacing a leaf, the chirp of a cricket, or the breaking of a pencil point, drove him nearly distracted; a day when perhaps the firing of a cannon would not have made him wince?

A *little* worry is like the proverbial "little knowledge"—"a dangerous thing." We drive it away; it but returns to sting us or at least buzz in our ears. We strike at it, but generally find that we have but wounded ourselves and left the torment very much alive.

From a mad dog we run to a place of safety, but from the flocks of mosquitoes that attack us upon our doorstep, or from the one which has insinuated itself under the net, we have no redress. If our enemy deliberately attack us, we know what to do—meet it as best we can.

But if, instead of a lie or a personal attack, our enemy indulge only in one or many of the petty methods by which we human beings can make another utterly, suicidally wretched without the aggressor being amenable to the law, we are absolutely helpless. With what discomfort of mind to the victim may a simple question or expression be fraught if but accompanied by a raising of the brow, a meaning smile, or a peculiar inflection of the voice?

A slander that is really a libel is easily met—an arrow that can be removed from the wound with comparatively little discomfort. An insinuation that is in effect a slander, yet merely remains a slander, is a bullet entering a wound and hiding itself to rankle there even after the flesh is healed to the world, and causing more trouble and soreness than three or four clean-cut arrow wounds.

The mad dogs of life are comparatively few—the gnats are legion. It is not only from "battle, murder and sudden death," as from the petty annoyances forming so large an element in our daily lives that we need deliverance.

HOSPITALITY A MISSION.

Nature has manifestly called and endowed woman to be the presiding genius of home; yet many so called and endowed, shrink from home duties with aversion or contempt. Do not these forget the privilege and joy that falls to a woman's lot by ruling in a sphere where she may dispense the royal grace and charm of hospitality—that fine ether of good cheer to wayside souls, less favored in the arena of life? Is it not quite possible that women who are seeking more remunerative labor, and striving after culture, social advancement and opportunities of doing good, have quite forgotten the limitless openings for high thinking and high living, within their homes if they will keep the door ajar and devote themselves to hospitality as a mission? Here are surprising opportunities for giving out good and creating happiness, the impress of which can never be effaced.

The humblest home can do this, within its own scope and range, not through the fashionable reception, oreleganat dinner, but by placing its resources at the disposal of those who need them for a chance hour or day; to be fed by the low tones of sympathy and love, or inspired to divinest hope and faith and lofty purpose; always remembering that needs do not end with tired, sick, or starving bodies. There are struggling men and women, both young and old, among all classes, who are weary and discouraged with watching for ships that never come in, to whom an evening or a tea in our cheery, lovely home, would be an impetus forevermore.

If you have a comfortable, roomy, or elegant home, the duty presses very close to those less favored. To the tired working girls threading their way night and morn, through winter blasts and scorching suns past your door, a Sunday afternoon in your hammock or library, a gift of flowers, or fruit, or an invitation to an evening musical, would be like a glimpse into fairyland; any low, many young men there are, herded in dismal boarding-houses, who would be saved from evil by a little motherly attention, a fireside chat, a homey tea, or Sunday dinner.

The mistress of a home may gather not only the favored, the beautiful and congenial within her doors, but many a slighted, noble soul, held in bondage by circumstances. If she likes notoriety or prestige, here is abundant opportunity by lending her influence, sympathy and encouragement, to the unrecognized student, artist, physician or author—the would-be-reformer or philosopher. Here all the reforms of the day can be discussed, with ever ready tact and grace, you and your children growing daily in culture of mind and heart while you give out. There is no place so delightful for discussions on science, philanthropy, temperance and politics as one's own parlor.

Here, too, one may show forth the highest ideal of domestic life to those who have low and narrow conceptions of its sacred blessedness. Let such come within the charm of a happy home, where loyal devotion, tenderness and gracious courtesy never fail, and where each find the bearing of the others burden a delight, and they too must be born into newness of life by such fair, sweet strife.

If we would not have hospitality become one of the lost arts, we must cease to make of genial entertainment such wearisome and expensive work in detail. Such elaborate and fashionable toils kill out that ever ready, ever cordial hospitality of which we speak. Its royal spirit may be exercised under most adverse circumstances, if women will be willing to give their finest energies within, instead of spending so much time on committees, clubs, societies, etc. Here is a "mission" wide enough to satisfy the most exacting, and full of the sweetness of heaven.

From one of our stamping outfits received by a subscriber, we have known a dozen orders to follow. It is the largest, and by far the best that has ever been sold. It gives such good satisfaction, that as soon as received, every neighbor or friend who happens to see it, wants one too. It is so popular that we use them to the extent of $15,000 worth per year, and will probably double that another year.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"MRS. S. M. S."—We do not know where you can obtain the book you wish.—ED.

CAN any one tell J. A. S. F. where she may find seeds of the old perennial Whitlavia?

SOME one desires to know how to renovate feathers at home, such as pillows, etc.

ANSWER TO QUERY.—"Christine; or Work" was written by Miss Louisa M. Alcott.—ED.

"PEGGY" desires to know how to clean a light pink hood. Does not wish to wash it in flour.

WILL some one inform "O. M. C." of a way to crystallize grasses so that they will not adhere to each other?

"E. S." should address the Madison Art Co., Madison, Conn., for book of instruction in making paper flowers.—ED.

"A NEW SUBSCRIBER."—For information in regard to Chautauqua, address Rev. T. L. Flood, Meadville, Pa.—ED.

"A CAMBRIDGE SISTER" can make use of her cedar shavings by placing them among her woolens to frighten away moths.

"CONSTANT READER" wishing paper bedspread and shams would do well to address Mrs. C. F. Greene, Berlin, Kens. Co., N. Y.

IF J. A. L. Fitch will enclose stamped envelope to Eben E. Rexford, Shiocton, Wisconsin, she will receive desired information.—ED.

"A. B. M." recommends "Arty" to wash black stockings in soap bark and afterwards rinse in bluing water, as a preventive of fading.

WILL some one give me a piano polish? something that has been tried and proved to be good and not injurious. MRS. F. Y.

"M. E. T." desires to make a correction in her former letter. The sentence "It is not necessary, etc" should read, "It is necessary that cream should, etc."

CAN any one inform M. A. B. how to clean or keep clean Mrs. Potts' cold handled sad irons? While the face is smooth still, both that and the side is dingy.

"LENA DENTON, TEX."—Try rubbing your sash ribbon through dry cornstarch, just as we wash soiled zephyr leggings for babes. Root geraniums in August.—ED.

HAVE any of the sisters used the Hanover system of dress cutting? If so, please state experience, and oblige MRS. P. LONGFELLOW.

ALDERMAN, BARNES CO., D. T.

"M. A. B.," COLUMBUS, GA. will find Strawbridge & Clothier, Philadelphia, Pa., one of the most reliable dry goods houses in the country. They can also supply you with materials for all kinds of fancy work.

"H. C. C."—We have published quite a number of articles on the care of canaries. Send to Associated Fanciers, 237 S. Eighth St., Phila., Pa. for pamphlet containing all necessary information, to be had for fifteen cents.

EDITOR L. H. J.—There is said to be a plant, which, if placed in a room, will cause all flies to leave immediately. Will some of the ladies please tell me the name of it? And oblige,

MITCHELL, D. T. E. C. W.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Will you or some writer for the JOURNAL tell me how to clean a metallic hair brush? I am told that they should not be put into water, but, so far, I have not been told what should be done with them. HATTIE.

WICHITA, KANSAS, July 10, 1886.

CAN any of the sisters of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL tell me how to teach a parrot to talk? I have one that has not talked any yet; do not know its age; have not had it long.

MRS. C. J. MOSHER.

EDITOR OF L. H. J.—Will you kindly tell me something about bathing, or will some of the sisters through the columns of your paper? how, and when it should be done. Have any used Ditman's Sea Salt, and with what success? I would so like to know. MAME.

MRS. JENNIE ROSTELLO, HARPERSFIELD, ASH CO., O. wishes a recipe for coloring cotton carpet rags red

[There is nothing better for this purpose than the beautiful reds obtainable from Diamond Dyes.—ED.]

EDITOR L. H. J.—I would like to ask Maud H. Buzzell about the gilt paint she uses, where can I get some, and what will it cost?

PERRY, ILL. MISS L. T.

[See our advertising columns for dealers in artists' materials. Any one of them can supply you with the article desired.—ED.]

SOME one in the JOURNAL is anxious to know how to wash and not *fade* delicate colors and goods. The surest way I have tried is to put one teaspoonful spirits turpentine in a gallon of very warm water; after stirring the turpentine through the water, put the goods in and let them remain five or ten minutes, then wash in a *good suds*. All black goods is like new after washing in this way. AUNT JANE.

DEAR EDITOR:—In answer to Mrs. Wm. McAfee I would say, wash all mourning calicoes and ginghams in this manner: Throw them *dry* into hot suds and boil hard for five or ten minutes; then take out and rub the soiled parts, rinse, and she will find that the goods will look fresh and colors *will not* run. I have done this for years, boiling them in the same water that I scald my white clothes in. Respectfully,

M. H. MANSFIELD.

EPPING, N. H., June 20th, 1886.

EDITOR LADIES' JOURNAL:—I am requested to inform the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL that I have received the first prize, $25 in cash, of Frank Finch, Clyde, Wayne Co., New York, for guessing the number of prolific tree beans contained in the bottle holding seven ounces.

Very respectfully, GEORGE H. MILLER.

We congratulate Mr. Miller on being the successful competitor in this contest.—ED.

MRS. KNAPP:—The following are in answer to queries in August No. of JOURNAL: "M. A. C."—Rose leaves in ribbon work are cut round, folded through the middle, and the outer edges gathered. "Mrs. A. A. Sherwood:"—Sateen will wash nicely. The dark ones should be starched with glue water. "M. K. J."—Emily M. Coe, 103 E. 10th St., New York City, is a reliable dealer in kindergarten materials and has a good magazine. Salt and vinegar will clean brass lamps.

C. H. McC.

ED. JOURNAL:—I would like to ask the JOURNAL readers if the beautiful china tree of the West, is hardy here? If it is, I wish to plant a few. A friend sent me about a peck of the seed, and as there is so much more than I need, I will say that any one who would like a few seed, may have them and welcome, by sending a stamp to pay the postage. The china tree is a highly ornamental shade tree, grows 25 or 30 feet high, and bears large clusters of fragrant, beautiful flowers. The seeds are quite large—about half the size of a marble. MRS. F. A. WARNER.

EAST SAGINAW, MICH.

RICHMOND, MASS., July 8th, '86.

WILL the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL kindly answer in the next issue of their valuable paper why the pension agents send us a cheque for $34 instead of $36 for our last quarterly payment, and enclose a printed slip stating that the change from $8 to $12 a month shall cost the pensioner nothing additional to draw?

A SUBSCRIBER AND PENSIONER.

[The law increasing the pension from $8 to $12 dates from March 19, '86.

The $34 is made up thus:

$ 8 per month from Mar.	4 to Mar. 19,	15 days.	$ 4
12 " " " "	19 to June 4,	26 "	30
Total,			$34

CANADIAN READER:—No. 1-2. As a rule it is not safe to use any medicine more than one year old.

No. 3. Never have seen the article in question. It is supposed to be efficacious in cases of bites made by a rabid dog. It is applied directly to the wound.

No. 4. James K. Polk (1845) and James A. Garfield (1881) the youngest Presidents—age 50. William Henry Harrison, (1841) aged 68, the oldest President.

Nos. 5-6. You will find what you want in any directory.

No. 7. Books, sugar-shells, butter-knives, tissue paper outfits, breastpins.

No. 8. Buchanan.

MRS. L. A. G. CLEAR WATER, ARK.—No 1. If the article mildewed be white, spread soft soap on it and expose it to the sun. A few applications will remove the stains.

No 2. We still offer flower seeds as premiums. The rest of your inquiries have been forwarded to proper parties.—ED.

CURE FOR IVY POISON:—Make a strong solution of unslacked lime and water and bathe the part poisoned. Have tried this and found it a sure cure.

Another is this: Take one cent's worth of sugar of lead, and put it into about two-thirds of a cup of sweet milk. Let it dissolve on the back part of the stove, and then with a soft linen or cotton rag apply to the poison. If very bad make solution stronger. Apply hot. This is safe and sure.

MIDDLE FALLS, N. Y., June 14th, '86.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—On the subject of butter making I send the following. It may not be of help to any one, but I differ from "M. E. T." in a few points, though agreeing in the main; so I thought I would write and some sister may be assisted.

I wash the butter while it is still in globules from the size of a pea to those of a walnut. I use a barrel churn, (they are made in all sizes from one cow to fifty), it has a hole in the side as nearly the bottom as possible, and greatly assists in the washing process. Three or four waters are generally sufficient. Instead of working the buttermilk out before salting—which I think spoils the grain—I let it drain in the churn from fifteen to thirty minutes, or until it no longer drips. Dip it out into the bowl, sprinkling salt on each ladleful as it is put into the bowl, when it will be salted very evenly, and will not require any working then. When it is all in the bowl press it down firm, cover and let stand till the next day,—not longer—when it should be worked and packed. I have been thus explicit about washing and salting, as I think my butter has a better flavor and finer grain when so managed, instead of having the butter soft enough to be in one solid mass. The cream should be 60 or 62 degrees when churned, and the water for washing 6 or 8 degrees colder to have the butter crumble. If there be white specks I wash it till they are out. I *do* color the butter when needful. I cannot see anything vicious about it. I could not relish white butter, would much rather eat my bread without any butter at all. It certainly sells better when a nice golden color, and buyers were rather it were colored than have it pale. I have always used Wells, Richardson & Co.'s butter color, and their latest "improved" is very nice. It certainly does not give the butter any bad flavor. I use one ounce of salt for one pound of butter as nearly as I can guess. I have read somewhere that one tablespoonful of salt weighs an ounce; I do not know if it be true. I have never covered my milk, but I think it would be well; of course it should be well ventilated. I would like to know what kind of earthern vessels and covers "M. E. T." uses. I have always used tin pans. I should think the milk would be slow in cooling in earthenware in hot weather. I had never heard of "hairing the butter," and should not have known what was meant by it if "M. E. T." had not explained it so fully. I have heard often of hairs in the butter, and always try, of course, to remove all specks, etc., when working.

MRS. P. C. BILLINGS.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

SUMMER DESSERTS.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

The American pie is an article *sui generis*. Among the many "institutions" of this great and glorious country, none other may be reckoned more purely national. The English have their raised pasties, the French their tarts and *pates*, the Germans, Italians and Spaniards the counterparts of those, but in none of these cases does any dish occupy the place that pie proudly fills in the United States. In its nature it is as essentially democratic as should be the epitome of the tastes of the land of freedom and equality, and graces,—or disgraces, the tables of rich and poor, high and low, with impartial indigestibility. No patriotic citizen could for a moment venture to hint at the abolition of this Palladium, but a mild protest may be uttered against making it a universal *vade mecum*.

Pie, at the right time and in the right place, can be rivalled by no other form of dessert. Thanksgiving would be incomplete without the pumpkin pie, which, as the jolly "November" says in "The New Year's Bargain" to be good must contain as little pumpkin and as much else that is nice as possible. The Christmas feast would lose its crown, on this side of the ocean, at least, if the smoking and spicy mince pie "a box where sweets compacted lie" were not numbered among the dainties prepared for that day. Nor can lemon, peach, apple meringue and cream berry pies be voted other than delicious. In Winter, or even semi-occasionally in Summer, a *good* pie is as tempting a delicacy as can be offered. But familiarity breeds contempt, and the stomach which is forced to attempt the assimilation of leathery pastry three hundred and sixty-five days in the year revolts at length.

Pastry, to be made as it should be, is one of the costliest of dishes. Its manufacture requires the best of materials, the most careful handling and the most skilled judgment. Seldom is the housewife found who brings all these essentials to the concoction of her weekly,—sometimes tri-weekly, "batch of pies." Cheap butter and little of that, a slap-dash mixing and rolling out in a warm kitchen with hot hands are far more likely to be the conditions under which the national dessert is prepared for the table. If this is the case with the outer garment, what shall be said of the interior construction of the pie!

The well known school boy doggerel,

"I hate, abhor, detest, despise,
Abominate dried apple pies!
Tread on my toes and tell me lies,
But don't give me dried apple pies!"

only voices the sentiment of many older people, but in spite of that, few and far between are the homes where this dish fails to make its appearance. With other varieties the faults are no less glaring. Unsweetened berries, flour thickened custard, acid rhubarb, lumpy squash or pumpkin are equally uninviting. "Call that a pumpkin pie!" exclaimed a vigorous and somewhat profane Irish cook. "Shure, a *good* pumpkin pie should have eggs an' milk an' sugar an' spices in it, an' divil a thing is there in that one ixcept pepper an' pumpkin!"

With all these expensive materials, it may readily be seen that pies are about as costly a dessert as can be served by people of moderate means. Nor is the pull upon the pocket nerve alone. The foundation for the dyspepsia too common among all classes of Americans has in many instances had pie for its chief corner-stone. It requires a cast-iron gastric apparatus to stand the wear and tear of railway and boarding house pastry and of that found in numberless homes in city and country. The digestive organs may support the strain in cold weather, but in midsummer those are exceptional persons that will not be weakened by such a demand upon them. Whipped creams, jellies, trifles, custards and fruit dishes are easily prepared and are less heating both to the makers and the eaters thereof than pastry in any form.

The housewife who attempts reform in this respect cannot be promised an easy task. She is liable to find, after she has herself gone through the processes of conviction and conversion on the pie doctrine and resolved to tread a new path henceforth, that her family flatly rebel against the changed order of affairs. Like the Isra-lites of old, they cling fondly to the flesh pots and if pies are taken from them mourn them no less fondly than did the ancient malcontents the pleasant food of the land of Egypt. It is perhaps hardly natural that the tastes vitiated by years of tough pastry should turn gratefully to less substantial and more wholesome desserts. Judgment must be used in this matter as in everything else. The transition must be effected gradually. When the traditional triangle or square of pie is alternated with inviting puddings, delicate jellies and custards, and tempting preparations of fruit, the variation is not so apt to provoke unfavorable comment as if the order of things were reversed at a blow. The case is harder of adjustment when the head of the family insists upon the continuance of his mother's method of providing pie for her household. Tact must be used in endeavoring to reform existing circumstances, but if womanly and wifely diplomacy and arguments fail, the mother may at least insist that the children's diet shall be regulated by proper regard for their healthy digestion.

Abstinence from pastry in hot weather and often in cold may be considered a means of grace. The subject is not one susceptible of expert calculation. One can hardly reckon by mathematical computation the number of pies required to produce an irritable humor or to create a carping disposition that makes the world visible as through a crape veil. But it may be stated definitely that the stomach cannot be deranged without affecting the nerves and temper, and the digestive powers of an ostrich would be required to dispose properly of the provender dealt out at many tables. This fault prevails not only among mechanics and farmers, the great so-called "middle class" who form the bone and sinew of the land, but also among those whose money and opportunity might fit them, one would think, for wise discrimination in the matter of dietetics. There is a deeper meaning than appears at the first thought in the hackneyed saying that the way to a man's heart is through his stomach. While that is insufficiently or improperly nourished, neither heart, head nor hands can do their best work or reach their highest developement.

Among summer deserts, fruit dishes justly hold the foremost place. With the wealth of small fruits which may often be had for the picking in the country and may be purchased for a merely nominal sum in the city, there is no excuse for lack of variety during berry season. There are so many easy yet delicious combinations in which these can be prepared that there need be no occasion for the complaint of monotony that is sometimes called forth by the periodical appearance of berries, pure and simple, upon the table. With the arrival of peaches, pears and harvest apples, fresh opportunities come for the manufacture of dainty dishes. The two seasons often overlap each other, but when there is a hiatus between them, it may readily be filled by exercising a little ingenuity in the concoction of plain and appetizing desserts. The task is made especially light in summer, for then eggs are at their cheapest and cream is plentiful. In the country it can generally be bought for twenty-five cents a quart and even at city creameries it rarely costs more than forty cents a quart. Taking it for granted that no family will ever be without a Dover egg beater, the whipping of the cream is a mere nothing. With a pint of plain cream whipped light, plenty of eggs, fresh fruit and practiced handling, no housekeeper need be at loss for wholesome and tempting desserts.

Sponge cake, fresh or stale, forms a basis for many of the most delicate dishes. It is one of the least expensive and most easily made cakes, requiring only careful measuring or weighing, quick mixing and judicious baking to be a success. The recipe given below, if closely followed will yield results in the highest degree satisfactory.

One great advantage possessed by the dishes for which directions are appended is that they can all be prepared in the morning while the day is fresh and cool and before the heat of a summer noontide combines with that of a cooking stove to render a kitchen almost intolerable. The desserts will be no less acceptable in mid July or August because they are cool and easily assimilated rather than heavy, hot and hard of digestion.

DORCHESTER SPONGE CAKE:—Six eggs, two cups powdered sugar, two cups prepared flour, one saltspoonful of salt, juice and grated rind of a lemon. Beat the eggs *very* light and smooth with the sugar, and the juice and rind of the lemon, next the whites, whipped to a stiff froth and last the salted flour. Stir as little as possible after putting in the flour.

Bake in a moderate oven, and do not touch the stove, if it can be avoided, for fifteen or twenty minutes. Unless you are very sure of your oven, it is a wise precaution to lay a sheet of brown paper on the top of your pan, removing it long enough before taking out the cake to allow this to brown lightly.

SPONGE CAKE CUSTARDS:—Stale sponge cake, cut in slices, one cup marmalade, jam or sweet jelly, three eggs, three cups of milk, half cup of sugar, a small pinch of soda in the milk. Heat the milk to scalding in a double boiler, add the sugar and pour both a little at a time upon the beaten yolks of the eggs. Return to the fire and cook until it begins to thicken, stirring constantly. Add a teaspoonful of vanilla after the custard is taken from the stove and set it aside to cool. Spread each piece of cake thickly with marmalade and arrange the slices in the bottom of a glass dish. When the custard is cool, pour it over the cake and on top heap the whites, beaten to a meringue with a tablespoonful of sugar. Set on the ice until needed and eat very cold. The dish may be made more elaborate by pouring a glassful of sherry over the cake before adding the custard.

COFFEE CHARLOTTE RUSSE:—One pint sweet cream, one-third package of gelatine, one cup powdered sugar, half cup *strong* black coffee, enough sponge cake to line a mold.

Soak the gelatine for one hour in barely enough cold water to cover it. Add to it just sufficient boiling water to dissolve it thoroughly.

Whip the cream with a Dover egg beater, removing the frothed to a colander with a spoon from time to time. When it is all beaten, stir in the partially formed gelatine with the back of the bowl of the spoon. Do this lightly, and when the gelatine is fairly incorporated add the sugar and coffee, a little at a time. Have ready your mould, lined with the slices of cake. The plainer the mould, the easier will be the task of turning out the completed charlotte. A plain brick shaped bread pan answers the purpose admirably. Pour in the whip and set it aside in a cold place that the gelatine, the cohesive element, may have an opportunity to harden. Once firm, it will stand perfectly twenty-four hours, if kept cool. This makes a delicious Sunday dessert, as it can be prepared the day before.

BERRIES CACHES:—One quart berries, one pint sweet cream, one cupful fresh milk, one large stale sponge cake. Scoop out the inside of the cake, taking care not to break the bottom or side walls. These should be about an inch thick. Place the cake in the dish from which it is to be served and pour over it a cupful of rich milk, gently and slowly, that the cake may be thoroughly moistened. Cream is even better, if it can be readily obtained. In the opening left by the removal of the crumbs, heap raspberries, red or black, sprinkling them lightly with powdered sugar. When berries are gone, sliced peaches can be substituted. Whip the cream light and pile it over all.

If the sponge cake is of impracticable shape, it can be sliced, a dish lined with it, and the fruit placed in the centre.

RASPBERRY AND CURRANT JELLY:—One pint whipped cream, one pint red raspberries, half pint currants, half package Cox's gelatine, five cups powdered sugar. Soak the gelatine two hours in half a cup of cold water. Add to it the sugar and half a cup of boiling water. Rub the berries through a colander into the jelly, and strain both through a thick cloth. Set to form in a mould with a funnel in the middle. When cold, turn out and heap whipped cream about the jelly and in the opening left by the funnel.

RASPBERRY BLANCMANGE:—One quart raspberries, half a package Cox's gelatine, soaked in half a cup of cold water, two cups powdered sugar, one pint sweet cream. Crush the raspberries with a wooden spoon to extract the juice and stir into this the soaked gelatine and the sugar. Add half a cup of boiling water, strain, add to it the cream and set on the ice to form.

RASPBERRY SNOW:—One pint red raspberries, whites of four eggs, half package of gelatine soaked in half a cup of cold water, one cup powdered sugar, one cup boiling water, one pint whipped cream. Add to the soaked gelatine the sugar and boiling water, strain and set aside to cool. Beat the whites of the eggs stiff and when the jelly is nearly firm whip this into the frothed whites. Stir in the berries just before pouring the mixture into a melon shaped mould. Heap the whipped cream about it, after turning it out.

BURNT CREAM:—Yolks of four eggs, one pint cream, one cup sugar, one teaspoonful cornstarch. Heat the cream to boiling and pour upon the yolks of the eggs beaten light with the sugar. Return to the fire, cook, stirring constantly for ten minutes, pour into a glass dish and flavor with vanilla to taste. Put a tablespoonful of granulated sugar into a tin cup, set on the stove and brown, adding boiling water to prevent its becoming too thick. Pour over the cream when both are cold. In this, as in all other creams, custards or blancmanges containing milk or cream, the cooking should be done in a double boiler.

RICE TRIFLE:—One cup and a half of raw rice, two quarts boiling water, one cup jam or marmalade, one pint whipped cream, slightly sweetened.

Wash the rice well and throw it into the water, which must be boiling *hard*. Avoid stirring, but shake the saucepan well occasionally. Do not relax the violence of the boil for at least ten minutes, or until the grains of rice are soft when pinched between the thumb and finger. This point reached, drain off the water and set the rice in a colander over a vessel of boiling water. Let it steam for twenty minutes, when it will be tender without being pasty. Have ready seven or eight tumblers or cups, wet with cold water. Fill these about half full of rice, pressing it down firmly, and set them aside. When cold, turn out into a glass dish and with a sharp knife cut a little hollow in the top of each. Put in this a spoonful of the conserve and arrange the rest about the base of the hillocks. Heap the whipped cream over all.

PEACH CREAM:—One can peaches, half package gelatine, one quart milk, four eggs, one cup powdered sugar. Soak the gelatine two hours in half a cup of cold water. Heat the milk to boiling, add the yolks of the eggs beaten lightly with the sugar, and take from the fire. Dissolve the soaked gelatine in a little boiling water and strain into the custard, taking pains to mix them thoroughly.

Drain the juice from the peaches, add half as much water and one cupful of sugar and set over the fire. When the syrup thickens, drop in the peaches cut into quarters. Stew gently ten minutes and put aside to cool. When the cream is nearly firm, wet a plain mould and put in a cupful of the cream, then a layer of the peaches, alternating cream and peaches until the mould is full. Let it stand several hours on the ice, turn out and pour about the base the syrup and a stiff meringue made of the whites of the eggs beaten with a little powdered sugar.

PEACH SHORTCAKE:—One egg, one cupful sugar, one cup milk, two cups and a-half of flour, two teaspoonfuls baking powder, a pinch of salt, one tablespoonful of butter, one cup sweet cream. Sift the flour and stir into it the sugar, salt and baking powder, then the milk. Add to these the egg, without beating it and the butter melted in a little hot water. Beat all well and bake in jelly cake tins.

Slice the peaches, crush slightly with the back of a spoon and place between the layers of cake sprinkling with powdered sugar. For the top cake have ready the cream, whipped firm, and stud this thickly with sliced peaches. If the cream is not obtainable, the whites of three eggs whisked to a stiff meringue with a little sugar will prove an excellent substitute. Berries may be used instead of peaches, when the latter are not available.

GREEN CORN PUDDING:—One dozen ears corn, one egg, three good tablespoonfuls melted butter, pepper and salt to taste. Strip the ears down with a fork, or grate *lightly* all over (just sufficiently to break the skin). Scrape *thoroughly* both up and down. This gives all the nutriment of the corn while leaving all the skin of each grain upon the cob. Beat yolk and white of egg well together and mix ingredients. The order of putting together is immaterial. If the corn is very young a slight sprinkling of flour will be necessary. If quite old, a little milk. If not *sweet*, add three heaped teaspoonfuls of sugar. If, however, the conditions are all right, the corn being nice, tender and sweet, the first recipe makes one of the most appetizing dishes ever cooked.

Bake as any other pudding, either in pie plates or deep dish, according to preference. When a rich brown, it is done. Serve as a vegetable without removing from baking dish.

PRUDENCE PARSONS.

Do any of the ladies know that by warming the knife that hot bread will cut as nicely as cold?

EMMA.

FEBRUARY 6, 1886.

EDITOR OF THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Will some one kindly inform me, through the columns of the JOURNAL, how to make gum drops with a soft filling?—honey gum drops they are called.

And oblige, A. E. D.

BUSY HOUSEWIFE:—In oiling your floor, apply the oil hot. Pour out in a tin as much as will cover the floor, and heat in a basin of hot water. The floor should be perfectly clean and dry. Give as many coats as the floor will take, (which varies with different woods). A short time only need elapse between first and second coat. Do not step on the floor for several days, unless on boards laid down for the purpose.

SUBSCRIBER.

DEAR EDITOR:—If any one would like to know how to prevent the juice from running out of pies, here is a very simple way: Take strips of cloth about an inch wide, wet, and put around the edge of the crust after the pies are ready for the oven. Be careful and not strip off the cloth until the pies are quite cool, or the crust will break. I have found that it is always best to put the sugar in the bottom of the pie. These few suggestions, I hope, will prove as beneficial to others as to me. Respectfully yours,

BUTTERCUP.

A WORRIED WIFE would help her husband by serving no fried meats or vegetables upon her table; no warm bread, or any less than a day old. Coffee, too, should be avoided by many dyspeptics, and indeed, did the sufferer drink nothing at his meals it would be better for him. Cabbage should never be allowed, and potatoes half boiled and then baked in the oven are more easily digested than when otherwise prepared. These few simple directions if adhered to and more time taken to masticate the food properly, have helped many people annoyed by dyspepsia. Above all, throw away the frying pan, and broil all your steaks.—ED.

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[FOR THE LADIES HOME JOURNAL.]

LATE SUMMER STYLES.

Decorative Novelties for Handsome Toilettes —New Bathing Suits—Fabrics for Cool Summer Days and Early Fall— Coraline Hats and Bonnets.

BY MRS. JAS. H. LAMBERT.

The predicted popularity of perfectly plain costumes was but partly realized during the summer, for a great many of the dresses in silken goods are richly trimmed, while even the woolen and camel's hair suits were more or less elaborately adorned.

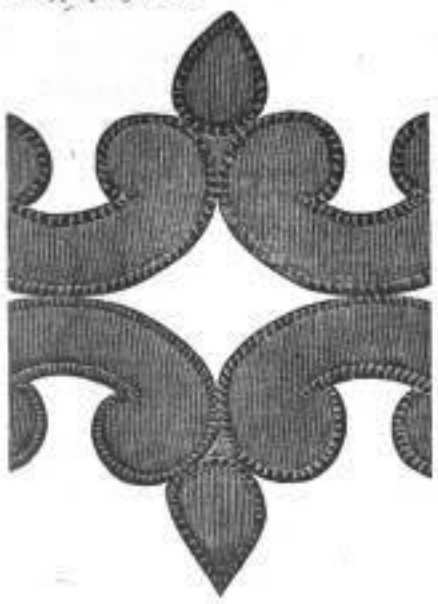
Beaded ornaments are still largely used, not only on corsages, but in various other ways; those now worn as appliques are in jet, or in artistic colors and attractive designs. Many of the side draperies are kept in place by these ornaments, which often combine all the tones in the gown or in the brocade of which the parements are composed; brown and sky blue for example, cardinal and navy blue, crevette and cardinal. They are seen, too, on cotton gowns, those with silken finish, like French satines, which ought not to be laundried, any more than a China silk or a foulard.

There has just been introduced a new style of embroidery for dresses, which is thoroughly distinctive. The foundation of most or many of them is a woolen material, which in softness rivals real Indian cashmere, but is thinner and lighter. Moreover, this lovely moss stitch embroidery can be executed to order on any desired fabric.

A specimen material with beige ground shows a wide panel in mouse and brown, worked in moss stitch, and the same design on a blue ground is worked in white and terra-cotta. A cream canvas is beautified with a large pattern worked in red, while another in brown and gold has flecks of silver here and there.

The variety of designs and the combination of colors are remarkable. Grey, pink, terra-cotta and green are blended in an Oriental conceit, while a dark green stuff shows moss stitch bands of green and cardinal prettily blended. These novelties are not the mere fashion of the moment, but of the future, and the moss stitch embroideries, plain or combined with or worked in with lace, will appear on thousands of the new dresses for autumn and winter wear.

Another method of ornamentation for stylish dresses and costumes is to trim with one of the new applique galloons.



The illustration conveys an idea of the smaller designs in these applique galloons, most of them being in very large and elaborate patterns. They are made in any and all colors and combinations, and look more like hand embroidered bands applied, than they do like machine work. These applique galloons are in thousands of different designs, or will be made to order in any figure one may fancy.

Some of the new bathing suits are very striking. The elastic, or perfect-fitting jersey suits, are worn by young ladies with good form. An imported novelty is in navy blue, with spangles resembling fish scales interwoven with the woolen threads. Another odd suit has a finely ribbed tunic fastened on the shoulder, while its battlemented edge is bound with white braid. A close ruche of serge enables it to fit well up into the neck, and the sleeves have a similar bordering. The bathing suits made in striped or checked flannel are usually untrimmed. Some have tunics and separate knickerbockers, while others are cut all in one piece.

Cotton fabrics are going to be worn till late in the fall, and some of the just received French satines are most attractive. These goods are more beautiful in finish than ever, and their ground colors are very rich. Some of them show hair lines, while others have almost stripes in other colors than those in the ground. Geometrical figures are also popular, and there are a few floral designs, but they are very small. Gold and canary on brown, navy blue, garnet and black are favorite combinations. Dresses of these goods are quite as pretty as the gowns of silk, and they are very prettily trimmed, generally with velvet, as are the dresses of more expensive, but not more charming goods.

Hair line camel's hair, lately introduced, will be in demand in the fall, and Khayyam broadcloth, also a camel's hair fabric, comes in many handsome shades in light and dark colors. It is predicted that rough surfaced goods are not to lead next winter, and among the prettiest new goods are two-faced Henriettas in all the popular colors in lovely street shades.

The most quaint hats and bonnets are those formed of coraline, which is nothing more or less than a sea or gulf coral in straw color, open and flexible.

The hats and bonnets made of coraline are most durable. They are fashioned in a wonderful variety of shapes, and most artistically trimmed with ribbons, feathers, flowers, and ostrich tips, that is when they are to be worn at other places than the sea-shore, for salt and damp atmosphere will take all the curl out of feathers; hence, ribbon and flowers, or lawns and laces are best for seaside service. A pretty bonnet of this material is fancifully trimmed with coral crape, and imitation coral ornaments.

***

NEW TRIMMINGS.

There will be many odd ways of decorating costumes and dresses for the coming fall and winter, and entirely new is the embroidery in moss stitch as here illustrated upon corsage. This style of machine fancy work has just been introduced by the Kursheedt Manufacturing Co. Thousands of robes are embroidered in their workrooms in this stitch, in more designs than one could possibly imagine, and in all colors for day or evening wear.

Still others of Kursheedt's specialties are the applique galloons, which look, as can be seen by the cut of this new trimming, like real embroidered applique, executed by hand. They are made in all colors, and in hundreds of large, medium and small patterns.

***

DAY SEWED SHOES.

The general impression is that these handsome shoes are made during the day, but the fact is they are made on a new machine, which sews equal to the hand, which was invented by a Mr. Day. These shoes are equal in finish and material to the finest French hand made shoe, and yet the manufacturers are able to sell them at much lower prices. All styles of shoes and slippers are represented in the Day sewed shoes.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Inquirer:"—Yes, Kursheedt still publishes the *Fashion Sheet*. The midsummer number is just out; send 5c. for a copy to the Kursheedt Manufacturing Co., New York. The subscription price for a year, or five numbers is 25c.

"Mrs. H. B. C. and others:"—Had no idea so many ladies would want to know about braided wire bustles. To save time and trouble write direct for illustrated price list to Weston & Wells, 1017 Chestnut St., Phila., Pa. The bustles, with other hygienic contrivances in braided wire, were invented by Dr. Weston, who gave the world the soft filling for decayed teeth.

"Young Mother:"—Sharpless Brothers can furnish you with every needful article for yourself and the baby. Yes, they will send you samples of dress goods in any kind or style you may desire.

"Mrs. Dr. R.," Orange City:—Many ladies do not wear black at all; others leave it off after one season, and put on white or colors. Mourning ornaments should be of jet.

"L. C.," and "Mrs. Kate Clarkson:"—You can get an illustrated price list of Ball's elastic section corset's by writing for it to Chicago Corset Co., 402 Broadway, N. Y.

"Belle G."—The braces are usually distinct; however, write for a catalogue or price list as above directed, and you may see among illustrations just what you want.

"Tired Mother:"—The sewing machine will certainly help you; that is if you do not add to your labor by putting too much work on the garments for the little folks. The best machine I know of costs only $19.50. Write for circular of information to Demorest Sewing Machine Co., No. 17 East 14th St., New York.

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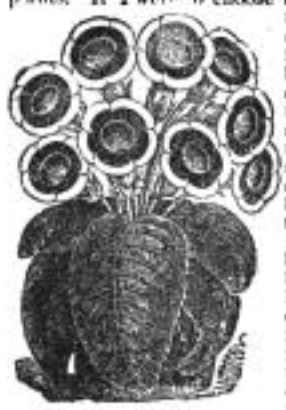
[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

The Gloxinia.

This is one of our very best summer blooming plants. If I were to choose two, I would select this and the Fuchsia. Both are rich in color, profuse in bloom, and give a constant supply all through the season, and are easily cultivated. This last merit ought to recommend them both to the amateur.



THE GLOXINIA.

The Gloxinia can be raised from seed, by sowing it in light fine soil, precisely as recommended in last month's article on the Cineraria. The early cultivation of the plants should be the same.

But I prefer to buy bulbs of some reliable florist. I procure them in March or April, and pot them in a rich, friable soil. Press the bulb into the soil just far enough to cover it. Water rather sparingly at first, but give more when the leaves appear. Small pots should be used at first, and shifts should be made as fast as the soil becomes filled with roots. Plenty of light should be given, but I think the plant does better away from direct sunshine than when placed in it. It likes a moist atmosphere, but is not very fond of having its leaves sprinkled, therefore sprinkle about the plant, and let it get moisture through the air rather than by direct application of water to its foliage. It is also fond of heat, and does well on a shelf placed about the middle of the window. I sprinkle tobacco dust or insect powder over the soil, about my plants, and find this keeps the green fly from them. In June the plants grown from bulbs begin to bloom. The flowers are shaped much like the old and well-known Canterbury Bell, and are borne on stout, short stalks. Some varieties are erect, others drooping. They come in a wonderful variety of colors. Some are white, some rose color, some scarlet, some creamy yellow, others blue, and purple and mauve, while some are beautifully blotched and spotted. A well-grown plant of Gloxinias in full flower is a sight worth seeing. The flowers last for several days, and there will generally be from three to a half-dozen flowers at a time. I depend on this plant for conservatory decoration during the summer more than any other except the Fuchsia. A great many persons who have seen Gloxinias in bloom at flower shows and in the conservatories of wealthy persons, have an idea that they are very difficult plants to manage, and must be taken care of by an experienced gardener. Such if not the case. They are easily cared for, and can be grown as successfully as the Geranium.

In fall, after they begin to show a sign of desiring to rest by a less profuse and vigorous bloom than that which has characterized them during the summer, decrease the supply of water until the earth gets quite dry, and the leaves fall off. Then set the pots containing the bulbs in a dark corner of the conservatory, or some room where the temperature will not fall below 45 degrees. Give only enough water through winter to keep the bulbs from shriveling. If in a conservatory, the earth will absorb enough from the moist atmosphere. In March shake the bulbs out of the old soil, pot in fresh earth, and give a little water to excite an action towards growth. Before long you will see small leaves putting out. Then increase the supply of water, and put the plants nearer the glass, but, as I have said, do not give them strong sunlight. Treated in this way, the Gloxinia will be found a most satisfactory plant. Grow it one year and you will never be without it willingly thereafter.

VERONICAS.

These plants are not grown very extensively for some reason, but they deserve to be, because they are not only pretty, but easy of cultivation. The best known variety is a soft blue. The flowers are small, and are borne in spikes at the ends of the branches. They are very desirable for small bouquets. A well-grown specimen when in bloom is a charming sight. Blue flowers are so rare that every collection should include one of these. There is a rose-colored variety, but I do not find it as pleasing as the blue. Grow in any good garden soil, made light with sand. Give the pot perfect drainage, and then water freely; but don't be too liberal with your water unless the item of drainage is attended to, or you will sour the soil and sicken the plant by stagnant water. The blooming season is through the winter months. The plant is naturally compact and bushy, therefore, but little training is required.

THE HOYA.

Under its popular name of Wax Plant, this vine is pretty well known, but it is not as generally grown as it ought to be. It is rather slow about getting started. Often a cutting, after it becomes rooted, will seem to stand still for months. Do not be discouraged if you have one that acts in this way. It is getting a good foundation laid for future work. All at once it will begin to grow, and its growth will be rapid enough to make up for its supposed idleness.

It has large, pointed, ovate leaves, of a rich dark green, very thick in texture, and with a shining surface. These two peculiarities give it the name of Wax Plant. The flowers are small, star-shaped, and borne in drooping clusters. They are flesh-colored, with a darker center. They have a delightful fragrance. They hang on the plant a long time before they fade. One peculiarity of the plant is, that next year's flowers will be produced from the same stem where they were borne this, therefore, after the blossoms have fallen and left a little stub to mark the place where they appeared, do not cut off the stub as you might be tempted to do. If you do, you destroy future crops of flowers. Give a good, rich soil. Let it be light with sand. Do not over water the plant, and do not keep it in a shady corner, or a cool place. Train it about the windows, and keep its leaves clean and free from dust. It is an ornamental plant when small, and a large specimen, in bloom or out of it, is sure to be admired. Give it a strong support of some sort, as it is very heavy when large, on account of its large, thick leaves.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Mrs. John T."—In reply to your query, I would say that I think you have made the soil too rich for your Clematis. So rich, in fact, that a growth of top is encouraged, rather than a crop of flowers. Do not give it any more manure. In order to get the shoots to fix themselves to your trellis, you may have to help them at first. Once get them started, and they will take care of themselves. A three-year-old plant ought to bloom profusely. The Wisteria very often does not bloom until it becomes well established, which is not for years in some cases. Let it grow, and have patience. I have a vine which did not bloom for seven years, but after it began to blossom, it never failed to give a profuse crop of flowers. Cut the new growth well back in the fall.

"Little Sister."—The blossoms of the Cactus to which you refer are like those of C. Optunia in shape, but are a rich crimson in color. They are very fine, and well repay one for all the care they require.

"Canadian."—The Hydrangea has two kinds of flowers, like some kinds of Begonias. One is what may be called "sterile." The plant is only following out its natural habit in producing these imperfect blossoms, or what you consider to be such. If you observe the large heads of bloom, you will see that there are often many of these "imperfect" blossoms among them.

"Miss B. D. C."—To grow the Heliotrope well, you must give it a good soil, and see that the roots do not suffer from lack of moisture. It is a plant that is very fond of the sun, and will not do well in a shady window. To secure a good specimen, you must keep the branches pinched back until there are a sufficient number to make the plant bushy and compact. After a branch has borne blossoms, cut it back, always. This induces branches to grow below, and soon you have a plant which is well covered with blooming points. We have no plant which requires more cutting in than this one does. Many dislike to prune their plants, and let them grow, and the natural result is that they never have a good shaped specimen. Plants which do not "break" readily, or, in other words, those which do not branch freely, do not require as much cutting back as those which send out branches all along the stalks. Care should be taken, therefore, in pruning your plants. The Fuchsia, Geranium, and Pelargonium, will stand any amount of cutting-in, and generally be the better for it, while plants which do not produce many branches would be spoiled by a treatment of this sort. Therefore, study your plants, and satisfy yourself as to their needs in this respect. There is no "black" Heliotrope. Some dealers advertise a variety as black, but it is simply a dark purple, when grown in a strong light. In the shade it will be a lavender. There is no "white" variety. There is a kind with pale flowers, but it is not as desirable as the old kinds.

"Mrs. D. D. F."—If you want a good plant for your border,—something that will live through the winter without requiring very much care, and give a grand show of flowers,—try the new varieties of Iris. They are magnificent. You can have them in white, blue, purple, yellow, and violet, and these colors will be combined in the most gorgeous manner imaginable. They require a good soil to grow in, and the roots should be covered with leaves or litter in the fall. They are as fine in their way as the new varieties of Clematis, which are enjoying so much popularity at present.

"Annie S."—One of the prettiest plants for a hanging basket is the Kenilworth Ivy, or Linaria cymbalaria. It soon covers the pot or basket with a thicket of foliage, of a bright, rich green. Its slender branches droop gracefully, and have a much prettier effect than those of plants of a stronger growth. It is easily raised from slips.

"C. B. D."—Some Gloxinias are erect, and some have flowers which droop. Both kinds are charming. In the window of the room in which I am writing, are three kinds in bloom. One is a soft, rich carmine, shading into rose color at the base of the petals, with a violet throat. Another, bearing erect flowers, is pure white with the exception of a ring of rose color at the base of the petals, where the throat begins. The third variety has a blotch of velvety maroon on the lower petal, the rest of the flower being a pure white, slightly tinted at the entrance of the throat with faint rose.

"D. S. A." I do not care what you may have read in the catalogues about winter-blooming Fuchsias. I have read it, too, and I know, as do the florists who send out the catalogues, that the Fuchsia is not a winter bloomer, in the proper meaning of the term. Sometimes a plant will produce a few flowers, but as a general thing, you will not succeed in getting a bloom from them. The variety called Speciosa is what might with propriety be termed an ever-bloomer, and by using this, you can get flowers in winter. But the other kinds which you see described as winter flowering are not so. The florists know this quite as well as I do, and I blame them for saying so. It is quite possible that a florist, by special treatment, may succeed in getting a Fuchsia to bloom out of its proper season, but it does not follow that you or I, who have not his facilities, can do this. If you could make the plants rest in summer, and start them into growth in the fall, you might make winter bloomers of them, for they bloom when growing, but it is almost impossible to keep them standing still during the summer season. They are bound to grow then, and if they grow they will bloom, and after they have borne a crop of flowers they will have a season of rest, and that rest will be taken in winter. Let them bloom in summer, and set them in the cellar to rest from October to February.

"A Cambridge Sister" complains that the leaves on her Oleander dry up, while the branches seem in good condition. I do not know why they should do this. I have never had any such trouble with this plant; indeed, I have found its foliage very persistent. Are you sure you give water enough to thoroughly saturate the soil in the pot or tub? An old plant often has such a mass of fine roots that it is difficult to get water enough to penetrate the soil and reach those in the center. Examine and see if the soil is moist all through. Possibly the red spider may be at work on the lower side of the leaves. If they look white, or seem covered with fine dust, you may be quite sure that the spider is there. Wash thoroughly with soapsuds, after which syringe with clear water, and be careful to repeat this syringing daily.

"Mrs. M. W. Morrison."—Sometimes a slip of Hoya Carnosa will begin to grow at once; sometimes it will stand still for months. A two-year-old plant ought to bloom. Give it a rich, light soil, and keep it in a warm place. Do not give enough water to keep the soil wet, but merely moist. I would not winter it in the cellar. Taking off a cutting has nothing to do with its blooming. When it gets ready to blossom, it would bloom if you removed dozens of slips. Tuberous-rooted Begonias are better for bedding out than for pot culture, though they are very pleasing ornaments for the window or conservatory in summer. Plant the bulbs in good soil, in April. Water moderately until growth begins. Keep in a light, but not very sunny window. They require very little care.

"Josie Dall."—Keep the Cactus comparatively dry when it is not growing. When growth begins, increase the supply of water. It may not bloom in winter. It will probably not do so until spring. The Geranium "only one week from the florist" whose leaves are turning yellow, probably finds the change from greenhouse temperature to that of the living-room so great that it cannot stand it. In greenhouses, the air is moist, always, and plants are generally forced in growth. When removed to the parlor, they miss the moisture they have been accustomed to, and their leaves turn and fall, and often the plant dies. Make the change as little abrupt as possible. Sprinkle them daily, or several times a day. Keep them out of the hot sun, and do not give enough water to make the earth sodden.

"Mrs. Thomas."—I infer that your Farfugium would like a lighter soil than that it is growing in at present. Give good drainage, and water freely. Keep the leaves moist by frequent sprinkling. Don't dig about Narcissus until after it has blossomed. Give the top-dressing in fall. Divide the roots in September or October. I do not know what the "Chinese Lily is." I have had several questions asked me about it, and conclude it is a sort of humbug. Would like a description of it.

I am not a brother of the man you speak of, but a distant relative.

"Mrs. J. S. M."—Perhaps the Gladiolus seed was not good. It ought to sprout in less than six weeks. I am not aware that it requires any special treatment. The small bulbs can be planted quite closely together the first year. They will bloom next.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

BORROWING.

BY H. H. HOLDICH.

CHAPTER I.

"Sadie, do lend me a handkerchief."

It was Ida Lorrimer who spoke to her cousin and guest, Sadie Miller. Sadie looked around from the glass where she was pinning on her hat.

"Why should I lend you a handkerchief?" she asked. "Haven't you plenty of your own?"

"Of course I have," said Ida, laughing, "but you see yours are here and mine are not. If I take one of yours it will save me the trouble of going to my own room."

"Take it, certainly," said Sadie. "You are quite welcome, but did not aunt Laura speak to you about borrowing, yesterday?"

Ida laughed. She was always good-natured, which was one reason why everybody liked her.

"Oh, mamma!" she said. "That is just like mamma—tells me not to borrow and then lends me whatever I want the next minute. She does not really mind. Thank you, Sadie. If I forget to return it, it will be sent to you from the wash, so you are quite safe."

Ida Lorrimer was a school-girl of fifteen when she borrowed the handkerchief; she was not always fifteen, nor always a school-girl, but she was, at twenty, the same careless, good-natured, lazy Ida,—always borrowing, always meaning to pay, but forgetting to do so quite as often as she remembered. It was so simple and easy, having forgotten her own purse, handkerchief or pencil, to borrow from any one who was near. The more tangible objects, such as handkerchiefs and pencils, were generally returned by some of the family who had found them and knew the owners. The money, however, being spent was no longer tangible, and no one knew about it except the lender and borrower. If it had been a hundred or even ten dollars Ida would probably have remembered it, but being only ten, or twenty-five or fifty cents, such a trifle was almost sure to escape her memory. But you may be sure that it did not escape the memory of her victims. Ida's ears should have burned, if there be any truth in the old saying, on a certain fine afternoon, when several of her friends happened to be at the house of one of the number.

"Are you going to the concert to-morrow, Lulu?" asked Clara Rivers.

"I don't know," said Lulu Grey, demurely. "It depends entirely upon Ida Lorrimer's memory."

"O-ho!" said one, and "How so?" asked another.

Lulu laughed. "You are very lucky to be able to ask that question," she said. "If you knew Ida Lorrimer a little better there would be no need. Why, of course she borrowed fifty cents of the dollar which I had been saving to pay for my ticket. She bought French candy with it and sent half of it home to my little sister, continued Lulu, with a comical look.

"Isn't that Ida all over?" said May Gresham, laughing. "She is as generous as she can be, but she hasn't an atom of justice in her whole composition. Generosity is a fine showy virtue, but I would give pounds of it for one ounce of justice. I wonder how many of us Ida has victimized in the same way?"

"She borrowed a lace pin from me," said Alice Vaughan, laughing, "but her mother sent it back."

"Ten cents from me for car fare," said Lucy Ray.

"A quarter from me for the collection last Sunday, said Ella Fanning. "It was a collection for the poor and she felt very sorry for them. She did not know that lending her that quarter left me a penniless pauper."

"A postage stamp from me," said Clara Rivers.

"Girls," said Lulu Grey, suddenly, "I am awfully sorry that I told you about that fifty cents. It was just as mean as it could be, and all that you have said since is my fault for starting the subject. We all love her in spite of her little failings. We all know that she never means to borrow without paying, and that she would give the very shoes off her feet if she thought we needed them. We could have our money back in a minute by just asking for it. We don't like to do that, of course, but that is our own fault. And I say it's just cowardly to go on so behind her back when not one of us would dare say a word to her face."

The girls all laughed. Some agreed and some were provoked, but Lulu was a privileged character, and could say and do pretty much what she pleased.

None of the conversation came to Ida's ears. How would many of us feel, I wonder, if we knew what our most intimate friends say of us in their hours of special communion? Or what they think, if they are too loyal to put their thoughts into words? Perhaps it would do us as much good as the knowledge of their conversation might have done Ida. Perhaps it would pass over our heads unreguarded as it might have done over hers. Be that as it may, no word of their conversation did Ida hear, and whether it was well or ill that she did not, who can say?

CHAPTER II.

It was a winter afternoon, and Ida and the dressmaker were hurrying to finish a dress which was to be worn that night.

"It wants to be looped a little higher on the left side, Elsie," said Ida. "Drawing it a little tighter across the front would improve it, and ——"

"A package by mail and ten cents due upon it, Miss Ida," said the maid, who appeared at that moment.

"Ten cents! oh dear!" said Ida, "I haven't my purse. I never do have it when I need it. Run up stairs for it, Nora. It is —— oh dear! I don't know where it is. If I go to look for it myself this dress will never be finished. Have you ten cents in your pocket, Nora?"

No, Nora was very sorry, but she had not ten cents. It was a curious fact that the members of the household seldom had any money when Ida wished to borrow. Sometimes a new servant, flattered by such a request from her young mistress, would produce the required sum, but such a thing never happened more than once with the same person.

"Dear me!" cried Ida, almost impatiently. "What a very curious thing that no one ever has any money. I shall have to go upstairs after all, unless——Elsie, you do not happen to have ten cents in your pocket, do you?"

Yes, Elsie had ten cents. She had pulled out her shabby little pocket-book and taken out the solitary coin which it contained before Ida spoke. Now she tendered it to her, regardless of the looks of compassionate warning which Nora could not help casting upon her, but which she did not in the least understand.

"O you dear, good creature! always ready in an emergency," cried Ida. "Don't let me forget to give it to you before you go home. These are some samples that I asked Sadie to send me from down town. We could not tell how much the postage would be, so I asked her to put on a two cent stamp and I would pay the rest here. Sadie's a regular Jew about money matters," said Ida, laughing as if it were a good joke. "She never will get a thing for me unless I give her the money beforehand. I can't understand people's being so particular about a trifle, but I suppose it is all right. The Millers are not rich, and I am afraid that I am rather apt to forget."

Elsie looked up from her work with a passing tinge of uneasiness, but it was gone in an instant. How could she distrust Ida Lorrimer who had treated her so generously? They had been playmates in childhood and in those days Elsie was rather above Ida in social position. Changes had come since then, however. Elsie's father had died when she was a child, and upon his death it was found that his fortune, supposed to be immense, had melted away like snow. The shock of the discovery, combined with grief at her bereavement had killed the mother, and Elsie, at thirteen, had not only found herself thrown upon her own resources for a livelihood, but burdened also with the support of a younger sister. They had not a near relation in the world, but a distant cousin of their father's came to the rescue to some extent. He was not rich himself and had a large family, but he did his best. Elsie was apprenticed to a dressmaker, and her little sister, Agnes, was to live with him until old enough and sufficiently acquainted with her business to support her. That time had come two years before, just as Ida Lorrimer was making her triumphant entry into the world of fashion. Accident had brought the two girls face to face, and Ida's warm, generous nature had shone out in her cordial greeting of the poor girl, once more than her equal, now so far below her in social position. The warmth of Ida's nature did not expend itself in her greeting. She immediately began to think how she could help Elsie. Of course it was out of the question to offer money, and the only way which occurred to Ida entailed no small sacrifice. Elsie went out to work by the day, and the one small room which the sisters occupied had no facilities for taking in sewing. How would it do for Ida to give up having her dresses made out and let Elsie come to the house and make them instead? It was a real sacrifice for Ida, but she did not hesitate long about it. So far she had had no reason to regret her action. Elsie had made but one dress for her, but that had been universally admired, and so many enquiries had been made of Ida in regard to her new dressmaker that it was evident that Elsie would be at no loss for patrons.

Elsie's heart was very light at the new and hopeful prospects which were opening before her, after the years of toil and drudgery. There was a soft flush on her cheek and a happy light in her blue eyes as she thought of all that it implied—more comforts and a better education for the delicate little sister who was the apple of Elsie's eye. For herself—well, Elsie did not think very far in that direction.

"But I should like a new pair of boots," she thought, as she looked down at the shoes which were too worn and thin to keep out even the dampness of a summer's night. "I think I can venture to treat myself to them when Ida pays me for this last job. I wonder whether she will remember to pay me the ten cents she borrowed? Of course she will, but ——"

Elsie shivered as she looked out of the window at the streets, already white with snow. She put on her shabby gloves slowly and lingeringly, but her face brightened as the door opened and Ida came in again.

"O Elsie, I almost forgot," she said.

Elsie thought it was the ten cents which Ida had almost forgotten, but she was soon undeceived.

"I almost forgot to tell you that you need not come very early to-morrow. I shall want to sleep in the morning, and you can do nothing until you have tried on my dress. Ten o'clock will be quite early enough, so you can take a good long nap yourself, for once. Good-night, dear. I shall think of your dainty fingers every time I look at my pretty dress."

"Dear, dear! how deep the snow is," said Mrs. Lorrimer to Ida, as they crossed the pavement to the carriage. "I do hope that Elsie had thick boots on. The poor child looks very delicate."

"Oh, she can ride all the way home by taking two cars," said Ida. "Of course she would not be so foolish as to attempt to walk in this storm." When, in the bustle of settling themselves in the carriage, the subject was dropped and Elsie forgotten.

CHAPTER III.

"Elsie child are you ready for me?" said Ida, as she opened the door of the sewing-room the next day.

A pair of very dull eyes were raised to hers and Ida started as she saw the flush upon the thin cheek.

"Why Elsie, you are sick. What do you mean by trying to work while you are in such a state! You ought to be in bed," said Ida, trying to take the work from Elsie's hands, but she held it fast.

"It is only a cold," she said, "I am not really sick."

"Not sick!" cried Ida, "With your eyes looking like leaden balls and your cheeks like peonies and your pulse (laying her fingers upon the slender wrist) going like a mill-race? How did you ever take such a cold?"

"I—I got my feet wet last night," stammered Elsie.

"You foolish girl," cried Ida. "When you could ride directly from this door to your own. Why will people be so penny wise and pound foolish? At all events you are not going to sew any more to-day. The pricking of my conscience all the evening would be worse than if you had left a needle in every seam. I can wear one of my other dresses to-night and you will go straight home and take care of yourself. I hope that you will be extravagant enough to ride to-day," said Ida with a slightly sarcastic emphasis.

"O yes, I will ride to-day," said Elsie, not over sorry to accept the holiday which Ida offered, for, indeed, she began to feel very, very ill. Her head throbbed and her back ached and there was a strange, tight feeling in her chest which she had never had before.

"Don't think of coming to-morrow unless you are really better," were Ida's last words. "I can get along very well with the dresses I have and your place shall be kept open for you until you are ready. I shall look you up in a day or two unless you are here in the meantime."

Three days passed with no news of Elsie and Ida began to grow uneasy.

"I do wish you would go and see about Elsie, mamma," she said. "I cannot go to-day and I am afraid the poor child is seriously ill. It was so foolish of her to walk that dreadful night, just to save ten cents. I cannot understand why people do such absurd things."

Mrs. Lorrimer looked very grave when came back from her visit that afternoon. She had found Elsie very ill—pneumonia the doctor pronounced it.

"You will have to get another dressmaker, Ida," she said. "The doctor says she will not be able to do any more sewing this winter, if, indeed, she gets over it at all."

"The poor child!" cried Ida, while tears of real grief sprang to her brown eyes. "And all because of that foolish walk. I must go to see her to-morrow and take her some fruit."

"Ida," said Mrs. Lorrimer, and then she hesitated, for what she had to say was very hard. "Go to see Elsie by all means, but if I were in your place I would say nothing about the cause of her illness."

"Why not?" asked Ida, in surprise.

"Because—My dear, I do not like to tell you, but—Do you remember borrowing ten cents of Elsie that day?"

"Ten cents?" said Ida, looking perplexed. "Why no. Did I? Of course I will pay her, but what of it?"

"Only," said Mrs. Lorrimer quietly, "that that was all the money she had in her purse. She had saved it for her car fare, and as you borrowed it *and forgot to pay it back* she was obliged to walk home. It was Agnes, not Elsie, who told me, to justify her sister when I blamed her for walking home on such a night."

Ida's face was white when her mother had finished, and in her eyes shone a strange mixture of horror, shame and remorse. "And if she dies I shall be her murderer!" was all she said.

If her feelings did not find vent in words they did in deeds. Pleasure and business were entirely laid aside while she devoted herself to Elsie, bringing to the work not only all the warmth of her loving, generous nature, but also the anguish of devotion which grew out of her deep and bitter remorse. All that care or money could do was done to keep in Elsie the life which day by day seemed ready to take its flight.

"If Elsie dies I can never forgive myself," she said once, "but I cannot believe that she will die. It would be no more than I deserve, perhaps, but God is too good to punish Agnes so cruelly for my sins."

And Elsie did not die. It was to Ida that the doctor first announced the signs of improvement, to Ida who had shared with Agnes all the long, dreary vigils of that dreadful time. The rush of solemn joy with which Ida heard his words were almost too much for her. Her head dropped upon the bed and burning tears of joy gushed from her eyes.

It was long before Elsie was fully restored to her former strength, and, but for Ida, it would have gone hard with the sisters during that period of enforced idleness. To Agnes's remonstrances at all that she was lavishing upon them, Ida's only reply was:

"Let me do what I can. Think what my life would have been if Elsie had died. Let me do what I can to show my remorse and gratitude."

The first day upon which Elsie was able to resume her work, Ida surprised her friends by making a round of visits. She had come, she said, to enquire whether she had ever borrowed from them and forgotten to pay. Many were the small sums which she disbursed that day in payment of trifling debts, but she returned home with a lightened conscience and a happy heart.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HINTS UPON ETIQUETTE AND GOOD MANNERS.

BY MRS. S. O. JOHNSTON.

NO. VII.

Visits of Condolence and Congratulations.

In this world of sorrow and sin, griefs and graves, visits of condolence must occasionally be paid; there are a few requisite rules concerning their due observance.

If possible they should be made within a week after the sad occasion, but if you have only a ceremonious acquaintance with the bereaved family, it is usual to wait until some of its members have attended church.

Of course if you have an intimate acquaintance with them, you will call at the house as soon as you hear that a member of the family has exchanged worlds, and proffer your services to do needful errands, etc., and ask the servant if you may see some one of the household.

If only a formal visitor you should leave a card at the door, to show your sympathy with their sorrow.

In large cities and towns, invitations are sent to those friends whose presence is desired at the funeral, and it is not etiquette for any one to attend unless they have received a card. But in country villages, every one considers it his or her privilege to go to all funerals, and there is supposed to be a certain excitement in attending them, which is pleasureable to some minds. The curious are, especially, interested in thus being permitted to obtain an entrance into houses, whose interiors they have never been allowed to behold. But truly refined persons would never intrude themselves upon the privacy of a family at such a time, or at any time, remembering the old rule: "To do as you would be done by."

There are those who make it their business to attend every funeral that is held in their vicinity. An inveterate funeral-attender was once present at a funeral where she was not accurately posted as to the relations of the family, and after viewing "the remains," and shedding the usual amount of tears, she asked of a person sitting beside her the following peculiar question:

"Did the corpse leave a widow?"

To which the lady could hardly reply in the affirmative on account of suppressed laughter.

James Russell Lowell writes, after the death of his first wife:

"Condole if you will, I can bear it;
'Tis the well-meant alms of breath;
Yet all the preachings since Adam
Cannot make Death other than Death."

And what mourner is there, who has not felt keenly the truth of these lines!

And well-meant condolences will often fall upon the heart like blows—which one has to endure with patience, knowing that they are spoken in kindness, but, alas! a most mistaken kindness. The silent pressure of the hand being far more soothing to the heart-broken mourner, than any of the condoling words of the dictionary.

To a very few is given the power of saying just the right thing in paying visits of condolence, and if a clergyman possesses that power it will be a mine of wealth to him, and a never-failing spring of peace and good will to his parishioners. Therefore, it is best to allow the mourners to make the first allusions to their bereavement, yet it is allowable to say, as they enter the room: "You have my deepest sympathies," or, if you have been similarly afflicted, you might say: "I can fully sympathise with you, as I have known great griefs, and have drank to its dregs the bitter cup of sorrow."

It is very bad taste to enquire into the particulars of the last hours of the deceased. If the mourners find relief in relating the harrowing incidents, they will tell you all you may desire to hear, so always allow them that privilege. To me, however, the Quaker fashion of sitting in solemn silence, is the most soothing. I like to say with Whittier:

"With silence only as a benediction,
God's angel's come,
When in the presence of a great affliction,
The soul sits dumb."

VISITS OF CONGRATULATION.

Visits of congratulation are paid after an engagement has been announced, a wedding invitation has been received, or a wedding reception attended, or a friend has written a successful book, or received an appointment to some office in the community, state, or government, or a child has been added to the family circle; also, if your clergyman has delivered a sermon exactly suited to your spiritual needs, you should call upon his wife, and express your high esteem of the discourse to her, if you do not meet him. All these occasions can be used to cement the bonds of sympathy and good-will between yourself and your friends, and neighbors, and they should not be permitted to pass by unnoticed, as you may not only, thereby, scatter the seeds of kindness in their pathway, but may receive an amount of reflected peace and good-will yourself, that will brighten your own life.

As soon as you have heard of an engagement, *officially announced*, and not an offspring of some rumors, you may call upon the family, and ask for the mother as well as the young lady, (if you are intimate with her,) and express in suitable words your sympathy with the young couple, saying all the pleasant things that you can, and suppressing with great care anything that you may have heard that was detrimental to either of them. Of course, you would not to a mother, speak ill of a son or daughter, but there are busy ladies who never hold their tongues in harness, and if they know aught against the other member of the engagement, consider it their bounden, sacred duty to announce it.

From such people we all would pray with fervor "Good Lord deliver us."

They are the scavengers of society, and should always be avoided as much as possible, as they do not scatter healing in their pathway, but, like the girl in the fable, toads and vipers drop from their mouths.

After a marriage reception has been held, you should call within a week upon the mother of the bride, as the one who sent you the invitation, and upon the day given out for the bride's reception, you should also pay a visit, and place a card upon the salver or receiver as you leave or enter the house.

In paying visits of congratulation upon the birth of an infant, due observance should be given to the time that has elapsed before the call is made. But a basket of flowers can be sent, or plates of fruit, or some "dainty dish fit to set before a queen" can be sent with your card, or a pretty note expressive of your pleasure in the happiness of the young mother.

Such kindly attentions being always a great source of delight to their recipient, and old ladies can thus make themselves highly agreeable to young parents, and obtain from them many kind offices as years pass by. Yet not with such intent would I urge upon my readers to offer them, but in the service or kindness and good deeds.

We none of us perform too many kindly acts in this work-a-day world, and if we can only learn the lesson of taking an interest in others, while we are in the spring, or at the harvest of life, we shall find that its dividends will surpass all others on earth.

After a month or six weeks have passed, a visit of congratulation can be paid to the mother, and you can, if a mother yourself, recall the first days of your children's life, and by thus doing, unite yourself in bonds of sympathy with your hostess. Little incidents, not too long spun out, or too harrowing to the feelings, will interest her, as she has to pass through the mystery of a young life, and has learned that

"It is the secret sympathy,
The silver link, the silken tie,
Which heart to heart, and mind to mind,
In body and in soul can bind."

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

"Student" writes: "Will you kindly inform me, through your column, whether the use of the title 'Miss' is allowable on visiting cards? also, what reply would you consider most concise and polite to make to a person saying, 'I beg your pardon?'"

Ans.—1st., "Miss" is always printed upon a young lady's visiting cards, and if the oldest of the family, she adds the family name, thus: "Miss Jones." If a younger sister, her baptismal name is added, thus: "Miss Mary Jones." Where there are several sisters in a family, a card is often used with "Misses Jones" inscribed on it.

2d., "I beg your pardon" is frequently employed for "Excuse me" if a person passes in front of another, or for a hundred and one little acts, and them, a bow and smile alone, or the adverb "Certainly" are sufficient. But, if used to express a desire for forgiveness, for certain misdemeanors, you should reply: "It is granted," or "I'll overlook the offence," or "I will excuse you."

"I beg pardon" is a phrase in constant use with Englishmen. It takes the place of the interrogatory "What!" in our conversation, and is used for "What did you say?" when one fails to understand a sentence spoken by another. It is considered a polite sentence wherewith to interlard your conversation.

"An Interested Reader" writes: "Will you please inform me through the columns of your valuable paper, what reply a lady should make to a gentleman when he thanks her for the pleasure of her company?"

Ans.—"You can say the pleasure is mutual," if it really is so, or, "I have enjoyed the evening." But please do not say "You are very welcome," as that is too rural. Or you need only bow graciously and smile sweetly, and shake hands with the gentleman, and your manner will be a sufficient reply.

"Charlie" writes: "I am a girl of fifteen years, and I am very bashful. Can you not tell me some way to get over it?"

Ans.—You can overcome the painful bashfulness by striving not to think of yourself at all when in company; think of the happiness of others, of aiding them in some way, and self-forgetfulness will aid you. Study to converse well upon the topics of the day, upon subjects of local interest, upon books and nature, by reading upon such subjects, and you will soon lose the bashfulness you complain of. Too much self-consciousness is the cause of your lack of confidence in yourself.

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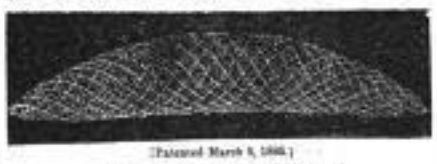

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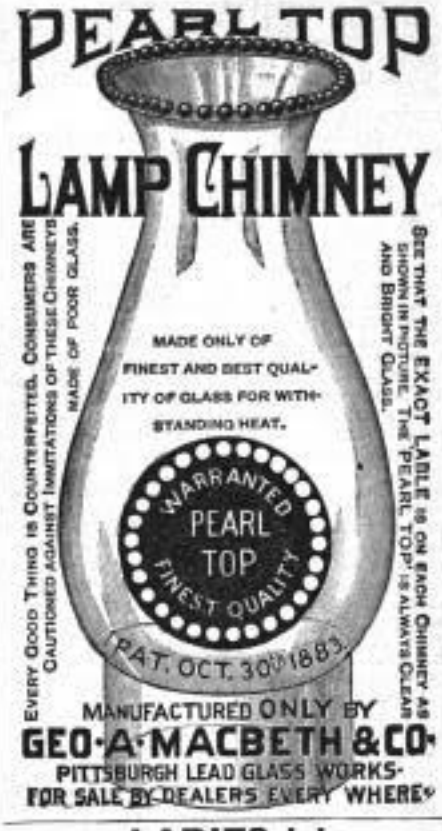

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MUSICAL STUDIES.

NO XVIII.

BY MARGARET B. HARVEY.

This series of musical studies must conclude with this number. Pardon me, then, if I seem abrupt or fragmentary, but I must condense a great deal into a small space. I shall, therefore, give a little about the classical, and a little about the popular styles of music.

You already know that the term classical is generally applied to the works of the great masters, as Handel, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven and Mendelssohn. Now, don't fall into the common error of supposing that, because these masters were great, they have left nothing within the capacity of amateurs to appreciate or execute. I could give you quite a long list of beautiful productions, which will not tax your powers too much, and yet which will pave the way to your further advancement.

Beethoven has been called the Shakespeare of music. All admire him, because it is the fashion—but few can really appreciate him, as he has a style of his own, which it takes a high degree of cultivation to enjoy. It may be crudely described as rich and deep—that of his only rival, Wagner, rich and loud. The finest pianists play Beethoven's Sonatas, but this need not prevent your attempting two of his so-called easy ones, Op. 49, No. 1 and No. 2. His wonderful style may, however, be seen just as plainly in his beautiful little waltzes, Landler, Spirit, Desire and For Elise.

Mendelssohn is preeminent for his spiritual, heaven-aspiring sweetness. Mendelssohn seemed one of the few mortals who possessed a perfect soul, who felt that his gift was divine, and who lived a life almost holy. No one can mistake this celestial quality, breathing through all his works. He seemed endeared to the world by his lovely Songs without Words. Of these, the most popular are Confidence and Consolation, the latter, a unique gem.

The great masters, then, you see produced something besides operas and sonatas. Oh, yes—oratorios, masses, musical poems, and exquisite creations, taking an ordinarily trifling form, as that of a waltz, for their outward vehicle. Beethoven's waltzes are no more like Waldteufel's than the Bible is like a spelling book. Chopin is known principally by his waltzes—but they are not waltzes, they are heart-throbs, they are life-pulses.

Mozart conquered time when he wrote his sublime Twelfth Mass. You can try an arrangement of the Gloria and the Sanctus—if you try as sincerely as you would pray. Still, if you think them beyond your depth, Mozart will give you his little Oxen Waltz, and his beautiful Minuet.

An oratorio is the highest style of sacred composition, in which a scriptural subject is described by four leading soloists, with a grand chorus. Of all oratorios, many authorities consider Handel's Messiah the grandest, ranking it even higher than Haydn's Creation, or Mendelssohn's Elijah. You can get a popular arrangement of "I Know that my Redeemer Liveth," and judge for yourself. Handel seems to excel in sublimity, strangely mingled with melting tenderness.

Haydn is also grand—but through his grandeur often ripples a heavenly joyousness. A simplified arrangement of his "With Verdure Clad," from the Creation, will inspire you to sing, as though you really were one of the morning stars swelling the universal anthem on the first great day. (N. B. Look out for syncopated notes.) The same joyousness may be heard in Haydn's Serenade, from Quartet No. 74, and in the well-known Haydn's Hymn, found in the best hymnals.

Rossini you know by his exquisite hymn, the church tune Mancoh, if by nothing else. It is a little composition, said to have been written as a compliment to an American lady. But, little as it is, it contains the Rossini characteristics, which are, sudden, daring flight, combined with an ornamental flourish—producing, however, not the effect of audacious bombast, but of purest aspiration. I cannot recall any production of Rossini's from which these two qualities were absent. His most famous work, next to his operas, is his sublime Stabat Mater. You can, with some practice, play a popular arrangement of its wonderful tenor solo, the "Cujus Animam."

Schumann has written something expressly for you in his Joyous Farmer and Traumeri. In the former, the melody is in the base, in the latter, the chords are so broken and spread over base and treble that you must "mind your p's and q's." The first is a gay song without words, the second, a dreamy revery. Schubert's March Militaire is rich in heavy chords. But, if you want classical music, in homœopathic doses, I advise you to get Organ at Home, a volume about the size of an ordinary atlas. This will give you the names of the leading great composers, and a slight idea of their style. Berg's and Mack's Organ Schools also give good selections. But, remember, when you have once started out upon the right track, it will not do to stand still—go, all the time. Attend concerts, and accustom yourself to listen intelligently. Train your ear to appreciate fine distinctions. I have a phonographic instrument in my head, so that every piece of music I hear, comes back to me sooner or later; I can hear it, just as distinctly, every note, as though some one were really singing it or playing it. I listen, passively, as if to a voice outside of myself, even when I cannot, myself, sing or play it. I believed, until recently, that everybody had this faculty, but I have been told that this is not the case. If you haven't it, take my word that it is something well worth working for. Frequent the society of musical people. Look up the histories of the great composers, consult the biographical dictionaries, read their lives and letters, collect their photographs—notice what a sweet face Mendelssohn has, and how the two strong ones, Beethoven and Wagner, remind you of each other. Frequent the music stores, and ask to see the catalogues of the best musical productions—it will be strange indeed if the dealers do not answer all your questions fully, and tell you, from time to time, just how much of the works of the great masters to attempt. Follow up this system for two or three years, and you will probably cease to lament that you were not educated in the Conservatory at Leipsic. Even if you were, it would do you little good, unless you made your music a real, live thing.

Most of my readers, no doubt, are young women. I wonder if I could not create a sublime ambition in some of you. The great American opera has not yet appeared—the great woman composer is not yet known—the science of music, itself, the latest and grandest of all sciences, is yet in its infancy. Why should not one of you write the great American opera, be the great woman composer, and bring music nearer to its highest development, in this land? America has already produced the best pianos and organs, and the finest singers—these are women—who will take the next step? Wagner believed in a music of the future—we all know that the elevation of women is the great work of the future—and we believe that our land is the country of the future. Why should not one of you be the woman to unite all?

Grasp this thought, and there is no danger of your not becoming familiar with classical music.

Now for a little popular.

If you do play popular "pieces," select those which are good of their kind. Perhaps the lowest form of music is dance music. There is nothing very deep in it, nothing appealing to the soul. It is only an accompaniment to rhythmic movements of the body, which, of course, are far less dignified than rhythmic movements of the voice. Dancing, in very early times, seems to have been a form of religious exercise—the Shakers, to-day, have a peculiar motion, which is part of their worship—but, in every land and age, since the beginning of authentic history, dancing has been rather a form of amusement, sometimes degenerating into excess. Dances are chiefly distinguished by the time—thus, a waltz is in three-four, and a polka in two-four. The names of dances are sometimes derived from the countries in which they originate—thus, polka, polonaise, and polacca, are from Poland, and Schottische from Scotland. The base of a dance generally consists of changes on the common chord. Play rather fast, keep strict time, give a light touch to indicate the characteristic light steps in a dance, and you can probably do all that is required of you. A polka is the best kind of music for gymnastics. Play as evenly and mechanically as possible, and consider eight bars a strain.

Dance music, however, is sometimes used as the form of a better class of composition, just as Pope called called his great poems, simply, essays. Thus the pretty Philomel Polka is really a dainty descriptive poem; the Argentine Mazourka, or Silvery Thistle, an exceedingly ambitious, difficult, sparkling, "show piece." Waldteufel's compositions, as Siren's Waltz and The Skaters, are fairly good, while Strauss's waltzes occupy a meritorious place of their own, being really charming productions. The finest of these are Beautiful Blue Danube, Thousand and One Nights and Artists' Life.

The best class of popular music consists of musical poems, some of which really have a lovely, tender expression. Gottschalk, Jungman, Lange, Wely, Suppe and Lichner are bright names.

Gottschalks masterpiece was his "Last Hope." This is very difficult—but it is the perfection of yearning tenderness, combined with fervent religious feeling. After you have spent hours of scale practice, perhaps you may attempt it. It is valuable as containing several little points in technique which, as yet, I have not explained. For instance, you may wonder why so many double sharps and flats are used. A double sharp raises a note a whole tone, while a double flat depresses it a whole tone. They are generally employed when it is required to avoid a note which has been sharped or flatted by the signature, or to prevent encroaching upon a particular chord. The abbreviations m. g. and m. d. stand for *main gauche*, left hand, and *main dextre*, right hand, French terms which are frequently found in music. Be careful to bring out the air, with the notes which chord with the base—the others are merely ornamental.

Jungmann has written several soft, thrilling songs without words—notably Heimweh (Homesick,) Sehnsucht (Longing,) and Tenderness. They are not difficult. Lange has given us Pure As Snow and Thine Own, as sweet as their names. In the former you will find a long arpeggio. In the last bar of the base of the latter are two half notes, joined by three bars, as though they were 32d notes. This is an abbreviation which you will often find. It means, break the group or notes into smaller ones, and upon one half count 1, and upon the other 2nd; swinging backward and forward thus, 1, and, 2, and, 3, and, 4, and, etc., until the group has taken its complement of the measure in which it is found. Wely is author of the beautiful nocturne, or Night Piece, Monastery Bells. In this, the chromatic scale is introduced as an ornament.

Suppe is generally known by his magnificent overture, Poet and Peasant. This is somewhat difficult, but not hopelessly so, if you work hard—practice ten hours a day for two or three weeks—you cannot learn any piece in less than a week, and it more frequently takes two or three. I shouldn't be discouraged if it took me ten. On the third page, you may find something that you do not understand. A continuous, rumbling roll, in treble and base, upon two notes, the first half of each note written, all the other notes abbreviated—this is to imitate an orchestral effect, produced by drums. You already know that the piano imitates other instruments.

Lichner gives us a cunning little Spinning Song. The melody is partly in the base, and the accompaniment imitates the motion of the spinning wheel. Badarzewska is the name of a Polish lady—the Poles are fine musicians—who, fifty years ago wrote the Maiden's Prayer, which is as fresh to-day as ever it was, and which will never grow old. It is the fashion to laugh at it, but never mind—all the boarding-school misses in creation cannot hammer out of it its wild, thrilling beauty. Be careful of the arpeggios of seven and ten notes, and accent each triplet upon the first note. A lovely song without words is Remember Me, by Brinkmann. You already know the dainty little idyl, The Shepherd Boy, by Wilson.

If you want merely brilliant pieces, those designed simply to show off your execution, I recommend the Silvery Thistle, mentioned above, Silvery Waves and Wandering Sprite. These are useful, as giving good practice. There is nothing technically mysterious about the first—the running chain of grace notes takes an independent time of its own, and every triplet requires a count—but to play the piece properly is really a feat in gymnastics, and will hardly pay for the work required, which would conquer half a dozen of Beethoven's Sonatas. Silvery Waves is scarcely a genuine "piece" either, but it is a beautiful imitation of rippling water. In this you may gain the idea of a principal air, or theme, repeated with variations. Trill evenly, and run the long passages of notes unbroken, but as nearly as possible upon even counts. Wandering Sprite contains some novel effects, which need not frighten you, if you will carefully divide and count your time.

The Carnival of Venice, by Theodore de la Hache, is an imitation of a violin composition. It contains one air, with variations. The only points needing explanation, are several groups of syncopated notes, in which the syncopation is produced by slurs; and some *glissado* movements, or glides. These are executed by rapidly drawing the thumb over the white keys, producing a continuous, rippling sound. A similar effect occurs in the popular Fairy Wedding. This reminds me—keep your nails short.

The foregoing list of piano pieces is necessarily a short, incomplete one. But it provides for the principal puzzling questions in technique with which you will be liable to meet.

Certain songs are considered classical as distinguished from those generally called popular. The songs of Abt, Kucken and Pinsuti take high rank. Any song from an opera, a simple German song, or a Scotch ballad is always in good taste. But a wider range is allowable in vocal than in instrumental music. Vocal music is less artificial, and so is nearer to the heart of nature, appealing to human sympathies, everywhere, as instrumental music can never do. This is why national songs and folk songs have such power—they are genuine. We have in our own country a mine of wealth in the shape of folk-songs—one hitherto little worked. I refer to negro plantation songs, and camp meeting melodies. Perhaps they will be the foundation of the great American opera. Bayard Taylor introduced them to Mendelssohn shortly before the latter's death. The great master confessed himself fascinated and thrilled by their wonderful charm. But I do not believe that these are the only style of music indigenous to this country—I believe that Western Methodist revival hymns, political campaign songs, Shaker melodies, and people's ballads, such as those sung by the Hutchinson family, contain elements just as striking and original. Now, which of you all can take up and work out this idea? Our history, our scenery, our institutions are grand enough to aid in the highest developement of a national school of music.

Sing anything—so long as it is not coarse nor trifling. Any sincere song, however unambitious, is worth singing. Here is a short list, which embraces a wide range.

"When the Swallows Homeward Fly."	Abt.
"Charity."	Glover.
"Kathleen Mavourneen,"	Crouch.
"The Last Greeting,"	Schubert.
"Bonnie Charlie,"	Finlay Dun.
"Faithful Johnnie,"	Beethoven.
"Three Fishers,"	Hullah.
"Punchinello,"	Malloy.
"Old Folks at Home,"	Winner.

In these days of cheap volumes, no one need be without good songs. The Song Folio is an admirable selection of the best of all classes. You can get Scotch songs, College songs, Irish melodies, Plantation songs, Sacred songs, Operatic songs, and so on, *ad infinitum*, at a tithe of what the separate pieces of music would cost you, some volumes selling as low as 25 or 50 cents. Save your money for something like this, and don't spend it for candy, and then say that you have no means for cultivation.

Before I close, I want to advise you not to rest satisfied with your present attainments. Continue your studies with good teachers, if you can possibly do so. But I flatter myself that I have given you a fair start, and confidently believe that you will have nothing to unlearn.

If I can help any one further, by private correspondence, I shall be glad to do so. Or, if any first-class musician feels disposed to give me his or her opinion of the success of these amateur studies, I shall be very much pleased. Good-bye.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Triplets."—When a triplet consists of three notes upon the same degree, change the finger upon every note, so as to give the effect of three separate notes. Use thumb and first, backwards and forwards, when possible.

"Subscriber."—My address is Ardmore, Montgomery Co., Pa.

"Anxious," Woodstock, Ill.—The relative to C major is A minor. It can have but one key note, A. A minor scale always has the same signature as its relative major—which in the case of A and C is no signature, as they are the two natural scales. If the key note, written in the base at the end of a piece or movement without a signature is A, the piece or movement is in the scale of A minor; if C, then it is C major. The major key is always an interval of a third higher than its relative minor, but the two have the same signature. A minor scale always has a half tone between its 2d and 3d notes, a major between its 3d and 4th. Because the seventh note in a leading note chord of a minor scale is sharped, it does not follow that that note must be sharped throughout the piece—only when it is desirable to pass into another key. The key note in any composition is always the last, lowest note in the base.

The hammer exercise consists in placing the thumb of the right hand upon middle C, the little finger of the left hand upon C in the base, and dropping all the fingers in order upon the following keys. Hold these keys down, and "hammer" with thumb and little finger upon both keys, counting 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Then take the next finger on each hand, then the next, etc., in the same way, until the whole five have been used; then back again, always exercising two fingers at a time, and holding down with the others the keys not in use. This is to develope the fingers and train them to move independently. Repeat for hours and days.

"Ella F."—I do not advise ordinary instruction books. They contain too much lumber and consume valuable time. The best and simplest is Stanbridges. You can teach the rudiments with slate or foolscap, and the keyboard itself, just as you could teach elementary arithmetic by object lessons. Then take Kohler's Op. 50, which I have advised again and again. You could begin with this at the middle of the first quarter. Take also Scales and Cadences, and impress upon your pupils scale practice as the one thing needful. Follow by the Etudes of Loessehorn, Duvernoy, Schmidt, and Czerney, with Concone and Everest for vocal exercises. When exercises grow too monotonous, take a little gem as Wilson's Shepherd Boy, or Beethoven's Spirit Waltz, Clementi's Sonatines for advanced pupils.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

LAMPERS.

Under this title appeared a short article in one of our daily papers some time within a month or two. It was quite a matter of interest to the uninitiated as to what a lamper might be. But the writer explains that a lamper is a woman who *understands* the caring for lamps, and who goes around from day to day among her less fortunate sisters, and trims, washes, fills, cleans and keeps in order generally, (for a certain stipend per week or per lamp) the lights in her neighbors' houses.

And this led me to wonder whether women were not working a little blindly in other directions? and why this system would not apply in other directions? We have long had in our households without demur, wash-women and ironing-women, why not have *other* "women."

Why not have a kind of "Exchange *of* (not *for*) women's work" on a little different principle from that carried on in our larger cities, where everything, from kettle-holders to crazy-quilts, is received?

How many women drag out a weary existence doing their own work because they must do *everything*? Mrs. Jones has the *knack* of sewing; not only that, but the much required knack of making garments with nothing but ingenuity for a basis—but—she has no *back* for sweeping.

Mrs. Smith has a magnificent back for sweeping but no fingers for sewing. She is clumsy and awkward. In the old phraseology: "all her fingers are thumbs."

But Mrs. Jones must do her own sweeping and lie weary and exhausted on her bed for a couple of hours afterwards, or drag herself around to her other equally arduous task for which she has no energy or heart.

And Mrs. Smith must continue to make the ill-fitting, outlandish garments with which she clothes her children, at an exorbitant expense of time, trouble, material, patience and temper. And why! Because, forsooth, they are both women who "do their own work and cannot afford to hire anything but the washing." "A good housekeeper ought to know how to do everything." Well, perhaps she ought. But among the things she ought to know, is, not to kill herself with overwork.

Mrs. Jones is doing no better duty by her husband by sweeping the house when she can't, than Mrs. Smith is doing by her children, when she makes them look like frights in the garments she vainly fashions. The talents of housekeepers are as divided as those of business men. The head of an office doesn't go around and keep accounts for a little while, and sweep out the store for a little while, and handle goods for a little while, etc. Among the firm of any large establishment, the various members take upon themselves the work for which they possess the greatest aptitude. One travels, another takes some other branch. They recognize the fact that one man cannot do everything. No more can one woman.

Let her who can do something well, (and likes the work) whether it be baking, sweeping, or the weekly mending, do it for some neighbor who can return the favor in kind. Let Mrs. Smith with a back sweep for Mrs. Jones with a knack, and vice versa. Messrs. Jones and Smith will be happier because better cared for, (and because their wives are better-natured) and both branches of work will be more quickly, deftly, and satisfactorily accomplished, (without any outlay of money) while the saving in mental wear and tear, and nervous strain, of being *obliged* to accomplish something for which neither is fitted, with the certainty of partial failure or total defeat at the end, is incalculable.

MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

Where Florida Failed.

One of the favorably known merchants of New York—one who has been planted and rooted for a long time in the same place—is Mr. J. H. Johnston, jeweler, of No. 150 Bowery, New York, where he has been established over thirty years.

Mr. Johnston has one of the coziest suburban homes in the vicinity of New York, situated at Mott Haven, just across the Harlem river, in the northern part of the city. His wife is a most estimable lady, and is known as a writer of marked ability. Those who see her now, in the enjoyment of excellent health, would hardly suppose that four years ago she was an invalid wavering between the love of life and a constant prospect of death. To one of our correspondents who visited her Mrs. Johnston said:

"When I went to Washington to attend the inauguration of President Garfield I was exposed in stormy weather and caught a severe cold. It settled on my lungs, producing serious results, among which were an obstinate cough and sharp pains in my lungs. Mr. Johnston became alarmed and took me to Florida the following winter. I was by this time unable to sit up for a moment, and was with great difficulty conveyed to the steamer; overhearing the remark from a bystander, as I was being transferred from the carriage to my berth, 'there goes another to be brought back in a box.' The sunny days partially restored my health, but on the approach of winter again my cough increased and strength vanished. My appetite was entirely gone. I swallowed food in daily decreasing quantities, and from a sense of duty only. Still, I fought the idea that I had entered on the decline that ends in death.

"I had heard of Compound Oxygen and I determined to investigate it. My husband and I went to Philadelphia to learn its merits at headquarters. Dr. Starkey examined me, told me what I already realized, namely, that my case was a serious one, and that unless the hemorrhages were checked I would not live over three months. I was deeply impressed with his earnestness. I tried the Compound Oxygen at once and found a prompt benefit. This increased daily and the cure eventually proved permanent. I was inspired with an enthusiasm for life to which I had long been a stranger. The weary, nervous depression to which I had yielded gave way to sunshine and hope. The pain in my lungs gradually faded away, and the severe aches in my side no longer afflicted me. My sleep, before restless, became even and quiet. Shortness of breath was succeeded by a facility for using the full breathing power of my lungs. My capricious appetite became a natural one, and I began once more to enjoy life. Though I believe myself cured, I exercise care in avoiding exposure to colds. I always keep the Compound Oxygen in the house and take it on the slightest provocation. It always acts beneficially.

"I ascribe my cure to Compound Oxygen alone, as I took no other medicine, and the weather prevented any out of door exercise. However I never used it according to directions, but in sudden attacks of congestion or threatened pneumonia have taken it as it could be inhaled every few minutes until relieved from the pain and suffocation, and when able to live in the sunshine took the Compound only before retiring. I really believe it is the remedy for all lung diseases, and you are at liberty to use my name in recommending it."

We cannot grasp everything; to have lost *youth* is to have *gained* age in some form, and with it we have acquired its privileges as well as its pains.

The flower is beautiful, but so is the fruit if it matures properly and does not turn out a sour, stunted, half-grown thing.

A life and appearance that give evidence of having absorbed the experience of years, and having mellowed under its influence, is a thing pleasant to look upon—a thing quite as beautiful as the rounded cheek of youth.

There are many human grubs who, as grubs, would fill honorable, respected, useful niches, but would make very poor butterflies; and many butterflies who in attempting to *walk* get crushed by the unalterable, unswerving, ever grinding wheel of circumstances.

The result of this force of circumstances (to change the simile entirely) is not an amphibious animal like the frog, equally at home in either element, but a human *tadpole* very poor as a fish—equally poor as a frog.

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ROYAL PILLS purely vegetable, and a positive cure for Dyspepsia, Headache, Biliousness Malaria and Liver Complaints. Price, 25 cents a box, or 5 boxes for $1.00, sent free by mail on receipt of price. ROYAL PHARMACEUTIC Co. 130-136 Charlton St., New York

FREE PERFUMERY An elegant sample casket of perfume will be sent to your address for 10c. (to cover postage and packing.) A fortune for agents. Address REWARD CARD CO., Box 1121, New York.

130 Hidden Name and Assorted Cards, Scrap Pictures, Games, Puzzles, Embroidery Patterns, Songs and Art's Samples, 10c. BRADLEY & CO., North Haven, Conn.

SEND NAME and Address on 3 Friends, and 2cent stamp for present. THE HOME, Boston, Mass.

350 Assorted embossed Scrap & transfer pictures in bright designs, 10c. Gem Card Co. Brooklyn, N. Y.

A CHATELAINE WATCH

GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF 80 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS PER YEAR EACH; or given for only 40 subscribers and $2.00 extra in cash; or given for only 20 subscribers, and $3.00 extra in cash. Regular price $6.00.

These chatelaine watches are now very popular and fashionable. Every lady wants one. They are nickle silver of the best quality, stem winders and stem setters, nickle movement, covered by an extra glass cap over the movement. They are good time-keepers, and first-class in every respect. They are furnished to us by one of the largest and leading manufacturing firms in this country, whose reputation is well known for the best quality of work. 80 subscribers can easily be secured. Send for sample copies to distribute, and get your friends to help you. Send subscriptions as fast as received, for which we will give you credit, until the full number is obtained.

Address: Ladies' Home Journal, Philada., Pa.

LADIES' SHOPPING BAGS.

This is a very popular shopping bag with ladies, and is a very convenient arrangement for carrying purse, handkerchief, and other such small articles when on the street or shopping. It has nickel trimmings and is made of fine leather. The style is shape is constantly changing, and we will send the best shape or style at time it is ordered.

Given as a premium for 10 subscribers at 25 cents each.

Price, including one year's subscription, $1.50.

Given for a club of 12 subscribers and 75 cents extra.

Address: THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, Philada

Usages of the Best Society.

The Usages of the Best Society: A manual of social etiquette. By FRANCES STEVENS. Nothing is given in this book that has not the sanction of observance by the best society. Contains 21 chapters, Introductions and Salutations—Visiting Cards and Visiting—Strangers and New-comers—Engagements and Weddings—Receptions and Debuts—Private Balls and Germans—Fancy Dress and Masquerade Balls and Costumes—Opera and Theatre Parties—Dinner and Dinner Giving—Table Decorations and Etiquette—Luncheons, Breakfast and Teas, The Art of Entertaining—Letter Writing and Invitations—Musical "At Homes" and Garden Parties—Traveling Manners and Mourning Etiquette—Wedding and Birthday Anniversaries and Presents—New Year's Day Receptions—Important General Considerations—Brief Hints for everyday use. This book is indispensable to all who wish to obtain the most enjoyment from daily intercourse with their fellow beings. Handsome cloth binding.

Will be found useful by all who wish to obtain instruction on matters relating to social usage and society.—Demorest's Magazine.

Given for a club of only 6 subscribers at 25 cents per year each. Price, 50 cents when sold alone.

HANDSOME Silver-Plated Sugar Shell Or Butter-Knife

Given for Four New Subscribers at 25 Cents Each per Year.

A new, handsome, neat and stylish pattern, tripple-plated, on finest English white steel. Will wear for years. Almost as good as solid silver. All the objectionable qualities of German Silver and brass, which are known to have a disagreeable taste, and are, when a little worn, poisonous, will be avoided in the use of these goods. They are also stronger, and of greater durability than any goods produced.

A Butter Knife will be given instead of the Sugar Shell, if prefered.

For 12 subscribers we will give a set of Tea Spoons, same quality, and for a club of 20, a set of forks.

At 25 cents per year, in clubs of four or more, every lady in the land can afford the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. Send for sample copies to distribute among your friends and neighbors. Address:

LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, Phila., Pa.

$3.80 FOR 25 Cts.

A HARVEST FOR AGENTS.

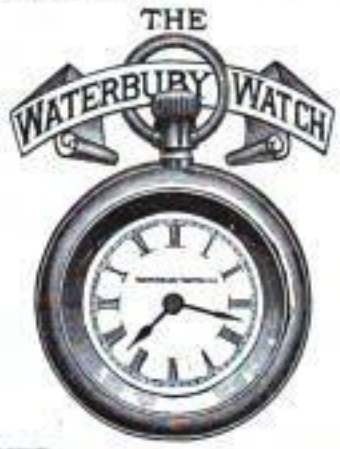
The above cut represents an Elegant Silver-Plate Button Hook in Satin Lined Case, which will be sent, in order to introduce our goods, to any address, with illustrations of elegant line of Samples of Silver Plated Ware worth $3.80, on receipt of only 25 cents.

NOVELTY SILVER PLATE COMPANY, Manufacturers of Reliable Goods, Wallingford, Conn.

Remember! August is the last month to secure these special premium bargains.

A Special Summer Offer

UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1st, ONLY, we offer the Waterbury Watch and the Ladies' Home Journal, one year for only $3.00.



☞ GIVEN FOR ONLY 20 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS EACH, AND $1.00 EXTRA IN CASH.

Now, this is an offer which certainly should be improved by all wishing to own a beautiful, reliable and durable watch at very little cost.

ACCURACY! BEAUTY!! DURABILITY!!!

On account of the very low price of this watch many people suppose that it is a toy. Now, as we have had four years experience with this wonderful watch, we can speak from actual knowledge of the facts. For accuracy, beauty and durability it is superior to Swiss watches costing from $10 to $12.

Tens of thousands of these watches are in constant use by all classes of people, from boys to bankers and are keeping as good time as watches costing high prices.

ANOTHER OFFER.

We will give this watch for a club of 40 subscribers or we will give it for a club of 20 subscribers and $1.00 extra in cash; or for 10 subscribers and $1.50 in cash extra. Postage 8 cents. Registered 18 cents.

This is a splendid watch for the boys. Now is the time to get one easily. No trouble to get plenty of subscribers at 25 cents per year. Remember, this offer holds good only until September 1st.

Talks with Homely Girls.

Talks with Homely Girls: On Health and Beauty, their Preservation and Cultivation. By Frances Smith.

A manual of advice and instruction upon the general care of the health, exercise, bathing, the care of the head, hair, teeth, hands, feet, and the complexion, with chapters upon dress, manners, conversation, and all topics pertaining to a young lady's appearance and deportment. The twenty chapters are replete with information on Grace and Beauty of Form, Bathing Exercise, Care of the Head, Hair, Teeth, Face, Hands, Complexion, Carriage of the Body, Dress, Deportment, Conversation, and General Care of the Health. A very useful book for every lady. Handsome cloth binding.

Given for a club of only 6 subscribers at 25 cents each per year. Price, 50 cents when sold alone.

Address THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, Phila., Pa

LADIES SILVER BAR PIN

Given for only 4 new subscribers at 25 Cents per Year.

SILVER BAR PIN.

A Silver Bangle Lace Bar Pin, with four bangles handsomely engraved. One of our best premiums for ladies. They are very fashionable, and cannot be bought in any store for double the money we ask, for 4 subscribers at 25 cents each.

CRESCENT LACE PIN

Given for Only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cts. Each per Year.

A little beauty, of the latest style with crescent of Oxidized Silver, and sprig of Forget-me-nots in frosted silver. These pins are exceedingly neat and pretty, and are very easy to secure. Given for only four subscribers at 25 cents per year each. We sell them, postpaid, to any address for only 50 cents.

LACE BAR PIN

Given for only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cents per Year Each.

A very pretty and stylish Pin of frosted silver. They are the very latest style and are very popular. Given for a club of only four subscribers, or sold for 50 cents and sent postpaid, to any address.

The Bijou Embroidery Frame,

Is the handiest and most useful frame for holding small pieces of work, and is indispensible. Given for only four (4) subscribers at 25 cts each per year.

A copy of the JOURNAL will be given for a club of 4, instead of a premium, if so desired.

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Special Summer Offer.

GOOD ONLY UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1ST.

Our New and Enlarged Stamping Outfit, which we have never before offered for less than 12 subscribers, we have decided to offer until SEPTEMBER 1st, for ONLY 8 SUBSCRIBERS and 25 cts. extra in cash or stamps.

OUR LATEST AND NEWEST

EMBROIDERY STAMPING OUTFIT !

100 CHOICE PATTERNS.

$1.00 PREPAID BY MAIL.

GIVEN AS PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 8 SUBSCRIBERS, AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR AND 25 CENTS EXTRA IN CASH.

This Complete Outfit and One Year's Subscription to the Journal, Both for only $1.00.

Season after season the dealers in cheap novelties, have endeavored to injure the reputation of our outfits, by offering a larger number of patterns, or a wonderful lot of articles *of a fabulous value.*

Their advertisements and descriptions are written in such a manner as to lead people to expect something great, and it is needless to say they are always disappointed. The patterns our competitors offer are a *lot of worthless little things*, so crowded together on a single sheet that *they cannot be used*, while THE VALUE OF OUR OUTFIT IS IN GOOD, USEFUL STAMPING PATTERNS.

We have had *literally* thousands of ladies complain of these cheap outfits, who throw them away after buying ours.

We have also received thousands of letters from ladies who have secured one of our outfits, expressing the greatest delight and satisfaction.

What is the reason for this?

1st, because we never misrepresent anything.

2d, because the patterns in our outfit are what they are described to be.

3d, because *we* know what ladies interested in fancy work want, and try to please them.

WE WILL CHEERFULLY REFUND THE MONEY AND GIVE OUR PAPER ONE YEAR FREE! TO ANY ONE WHO IS IN THE LEAST DISSATISFIED WITH ONE OF OUR OUTFITS.

Description of a Few of the Patterns.

One set of initials for towels, hat ribbons, etc., worth 50c.
Two outlines for tidies, 25c. each.
One design for tinsel embroidery, 5 inches wide, for end of table scarf, 25c.
One tidy design for ribbon work, 20c.
One large clover design, 7x11, 25c.
One large thistle, 6x7, for Kensington painting, 25c.
One stork and one large butterfly, for lustre painting, 25c.
One pansy design for ladies bag, 10c.
One design for thermometer case, 20c.
One elegant spray of golden rod, 6x11, 25c.
One Martha Washington geranium for plush petals, 6x10, 25c.
One half wreath for hat crown, 15c.
One design for top of umbrella case, 15c.
One spider's web, and one new disk pattern, 25c.
One tidy design, owl's on a tree, 25c.
One vine of daises and ferns, for end of table scarf, 15c.
One wide braiding pattern, 25c.

One large bunch of daises, 25c.

75 more other designs of roses, clematis, autumn leaves, outline designs, etc. *Besides* the patterns the outfit contains: One box black and one box white powder, two distributors, illustrated instruction book, teaching stamping all the stitches, etc., one tidy, all stamped and ready to be worked, with silk to work it.

Besides all the above, we shall continue to give away with each outfit, our book on KNITTING AND CROCHETING, giving instructions for knitting all the latest novelties. Our book on FANCY BRAID AND CROCHET, giving directions for making edgings of feather-edge and other braids.

Remember this is our Special Summer Offer. Now is your time to easily raise clubs at 25 cts per year; for so small a sum of money large clubs can be raised everywhere. No subscriptions will be received after September 1st, for less than Fifty Cents per year.

Now is Your Time!

REMEMBER ! August is the last month to secure these special premium bargains.

TIDIES STAMPED READY TO BE WORKED.

GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBERS, AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.

These Elegant Tidies are 14x18 inches in size, are made of the very best quality of Felt, and the same as are sold in the stores at from 40c. to 50c. each. You can select the color of felt you like, and have it stamped with any design you wish, either for Kensington or Outline, or Ribbon embroidery, all ready to be embroidered.

With these Tidies we give also, a book, which teaches the stitches used in art embroidery,—giving such clear and explicit descriptions as to be easily understood; and also a lesson in Kensington and Lustra painting.

We will send one of these Tidies and the book of stitches, for a club of only 4 new subscribers or 35 cents.

KENSINGTON PAINTING OUTFIT.

GIVEN FOR 16 SUBSCRIBERS, OR 12 SUBSCRIBERS AND 25 CENTS EXTRA IN CASH, OR FOR 8 SUBSCRIBERS AND 50 CENTS EXTRA IN CASH.

This delightful new branch of fancy work is very fascinating. By this process ladies can do the most elegant painting on plush, velvet, or other materials. No previous knowledge of painting is necessary. The book accompanying the outfit teaches the exact method of doing the work so plainly that a child can understand it. No other teacher is needed.

The outfit contains ten Stamping Patterns, of elegant designs, suitable for painting, as follows: 1 elegant bunch of Clover, 7x10 inches; 1 branch of Thistle, 6x10. These are two of the handsomest flowers for Kensington painting. 1 Moss Rose; 1 Daisy design, 1 Poppy design, with two large full blown flowers, with buds, leaves, etc.; 1 spray of Forget-me-not; 1 bunch of Pansies; 1 branch of Apple-blossoms; Fuchsias, Rosebuds, etc., These patterns, together with Powder Pad, Instruction Book, etc., make a complete Stamping Outfit of Large Patterns, worth at least $2.00. Besides the patterns this outfit contains all the implements with which to do the work, and Patent Collapsable Tube Paints, sufficient to paint all the designs in the outfit. The book teaches how to mix these paints to procure the shades and tints needed for all kinds of flowers, and all other needed information.

The outfit is put up in a nice box, and will be sent by Express, *prepaid*, for a club of 16 subscribers, provided 25c. extra is sent to pay the express charges.

TISSUE PAPER FLOWER OUTFIT.

Given for only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cents each per year.

The latest craze, and a very pleasant occupation. Our outfit consists of Book of Instructions for making paper flowers, our 60 samples of imported tissue and flower papers, samples of flowers made up patterns and materials. Everything complete. Book of instructions gives every possible and minute detail, so clearly that any person can, with a little practice, become an expert in this fascinating and beautiful art.

Secure 4 subscribers and we will send this outfit postpaid.

Sent, Postpaid, to any Address, for a Club of only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cents per year each.

Brush Studies !

BY LIDA CLARKSON.

A NEW AND REVISED EDITION.

FINELY ILLUSTRATED WITH ORIGINAL DESIGNS BY THE AUTHOR. PUBLISHED ORIGINALLY IN THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

CONTENTS:—The Amateur's Outfit.—Harmony and Combination of Color; A Panel of Field daises.—Some General Hints; Fabric Painting.—Practice on Academy Board and Sketching Canvas: A Study of Wild Roses.—A Study of Pansies.—How to Paint Photographs in Oil or in Water Colors.—Hat Marks and Linings: Appropriate Designs, Initials, etc.—Plaques: How to Paint and Frame Them.—How to Paint Trailing Arbutus, Feathery Clematis, Dogwood, and Tulips.—Panel and Screen Decorations: The Purple Clematis, Fleur de Lis, Water Lily, etc.—Dye Painting: Lustra, Iridescent and Kensington.—Lambrequins and Other Artistic Home Furnishings: Clock Scarf, Banners, and Bannerettes.—Christmas, New Year's Easter, and Birthday Cards: How to Paint Them.—Suggestions for Holiday and Birthday Gifts: Pretty Trifles for House Decoration. Painting Backgrounds. Modeling in Relief.—Puzzling Queries Answered.—Some Useful Hints in Conclusion.

Sent post-paid for 35 cents or given for a club of only 4 subscribers, at 25 cents per year each.

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Remember! August is the last Month to secure these special premium bargains.

THE PEARL RUG MAKER.

GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 12 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.

LADIES!

Save Your Rags

DELIGHTFUL AND PROFITABLE EMPLOYMENT. FASCINATING AND EASY TO LEARN.

MATERIAL COSTS YOU NOTHING!

USE YOUR RAGS, YARN AND SCRAPS, AND MAKE THEM INTO HANDSOME RUGS. BEAUTIFY YOUR HOMES.

The *easiest* and most *economical* process ever invented for making *Rag* and *Turkish Rugs, Ottoman and Furniture Covers, Cloak Trimmings, etc.* Every lady has enough material in her rag-bag to make several handsome, durable rugs. *Any Cloth*, old or new, *Yarn, Carpet, Waste, etc.*, can be used. Small pieces of silk, too much worn for Patchwork, make pretty Stool or Ottoman covers. *THE PEARL RUG MAKER* is a set of *Steel Forms* and *Tines*, on which the material is wound as shown in Fig. 4, then sewed through the center to a cloth foundation—with *Any Sewing Machine*, or by *Hand*—forming loops which are readily cut open, making a *Soft, Close Pile* or *Tuft* a *Half Inch Thick*, all on the *Upper* side. Rags when used do not have to be sewed together. Small pieces, cut in stripes on the *Bias*. *Turkish* Designs, Conventional Flowers, etc., are readily made, from the printed directions, and a handsome Rug, 2x3 feet, with a border, can be made in a day. Folks who have talked *Hard Times* for years must have an abundance of old clothes.

THE PEARL RUG MAKER

is the *only* invention that will utilize them without being obliged to go to further expense than a *Spool of Thread*. *You are not obliged to buy Stamped Patterns, Frames, Hooks and Expensive Yarns, costing from Sixty Cents to a Dollar and a-Half a Pound.* Of course, for *Expensive* Rugs, this material is very nice—but with scraps of cloth, odds and ends that accumulate in every home, you can make Rugs that will adorn any parlor. *LADIES, DON'T BUY A CARPET.* If you wish to be *Economical* you can cover those worn places with *Home-made* Rugs. If you do not have enough *Bright Colored Pieces* in your rag bag, you can color them at a trivial expense. With the *PEARL RUG MAKER* many ladies make an *entire carpet.*

RUGS CAN BE MADE BY HAND

just as well as on a sewing machine, but any sewing machine can be used.

From Wheeler & Wilson Manufacturing Co.

"We find it to be a practical attachment to the Sewing Machine. The Rugs are handsome and durable. It is a decided success."

White Sewing Machine Co., Cleveland, writes:

"Our opening was a great success. Sold a quantity of Rug Makers and shall do well with them.

We consider the "Pearl Rug Maker" the only practical device for making Rugs on the Sewing Machine. From the work it produces, we commend it as a most useful labor-saving invention.

DOMESTIC SEWING MACHINE COMPANY.
WEED " " "
THE HOWE " " "
NEW HOME " " "
HOUSEHOLD " " "

THE PEARL RUG MAKER is made of Bessemer Steel, Silver Finish. It is put up in a handsome case, with explicit "Directions for making Rag and Tufted Rugs," containing illustrations, which will enable anyone to do the work.

Given as a premium for 12 subscribers to the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

Price, including one year's subscription to LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, $1.00.

Postage paid by us in each case.

Address all letters plainly to LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, Philadelphia, Pa.

"MY MAMMA MADE THESE NICE RUGS FROM OUR OLD CLOTHES."

SPECIAL SUMMER OFFER!

Remember, August is the last month we offer these handsome Silver Forks, at Special Club Rates.

SILVER PLATED FORKS

GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 20 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR; OR FOR ONLY 12 SUBSCRIBERS AND 50 CENTS EXTRA.

We give a set of six table Forks for only 20 subscribers. They are heavily plated with pure coin silver on white steel, and will wear for years. They are new and handsome patterns. Price $2.00. We use only the very best quality of silver-plated goods, on the finest English white steel. We will give these forks for only 12 subscribers and 50 cents extra in cash, if you cannot secure 20 subscribers, or for 6 subscribers and $1.00 extra in cash.

Silver Plated Butter Knife,

GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS PER YEAR EACH

A new, handsome, neat and stylish pattern, tripple-plated, on finest English white steel. Will wear for years. Almost as good as solid silver. All the objectionable qualities of German Silver and brass, which are known to have a disagreeable taste, and are, when a little worn, poisonous, will be avoided in the use of these goods. They are also stronger, and of greater durability than any goods produced.

Butter Knife given for only 4 subscribers. Price, 50 cents.
Set of Six Tea Spoons given for 12 subscribers. Price, $1.00.
Set of Six Table Forks given for 20 subscribers. Price, $2.00.

For a club of 30 subscribers at 25 cents each, we will send the Sugar Shell, Butter Knife, Tea Spoons and Forks, a good, serviceable present for a young housekeeper. Price, $3.00 for the set.

Special Summer Offer.

GOOD BOOKS FOR ONLY EIGHT SUBSCRIBERS.

And 10 Cents Extra for Postage.

A MOST EXTRAORDINARY OFFER!

We will send to any address, any one of the following books, for a club of ONLY EIGHT SUBSCRIBERS, at 25 cents each per year,—provided 10 cents extra in stamps is sent to prepay the postage on the books.

We have before offered these books for 12 subscribers, we make this offer as a special inducement.

DICKENS' WORKS:

The books are all handsomely bound, good print and good paper, and are sold in all bookstores for $1.50 and $1.75 per volume.

Pickwick Papers.
Martin Chuzzlewit.
Oliver Twist, Pictures from Italy, and American Notes.
Nicholas Nickleby.
David Copperfield.
Child's History of England. By Charles Dickens. New edition, large type.

Robinson Crusoe. By Daniel De Foe.
Arabian Nights Entertainment.
Swiss Family Robinson.
Orange Blossoms. By T. S. Arthur.
Bar Room at Brantly. By T. S. Arthur.
Cook's Voyages Round the World.
Vicar of Wakefield. By Oliver Goldsmith.
Pilgrim's Progress. By John Bunyan.
Gulliver's Travels. By Jonathan Swift.
Ivanhoe. By Sir Walter Scott.
Waverly. By Sir Walter Scott.
Guy Mannering. By Sir Walter Scott.
Tom Brown's School Days at Rugby. By Thomas Hughes.
Scottish Chiefs. By Jane Porter.
Thaddeus of Warsaw. By Jane Porter.
Children of the Abbey. By Regina Maria Roche.
Don Quixote. By Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra.
Paul and Virginia. By Bernardin de St. Pierre.
Æsop's Fables. With over 500 illustrations.
Dog Crusoe. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Gorilla Hunters. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Wild Men of the West. By R. M. Ballantyne.

We will mail the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL one year, and give any one of these books, for only **$1.00.**

We have recently added the following books to the list. Any one given for only 8 subscribers and 10 cents extra for postage.

Daniel Webster. Life of. By F. Teft.
Napoleon. Life of. By M. A. Arnault.
George Washington. Life of. By Bancroft.
Daniel Boone. Life of. By Edw. S. Ellis.
David Crockett. Life of. By Edw. S. Ellis.
Henry Clay. Life of. By Epes Sargent and Horace Greeley.
Andrew Jackson. Life of. By John S. Jenkins.
Zachary Taylor. Life of. By H. Montgomery.
Henry VIII and His Six Wives. Life of. By Henry William Herbert.
Oliver Cromwell. Life of. By Henry William Herbert.
Empress Josephine. Life of. By Cecil B. Hartley.
Duchess of Orleans. Life of. By Marquis de H——.
Catherine II, Empress of Russia. Life of. By Samuel M. Schmucker.
Joan of Arc, Maid of Orleans. Life of. By David W. Bartlett.
Lady Jane Grey. Life of. By David W. Bartlett.
John Quincy Adams. Life of. By William H. Seward.
William H. Harrison. Life of. By H. Montgomery.
Patrick Henry. Life of. By William Wirt.
Travelers in Africa. By Charles Williams.
In the Arctic Seas. By Captain McClintock.
Children's Bible Stories. By Mrs. Gillespie Smith.
Lady of the Lake. By Sir Walter Scott.
Queens of American Society. By Mrs. Ellet.
Complete Letter Writer.
Evening Amusements. By Frederic D'Arros Planche.
Gavroche, the Gamin of Paris. By Victor Hugo.
A Million Too Much. A Temperance Tale. By Julia McNair Wright.
Gascoyne, the Sandlewood Trader. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Freaks on the Fells. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Shifting Winds. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Floating Light. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Bear Hunters. By Anne Bowman.
Kangaroo Hunters. By Anne Bowman.
American Family Robinson. By D. W. Belisle.
Pique. A Tale of the English Aristocracy.

Remember! August is the last month to secure these special premium bargains.

A Special Summer Offer!

UNTIL SETEMBER 1st, ONLY, we offer one of these linen Tidies and he Ladies' Home Journal on year, for only $1.00.

LINEN TIDIES, NO. 9.

Given for a Club of only 6 Subscribers at 25 Cents each; or for only 4 subscribers and 25 Cents extra.

These linen Tidies are a better quality than we have ever offered before. They are made of fine linen Crepe or Mombe cloth, 13x18 inches in size, fringed on all four sides with heavy fringe two inches deep, and stamped as desired. We bought several cases of these tidies direct from the importing house, and procured them at a wonderful bargain. They are sold at the stores at 30c. to 50c. each; we will **give you one of them** if you will procure only 6 subscribers.

TIDY NO. 10 is the same as No. 9, but has a row of Drawn work on all sides. We will give you this tidy all stamped, for only 8 subscribers.

A Special Summer Offer!

Until September 1st only, we offer one of these Bureau or Sideboard Scarfs and the Ladies' Home Journal one year for only $1.00.

Bureau or Sideboard Scarf.

Given for a Club of only 20 Subscribers at 25 Cents per Year; or for only 8 subscribers and 75 cents extra.

This is a very popular, useful and pretty piece of fancy work to throw over the side-board or a dressing case or bureau. It is made of the finest quality of crepe linen, 16 inches wide and 45 inches long, with fancy woven border all round, and fringed ends. We send this scarf stamped on each end similar to the illustration, for a club of only 20 subscribers.

Drawn Work.

This branch of fancy work is growing in favor very fast. This book gives the most explicit directions for doing the work, and a large number of beautiful illustrations and patterns. Sent for 4 new subscribers, or 25 cents.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MILDRED'S CONVERSATION CLASS.

NO. XI.

BY MRS. EMMA C. REWITT.

My dear Miss Tasker you would like to know about the difference between the words "pay, wages and salary." The use of the word "pay" is considered a vulgarism except in speaking of an officer in the army or navy, I believe. We speak of a "half-pay officer" when that officer has been retired from the list of those in active service, and we generally speak of the "pay" of an officer not his "salary." The remuneration given for manual labor, whether considered by the day, week, or month, is "wages." That given for mental labor, "salary." Money paid for a particular service, (whether mental or manual) is a "fee." The money paid to a waiter by a guest at a hotel, and that paid to a lawyer for his services on some particular occasion is in both cases a "fee."

May you not say "dove?" I do not think I would were I in your place. "But," you tell me, "the grammar gives it." Ah! so it does. But, does it not tell you at the same time that it is not elegant? Does it not *prefer* "dived?" I would not habitually use any word that is only "permissible" if I were in your place. Use, if possible, only those which are among the list of "good usage." I think you will find your grammar book to tell you somewhere that this list of redundant verbs is given in order that some of the better writers who have used the inelegant form, may have some little authority for the use thereof. I do not know that this is said in precisely these words, but one is certainly led to infer it. No, I think I would say "I *dived* down to the bottom of my trunk," (if I used the expression at all) although, properly speaking, one could hardly "dive" into a trunkful of clothes."

"Is it correct to speak of anything being 'grateful' when we mean that we like it?" If I understand your question correctly, yes. I presume you mean is it correct to speak of anything being grateful when really we ourselves are the grateful ones.

It is correct to say, "On a hot day lemonade is very grateful to the palate." "This tepid bath was grateful to the fever-parched patient."

Never "prefer" one thing "than" another. This may perhaps have been a mere slip upon your part, but as it is a quite common mistake, I will take it up. One not only hears it, but sees it so written. "I prefer hot weather than cold," etc. "I prefer *to*," or "would rather have than."

"What is the meaning of the word 'odd' in the expression 'seventy odd?'"

"Odd" means somewhere between that and the next decade. "Seventy odd" between seventy and eighty. It is not an elegant expression, however.

"Your mother has hoped and still hopes, etc."

This is another one of those incorrect combinations of tense without "a separate nominative expressed." "Has hoped" is perfect tense, while "hopes" is present tense. Your "mother has hoped and she still hopes, etc."

"Hardly a perceptible inconvenience." Do not separate your adverb and adjective by an article, as you have done in this sentence. Make the sentence, "with a hardly perceptible inconvenience."

"Memorandums" you write. There is no such word as memorandums. The plural of memorandum is memoranda. It is a purely Latin word which has been incorporated into our language, consequently we must form the plural, not according to the English method but according to that of the Latins. Most nouns ending in "um" take their nominative plural in "a."

So it is with such words as "parenthesis," "hypothesis," etc. We do not say "parenthesises" nor "hypothesises," but "parentheses" and "hypotheses," that being the proper form for the plural.

There are, in your letter, many sentences which are badly arranged; that is, they are so arranged that the meaning conveyed is doubtful.

"Care should be taken," say Quintilian, "not that the hearer *may* understand, but that he *must* understand, whether he will or not." It is for this reason, I am credibly informed, that the laws of our country are so filled with "whereas" and "aforesaid." They have been arranged and rearranged until all punctuation has been done away with, in order that there may be no possibility of a misunderstanding in regard to the meaning, or no possibility of alteration through the carelessness of a compositor or the imperfections of a piece of type.

You say you cannot think of leaving home without "discomfort."

By this construction you would seem to imply that "discomfort" is so dear to you, that to be without it is beyond possibility. Whereas, in reality, it is the "thinking" which causes the discomfort.

You "cannot, without discomfort," or "Cannot think without discomfort." The former is the better form. Again you say "There was a little church up among the hills, maintained by the Methodists."

Now it is certainly not the "hills" which are maintained by the Methodists, and yet the sentence as it stands would convey that impression.

"There was, up among the hills, a little church maintained by the Methodists," or "Up among the hills was a little church, etc."

Not long ago I saw the sentence "A man with one eye named Robert Welsh." Immediately the question arises "What was the name of his *other* eye?"

Some one in talking to me the other day used the expression "The doctor that lives on the avenue's daughter."

Manifestly it is the doctor and not the *avenue* which has the daughter. Equally manifest is it that the doctor lives on the "avenue" and not upon the "daughter." These expressions are far more frequently used than one would imagine. "The daughter of the physician living (or 'who lives') upon the avenue."

You also use the word "preventative." This is a barbarism, though quite popular. "Preventive" is the proper word.

Likewise with the word "specialty." "Speciality" is a very common form of use, and though it is given in some dictionaries, it is not *recommended* in any case, "specialty" being the preferred word.

Another word which is much misused is "aggravate." It is so often used to express the feeling of irritation or annoyance, when it should not be so used in any case.

An "aggravation" is an increase. A disease of the stomach is aggravated by improper eating. But properly considered, the word cannot be applied to *people*. Our feelings of irritation may be aggravated by untoward circumstances but we cannot be aggravated by the circumstances. I am not speaking now of popular use or of dictionary definitions, but of rhetorical correctness.

One more little thing: "You say I have not been there nor do I expect to go." "Neither" and "nor" belong together. Had you said "I have neither been there nor do I expect to go," but, having said "I have *not*" you must say "I do not. "Neither have I been there nor do I expect to go," (or "I have not been there and I do not anticipate going.")

Sincerely yours, AMANDA WILSON.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A Student."—Your inquiry should have been addressed to Mrs. S. O. Johnson, who edits the column on etiquette. The communication has been forwarded.

Correction. Line 86 August No. should read: "You do *not* know."

"THE BACK-LOG."

In the issue of THE ARKANSAW TRAVELER dated July 31st, will appear the opening chapters of a new serial story by OPIE E. READ, entitled "THE BACK-LOG." This work is a novel to which the author has devoted the spare time of several years and we think that it will be pronounced by all readers the strongest in plot and character, the most finished in literary construction, and altogether the most fascinating of MR. READ'S stories. "THE BACK-LOG" characters are drawn from life and the developement of the plot will show that the noted writer who says that "nothing new in plots can be conceived," makes a mistake. "THE BACK-LOG" will be a valuable addition to American fiction and will doubtless receive a hearty welcome everywhere.

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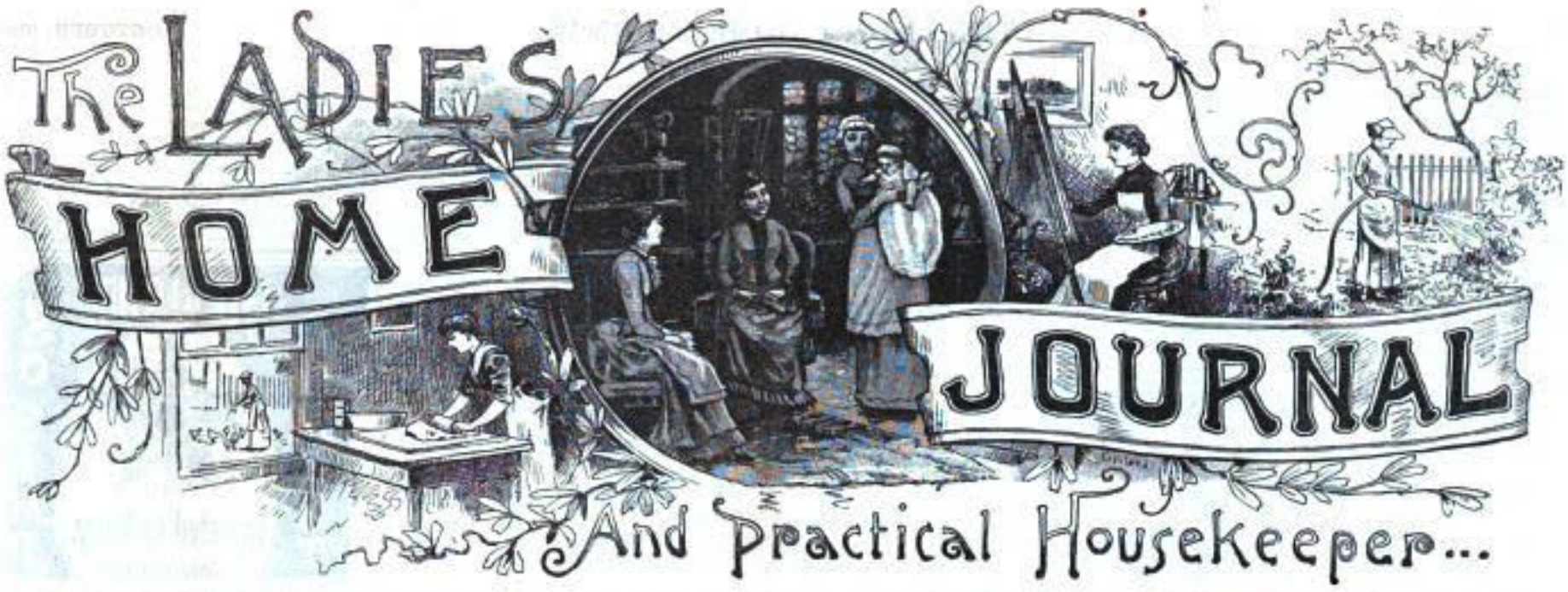

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

FLOWER SEEDS.

BY HARRIET PRESCOTT SPOFFORD.

I never was the pretty one, or the bright one, and I had no accomplishments and no lovers. And I suppose that is what made it all surprise me so at the end. Perhaps I was well-looking enough, being healty; although nobody would give me a second glance; and I had common sense, of course; and sometimes I used to wish the other girls hadn't such a turn for accomplishments, and would help me a little more about the house. But then Clara was like somebody made of roses and lilies, so tall, so slight, so fair; and Emily could read the most difficult music, and could talk about high art in a way that sounded to me like Japanese; and you ought to have heard Annabel recite, and have seen her go through the thirty-five gestures, alarm, fascination, listening, delight, and all the rest. I used to think it was Siddons come again, and twice as great, and needing only her opportunity,—and she was always so obliging, and would give you the gestures every time you asked. We all knew that if Annabel went on the stage she would make the family fortunes and her own everlasting fame.

For you see the family fortunes needed making or mending or some other very particular attention. We owned our house and yard in the narrow street of the crowded city, and took care of ourselves with the money we made by taking in lodgers; and sometimes we had enough to scrimpalong on, and sometimes we didn't, and that was oftenest; and then we got on as we could, pinching in our clothes, and pinching in our food, and never going anywhere. At least *I* didn't go anywhere; the girls used to go to the theatre, or down to the sea, with the particular lover in favor at the time,—for most of our lodgers were young gentlemen who came to us with letters of introduction, or came to me, rather; since, although I was the youngest, I was the one that the girls put forward and made transact the business. They were awfully shrinking and sensitive, Clara, and Annabel, and Emily; and somehow they always used to feel, and so did I, when we had an unsuccessful season, that it was all owing to my inefficiency.

"I'm sure we might do better if you made more exertion, Louise," Clara would say. "If instead of wasting every spare moment, the way you do, over your absurd flower beds and boxes, you ever made a business of talking with the lodgers and getting them interested in us, they might stay on. We can't go and talk about ourselves; but you, being the ostensible manager, could often meet them, or make them little calls when you carry up the monthly bills, instead of leaving those bills under the door the ridiculous way you do, and so gradually get into conversation, and speak of our circumstances, and praise Emily's music, and Annabel's elocution, and wish she could have an engagement at the theatre,—not to say anything that might be said about me. But there! what do you care about your sisters, so long as you can attend to your flowers! I never saw such selfishness. Sometimes I feel so enraged with the things I could go and trample them down!" and her blue eyes flashed like great angry sapphires.

Of course this was very unjust; as if I were not doing all I could for them every day. And I really could have cried if I hadn't also felt some indignation at the talk about my flowers,—my flowers, the only pleasure or comfort that I had. The other girls had their talents, and their flatteries, their people to take them to the park or to the concert, their own consciousness too, of what they were and what they could do, which was truly a pleasure; and I had nothing at all but my flowers. But then the thought of Clara in one of her rages trampling down my flowers, and of what it was that *might* be said about her and her tempers, if I chose, made me laugh. And so I went out of the room quite gayly; and I heard her say to Annabel before I closed the door: "Any heart was left out of her composition. She hasn't the least atom of one." And Annabel said nothing, but Emily replied, "No, she doesn't care for anything in the world but her ridiculous flowers." And Clara was pinning in her belt a big bunch of red roses that I had just given her off my bush, and Emily was putting on her hat, which was the third hat she had had that year out of my share of the four divisions of the income after the household expenses had been paid. But nobody ever thought of such things as that; there was no reason why I should have new bonnets when I looked as well in the old one; and why in the world should I not give Clara my flowers when they set off her white beauty so through the open window as young Mr. Annersly let himself in!

But I had a heart; and Allen Annersly knew it. For I had talked with him about the girls, and had canvassed with him the ways and means of having scholars found for Emily, or an opportunity for Annabel to show some theatrical manager what she could do; and he kept a book and music store over on the Avenue, where the theatrical people went. It was a long time before the girls knew that he kept a book and music store; they insisted that he was the son of the rich Mr. Annersley, on the Heights, who had been a member of Congress; and that he probably had a whim of having separate lodgings of his own because it was English. And after the blow fell, and they knew he kept a shop, they could not get out of their heads what they had so firmly implanted there, the idea of his belonging to something or somebody on a different scale of grandeur. "He is, maybe, an Anarchist," said Annabel, "or a Nihilist, or a Socialist of some sort. And he has left his father's splendid surroundings and is seeing for himself what life means among those that have to earn their living."

"He visits a great deal next door, and the people there are very well off," said Clara.

"There are no people there but the housekeeper and old gentleman, and he does writing there," said I.

"You always so contrive to dampen every enthusiasm, Louise," said Clara.

"I'm sure," said Emily, "if I didn't think he was something superior to most of our lodgers I should never give him a second thought. He is insignificant enough to be the very pink of gentility."

"How can you talk so!" said Clara. "As if the aristocracy hadn't every opportunity for physical perfection."

"Maybe they have!" said I. "But they don't improve their opportunities. The fathers and mothers keep marrying for money and for lands, and not for love, or good looks or intellect, and they are the result; that's what the old housekeeper says next door——"

"How in the world did you know her?"

"Oh, we made acquaintance over the garden wall, and she told me that Mr. Annersly keeps books for her master, and he's not only poor, but in debt for his stock in trade, and never had any rich or grand relations."

"The idea of your talking like that with our neighbors' servants! You always did like low company, Louise!" said Emily.

"But I must say! How perfectly abominable!" cried Clara. "What is he here for, with his false pretences! It's a regular imposition—going about with his air of seclusion, and keeping a coat of arms in his room——"

"Did you think that was a coat of arms!" asked I. "Why, it's the diploma of a commercial school."

"I don't spend so much time as you do, Louise, in the lodgers' rooms, studying up their belongings. As if I cared what it was—a low-bred person!"

"It's very unkind of you to talk so, Clara, when he's trying to do so much to help us. He is going to take Annabel himself to the manager of the Avenue theatre, tomorrow morning. And I'm to bring Emily to his store this afternoon, when the Director of the Symphonies is to hear her play, and give her pupils if he is satisfied."

"Satisfied! I rather think there's no danger that any one Mr. Annersley's likely to know will be anything else but satisfied with Emily's playing!"

I thought so myself. And I must say I was thunderstruck, after Emily had played two of her very best pieces that afternoon, to hear Mr. Deboisson, the director, who, at first sitting in dead silence, presently fidgetted enough to drive one wild, cry out: "It is utterly useless. It is utterly hopeless! Of what can the young lady be thinking! Has she a mind to think with at all! It is necessary to be plain. How can she give lessons without talent, without technique,—with absolutely no qualification! Her hand was spoiled in the beginning. she has no idea of the master's meaning. She cannot even read the music. It is childish play, Mr. Annersley!" and he stalked out of the shop as if he had been insulted.

But Emily, for whose sake I felt so badly, was not in the least disturbed. "What a crusty old simpleton!" she exclaimed. "As if nobody knew anything but himself! And who knows whether he does or not!" And she rattled off one of her show pieces in great disdain of him, and went home with me scolding about Allen Annersley all the way. For if he had taken the least pains to prejudice Mr. Deboisson in her favor, it would all have been different, she said.

I must confess that, when Annabel came home crying, the next noon, and told us that the manager had pronounced her efforts idle, weakly amateurish, and out of the question for business, I felt as if Fate was against us, and there was some gigantic mistake somewhere. And I hated the manager even while I wondered at his blunder, and I cried a good deal myself over my flowers, as I trimmed and watered them. But my crying only made Emily indignant. "I should think you thought our enemies were in the right," she cried. "*I* don't cry. What such a person as that Mr. Deboisson says makes no odds to me. There are people who say he's no sort of a director! I shall go on with my playing just the same, and so will Annabel with her elocution. And you can attend to your precious flowers and not worry yourself about us!" But Annabel kissed me that night before she went to sleep.

So I went back to my flowers; and they were the greatest comfort to me. I had a box out of every window in the house, and when they were full of blossoms it did make the house mightily attractive; and I used to think that was one reason why the lodgers came. But when I said so, the girls greeted me with shouts of laughter and with reproaches for my self-conceit; and Clara said she shouldn't wonder if beautiful young women in a house were quite as attractive as flower-boxes at the windows. But all around the edges of the yard, at first, I had my beds, and at last I covered every bit of space in the yard with them. I had a world of trouble, though, because the soil was so hard and clayey there; and I did question if I were not too selfish to live when I had a cart-load of fresh loam and some fertilizers hauled on the yard once, at a time when the girls had all gone out. But I went without butter and sugar for two whole months, so as to be sure that I had not wronged them in doing it. And I was sorry then that sugar was so cheap; if it had only been a dollar a pound, I need not have gone without anything like as long.

Everybody must have some pleasure, I fancy, and the pleasure I had with those flowers of mine was past reckoning; and sometimes Mr. Annersley came home when the girls were out, and went about from window to window with me, admiring them as much as I did. He knew a good deal about flowers, and once in a while he brought home some rare little thing that he had got in a greenhouse, and I felt richer than if it had been a pearl; and sometimes I found something that I could root, in an old chance bouquet thrown from her carriage by some beauty going home from a ball, maybe. One day the friendly next door housekeeper asked me, over the fence, if I would not like to take a drive into the woods with her old master; and as all the rooms were in order, and lunch just over, I was delighted. For the old gentlemen and I were very good friends in a small way, and after we were off the pavement he began to talk about my flowers; he was something of a botanist, he said, and he had enjoyed looking over in my little yard and seeing me make something out of nothing; and he thought if I were so fond of flowers as all that, I might like a drive in the woods, (where I had hardly ever been,) to see some of them in their own homes, although it was still only the last of May.

How lovely it was in the woods! So still and dark and solemn, with long vistas away into golden green sunshine, and, when you were wonted there, the murmuring whisper of the tree tops, swelling and falling like the echo of a wave upon a distant shore. We left the carriage, and went wandering into the mossy glades, I often in advance, for my old friend was too feeble to go very far, and I came back to him with this and that treasure of the wild growth that I found,—white violets, anemones, straw-bells. "Ah!" said he, as I came back once with a strange and charming pink-purple flower, as much of the wet black earth about it as I had been able to take from the ground, "now you have a real treasure! That is the Showy Orchis. Yes, I am glad you have found that; and doubtless there are others here. It belongs to the most interesting and curious of all the flowers,—flowers that mimic animal life. Do you know, there is a damp shady corner in your little yard, under the pear tree, that you can make rich enough to grow this and several others of its kind. We will come again with a big bag and fill it with this peaty soil." And so we did, several times, the girls marvelling why I liked driving out in the country with that old creature, and not at all admiring the weeds that I brought back. And in those times I found many wonders, and among them one that he told me was the Arethusa, the loveliest purple thing alive, and a Calypso, too; and he was just as pleased as I was.

Sometimes, once or twice, after he heard about it, Allen took me in the street cars as far as they ran, and we walked the rest of the way, although somehow I never liked to tell the girls; and it is certainly odd how your senses are trained and warned all unconsciously, to find what you are looking for; but I had no sooner seen the old gentleman's pleasure over my Arethusa, than what should I spy, one sweet June day, but the small white moccasin flower, and then the big yellow one, and presently the little yellow one, fragrant as a tropical jungle might be. And I carried them home to the old gentleman, with Allen, and he said it was an unexampled find, all in one day. "Three different specimens of Cypripedium," said he, "all in one day! But flowers know their lovers. They know to whom to reveal themselves. Come July, we will go through the woods again, and I dare venture you'll come home with the big pink ladies' slipper, a perfect balloon, and the crane-fly, to boot!" And of course I really did,—it would have been impolite to seem to contradict him by not doing so, you know. And I came

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home, moreover, with the greenish-white ladies' tresses, and the adder's-mouth, with its tiny green blossom, too; and one day I found myself half crying for joy over the sudden beauty of the white fringed orchis; and in August,—there never was such luck!—I found the yellow fringed orchis, and the ineffably sweet purple fringed one; and by that time the little rich wet corner of my yard was a perfect chamber or jewels to me, worth more than the treasure-house of any Oriental king, with here a quaint rose-purple flower whose white lip was spotted purple, and here a sweet-scented, blushing bogonia. For the other flowers in the yard had grown as all common flowers do; but these things that I had brought home from the dark, wild wet woods and swamps seemed to belong to some other planet, and to tell of some other life,—some strange, fantastic, foreign principle of life. They told of another life for human beings, too, different from this crowded brick and mortar one. "A life," I said to Mr. Annersley once, that I suppose I never shall have,—but a life on a farm in the country with one corner of a garden running down into wet woods." He stopped and looked at me, quite gravely, a moment. "Perhaps you will have it," said he. "I think it depends on yourself whether you will or not."

Well, well, those things were not all my wealth by any means. What pinks I had, such great globy crimson carnations and white ones, too; one box, outside the parlor floor lodger's window, was all nothing else, and another box was full of snowy sweet alyssum and forget-me-nots and mignonette, and another box was all yellow oxalis and blue lobelia, and just as soon as they could blow out-doors I had all sorts and colors of double columbines shaking in the wind, white, golden, blue, purple and scarlet, in the box out of Mr. Annersley's window, and over the sides another box brimming with yellow escholtzias and marigolds, I had crimson cypress vines, and sulphur-tinted canary bird flowers, and nasturtiums of all deep, rich impossible blood colors streaming; and then I had purple cinerarias and yellow coreopses, and Star of Bethlehem, all an odd prickly velvet over its midnight blue, and bachelors' buttons and balsams and four o'clocks, and there were pots full of violets, full of geraniums, of purple ochemines and gloxinias, and an oleander tree that when it bloomed was like a rosy sunrise in the room, and in the yard was the corner of my dear wild flowers, and my June peonies, and my larkspurs, bluer than blue, and my rows of sweet peas, and morning glory and scarlet runners covering all the side of the fence, and a vast orange trumpet flower and a purple clematis and a wisteria running up the back of the house, and hollyhocks, stately as old-fashioned lovely ladies, and dahlias, and princess' feathers, each in their season, and last of all my white chrysanthemums and scarlet salvias,—a perfect little wild garden, every inch used, and not a half inch wasted. I used to look out over the yard in the morning and wonder at myself, and I used to look up at the house when I came home from market, and think it looked as if it ought to be Paradise inside. But it wasn't.

I really don't know where they all came from, these darlings of mine. This person gave me one, and that person gave me another, and some I begged, and some I bought, and one, yes one, I stole. You'll never believe how wicked I was. I stole it walking in the Park. And I tried so hard to look innocent, passing the policeman, that I know he knew I was guilty, and I hope I made up for it afterwards a little, by scattering a whole handful of its very own seed in the same spot in the Spring; and I do believe that that great patch you see there like live brown and gold velvet in the sun came from those identical seeds.

Those seeds, and the seeds of the others, too, gave me no end of trouble by the way; for people all up and down the street, and people who passed that way, strangers, too, and all our acquaintances of course, used to come and beg me for some of the seed of this, that or the other. And it grew to be a real nuisance, it took so much of my time, and I was afraid, too, I would have none left for myself. I was doing some up to give away one day, when Mr. Annersley came in. "It isn't generosity at all," I said. "I don't like to do it. I wouldn't mind so much, though, if I thought they really wanted them. But it's only a freak, because our flowers look so pretty. I don't believe they'll ever come to anything. They're just wasted."

"Sell them, then. Don't give them away. It will amount to something in the year."

"Oh dear, no—I should be ashamed."

"Ashamed of turning an honest penny? I'm not."

"But they're not worth a penny."

"Oh yes, they are. Why, you know there are some establishments for nothing else than the sale of flower seeds. Do them up in neat packages, and I'll take them to the store. Those that want them will want them enough to pay for them. And they won't be wasted, either." I should never have done it, you see, but for him; he was always looking out for my interest that way. And what did I see, the next week, but a great black and white placard in the shop window: "Flower Seeds from Miss Forester." The girls were so outraged! But he didn't take the placard down, for all that; and I kept putting up and sending round to him my flower seeds as fast as they ripened, and in the late spring he handed me more money than I could believe, from their sale.

One way and another, all the time, the house gradually became an actual bower. Once some men came staggering in, not looking at all like men, but more like Birnam Wood, and they carried between them an immense azalia bush, a mound of snow and sweetness, with the compliments of the old gentleman next door. The girls said of course it couldn't be for me, but as they couldn't make up their minds for which one of them it was, it didn't matter; and I returned thanks, and did it so carefully not to mention any names, that Mr. Annersley who was writing in there, looked up at me with a laugh in his brown eyes, and the old gentleman said, "You're a little girl as sweet as those flowers themselves, and I know somebody else that thinks so." And then I ran away. A few days after that Mr. Annersley bought me a tiny southern orchid, just the least flower of one, an air plant that had no root, which there couldn't be any doubt he gave to me. "There's a fortune in those things," he said, "although I fail to understand why. And, if you would like, Miss Louise, there's an exhibition of orchids to-morrow, and we might see them together, if you will."

(To be Continued.)

In the beginning, God wrote with His Divine Finger, all over the universe, laws for its perfect governance. And he who offends against those laws interferes with the Great General Plan—an act of which not only himself but all those round him must feel the consequences.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE ANTIQUE ORNAMENTS.

BY FANNIE L. FANCHER.

"Mother! mother! Oh, here you are!" and Stella Ray paused for breath, having, girl-fashion, ran very fast up stairs into the sitting-room in search of her mother. "That horrid composition day has come again. Now 'twas bad enough before, when we could write about birds, and flowers, or Spring, but this time Miss Carter had to up and give us our subjects, and Professor Gaylord's going to give us a prize, a volume of poems, for the best essay; but dear me! what can a body say on such a jumble of words as that!" said Stella, throwing a small slip of paper to her mother, and wiping away an angry tear. "I know you won't help me write it, but please explain what it means, for its all Greek to me. Don't believe there's any sense to it anyway. Blanche Miller's subject was easier: 'A Bird in the Hand is Worth Two in the Bush,' and Inez Lord's is only 'Fetters.' I could write a beautiful one on that—a temperance essay, you know. I declare, they aimed to give me the hardest!"

"My dear daughter, don't allow yourself to get so angry or excited, with such trivial cause. Your subject is a grand one. It surely is something that we, with our selfish natures, are very loth to do," and Mrs. Raymond, in slow, measured tones, read: "Live, and Let Live." "There is much sense in it, Stella," said her mother; "a very sermon in itself; one that it would be well for us to hear often now that a cruel winter is upon us."

"But mother, we don't control our own and other people's lives!"

"Not directly, my dear. "We are told in the Good Book, however, that no one lives to himself alone. That means, we are all dependent creatures. Not only dependent upon our Creator, but upon our fellow men. Your father, you know, has many employes, that live by the means that they receive of him for their labor. Your father, in turn, lives by the patronage of the people. This very morning, Stella," continued she, "I did something that I would not have done, had I thought of this maxim. I told Kate, that after this week, I would try to do the rest of our sewing for the season. Julia can sew very well on the machine, and I thought, in some way, we might do it ourselves,—though the cares of the house, and the demands of society are all that I ought to attend to,—but I desired another luxury, some of those beautiful antique ornaments at Hortons & Young's. Your father has so many demands upon him just now, that I dislike asking him for means to procure them, so I conceived the plan of saving Kate's wages. You see, Stella, I was unwilling to 'let live.' Kate is a very faithful girl. She has, you know, sewed for several seasons here, doing all our common sewing. I have paid her well, knowing that she needed it, and more too, for the necessaries of life. Poor girl! with an invalid mother and a drunken father, her life must indeed be hard. I shall tell her to-night, ere she returns to her home, that she may remain. You see, my daughter, *I* needed this lesson, and I shall begin the new year with this maxim ever before me."

"No, no, you did not, my precious mother!" exclaimed her impulsive daughter, "other women may need it, but you are always doing something for the poor."

"We are not to answer for the shortcomings of others, my dear," replied her mother. "We must do our duty if others fail to do theirs. Yes, daughter! there is much food for thought, or an essay, in this sentiment. Why, I have acquaintances that are allowed large sums of money to defray household expenses. They will, however, dispense with all the hired help possible; grinding down to the last penny the help that they do employ, in order to possess a few more adornments for self. Will heartlessly enjoy various luxuries and amusements, while owing, for weeks, some poor seamstress, she, meanwhile, suffering for the money which she has more than earned; but, fearing to lose their patronage, she waits until they are ready to pay her."

"Oh, how wicked and mean!" indignantly cried Stella. "But mother, should we *give* to the poor, in order that they may live?"

"It is seldom expedient to do this, for, in so doing, we are apt to create beggars. It is usually best to receive an equivalent, in work, for our gifts. The worthy poor, however, seldom desire anything that they have not earned.

"Thank you, mother, ever so much for your help. I now understand the subject, and who knows that I cannot win the prize. I shall do my best," and she ran down stairs, humming a lively air from the Moscotte. Her mountain had suddenly dwindled to a small mole-hill. Another perplexing problem she had also solved. She hastened to find her elder sister, to enlist her in engaging at once, those ornaments desired by her mother, for their joint Christmas present. Content and happiness came with full measure to her, as it does to all, when forgetting self, and planning for the pleasure of others.

Mrs. Ray soon sought Kate; she was pained to find her in tears. "Kate," said she, "I have changed my mind. I shall need your help another year."

"I have been wondering what I had done amiss," said Kate.

"Why, I told you I would give you a good recommend."

"Ah, Mrs. Ray! such good places are seldom found in the city, with the best of a recommend. I couldn't help feelin' bad, for I had planned to get mother so many comforts, and perhaps save enough besides to get me a new flannel dress, when merchants knock down prices, after the holidays. This one I'm wearin' bein' not fit to be seen in its shabbiness. And I have been lookin' back a little, to the time afore I came here, Mrs. Ray. Sewin' here and there for a trifle, often not gettin' my due. There are few women so willin' to *let us poor folks live*, as you be, Mrs. Ray. Most rich women clutch their pocketbooks as tight as they can, then they roll up their pitying eyes to Heaven, saying: 'O Lord, have mercy on the poor!' Few of 'em act as if the 'laborer was worthy of his hire.' I have been a cherishin' hard, bitter thoughts ever since you told me you'd not need me any more. Ah now, mother, thinks I, what of your faith in *prayer*, and all o' that! Mother's always said my snug place, and good pay, was a direct answer to her prayers."

"Perhaps, Kate, were I to tell you why I changed my mind, and reinstated you, you might think it was God's doings," said Mrs. Ray. Then she confessed her plan, and her lesson, as she called it, to increase this poor girls faith in her mother's faith, and her mother's God.

Stella became so enthusiastic over the subject that she won the prize. Her essay being pronounced by competent judges, very fine indeed.

Kate Green, the seamstress, spent the happiest New Year of the twenty years of her life. She had been enabled to procure many comforts, even luxuries, for her invalid mother. And the longed-for serviceable dress, was sent to her from "Santa" or some other mysterious friend. Having the promise of steady employment, besides, she felt enabled to help others less fortunate than herself.

Mrs. Ray's antique ornaments, a Christmas present from her daughters, was indeed a pleasant surprise to her, and she mentally decided to place them on a conspicuous shelf, where they would ever remind her of her determination to always 'let live.'

Dear reader, did Mrs. Ray lose anything by her course? Does not the Good Book teach that: "The liberal soul shall be made fat, and he that watereth, shall be watered also himself!"

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TABLE TALK.

BY JEANIE DEANS.

He was a spruce young lawyer, she the village school teacher, and the table at which they sat, good Farmer Brown's.

I suppose they thought they possessed the refined manners of educated people. Doubtless they did, good drawing-room manners. I can only speak of their table etiquette in the matter of conversation, as my acquaintance began and ended there.

"Hasty judument, auntie."

"Perhaps so, but straws you know show the current, and I am considerable old-fashioned about 'Once a lady always a lady,' and 'He was courteous to the mistress, likewise the maid.' Before the plates were all filled the youthful 'Squire began a treatise on the Trojan war and the abduction of Helen. His remarks were addressed solely to the teacher, it being supposed the Greek divinities entirely shadowy beings to the others.

"His talk ran lively. He possessed the field. She supplemented a date or distance when his memory failed, dividing her attention between his talk and her dinner. From Helen he bounded to Virgil's Eneid, skipped on to Dante and Paradise Lost, and by the time the second course was passed, reached the Circle of The Sciences. A brief pause for the young man to refresh himself, when I, who had not spoken, addressed a modest question to the young woman, which she briefly answered. Farmer Brown, to whom speaking at his own table seemed a privilege, remarked: "his lettuce was doing well," but before one could reply, or he even finish his statement the young man began again.

"This time it was English grammar. What did Miss Teacher think of this sentence, or how would the rules of grammatical construction apply to that. She grew animated and replied with intelligence. They were interested in their subjects to the exclusion of others present. So the dinner hour passed, and the company arose from the table without opportunity of others speaking aside from what I have said, unless the talkers were interrupted.

"This conversation, 'table talk,' had been Greek to the company as far as they know, for the young man never guessed the plain woman in plain gingham had taught both Greek and Latin before he could speak his own English."

"But how was the young lady to blame?"

"I thought she might have politely listened to him, and yet by easy tact, and really good manners, turned the conversation to a more general drift, where all might have shared.

"Perhaps the young man would have turned back."

"That would not have been her fault, and the attempt I mentioned would have been the straw and showed her intention. She might even have answered me in a manner to open conversation, but she did not."

"Ah, auntie, you should not blame these young people for conversing on subjects of interest to *them*."

"My child, I did not. If the gentleman desired a talk with the lady, on ancient and modern times, good manners would have chosen a different place from a plain farmer's table where no one else could or would understand. If he had said: 'Good potatoes, these, Mr. B. What variety are they?' and continued in that line, giving if he desired, a short history of the potato, I should have felt like shaking hands with him."

"But this particular time may have been an exception."

"So I thought, and when we were washing the dishes I asked my friend if they usually talked in this way, for they took dinner there regularly."

"Oh, yes!" she replied. "You see they are so high larnt, husband and I can't understand, and they don't take the trouble to explain."

Take the trouble! Ah, yes! Selfishness, after all, at the bottom, with some thoughtlessness thrown in, is the rock, I said to myself, pretty much all manners split on, more or less.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

"THE SUMMER EXODUS."

I am not sorry "Spinster" in our good little paper for August, expressed her sympathy for the men whose wives go on a summer's outing. I think no less of her, and perhaps the men like and respect her more for it.

Will she now give a little sympathy to the wives who stay at home all their lives while their husbands flit from one end of the land to the other, any or every year!

She has in mind a married pair. I also. With children grown, but plenty of babies left to need home care. In twenty years the wife has hardly spent five nights from home, visiting, traveling or boarding; nor eaten at another's table twenty times. But the husband goes to scientific conventions, soldiers' reunions, teachers' institutes, agricultural fairs, to buy property, or sell goods, or collect debts, or takes advantage of excursion rates, to visit, to see, or to rest. How could he live, poor fellow, without diversion from wife and children, and rest from the selfish brutality he uses at home. No one is more fond of nice victuals than he. He has a sensitive, poetic temperament. He needs some one to smooth his path and brush his hair; to make things pleasant and give him sympathy, and especially *appreciation*, which to his mind is admiration, approval. Possibly our generous "Spinster" has some to spare for him.

And, on second thought, I don't believe his wife would care for any sympathy when he leaves home for his vacations. To see his back and know he can't make an excuse to return—that he got on the cars and they have started—then can she give such a sigh of relief as "Spinster" never imagined.

He says, what she seems to think—that marriage was instituted to prevent adultery. But he can stay from home without conjugal infidelity. He is the nice, generous, pleasant, good man, when among strangers. He saves all his lower nature for gratification at home.

And now, friend "Spinster," you are fond of babies. I am not—never was—but I am responsible for some of them, and if you were in my place you would agree with me that a wife is not responsible for her husband's sins—that God does not give man headship to let him shirk responsibility, and good or bad, his child, with health, habits, mind and conscience, forming for the next world, (or for this,) is before heaven and its mother, greater than he.

SUSAN MANN.

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PORT JERVIS, NEW YORK, August 5, 1886.

ED. LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I can recommend the recipe given below, and trust the "Mother of Four Boys," of Highlandville, Mass., will try it.

The best remedy for ivy poison is sweet spirits of nitre. Bathe the parts affected freely with this fluid three or four times a day, and the next morning scarcely any trace of poison will be found. If the blisters be broken, so as to allow the nitre to penetrate the cuticle, a single application will be sufficient. PANSY.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., July 25th, 1886.

"INQUISITIVE" would like to ask the editor of the HOME JOURNAL, what she thinks of the plan of not allowing babies to sleep on a pillow. My little girl is two years old and does not use a pillow. I elevate the mattress slightly by placing something under the head, so that it is not level. Do you think a child of two years requires a pillow?

[From personal experience, and experience with children, we are decidedly in favor of a small pillow,—hair is best in summer time. We do not consider it best for a child to sleep directly on its back, nor is such a position conducive to long naps. A child sleeping upon its side will perhaps rouse a little, but if the mother will turn it over, rearrange the little legs and arms, (which have grown tired in the old position,) the child will again fall off into deep sleep. Children may be kept asleep a long while by turning them over every once in a while. If a child sleeps upon its back, when it grows tired in that position, there is no redress. Only upon its back can it be comfortable if the whole body be at an angle. A small pillow, therefore, seems desirable to us to fill in the space between head and shoulders, while lying on the side. It makes a comfortable disposition of the hands and arms much more possible, a very desirable thing if baby wishes to take a long nap.—ED.]

DEAR EDITOR:—The August number of your excellent JOURNAL was duly received, and as usual I turned first to the Mother's Corner; for though not a mother, I am an auntie, and feel interested in everything that concerns children.

I want to thank "Clarissa Potter" for her warning about "Baby's Nap." I wish that every mother could read and *heed* it.

In spite of what is said in favor of making babies go to sleep alone, no matter how much they cry, I think it is *cruel*. I know many babies do so, and it does not seem to injure them, and I suppose most of them can be trained to go to sleep alone, but I do not approve of such training. I do not believe in rocking them, but I think any mother might sit a few minutes in the nursery, and sing a soothing lullaby, or hold the tiny hand if that is any comfort to baby. It would not take much time, but I should not think any true mother would grudge giving even an hour to baby when she thinks how soon he will outgrow the need of such care.

Many mothers say that it does not injure babies to cry, even quite violently; but if it exhausts grown persons, as we all know it does, I think it must have a worse effect on the delicate nervous organization of infants. Of course I refer to violent crying. I know a lady whose first-born, idolized child died in convulsions brought on by violent crying, because she thought it her duty to make him go to sleep alone. It nearly killed his mother, and though five years have passed and she has two others, she will never forgive herself for that mistake.

A few years ago I was visiting a friend, who had a little girl who was a timid, nervous child, and dearly loved to be cuddled and petted. She, too, was the first child, and her mother thought she must be trained in the way she should go. So she was put to bed and left to cry herself to sleep. She didn't cry as if angry, but such grieved, pitiful sobs, I did not see how her mother could bear it. She fell asleep after a while, but was restless all night; starting up and crying out in her sleep. The next day she was very nervous, and cried easily. When nap time came, the crying began again, the same pitiful wail. After much urging, I persuaded my friend to go in. She did not take Winnie up, but spoke soothingly to her, and took her hand. Soon the sobs ceased, Winnie gave a few happy coos, and in five minutes was fast asleep, and did not wake for two hours. Then she seemed like a different baby from the fretful one of the morning. After that her mother stayed with her when she went to sleep, which she usually did in five minutes, and she was not nearly so nervous as when allowed to cry herself to sleep.

There is a book, "Twenty-six Hours in a Day," by M. E. Blake, which I wish every mother would read. It is the best book on the management of children that I ever read. I cannot see any good reason for taking children three or four years old to church. I do not blame such little things for being restless and uneasy. I think it is much better to keep them at home until they are six or seven years old. In the church where I attend there are a good many children at the morning service, and I notice that their mothers have to take all the care of them. Now I think the fathers ought to look after them part of the time. If they took charge of them every other Sunday, I am sure it would be a great relief to the mothers. Right in front of me there sits a father, mother, and three-years old boy; a very bright, cunning child. He does not make any noise, but he is so restless that his mother hardly has a moment's peace. His father pays no heed to him, but often sleeps through the sermon. Now if he took care of Bertie every other Sunday, it would keep him awake, and the mother could have a little peace and enjoy the sermon. As it is, she says Sunday is her hardest day.

If you agree with me will you not call the attention of your readers to the subject, and ask them what they think of it?

Your interested reader, M. A. T.

[You might have added to your excellent paper above one or two more considerations. First, that a child so small as to be restless, not only disturbs and annoys the mother, but all those directly around her, not interested in the child.

With such a child and such parents as described, would not the christianity called for in "bear ye one another's burdens" be *better* fulfilled by *one* parent remaining at home with the child alternate Sundays, thus leaving the *other* parent to enjoy undisturbed the alternate services!

The help, rest, relief and comfort, the weekly church service *should* give to those who attend, is entirely destroyed for the mother of a restless child, if that child accompany her.

The parent remaining at home could give the little one all the instruction (and much more) that he could possibly imbibe from a sermon preached far over his head and exceedingly dull for the little one at best.—ED]

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

FAMILY READING.

Not long since I saw a boy of very plastic age, eagerly clutch a daily paper with this ejaculation: "Any more murders or hangings!" Alas! I fear that he found therein what his depraved taste craved. Now I have formerly encouraged in the family the reading of the daily papers, since in no other way it seemed possible to become familiar with the world's happenings. But I have changed my mind of late, and why? Do not most of these papers ferret out every vile slander, or criminal event? Do they not employ reporters who exaggerate and distort every evil proceeding which they report? While writing the above, the daily paper is brought in. I drop my pen, and from force of habit, scan at once its pages. The first thing visible is a hideous illustration of a murder and suicide. A wronged husband has found his erring wife, and takes their lives in his own hands. The report is vile, but the pictures are viler. It is written with disgusting detail, and calculated to arouse prematurely, the passions of the young. There it goes into the grate. *My* boy shall not be contaminated with its perusal. You may censure the dime novel with all its baleful influences, but pray, can it be worse than the daily reading of such transactions; of murders and hangings, written with minute and horrible detail? No indeed! it is scarcely so bad, for the former they know to be fiction, but they read the latter as a chronicler of facts. Thus the hardening process begins, and crime in its various phases, becomes gradually, less obnoxious to them. Has not Pope truthfully said:

"Vice is a monster of such hideous mien,
That to be hated needs but to be seen,
Yet seen too oft, familiar with her face,
We first endure, then pity, then embrace."

Surely the mothers of the land ought to rise *en masse* against these periodicals, claiming, as they do, to be first-class newspapers, the pages of which are well nigh "police gazettes" in their sensational make-up. As mothers, we are all desirous of forming in our children the taste for good reading; hence we furnish it for them. In these days of many periodicals and books, it is not difficult to find inexpensive, yet beneficial reading. I have a son who early exhibited a taste for poetry; which inclination I foster by gifts of metric works. He never tires of Tennyson, Bryant, or Longfellow. I have recently secured a book entitled "Woman in Sacred Song." The book of nine hundred pages is compiled by Mrs. G. L. Smith, of Springfield, Illinois. It consists of hymns, temperance poems, and songs written only by women; hence my boy can—as in no other way—get an idea of what women have done, and are still doing, for the World's uplifting. I would fain that every mother who reads these helpful pages could secure a copy of this noble work. A more fitting birthday souvenir for any member of the family could not be obtained. Who does not hail with delight the present of a choice book? I have a young friend who is the possessor of a fine library, every book of which has been a birthday gift from members of his family. If we, then, as parents, are careful to procure only good reading for our children, the trashy novel, and the sensational paper, will for them lose all attraction, since by the cultivation of their taste we will excite in their minds a keen repugnance for such foul reading. Surely, in mind, as in bodily food, our desires grow upon what they are fed.

FANNY FANSHAW.

How easy it is for men to cry out upon the popular system of education, maintaining that girls are not being educated towards being wives and mothers, (we will not enter into a discussion of the numbers who have no desire to be either,) but how many of these same men turn their attention towards educating boys toward the point of being good husbands and fathers!

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HEY-A-DAY! HO-A-DAY!

Hey-a-day! Ho-a-day! What shall I sing!
Baby is weary of everything;
Weary of "Black Sheep" and "Little Boy Blue,"
Weary of "Little Jack Horner," too,
Weary of "Ding dong" and "Caper and crow,"
Weary of "Pretty maids all in a row;"
Though I have sung to her ditties a score,
Little blue eyes are as wide as before.

Hey-a-day! Ho-a-day! What shall I sing
Sleep to the eyes of my baby to bring!
Sing her a song of her own little self,
Mystical, whimsical, comical elf!
Sing of the hands that undo with their might
More in a day than my own can set right;
Sing of the feet ever ready to go
Into the places no baby should know.

Hey-a-day! Ho-a-day! Thus will I sing
While in her cradle my baby I swing;—
Sing of her tresses that toss to and fro,
Shaling pink cheeks on a pillow of snow;
Sing of her cherry lips guarding for me
Treasures as rare as the pearls of the sea;
Sing of the wonder and marvelous light,
Hid in the blue eyes now blinking *good-night!*

Hey-a-day! Ho-a-day! Joy makes one sing,
Who would have thought that *a baby* could bring
Into my bosom a love so divine,
Into my heart all this music of mine,
Into my home such a halo of light,
Unto my hands such a magical might,
Unto my feet all the fleetness of wings,
Into my being such wonderful things!

—M. A. MAITLAND.

OCCUPATIONS FOR CHILDREN.

"John's Wife" has well said that occupation is a panacea for childish troubles, as well as our own; but to provide interesting and varied employment through even the busy hours, is not an easy matter, as every mother knows.

A blackboard, or two, where there are several children, is a great help about entertaining them. If a few of the leisure moments are spent in giving short lessons on straight and curved lines, and simple figures, as door, slate, box, knife, dipper, etc., they will soon learn to spend considerable time in drawing pictures. One can put short writing lessons on it, to be copied by children. They can be sent to it to write or print a verse from their reader, or the names of all the things in the room, the pantry, the parlor, down cellar, in the barn, in store, etc. Names of all trees they know, birds, stones, flowers; things made of wood, iron, etc. In fact, an inventive mother can utilize that board in a good many ways. One can be cheaply made of bass-wood, and stained with log-wood dye.

I remember an amusement to which I was very partial at the age of ten or twelve, which "we children" called knitting names. We would all sit down with our knitting, and each think of some name, as John, or Mary. When each one came to the end of a needle, she would call the first letter of her name, as, J. Then the rest would begin to guess all the names they knew commencing with J. If a name were guessed, the one knitting it, began another; if not, at the end of every needle a letter was called, till the whole word was spelled. The one who knit a whole word through before it was guessed, was triumphant indeed. Of course odd and difficult names were in great demand, and I remember I wrote down an alphabetical list from the births and deaths in a newspaper, for my special use; and how the needles flew to give us a chance to call one more letter before being stopped.

To be allowed to hook a rug is a great privilege with some children, boys as well as girls, and though it makes a clutter, it is *clean* dirt, and a clutter is of small account beside a busy, happy child. Making picture scrap books is good for a change. If one has no old book to spare, it can be made from old cloth, and it will last all the longer.

Then, oftentimes, the mother can talk, if she be busy; and she can take the opportunity once each day to tell them about some interesting thing, as the dress and habits of some people like the Esquimaux, Indians or Chinese; the growth and preparation of some article of food, as flour, molasses, and sugar. The little ones will soon be interested, and propose more subjects than the mother can develop without the aid of a shelf full of encyclopædias. It is best after telling a story or giving a description, to have the children tell it themselves, correcting their most glaring errors of speech.

If I have said anything which will help one mother over one busy time, I shall be very glad. I like the mother's page in the JOURNAL, the best of all, and am interested in what little I have seen of its discussions.

I do not see how any one can reasonably object to anything "Bell" says in the July number. I should hope but few mothers would give little children tea or coffee, or much grease or sugar. I find graham and corn meal pudding and rolls, and steamed oat meal best for my little girl, and she likes it best. ESTHER.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

LOST TIME.

The early failing of married women is always a subject for comment among their dearest friends. And each particular friend has some very good cause to assign for it. But it is a question, whether, in many cases, it is not greatly the woman's own fault.

Think, mothers, do you not do much unnecessary work? I am not going into an elaborate discussion of the sewing question. Everybody knows that you all, or at least nine-tenths of you, sew much more than there is any necessity for. I am going to speak only of the *sitting* question. Now think carefully. Do you not *stand* to do many things about which you could as well *sit* if you were only accustomed to it. "O but it looks so lazy!" A fig for the way "it looks!" Why should a woman stand up to pare potatoes! I've seen women stand half the morning preparing vegetables. Ask them about it and what is their answer. "O I don't know. I always stand. I'm used to it. I can work better so." They have no business to be used to it. With all that a mother or a housekeeper must do, she has no moral right to strain her physical or nervous system by doing one thing that she is not obliged to do. Accustom yourself to sitting as much as possible while at work. Have a high chair with a rest for the feet made to fit your table and sink. It will not cost much, but it will save you many a back-ache, many a doctor's bill, many a season of regret over a cross word you have spoken under the strain of having "been on your feet all day." Plenty of women work in such a back-handed way that one wonders they can live.

"I *never* lie down in the daytime," says some one decidedly and so self-righteously, that the poor little meek woman who has ventured the remark feels quite criminal in ever having indulged in such a disposition.

It is not only right, but a woman's bounden duty to take all the rest she can get. If a mother can possibly find time to throw herself down on the sofa for a few moments she should do so. It is a necessity and one that cannot with impunity be put aside. If baby is awake and you are afraid to leave him alone, put him and his playthings in a dry goods box, give him a quart of Indian meal and some little tin plates, or some other novel amusement, reserved for just such emergencies, then seize five minutes, or even fifteen minutes' rest, and you will go at your work again with a renewed vigor that will enable you to much more than make up for lost (?) time.

Mothers, give your daughters a good practical education, such as you see their *needs* call for, but do not, as you would have them *contented*, fail to develop in them in every way, a sense of the beautiful.

God made sunsets and flowers, and all things beautiful, to be enjoyed as such, and the girl who can note all these things around her will be contented amid the humblest surroundings. The soul which can observe and enjoy the beauties to which every human being has access more or less, unless enclosed in dungeon walls, is lifted greatly above the common cares of life.

A sense of beauty lightens the "load of human misery" beyond belief.

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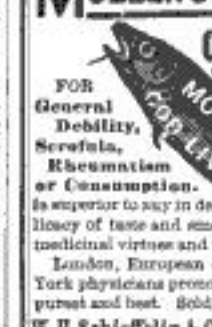

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

Will some of the sisters tell me how to make a wreath of hair flowers? SUBSCRIBER.

Will some of the readers give directions for a pretty tidy? and oblige WHIPPLE.

"Phila. Subscriber:"—Grandmother's lace in July number is *correct*; the mistake is on your part.

Will some of the band give directions for ladies hood in puff knitting? and oblige a new subscriber.

A subscriber wishes correct directions of Infant's Knit Shirt. Will any of our readers who have knit one send to the editor?

"Christa C." can make insertion from directions of crocheted lace in June number, by working the open work on both sides of the point.

"Mrs. W." would like directions for crocheting a child's long sacque, suitable for a child 2 years old, also directions for a pretty Fasciator.—ED.

"Rhymie:"—If your directions for necktie and other fancy work you spoke of, are correct, we will appreciate your kindness in sending them.—ED.

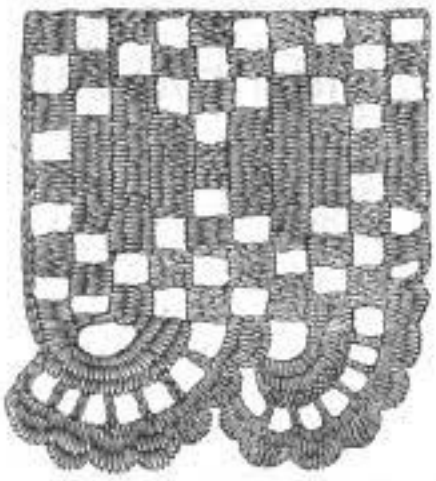
"M. B. B.," Clinton, Ky.:—The sample of crochet edge you have sent us is very like one we have printed. If you will send any samples you may have, I will try to work them out. M. F.

If "Mrs. John Pace" will send her full address to L. C. R., Baldwinsville, Pa., Box 212, I will send her a pieced block called the Tree of Paradise, which I think is the same as the Tree of Liberty.

Handsome Crochet Edge.

Use spool cotton No. 20. Make a chain of 26 stitches.

1st row. Turn, make 1 d c in 4th 5th and 6th stitches of chain, chain 2, miss 2, 1 d c in 9th 10th and 11th stitches of chain, chain 2, miss 2, 1 d c in 14th 15th and 16th stitches of chain, chain 2, miss 2, 1 d c in 19th 20th and 21st stitches of chain, chain 2, miss 2, 1 d c in 3 last stitches of chain.



[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]

2d row. Turn, chain 4, 3 d c in first ch of 2, ch 2, 3 d c in next ch 2, 1 d c in top of each of next 3 stitches, 3 d c in ch 2, ch 2, 3 d c in ch 2, ch 2, 1 d c in loop at end of 1st row.

3d row. Turn, ch 4, 3 d c in ch 2, ch 2, 3 d c in ch 2, 1 d c in top of each of next 9 stitches, 3 d c in ch 2, ch 2, 3 d c in loop at end of row, ch 6, fasten with s c in 1st stitch of foundation chain.

4th row. Turn, ch 1, 14 d c in chain of 6, chain 2, 3 d c in chain 2, ch 2, miss 3, 1 d c in top of next 9 stitches, ch 2, 3 d c in ch 2, ch 2, 1 d c in loop at end of row.

5th row. Turn, ch 4, 3 d c in ch 2, ch 2, 3 d c in ch 2, ch 2, miss 3, 1 d c in next 3 stitches, ch 2, 3 d c in ch 2, ch 2, 3 d c in ch 2, ch 2, 1 d c between 2d and 3d stitches of cluster, ch 2, 1 d c between 4th and 5th stitches, and so on to the end of row.

6th row. Turn, 1 s c in ch of 2, 3 d c in same ch of 2, 1 s c in same; so continue in each chain of 2 until there are 7 small scallops in all, chain 2, 3 d c in ch 2, finish like 2d row. This completes one scallop.

7th row. Turn; continue as 3d row, fastening ch of 6 with s c in first small scallop.

8th row same as 4th row.

9th row. Fasten last ch of 2, with s c in second small scallop. L. M. B.

Directions for Mittens—Row of Hearts Down the Back.

Cast on 77 stitches—1st needle, 28; 2d needle, 22; 3d needle, 27.

1st round, knit plain.

2d round. Knit 6, purl 2, over, knit 1, over twice, purl 2, repeat.

3d round. Knit 4, narrow, purl 2, knit 3, purl 2, repeat.

4th round. Knit 3, narrow, purl 2, knit 1, over knit 1, over, knit 1, purl 2, repeat.

5th round. Knit 2, narrow, purl 2, knit 5, purl 2, repeat.

6th round. Knit 1, narrow, purl 2, knit 2, over, knit 1, over, knit 2, purl 2, repeat.

7th round. Over, narrow, over twice, purl 2, knit 5, narrow, purl 2, repeat.

8th round. Knit 3, purl 2, knit 4, narrow, purl 2, repeat.

9th round. Knit 1, over, knit 1, over, knit 1, purl 2, knit 3, narrow, purl 2, repeat.

10th round. Knit 5, purl 2, knit 2, narrow, purl 2, repeat.

11th round. Knit 2, over, knit 1, over, knit 2, purl 2, knit 1, narrow, purl 2, repeat.

12th round. Knit 5, narrow, purl 2, over, narrow, over twice, purl 2, repeat. Then repeat from the third round until the mitten is finished For the back of the hand, arrange for 5 hearts and 6 seams. 22 stitches on first plain needle, 22 on second needle, leave 7 plain stitches before commencing the thumb. K. G.

Broad Lace in June No.

(Corrected.)

Cast up 36 stitches.

1st row. Slip 1, knit 1, over and narrow 6 times, making 6 holes, knit 13, over, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1.

2d row. Knit 2, make 2 stitches of the loop, by knitting 1, and purling 1, knit 1, knit 2d loop like first, knit 2, over, narrow, rest plain.

3d row. Slip 1, knit 2, over and narrow 6 times, knit 12, over, narrow, knit 4, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1.

4th row. Knit 2, make 2 stitches of the loop, knit 1, knit second loop, making 2 stitches, knit 4, over, narrow, rest plain.

5th row. Slip 1, knit 3, over and narrow 6 times, knit 11, over, narrow, knit 6, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1.

6th row. Knit 2, make 2 stitches of the loop, knit 1, make 2 of the second loop, knit 6, over, narrow, rest plain.

7th row. Slip 1, knit 4, over and narrow 6 times, knit 10, over, narrow, knit 8, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1.

8th row. Knit 2, make 2 of the loop, knit 1, make 2 of second loop, knit 8, over, narrow, rest plain.

9th row. Slip 1, knit 5, over and narrow 6 times, knit 9, over, narrow, knit 15.

10th row. Bind off 8, knit 6, over, narrow, rest plain.

11th row. Slip 1, knit 6, over and narrow 6 times, knit 8, over, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1.

12th row. Knit 2, make 2 of the loop, knit 1, make 2 of the second loop, knit 2, over, narrow, rest plain.

13th row. Slip 1, knit 7, over and narrow 6 times, knit 7, over, narrow, knit 4, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1.

14th row. Knit 2, make 2 of the loop, knit 1, make 2 of the loop, knit 4, over, narrow, rest plain.

15th row. Slip 1, knit 8, over and narrow 6 times, knit 6, over, narrow, knit 6, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1.

16th row. Knit 2, make 2 of the loop, knit 1, make 2 of the loop, knit 6, over, narrow, rest plain.

17th row. Slip 1, knit 9, over and narrow 6 times, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 8, over, narrow, over, narrow, rest plain.

18th row. Knit 2, make 2 of the loop, knit 1, make 2 of the loop, knit 8, over, narrow, rest plain.

19th row. Slip 1, knit 10, over and narrow 6 times, knit 4, over, narrow, rest plain.

20th row. Bind off 8, knit 6, over, narrow, rest plain.

21st row. Slip 1, knit 11, over and narrow 6 times, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1.

22d row. Knit 2, make 2 of the loop, knit 1, make 2 of the loop, knit 2, over, narrow, rest plain.

23d row. Slip 1, knit 12, over and narrow 6 times, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 4, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1.

24th row. Knit 2, make 2 of the loop, knit 1, make 2 of the second loop, knit 4, over, narrow, rest plain.

25th row. Slip 1, knit 26, over, narrow, knit 6, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1.

26th row. Knit 2, make 2 of the loop, knit 1, make 2 of the second loop, knit 6, over, narrow, rest plain,

Always put the thread over before each narrowing. MRS. F. SMITH.

Infant's Linen Hood.

No. 40 Marshall's bleached linen thread, with a fine steel needle.

1st row. Crochet 4 chain and join together.

2d row. 21 long stitches in the ring.

3d row. 24 long stitches in the loops, always taking both threads of the stitch (or loop.)

4th row. 47 long stitches round this.

5th row. In one of the loops crochet 2 long stitches, 1 chain, 2 long stitches, (all in the same loop) then skip 3 stitches, and keep on this way all round, having in all 12 shells.

6th row. 8 long stitches in every shell, with a short stitch between every shell, so as to draw down the scallop.

7th row. 7 chain, and with a short stitch catch it in at the top of every scallop.

8th row. A long stitch in every chain stitch, and widen enough to have 108 stitches when the row is finished.

9th row the same as the 8th row.

10th row same as the 9th row, having 134 stitches when the row is finished.

11th row same as the 5th row, having 34 shells round.

12th row same as the 6th row.

13th row same as the 7th row.

14th row same as the 8th row.

15th row same as the 9th row.

16th row same as the 10th row, only leave 20 stitches in back, crocheting from side to side row 'til finished, 6 rows of shells, and 6 rows of solid work. Towards the front you will have to narrow, as it will be too full around the face. You want it to fit the head snug. You will have to widen according to size of the child's head, also narrow the same. When large enough, crochet a scallop around the back, to match the front edge, having the scallop finish the hood. Plait lace around the hood, front and back.

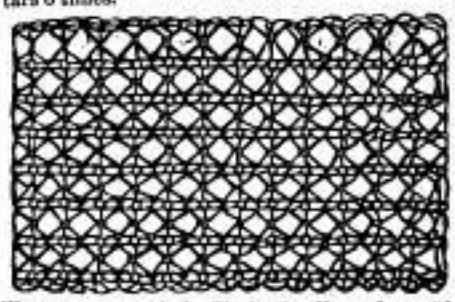
MRS. G. E. W.

BOX 364, W. GARDNER, MASS.

Crochet Insertion.

Make a chain of 40 stitches.

1st row. 1 d c in 36th st of ch, ch 2, 1 d c in same 36th st,* ch 5, miss 4, 1 d c in next st, ch 2, 1 d c in same,* repeat what comes between the tars 6 times.



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies Home Journal.]

3d row. Ch 3, 1 d c in ch 2, ch 2, 1 d c in same ch 2,* ch 5, miss 4, 1 d c in ch 2, ch 2, 1 d c in same ch 2,* repeat what comes between the stars 6 times.

3d row. Ch 3, 1 d c in ch 2 of 2d row, ch 2, 1 d c in same ch 2,* ch 3, and unite the chain 5 of last two rows by 1 s c around the centres, ch 3, 1 d c in next ch 2, ch 2, 1 d c in same ch 2,* repeat from star to star 6 times.

4th and 5th rows like the 2d.

6th row like the 3d.

7th and 8th rows like the 2d.

9th like the 3d, and so on.

Ch means chain. St means stitch.

This is a pretty insertion to go with Wide Crochet Lace given in February number. HOPE.

Shell Edging.

Cast on 27 stitches.

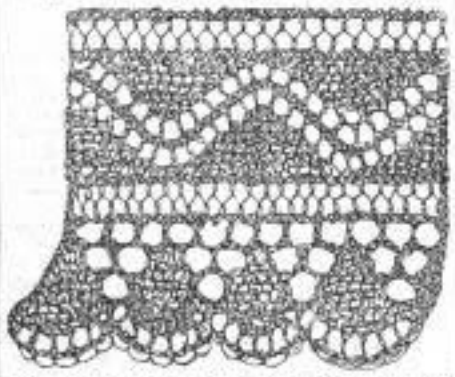
1st row. Knit two, over, narrow, knit one, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit five, over, narrow, knit one, over twice, narrow, knit six, over twice, purl two together, (twenty-eight stitches.)

2d row. Thread over, purl two together, knit eight, purl one, knit two, over, narrow, knit ten, over, narrow, knit one, (twenty-eight stitches.)

3d row. Knit two, over, narrow, knit two, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit four, over, narrow, knit ten, over twice, purl two together.

4th row. Thread over, purl two together, knit eleven, over, narrow, knit ten, over, narrow, knit one.

5th row. Knit two, over, narrow, knit three, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit three, over, nar-



[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]

row, knit one, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit five, over twice, purl two together, (thirty stitches.)

6th row. Thread over, purl two together, knit seven, purl one, knit two, purl one, knit two, over, narrow, knit ten, over, narrow, knit one.

7th row. Knit two, over, narrow, knit four, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit two, over, narrow, knit twelve, over twice, purl two together.

8th row. Thread over, purl two together, knit thirteen, over, narrow, knit ten, over, narrow, knit one.

9th row. Knit two, over, narrow, knit 5, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit one, over, narrow, knit one, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit five, over twice, purl two together, (33 stitches.)

10th row. Thread over, purl two together, knit seven, purl one, knit two, purl one, knit two, purl one, knit two, over narrow, knit ten, over, narrow, knit one, (33 stitches.)

11th row. Knit two, over, narrow, knit ten, over, narrow, knit ten; take the tenth back on the left hand needle, slip six stitches over that stitch and over twice, purl two together, (twenty seven stitches.)

12th row. Thread over, purl two together, knit ten, over, narrow, knit one, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit five, over, narrow, knit one.

13th row. Knit two, over, narrow, knit ten, over, narrow, knit one, over twice, narrow, knit six over twice, purl two together.

14th row. Thread over, purl two together, knit eight, purl one, knit two, over, narrow, knit two, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit four, over, narrow, knit one.

15th row. Knit 2, over, narrow, knit ten, over, narrow, knit ten, over twice, purl two together.

16th row. Thread over, purl two together, knit eleven, over, narrow, knit 3, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit three, over, narrow, knit one.

17th row. Knit two, over, narrow, knit ten, over, narrow, knit one, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit five, over twice, purl 2 together, (thirty stitches.)

18th row. Thread over, purl two together, knit seven, purl one, knit two, purl one, knit two, over, narrow, knit four, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit two, over, narrow, knit one.

19th row. Knit two, over, narrow, knit ten, over, narrow, knit twelve, over twice, purl two together.

20th row. Thread over, purl two together, knit thirteen, over, narrow, knit five, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit one, over, narrow, knit one.

21st row. Knit two, over, narrow, knit ten, over, narrow, knit one, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit five, over twice, purl two together.

22d row. Thread over, purl two together, knit seven, purl one, knit two, purl one, knit two, purl one, knit two, over, narrow, knit six, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1, (thirty-three stitches.

23d row. Knit two, over, narrow, knit ten, over, narrow, knit ten; take the tenth stitch back on the left hand needle, slip six stitches over that stitch, over twice, purl two together.

24th row. Thread over, purl two together, knit ten, over, narrow, knit ten, over, narrow, knit one. This is a pretty edging, and I think given correctly. Z. D.

To Join Strips of Rick-Rack Trimming Made According to Directions Given in Jan. Number.

Take two strips of the trimming and put the two right sides together; make a loop of cotton, put it on the needle, and draw it through the two points of braid which come opposite one another, ch 2, single crochet through next point and opposite one,* turn pieces of trimming on right side, ch 9, (you notice you have two points of braid on each scallop of trimming) 1 d c in first point of braid, next the two that you have joined, thread over, draw through two stitches on the needle, 1 d c in next point, thread over, draw through two stitches on needle, 1 d c in next point, which is the first point in next scallop, thread over, draw through two stitches on needle, 1 d c in next point, thread over, draw through two stitches on needle; you have five stitches on your needle, 1 d c in first point of braid next the two points joined together, (put the needle through the wrong side of the braid,) thread over, draw it through two stitches, 1 d c in next point, t o, draw through two stitches, 1 d c in next point, t o, draw through two stitches; you have ten stitches on the needle, thread over, draw through all ten, put the needle through the center of those ten stitches to fasten, ch 9, fold your strips together again, single crochet the two points of the opposite scallops together with the chain two between, repeat from star, and continue through the row. Crochet loosely, so as not to draw the work too tight. M. F. K.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

BRUSH STUDIES AND HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

NEW SERIES—NO. 2.

BY LIDA AND M. J. CLARKSON.

Pottery Painting in Oil and in Water Color—Hints, Queries, Etc.

(Copyright. All Rights Reserved.)

Pottery painting, in oils, or in water color, is a branch of decorative work becoming more and more popular. It follows, no doubt, in the wake of China Painting, although it can hardly be said to rank with it as a fine art. However, it is very beautiful and fascinating work, which may be adapted successfully to many decorative purposes. It is a preparatory step to china painting, as in this way the principles of design may be studied, and much learned which will ultimately prove useful in the study of ceramics.

DECORATED JUG.

There are many different names given to the ware used for ornamentation, puzzling to the novice, such as Barbotine, Albertine, Essex and Saxon. All these may be understood as meaning simply *terra cotta*, a term for baked clay, and include very excellent imitations of the celebrated Limoges, and Barbotine ware. Very beautiful objects of art may now be had in terra cotta, which the connoisseur alone can distinguish from the more costly pottery.

Vases, modeled in relief, embossed or incised, in every possible variety of design, may be purchased at reasonable prices, in imitation of the celebrated *faience* and at a minimum of the cost. The Barbotine vases, in high relief, that is to say with raised work, are in great variety. Flowers, fruit, foliage, birds and insects of every description, may be found amongst the designs.

The coloring of these articles is one of the simplest ways of decoration, and may be accomplished successfully by any careful, painstaking person. The painting is done upon the glazed or unglazed ware. When unglazed, it is termed bisculit, is in the natural color, and is more or less porous. The color is then absorbed so rapidly that it is necessary to size the article to be decorated. This is done with a coat or two of ordinary shellac varnish, or a solution of gum tragacanth in water, which serves to fill up the pores so that they will not absorb the paint. When the design is raised, or in relief, as it is termed, no shading will be required, as the raised forms throw their own shadows, as do natural objects. It is only necessary to give them the general or local color.

For instance, if the design shows a cluster of pink roses, it may be painted with a simple palate of madder lake, vermilion, silver white, and a trifle light cadmium, or King's yellow. If it is desired to paint yellow roses, use instead, white, light cadmium, yellow ochre, a little ivory black, raw umber and light red. The green leaves for either design may be painted with Antwerp blue, white, light cadmium, ivory black, with burnt sienna and raw umber in the richer tones. A delicate sky blue is a good color for the body of vase when the design is pink. The palette for this ground is cobalt, silver white, light cadmium, and madder lake, qualified by a very little ivory black. The rim and inside of vase may be painted a peachy pink, the color of roses, if so desired. A tasteful background for yellow roses is a silvery, mottled, rather greenish gray. Lay on for the general tone at first silver white, yellow ochre, light red, raw umber, and a trifle cobalt. If the vase is a glazed one a little turpentine may be used with the paints. Paint thickly, and before this first coat is quite dry, with a clean, medium sized bristle brush, paint into it, varied, or irregular touches of silvery gray, with white, yellow ochre, a little cobalt, madder lake and the least trifle black. Here and there darken the tone somewhat, with a trifle more cobalt and black, and give an occasional touch of burnt sienna and yellow ochre, which will be found effective.

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]

DRAIN PIPE UMBRELLA STAND.

These different colors may be slightly blended by dragging the tones together with a clean brush, or may be softened with a sable, but care should be taken not to destroy the mottled appearance, which is an effect often observed in china painting, and sometimes in the grounding of costly pottery.

The illustrations this month show three designs for pottery painting in oil colors.

It should be clearly understood that such decoration is unsuitable for table china, or ware which is put to everyday, practical use. All such articles should be decorated with vitrifiable colors, made permanent by firing.

But vases, *bric a brac* for ornamental purposes, etc., painted in oil or water color, and fixed with copal or spirit varnish, or enamel glaze, are durable enough for the uses made of them. Even common stoneware can be tastefully decorated, and made ornamental for the cabinet mantel or toilet table. Those of picturesque form are the most suitable for the purpose.

Our first illustration shows an ordinary stone jug, painted and decorated with a floral design. A bow of ribbon finishes the handle. A deep blue ground, with a half wreath of large white daises, azaleas, anemones, or any simple flower will be found attractive.

Doubtless many readers of the JOURNAL have in their possession, ware of quaint, old fashioned, shapes, which may serve to fill some empty, naked corner to advantage. The old earthern churns are very ornamental decorated in this way, as receptacles for boughs of flowering shrubs, or peacock feathers, pampas plumes, grasses, etc. Or, living plants, palms, ferns, ivies, climbers and creepers falling over, are in one of these jars, yet more attractive.

The umbrella stand given in second illustration may also be adapted to this purpose. It should be made to tower upwards as high as can be managed, thus giving a broad and imposing appearance to a room. Thus, very ordinary articles, easily obtained, or already in possession, may be converted into objects of use and ornament, with very little trouble or expense. The umbrella stand here shown is a section of drain pipe set in a flower pot saucer, or, if preferred, a circular wooden piece may be fitted in, or the bottom tinned. In cities, these stands are to be had at the potteries, with a top beading, handles and bottom, at the low price of one dollar. In Albertine ware they cost from three to five dollars. Those with a beaded, or slightly projecting edge, look perhaps a little more finished than the plain pipe. It is customary sometimes to leave the ware its natural color, merely decorating with a wreath of flowers, or drooping tendrils; but the most effective decoration is had by giving the whole pipe several coats of paint, or bronze, upon which is painted some bold and handsome design, such as the purple and yellow iris with heron, as shown in illustration, or the flamingoes given in July number. As it requires a quantity of paint to cover so much surface, a coat of ordinary house paint may be used as a foundation. This can be purchased in small cans, ready mixed. Upon opening one of these cans a superfluity of turpentine will be found at top. This should be poured off and the paint thoroughly stirred to give it the right consistency. If it thickens too much when applied, a little of the turpentine may be poured back from time to time. It is better to get white paint and tint with the tube colors, if a delicate ground is desired. A silvery gray may be obtained by using the palette given above, for Terraline vase. Olive green, red or amber grounds are all effective.

Our third illustration shows a novelty in the way of household decoration. This is a lamp jar, or case into which the lamp is slipped at night, and in the daytime may be used as a vase, or a receptacle for a pot of growing palms, ferns, or other plants. A very ordinary glass lamp may be beautified in this way. The suggestion for design, as shown in illustration, is a water scene with pond lilies, while the ground glass globe is delicately tinted and ornamented with a branch of white Japan lilies. The method of painting the globe, is to trace the design at first upon the right side, which can be clearly seen through the glass. Afterwards the inside is tinted and allowed to dry, and then the design painted upon the outside surface, using silicate glaze or enamel, with the paint. The lily, although a stiff flower for general purposes, may be arranged very gracefully in decoration. The principal point to be observed in painting it, as indeed all white flowers, is that the shading should be rightly managed. It is not enough to shade a white flower with gray, as many imagine. Even shades of gray vary much. Sometimes, a little cobalt, madder lake and a touch of black are needed, while again, a little yellow ochre and light red will give the desired effect. The shading should be kept clear and light. If muddy, it will give but a poor representation of the pure white blossoms.

Our space this month forbids a detailed description of designs, which, however, will be given later, upon special request.

There are other methods of pottery decoration more acceptable to the many who are not skilled in the use of the brush. Stenciling is one way of ornamentation, and so simple a process that a child can manage it successfully with very little instruction. The stencil cards are laid upon the ground and simply brushed over with paint.

Conventional borders done in this way have the effect heightened afterward by following the design in contrasting or harmonizing colors. The pattern may be in black upon the plain terra cotta ground, outlined in bright colors. Still another method is to draw or pounce the design with charcoal, and then to fill in all the background with black paint, leaving the pattern in the natural red or cream of the terra cotta. This is now shaded to a deeper red, if the red ware, or with Vandyke brown, vermilion, or burnt sienna, for the cream, or buff pottery, which heightens the effect greatly. Egyptian, or Pompeian designs are excellent for this work, and if correctly drawn, stand out in bold relief from the black ground, producing a novel and striking effect. The oil paints lay on easily, either on the glazed, or unglazed ware. When thoroughly dry, the articles should be given a coat of copal varnish, and they can then be washed and wiped without injury.

There are various other ways of ornamenting pottery. The iridescent metallics, or bronzes, may be applied over paint with charming effect. Vases painted in gold and carmine, blue and silver, green and bronze, are very pretty novelties. There are also mineral transfer decorations which may be fired, and thus made fit for practical uses.

China can be handsomely decorated in this manner. All china painting, to be of any real value should be fired. The first principle of all painting on earthenware is that the decoration should become a component part of the ware itself, by entering into its composition. The foregoing directions should not be confounded therefore with china painting proper, which is a different matter, and to be treated of distinctly. The only allusion to it is where the mineral decalcomanie is mentioned. This may be fired, as has been said, and makes a permanent decoration.

If water colors are used in place of the oil paints, Chinese white should be mixed with all the colors, in order to give them sufficient body. Several paintings are given, allowing each to dry perfectly before the work is continued; as the harder it becomes, the greater its durability. When thoroughly dry and hardened by standing it should be varnished. White spirit varnish is the kind to use with water colors.

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]

DECORATED LAMP CASE AND GLOBE.

HINTS AND QUERIES.

Italian wine jugs, styled *chianti* bottles, are now decorated with iridescent metallics or bronzes, and finished with fancy ribbon bows.

Pongee silk is much used as a decorative fabric. A banner of pongee, (natural color) painted with a design of cardinal red poppies, with grasses and ferns, is a pretty wall ornament. Mantel trimmings, table scarfs, etc., are now seen in pongee, either painted or embroidered. The natural color of the fabric harmonizes well with olive, or the copper, or antique bronzes; or contrasts prettily with sapphire blue, ruby, or garnet.

Conch shells cut in a variety of beautiful shapes and decorated in oil colors, make handsome receptacles for trifles, and ornaments for parlor or library table. The cone shape interior is decorated with a landscape, and serves as a paper weight.

"Lilian" wishes to know to what use she can put a carved piece of wood 9x6 inches. We suggest that it be used for an album cover, or for ornamental boot-jack, or bellows, or it could be inserted into the door of a small cabinet, which "Lilian" could make herself, out of an ordinary box, if she is handy with tools.

"Interested Subscriber" will find her query fully answered in June number of JOURNAL.

"E. H. S."—*Glazing* is simply laying a transparent color over other colors, to impart a tone difficult to obtain by opaque tints alone. The paint is diluted freely with medium, and applied somewhat after the manner of water color painting, in thin stains, or washes. Shadows may sometimes be strengthened in this way, and what is known as the *texture* of objects, better represented by glazing. This is, as you say, to be seen in the paintings of the old masters, and gives richness, and effects extremely difficult to obtain by means of solid painting alone. In a series of landscape papers which we purpose to begin shortly, these points will be fully explained.

"S. E. K."—Reflections in water should be painted in at once, not waiting until the first painting is dry. The palette is generally the same as for the objects themselves, but qualified by more black.

***

We have recently added some very choice studies to our collection which we rent to subscribers to JOURNAL. Flowers, fruit, landscapes, still life, all hand-painted and in colors. Send stamp to our address for list and particulars.

For premiums this month we make the following offers: *For one full subscription to JOURNAL* we will give "Brush Studies," neatly bound and illustrated, or, if preferred, a decorated piece of velvet or satin. For two subscriptions, ten papers of iridescent metallics, all different colors, for decorative purposes; or, instead, several transfer decorations, beautiful imitations of hand-painting, with directions for applying to silk, satin, or other fabrics. For four subscriptions we will give mineral transfers, for burning in on porcelain, china, or white ware, with transfer liquid, etc., etc.

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THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL

AND

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MRS. LOUISA KNAPP, EDITOR.

MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT, ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

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NEW YORK OFFICE, 180 BROADWAY;

W. S. NILES, MANAGER.

Our New York Office is for the transaction of business with New York advertisers.
Subscribers should not address any letters to that office.

Philadelphia, October, 1886.

The cool mornings and evenings are now at hand. Be very careful to put on sufficient clothing. This is just the season to gather in a large crop of the seeds of disease, and the prevalence of malarial troubles in the Autumn is largely due to carelessness in this respect. Exercise constant watchfulness, and be on your guard against the morning fogs and the evening dews.

It gives us great pleasure to announce to our many readers the good things we have in store for them. In our November issue we publish Marion Harland's new story "Relations-in-Law,"—a good story for young married people, also "Ephriam Tremblys Celebration," by Josiah Allen's Wife,—a good temperance story. We also commence a series of lectures to young women, by Rev. F. E. Clark, of Boston, Mass. In December we publish a splendid story for girls, "An Old-Fashioned Mother," by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, also a new story by Josiah Allen Wife, entitled "The Pound Party." It is rich,—one of the best things written by Josiah's wife.

Would it not be well to change the moral of many of the tales of the present day? Inferentially, the moral drawn is: "young woman practice the cardinal virtues or perhaps you will not catch a young man." In these days of "two-for-a-quarter-and-a-prize-thrown-in," and "a chromo-with-every-pound-of-tea," we suppose it is necessary to offer *some* inducement for the practice of those virtues which are supposed to make a woman lovable and sought after as a companion either in the home or for life, but could not some other premium be offered? A pleasanter home, for instance, an easy conscience, a parent's approval, or some little thing like that!

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We have always been vigilant in the exercise of our duty to the public in this respect, and we intend, if possible, to be even *more* so in the future, putting out as heretofore only such notices as we know of ourselves, or such as are vouched for by reliable parties.

Remember, we guarantee an advertisement, and if mistakes occur between seller and purchaser, as must sometimes happen in all establishments, we will see that the matter is brought to the notice of the advertising party and the trouble adjusted or a satisfactory explanation given.

We are in receipt of an offer of two hundred dollars for an advertisement that would cost six hundred and sixteen dollars.

We can not understand why advertisers will continue to make us offers under our rates, when we have repeatedly stated in these columns that we never deviate under any consideration, and on all our business heads is plainly printed in red ink, "any correspondence looking to a reduction will prove futile," and among all large advertisers and advertising agents, it is generally known that this journal has but one price for all. A check for six hundred and fifteen dollars and ninety-nine cents would not have secured the insertion of the above mentioned advertisement in this paper. Our price is $1 per agate line each insertion, (or $14 per inch) with no discounts whatever for large advertisements or yearly orders, and not a single line goes into the JOURNAL for one penny less. If advertisers would only please remember this, it would save them and ourselves much valuable time and useless correspondence. Our rates are worth all we ask, and our space is always in demand, and always filled with the best class of advertisers; an article is always worth just what it can sell for, and as we never yet inserted a line for less than our rates, our space must be worth what we ask. We will issue about 400,000 copies each month for October, November and December, 270,000 going to paid yearly subscribers, the balance to short term trial subscribers.

THE HABIT OF OBSERVATION.

Parents, teach your children to observe and draw their own conclusions.

The habit of observation, and the power of discrimination, while they may be, and no doubt are, in most cases innate, are likewise, too, things that require cultivation for their best development.

Don't decide every little thing for your children till they are grown up, and then lose your patience because they seem to lack judgment.

It is well, too, to habituate them to recite, in clear, concise terms, any little incident which may have happened.

Trollope, in his "Armadale," gives an excellent idea on this subject. Among Miss Gwilt's earliest recollections was the fact that her mother was accustomed to take her by the hand, walk with her rapidly around the block, and immediately upon her entrance into the house, oblige her to tell with equal rapidity and clearness, all that she had observed in this race of four blocks.

Another idea, proved to be advantageous, is to have children close their eyes, turn around once or twice, and immediately upon opening their eyes, describe as accurately as possible the object upon which their eye has fallen.

Do it in what way seems best to you, but teach your children to be observant, and to form good, honest opinions and judgment from what they observe. You are conferring on them a great boon by this course.

WOMAN'S SPHERE.

And what is woman's sphere? Decidedly, in the present day, it is a very undecided thing. Every few weeks some new writer comes to the front and endeavors to establish a fixed standard. But "thus far shall thou go and no farther" does not seem to have the desired effect upon constantly advancing woman. And now we ask again, who will or can define a woman's sphere?

That sphere was once considered to be bounded on all sides by the circle drawn round the domestic hearth. Nobody seemed to reflect that there were some women so unfortunate as to have no special domestic ties of their own. Such miserable creatures were directed to seek *womanly* employment among the families of their married relations. Why should a single woman unsex herself by going out into the world when her brother or sister had a houseful of obstreperous children to look after? Why, indeed!

In these times all is changed, however, thanks to the persevering ones who have hacked and hewed a way to competence through thorny paths, leaving the road comparatively clear for those that follow.

"No head for business" says some man, "A woman's proper sphere is housekeeping." Let us see! No head for business! Very little head for accounts! Well, perhaps the last proposition is true in the main, but it is purely for want of practice. Ask any business man who employes a woman book-keeper whether his accountant is competent or not!

There is certainly one point on which the women can yield the palm to the men, (no doubt they will do it gracefully and willingly) and that is the number of betrayed trusts. Let him who reads the daily papers say what per cent of the women employed as accountants and handling large sums of money, pocket the half of it and flee to Canada.

"No head for business." Leaving aside the scores of women employed in business houses, there is hardly a thing in the world that calls for a clearer head for business than the intelligent management of a household.

Not the scrubbing and the scouring, though even in these the more brains one can bring to bear upon them the better, both for the occupation and the persons engaged therein. But the management of all the details, the being able to consider each separate detail, and see the result of the great whole, at the same time.

Why to be a successful housekeeper a woman must understand, let us see,—baking, washing, ironing, cooking, sewing, that is four *trades* without the minor acts of dishwashing, sweeping, dusting, etc. But a woman to be true mistress of her house must absolutely be accomplished in four *trades* that require no mean skill, any one of them, and three of them trades that many men practice. Men bake, men cook, men sew. Do they unsex themselves when they practice three of the trades of housekeepers, or do *women* unsex *themselves* when they practice in their households, three of the trades in which men have been successful? How is it anyway?

Taking all the facts into consideration, we think "woman's sphere" is the same as that of man, *i. e.*, to do cheerfully and well the work that comes to her hand, whether it be with a pen, a surgeon's knife, a dentist's drill, a pair of scissors or a broom.

UNHAPPY PEOPLE.

"Rich is he who has more than he wants," and *happy* is he who can see *some* good in his unpleasant surroundings. Taking human life as a whole there is of course more unhappiness than happiness, and if we choose to look round we can see, without going far, nay, at our very gates almost, cases of poverty that amount almost to destitution. These the world is accustomed to regard as the most unhappy cases of all.

This, however, is not the true view, for even destitution is often accompanied by a spirit so bright and cheery as to make even the pangs of hunger light. The people most needing our pity (not sympathy) are those who are persistently unhappy in spite of the most pleasant circumstances, those who see in every change of fortune only possible evil, no matter which way the scales may balance.

There are many who actually seem to consider it a virtue to find a flaw in everything rather than accept "the goods the gods provide." They "can't help it" they claim. For such, the weather is never right. They see no beauty in the sunset because, forsooth, "Dear knows how long such weather will last. It is very nice now, but, likely as not, it will rain to-morrow."

Present good is invariably swallowed up in evil. The word sympathy was advised avoided and the word pity used instead. Such people are truly to be pitied but not in any degree to be sympathised with. The persons with whom to sympathise are those who are daily compelled by force of circumstances to listen to their vain repinings and their puerile complaints.

If one does them a kindness they are sure to see some sinister motive behind it.

If ordinary accidents happen, they look wise and insinuate that it was all design.

If another be compelled by an inexorable fate to forego an engagement, no amount of humble apologies or explanations will convince these Solomons that the whole thing was not design from the beginning, and that the engager never meant to keep the appointment. Such people have the very worst opinion of everybody but themselves. As to themselves, they are *never* wrong, oh no!—their judgments, spite of many proofs to the contrary, (conveniently forgotten) always correct; their comments on passing events, if the events be adverse, invariably "I told you so," and, spite of the fact that the lie is so often given to their funereal predictions, they are still undaunted and come to the surface with their lugubrious prophecies at the first opportunity, (and to such, opportunities are not wanting.

The power to notice and enjoy that which is really to be enjoyed in our lot, is as possible of cultivation as the power to learn to read, and is quite as necessary if one would regard life in any other way than as one long, painful grind. (This latter we have, for the sake of humanity, no right to do.)

It is also possible to be very miserable without making of ourselves absolute nuisances to all around us.

One of our first duties to our children should be to inculcate in them a sense of gratitude, not gratitude to us, but the gratitude which is really thankful that things are no worse.

This is our duty no more to them than to mankind. It is to be done not only that they personally may be benefitted but, lest society and the home circle be cursed in them with the most disagreeable of all bores—habitual grumblers.

The advice given by an old housekeeper to a daughter who was inclined to find fault with the monotony of everyday life, is equally applicable to all the duties of this world.

"The most homely and uninteresting task," said she, "could be made to assume an interest if you will only resolve to accomplish it, either within a certain time or in the very best possible way."

Try it, mothers and daughters, when you are obliged by circumstances to perform some duty which you despise from the bottom of your soul.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WILL some one tell "Mrs. P. J." what will remove milk stains from a baby's white cloth coat?

SUNSHINE:—We are sorry not to comply with your request, but we cannot open our columns to exchanges.

"MRS. W. C. SHOWALTER, PLATTSMOUTH, NEB.:"—Mrs. Lincoln's Cook Book is published by Roberts Bros., Boston.

WE think that if "Discontent" will use Glenn's Sulphur Soap according to directions, she will soon have no further cause for discontent.—ED.

WATERTOWN, CONN., July 28th, 1886.

IF subscriber wishing carpet reeds will write me, I thing I can give information.

Respectfully, MRS. M. HEMINWAY, JR.

ED. L. H. J.:—Can you tell me where I can get a Pantograph? (MISS) H. C. HALLAM.

MT. WASHINGTON, HAMILTON CO., OHIO.

[From Janentzky & Weber, 1125 Chestnut St., Philadelphia.—ED. JOUR.]

DEAR EDITOR:—I wish the ladies would tell me, in your paper, how to bleach with chloride of lime,—the quantity to be used for a tub of clothes—and oblige one that prizes all the help in your valuable paper, and wish it prosperity.

S. L. N.

LIVERMORE, IOWA, Aug. 8, 1886.

ED. LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Could any of the readers of the JOURNAL tell me what will cure stammering or stuttering? I would like to have some one answer this, as I am afflicted that way. I am a constant reader of the JOURNAL, and think it invaluable. LULU.

EDITOR L. H. J.:—Will some one please tell me how to make leaves for artificial flowers? and oblige a SUBSCRIBER.

You can obtain at a small cost, ready-made, leaves for artificial flowers, which are much better than any which can be made at home. They are to be bought by the dozen, either all of one kind or assorted.—ED.]

ED. L. H. J.:—I have a white haircloth underskirt, ruffled up the back, which has become soiled. Is there any way I can either dye or clean it at home? HELEN MATLACK.

1700 FRANKLIN ST., PHILA.

[The Staten Island Dyeing and Scouring establishment, 47 N. Eighth St., will clean your skirt at a reasonable price.—ED.]

MENDOTA, July 19th.

WILL some of the readers of the HOME JOURNAL please tell me what will color black without crocking when the garment is worn? also how to prepare and bleach leaves for skeleton bouquets?

Respectfully, M. B.

[You will find all information in regard to skeleton flowers in the March number of the JOURNAL.—ED.]

PLEASANT HILL, MO., July 19th.

ED. L. H. J.:—Among all the interesting letters in the correspondence I have not yet seen one from Florida, that "land of flowers" and birds. Have always been greatly interested in that State of the United States, which though one of them, is so unlike them in climate, vegetation, etc. We contemplate moving to Florida this winter. If any one reading this, in that far-away land, will write to the correspondence column, or to me, through the editor, a description of your home, the climate, scenery, society, etc., you will greatly oblige a sister subscriber and admirer of the L. H. J.

RENE.

August, 1886.

EDITOR HOME JOURNAL:—I take quite an interest in Mac's Wife's letter in August number. I hope she is not quite so homesick now; cheer up! You will like California so well, soon, you will want all your Eastern friends to come and enjoy its "delightful climate" too.

I want to ask if you are doing more than is absolutely necessary, and thus denying yourself the pleasure of fondling your children. Like yourself, I am wife, mother, and maid-of-all-work, combined; but seven years of married life has taught me many things. Observation also has shown me, that daughters will grow away from mothers, if constantly and invariably put off. Therefore we should economise time and strength to the utmost, in order to have some time to be with them, free of other cares.

I believe the little ones should be put at little tasks, such as helping mamma take care of still younger ones, as yours are. If you have not tried it, you will find children can be taught easily, while quite young, to wash themselves and dress one another. At least that is my experience. A mother can save much labor in washing, ironing and sewing, (I have learned it by experience of myself and others) by dressing children under seven years of age in this way. For little girls, use flannel skirts and discard chemises. In our climate, the use of flannel next the skin is necessary to health. Then make the drawers, dresses and aprons of dark gingham, to play in. Save still further washing by making the dress, during cooler months, of some of the strong cheap worsted goods. For little boys, use duck or denim for pants, flannel under shirt, and shirt waist made of gingham or cheviot. Some physicians, I understand, advise allowing children to go barefoot, saying it strengthens the ankles. However, where I live, I can get three pair of grey or brown mixed hose for a quarter, which wear well, and wash easily, and one runs no risk of poison from aniline colors.

In cooking, save the price of the lard which you may have been using; go without unwholesome pie-crust, and buy glass fruit jars, for preserving fruit. Give them bread and butter, instead of cookies, and mush and milk, and you will save time and money, and their digestion will be improved.

A lady said to me lately, that she *never* made pie or cake! A gentleman remarked that he did not see what they had to eat!!

If I had your name this letter would have been sent privately. I am afraid to write any more, as I do not know how many pages of note paper will fill a column. I am not alone in practicing what I preach, even in my immediate neighborhood, so will sign my real name, hoping you will accept my letter in the spirit of charity in which it is written. MRS. FRANK HANSEN.

SARATOGA, SANTA CLARA CO., CAL.

DEAR EDITOR:—Being a reader of the JOURNAL, and noticing the article on "Hospitality," in a recent issue, may I add a few "why's and wherefores" without trespassing on space which should be devoted to something else. If not, I would like to make a few remarks, not in contradiction of the article aforesaid, but rather in continuance of it.

The decadence of "old time hospitality," and the exceedingly flimsy article now offered as a substitute, have served as text for many a disquisition, of later years. The plea seems to be, that people in general are so devoured with a desire for show *as* show, so anxious, each one to outshine his neighbor, that all not only endeavor to do so at the sacrifice of the comfort of themselves and guests, but, failing in the accomplishing of this grand object, in a spirit of envy and unpleasantness, shut themselves up away from all necessity of "entertaining," by avoiding society altogether.

There is no doubt much truth in the ground taken here, but it does not cover everything. There is one more reason seemingly greater interference to the "old time" hospitality than that already mentioned. What people were individually in their social relations in by-gone days it would be folly to try to ascertain now. But it really seems as if the *guests* must have been a little different then as well as the hosts.

Some woman remarks: "If you want to tell about the housekeeping qualities of a lady of your acquaintance, don't form your judgment by her parlor, but by the *soap cup* in her spare chamber. If *that* is clean, she is a good housekeeper." While it is not presumable that the writer of the phrase above quoted meant it in its literal sense, the *literal* sense of the opening phrase is going far towards the free-handed giving of such as we may have, which is *true* hospitality.

"If you want to tell about housekeeping qualities." There is just where the rub comes. What business has a guest to "tell about the housekeeping qualities" of the host to whose courtesy an enjoyable time is due. Guests have every right to your time and indulgence and endeavors to entertain, but hosts and hostesses also have "inalienable rights," and among these is, that those who are indebted to them for the accepted invitation shall not, immediately they leave the house, "tell about the unwashed soap cup in the spare chamber," or any other little defect which may occur in the housekeeping. Not only "accidents" but oversights "will occur in the best regulated families."

Many a woman would gladly entertain her wealthier neighbor, giving her her best, but refrains, because, from certain uncharitable remarks she has heard that neighbor make, she feels that her effort will not be received in the hospitable spirit in which it is intended, but will be picked to pieces as falling short of what the guest has been used to. Consequently the would-be hostess makes no effort in that line, unless the necessity be forced upon her; then, being a timid woman with a nervous dread of the scathing remarks of some of the people whom she is *obliged* to invite, she makes an over-exertion, involves herself in expense she can ill afford, makes herself sick with worriment, does not save herself in any degree from the ill-natured remarks of the cavillers, and ends up by vowing it to be the "last time."

So many people make ill-juged, disagreeable remarks to their hosts, indicative of great want of thought, if not of ill-breeding. In illustration: Once upon a time a lady called at the house of a friend just about dinner time. Mrs. A.—"Will you have a piece of mince-pie, Mrs. B?" Mrs. B. (smiling) "O thank you, yes!"

Mrs. B. (tasting the mince-pie quietly lays down her fork) "You must excuse me, Mrs. A., but I have just eaten a large piece of Mrs. C.'s *elegant* mince-pie, (emphasis, perhaps unconscious, on *elegant*) and I don't believe I'm hungry—and Mrs. B. never seemed to know that she had done an atrociously rude thing. But it is needless to state that Mrs. A. never forgot the circumstance to the day of her death (for the illustration is taken from life.")

Now Mrs. B. either had a vacant spot to be filled or she hadn't. If she *hadn't* she should not have taken the pie; if she had a place to stow it away, having taken it she should have eaten most of it even though it was not just the kind she had been used to, or was not as *elegant* as Mrs. C.'s.

Just fancy having a woman like Mrs. B as your guest for a week or even over night. Mrs. B.'s are uncommon? Not by any means. There are plenty of them and Mr. B.'s too. Plenty of men and women who make all sorts of tactless remarks, (not perhaps with malice aforethought, but just as cutting all the same) to one's face and exceedingly unpleasant ones behind one's back. It is no one's business what kind of a housekeeper or what kind of a domestic man the host and hostess are. "The relation between host and guest is a sacred one, and remember *never* to speak of the peculiarities of your guests," says some one, and it may be added, the reverse is equally important. If the housekeeping and the cooking, the domestic arrangements, the children, the master of the house, are, any or all of them, unendurable or even unpleasant, don't go again. But—don't "tell about" them.

PRUDENCE PARSONS.

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DOMESTIC JOURNALISMS.

HINTS FOR HOUSEKEEPERS, CONTRIBUTED BY JOURNAL SISTERS.

EDITOR L. H. J.:—Will you please give me, through the columns of the L. H. J., a reliable rule for clear-starching and ironing a shirt bosom and other articles of gentlemen's linen? and greatly oblige A SUBSCRIBER.

ED. LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Can some of the readers of the HOME JOURNAL give me a recipe for making a white pudding? Also how to make cucumber pickles green and firm?
MRS. S. L. HUDSON.
SANDIDGES, AMHERST, VA.

July 31, 1886.

DEAR EDITOR:—Will the lady who furnished the recipe for making cream of tartar graham bread, in the August number, please tell me if the bread is ready for baking immediately after mixing? and oblige Yours sincerely,
NOVICE.

Wanted, to know different ways of preparing cold boiled potatoes for breakfast.

Wanted, all to know this nice way of preparing cabbage for the table. Cut fine, salt to taste, let stand an hour. Pour over it one cup sour cream, beaten with one tablespoonful of sugar and two of vinegar.

Wanted, all to know that an effectual way of getting rid of ants is to grease a plate with mutton tallow, and place it where they are troublesome. It will soon be covered with the ants. Wipe off with a paper and burn, then grease the plate again. Continue this for several days, at the same time, with either coal oil or boiling hot suds, destroy them in their hills around the yard. MRS. MCOMBER.
GRAND DETOUR, ILL.

TO CLEAN ZINC:—Rub with strong vinegar, smartly, and then in soap suds. E. J. N.

Perhaps here is something the mother of boys may find useful. Dirty spots are often found around the knobs of white or light-painted doors, and, as washing with soap soon injures the paint, wet a bit of flannel in kerosene oil and rub off the spots and it will do no harm to the paint.
MRS. E. B. M.

RUBBER CEMENT:—The ordinary cement which is so much used by fine shoemakers, is made by dissolving a quantity of gutta percha in chloroform or carbon di-sulphide until the solution has the consistency of honey. Thin down the parts to be joined. Warm the parts over a flame or fire half a minute, bring the surface to be united, together, and hammer well or clamp firmly. The cement dries in a few minutes. MRS. J. A.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

KEEPING ACCOUNTS.

So many good housekeepers' books are now published that much need not be said as to the mode of entry. But we think daily expenses are too minute in small families to be entered under the various headings in most of the books with printed lists. The housewife is advised to keep a tiny MS. book in her pocket, and enter at the moment everything she buys or receives in the course of the day. This little record may be examined once a week, and its contents, so far as they relate to housekeeping, entered into the family account book.

We prefer ourselves a plain ruled account book without printed items. Then on one side, the left, we enter whatever money we receive during the week; on the opposite side or page, the outlay we have made, which when added up, can be subtracted at the bottom of the left page from the money received; a weekly check is thus placed on the expenditure, which is continually compared with the means of payment.

It is well to have a fixed sum for housekeeping which may not be exceeded. If any amount may be left, it is a good reserve fund for extra expenses or for charity.

Ready reckoners will be found of great use, both to save time and also to help those who are slow at figures. MRS. J. A.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HINTS FROM JOHN'S WIFE.

When stove and shoe blacking brushes get so worn at their scrubbing end as to be useless, remove the brush from the handle, reverse it, and tack again in place, securing the two-thirds worn brush another term of service.

"Is it potato little or potato big to-day?" I overheard a young girl ask her mother as the clock struck eleven.

"Neither, child, but middle-sized potato day," and as the little helper clattered down the cellar stairs with her pan, I said, "Whatever do you mean? With your large crew of workmen for which you must prepare meals, I should think all your days would be potato dinner days."

"So they are," was her quick reply, "but we have learned to avoid waste in their cooking by boiling different sizes consecutive days. Formerly, we would boil a large dinner pot of potatoes for each noon meal, giving little attention to their size. In consequence the smaller ones would be cooked to a mush before the large tubers would be done, a waste of several bushels throughout the year. But now-a-days we keep the potatoe heap picked clean as we go, a dinner pot of small ones, wholly, one day, large, maybe, rotten-hearted old fellows the next, and middle-sized potatoes another day. Since adopting this plan, our boiling potatoes are nearly all done at the same instant, and none come from the kettle half raw and others mushed for the swill barrel.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

GOOD CHEER.

We had fine white wheat bread for our breakfast this morning; the first white loaf on our table since Thanksgiving; and I must say that it seemd tasteless and insipid, and not at all foody and nourishing like the sweet brown loaves we have learned to like.

In our family is one member who is a dyspeptic and another troubled with constipation, so that it was a case of necessity when we first began to use graham bread. Both are much better now; the former eats with a relish, and the latter is a new and a happy man, with all his moodiness and clouds banished.

I am, as the nurse girl said of the baby in his new carriage, "filled with rejoicement," and I want to tell other ailing ones of this bit of good cheer.

I make the bread three different ways for change. The loaf is made with a quart of bread sponge, half a teacup of molasses, and all the graham flour I can stir in with a spoon,—I never knead it. Pour into a deep pan, wet the top and smooth it, let it rise, and bake till done.

The steamed loaf: Two cups of graham flour, and one cup each of white flour and sour milk, half a cup of molasses, one teaspoonful of soda; stir thoroughly, pour into a buttered basin or cake pan and steam an hour-and-a-half, or a little longer, then dry off in the oven. Good hot or cold,—better when warm.

Then, to make in a hurry, say inside of half an hour, take a quart of buttermilk, one egg, pinch of salt and a teaspoonful of soda, thickened to a moderately stiff batter; have a good fire ready, pour into a buttered bread pan, large size, and bake, and cut out in checks like gingerbread. Will be crisp, new, good, and of a fine nutty flavor.

And this was how I cured Jack and Andy and made them so happy. Oh I wish they'd quit their whistling "Yankee Doodle" and "Golden Slippers!" That comes of "change of diet," you see.
PIPSEY POTTS.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE CARE OF LAMPS.

BY FANNIE E. NEWBERRY.

Those who can, by merely touching a button, light a score of electric suns within their homes, or, by turning a screw and applying a match, bring out the mellow, more moon-like radiance of gas: or who, better yet, can indulge in the pleasantest, but most expensive of lights—wax candles in brazen sconces,—may give this article the go-by—it is not for them!

Yet I venture to say that the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL reaches thousands of homes which depend entirely upon kerosene lamps for their nightly cheer, and brightness; and to such, perhaps, I may suggest an idea or two.

For there is no necessity of sitting in a gloomy, half-obscurity, beside a sputtering, flickering flame, and a smoked chimney, with more grease than grace, and more smell than either!

Even a kerosene lamp, properly cared for, will give a light not to be despised,—for its soft, steady glow is far better for the eyes than flickering gas, or the intense, white light of electricity.

"But the chimneys do break so—cracking sometimes right in the daytime, when no one is near!"

Very true, but all due to unequal expansion, which may be remedied in several ways. Are you the fortunate possessor of a diamond ring? make it useful as well as ornamental, by cutting with it straight perpendicular marks at short distances all around the bulging part of your chimney, before using it at all. These cuts will give the glass the necessary room for expansion and contraction when too quickly heated or cooled, and prevent it cracking; but if, like myself, you have no diamonds, (except those of the Roman matron) you may toughen it in this way:

Place it in a tin pail, (for protection,) and immerse it entirely in your cook-stove reservoir, in the morning, when the water is cold—let it remain throughout the entire day, while the water is hottest, and the following night, during which it will slowly cool. When removed in the morning, it will be found almost proof against cracking, from heat or cold. Then, in cleaning, don't use soap suds,—which is apt to make it more breakable, and in time, less clean,—but, if badly smoked, first remove the soot with a dry brush or swab, then place the chimney upright in your sink, and pour over it, briskly, *boiling* hot water.

No, it won't break, if you do it quickly enough, and the stream is sufficient to drench the whole glass at once. Polish it, then, with a soft, dry cloth, and your chimney will be as beautifully clean as you could wish, and perfectly dry,—therefore not in danger of cracking when heated—while every such process tempers, or toughens, it.

To insure a clear, mellow light, the brass of your lamp burner should be kept perfectly free from smutch or stain, and this can best be done by immersing it in kerosene.

If, when a lamp is new, you will begin by keeping a bowl of kerosene handy, and drop the burner into it a few minutes nearly every morning, afterwards polishing it off with a soft, woolen rag, you can always keep it bright. An old, blackened burner is, however, very hard, almost impossible, to clean, but may be greatly improved by a long kerosene bath, and a good scouring with common brick dust, polishing off afterwards with a soft, woolen cloth dipped in ammonia and whitening.

Don't cut your wick, but, turning it just above the tube, take a match and shave off the charred end, thus insuring an even flame; while, at least once a week, the lamp should be emptied, and washed out with soap suds, containing soda, or ammonia. This is necessary to remove the greasy sediment from the bottom, but care must be taken to dry it thoroughly before refilling, or it will sputter when lighted. This can be nicely done with a whalebone swab, as its flexibility permits it to reach to every part.

A lamp thus cleaned and trimmed, and filled *full* of pure oil, (for lamps, like coal stoves, burn less fuel when kept well filled) with its shade and burner polished to brilliancy, will give as perfect a light as any lamp is capable of, and richly repay your time and care.

House painting done during the Autumn or early winter is much more durable than that done earlier in the season. The painter, too, is not then annoyed by the tiny flies which are always attracted by fresh paint if applied while they are around.

To preserve the neat appearance of your umbrella, keep it open to its full extent while drying. An umbrella dried while closed will always be umpled.

HOME COOKING.

ORGINAL RECIPES CONTRIBUTED BY THE JOURNAL SISTERS.

ORNAMENTAL FROSTING:—Draw a small syringe full of the icing and arrange it in any design you fancy; wheels, Grecian borders, flowers, or borders of beading, look well.

ROSE CAKE:—Three cups of flour, two cups of white sugar, one cup of sweet milk, one-half cup butter, whites of four eggs, one teaspoon cream tartar, one-half teaspoon soda; flavor with lemon or rose, and sprinkle red sugar between layers as you fill the pan.

AMBROSIA:—Eight fine sweet oranges peeled and sliced, one grated cocoanut; arrange layers, first of orange, and then cocoanut, in a glass dish; scatter sugar over this, and cover with another layer of orange. Fill up dish in this order, having cocoanut and sugar for top layer.

RASPBERRY VINEGAR:—Red raspberries, any quantity, or sufficient to fill a stone jar nearly full, then pour upon them sufficient vinegar to cover them. Cover the jar closely and set it aside for eight or ten days, then strain through flannel or muslin, and add to the clear liquor one and a half pounds of sugar to each pint, place over a fire and boil for a few minutes. Allow it to cool, and bottle for use. E. C. CHIM.

BAKED EGGS:—I saw a recipe lately for baking eggs, but think my way better, so I send it. Grease a pie-pan well with lard, spread thick with bread or cracker crumbs, break the eggs over them in a circle, pepper and salt; set in the oven to bake until the whites are all set, then run a knife round under them and slip off on to a plate, and you have a dish that is both wholesome and handsome. M. J. S.

CHARLOTTE RUSSE:—One quart of milk, six ounces of sugar, two ounces of isinglass, put all into a saucepan and on the stove. When dissolved, take off, strain through a sieve, and put on ice until it begins to set, then add flavoring to taste. When it begins to set, take one quart of cream, beat to a stiff froth, and stir all together. Then take charlotte russe moulds, line them with sponge cake, with a layer of jelly at the bottom, fill with the custard, and set on ice for two hours.

FROSTED PEACHES:—Twelve large rich peaches, free stones, whites of three eggs whisked to a standing froth, two spoonfuls water, one cup powdered sugar. Put water and beaten whites together, dip in each peach when you have rubbed off the fur, and rolled in powdered sugar. Set carefully on the stem end upon white paper laid on a waiter in a sunny window. When half dry roll again in sugar. Expose to the sun and breeze until dry, then put in cold dry place until ready to arrange in glass dish for table.

SNOW PUDDING:—Soak one ounce of gelatine in a pint of cold water for ten minutes; place this on the fire, stir, and remove as soon as dissolved, and when nearly cold, beat to a stiff froth with an egg beater.

2d. Beat the whites of three eggs to a froth, and add to it the gelatine froth, together with the juice of three lemons, and pulverized sugar to suit the taste, and mix the whole together. Next pour into a mould, and set aside to cool. Serve on a dish with soft custard made from the yolks of three eggs.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I send a recipe for making lemon pies without cooking the custard first:

Grate one lemon to one cup of hot water, two cups white granulated sugar, the yolks of four eggs, four tablespoonfuls of flour stirred up in a little cold water; mix the ingredients, fill in the crust and bake. Do not let the custard get too stiff, try occasionally with a broom straw, and if it sticks to the straw a little it is done. Take the pies out of the oven, have ready the four whites of eggs beaten to a stiff froth, mix four tablespoonfuls of powdered sugar, put over the pies with a spoon, put in the oven again till it colors a light brown. This recipe makes two pies, and is splendid. V. E. A.

BOSTON CREAM CAKES:—Pour half-pint boiling water over a cup of butter, and while hot stir in two cups of flour. When the whole is very smooth and thoroughly scalded set away to cool. When cold, break in five eggs, stir until perfectly mixed, then add one-fourth teaspoon soda. Butter a pan, drop in the mixture, a tablespoon in a place, and bake in a quick oven. When the cakes are done they will be hollow, and the top must be sliced off, the inside filled with cream, and the top replaced.

Cream for inside:—Pint of milk, half cup flour, a cup of sugar, and two eggs, stirred together and heated till of the consistency of cream; flavor with lemon.

"Constant Reader:"—I saw in the JOURNAL that you would like a recipe for ripe tomato catsup. Here is one I have used for years.

TOMATO CATSUP:—Twelve quarts of ripe tomatoes, wash and cut up in the preserving kettle without any water; when cooked strain through a fine sieve, or a cloth will do, so that the seeds do not pass through. Return the liquor to the kettle, add three tablespoonfuls of salt, two tablespoonfuls of ground cinnamon, one tablespoonful of ground cloves, one teaspoonful of red pepper, and one pint of vinegar. Cook one hour, counting from time it begins to boil. Let it stand till the next day before bottling. Small pint bottles are the best to use; have good stoppers, throw them into hot water, fill the bottles, drive the corks in tight, if too long cut the top off and cover with this cement.—Rosin, one-half pound, lard and beeswax one-half oz. each; melt and stir together; apply hot. ARTY.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

FALL FASHIONS.

Handsome Novelties in Fabrics—Attractive and Stylish Costumes and Gowns, for Day and Evening Wear—New Trimmings, Rich Laces, Quaint Braids and Dainty Ruchings.

BY MRS. JAS. H. LAMBERT.

As yet the novelties in fabrics for street costumes and suits for general wear, are the so-called hair-line cloths, which come in various widths in at least a dozen qualities, and showing narrow or wider stripes defined by hair lines or rather more prominent, but very fine stripes in lighter shades, and other color than that of the ground. These goods range in price from 75c. to $2.00 a yard; a grade at $1.50 is especially desirable, for it has good body, is very wide, and has ground in navy, garnet, brown or bronze, and other dark shades with hair lines in light colored silk. Later on the hair line checks and plaids will be introduced.

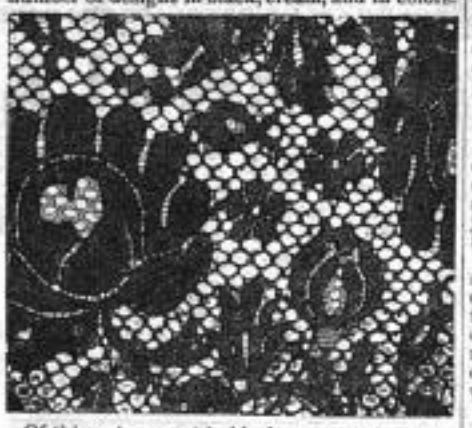
Costumes are made entirely of these cloths, other have skirts of Elberon velveteen with overskirt and basque of cloth; the vest, collar and cuffs of velveteen. A splendid quality of velveteen suitable for such uses is now $1.00 a yard, such as sold last year for $1.25. It comes in all of the new cloth shades.

The velvets for trimming and combinations are exceedingly elegant, coming as they do in the various width stripes, showing most striking results in colors. They cost all prices from $1.00 to $5.00 a yard. The stripes in rich dark colors are outlined by lines in bright hues, such as bronze and navy blue, with gold and red, and then there are plain stripes alternating with those in Roman colors.

The fancy velvets are $1.25 and $1.50 a yard, are very handsome, and can be used in forming dresses and costumes together with the silken fabrics which are in similar tones of the prominent stripe of the velvet. In these matching goods there are splendid qualities of satin rhadames at $1.25 a yard. *Faille Francaise* at $1.35 and gros grains at $1.00, also lovely surahs at $1.00 and $1.25 a yard.

Quite new and perfectly charming are the corded and watered silks in tints, with variously colored flowers in sprays and clusters, at only $1.00 a yard. They are lovely to go with surah and satin to make up into bridal evening dresses, or party dresses.

All kinds of laces in black, cream, and colors, are to be largely used in the construction of dresses this season, in conjunction with surahs, satin rhadames, and *faille Francaise*, also with velvet and velvteen. Chantilly net and flounces come in black, while Spanish matelasse, guipure all-over net, and edgings or flounces, are made in number of designs in black, cream, and in colors.



Of this guipure net in black, a most charming toilette is fashioned by using the net with black surah. The underskirt is of the surah, which is arranged in side plaits all round. In the back the guipure net is sewed to the waist band in plaits, and falls over the surah in straight folds down to the edge of skirt. On the left front side, the guipure net is gathered in massed folds, and secured under the edge of bodice, and then the net is allowed to flow as it will, after which it is carried up over the other side in folds, and fastened under the back drapery, the ends being hidden by full loop bows of handsome ribbon, which may be in black or colors, as the wearer may like to change, one time having black, the next some favored color, so the dress can appear different each time it is worn. The sleeves and surah lined bodice are covered with net, save in front of waist, which is of plaited surah, outlined by band of ribbon, which is carried up on each shoulder, and tied in a pretty bow. Collar and fall of jet beads form decorative finish of the corsage. The edges of the lace overskirt are joined over the cluster of side plaitings of surah, by festoons of large jet beads, finished with pendant ornaments also of jet.

For a bride this style dress can be most exquisitely reproduced in cream surah, cream guipure lace and net with cream velvet, and finish of pearl and crystal beads, or it would be equally pretty in pink, a very pale shade, or silvery blue rhadames, the cream lace, and with crystal beads.

One of the new evening toilettes is of tufted crepe, made with flounced skirt, trimmed with loops of ribbon, and graceful draperies of the material in the front and back. The pointed corsage is made full on upper part, and so are the sleeves. Shoulder and throat bows of ribbon. A demi-toilette for a young lady shows striped skirt in ecru and cream, with full bodice and tunic of cream dentelle. This pretty dress is finished with loops and bows of ecru, blue and cream ribbon.

While linen collars are worn with cloth suits and home dresses in the cheaper fabrics, fashion demands that a more decorative finish be given to toilettes of silk, satin, brocade and the soft woolen textures and nothing so perfects the neck and sleeves of stylish dresses, as the dainty ruching in crepe lisse, in some one of the dozens of conceits now found in leading dry goods houses.

The novelty in ruchings in Persian shell design.

This lovely ruching is very neat, and shows background of fluted crepe, against which rest the lower placed shells, formed of crepe plaiting arranged in shell design, and like others of these novelties in ruchings, are made in white, cream, and black, edged with floss to match lisse, or with shaded floss. The odd, spiral crepe lisse ruchings in white, cream or black, is finished with pearl, silver, gold or black beads; one being placed in center of each spiral arrangement of the crepe lisse.

A few of the new dresses for early fall wear have appeared, and some of them are very stylish. A pretty make of bodice shows embroideries carried up the back and front diagonally across one side; the embroidery to match being also brought to the top of the sleeves. An evening dress of black lace has broad bands of black embroidered velvet carried down one side, the bodice is also striped, and the basque is bordered with a quilling of black lace divided by jet drops.

A novel tailor-made dress has bodice with a square of white serge let in back and front. The material of this dress is a fine checked tweed, in brown, black and white. The bodice is in the habit form and is fastened on one side. The plaided skirt is cut in points, showing plaited vandykes in brown, black and white. In drab shepherd's plaid of undyed cheviot, the costume is made with a square apron that has no folds when reaching near the edge of the skirt, the latter being closely kilted. The jacket bodice of this dress has only one revers, which, as well as cuffs and collar, is in a rich drab, in velvet.

Very stylish and useful is a suit of bronze colored Khayyam broadcloth, a fine, smooth, camel's hair texture. The skirt has finish of plaitings at lower edge, below the plaited upper portion, which is bordered at bottom with double rows of Russian braid, in the color of material. The braid is carried up the left side, and is lost under the scarf drapery in front, which is looped at the back. Full front of surah, open jacket of broadcloth bordered with braid about edges, and sleeves. Turn-over collar of braid, below standing collar of surah.

The standard braids of last year are to be seen in the new colors to match the fall and winter fabrics, and some of the braids may be classed among the novelties, because, although they show some features of last years creations, those stitches and designs are combined; for instance, the peculiarities of the Giant and Lace braids are realized in this new Russian braid, which is going to be exceedingly popular, because it is odd and very handsome.

In the new hair line material, the handsome cloth, with tidy stripes in gold or a light tone, silk or wool, is an exceedingly stylish costume. The fabric is blue with gold hair lines. The upper portion of skirt hangs down on one side, is slightly looped in the back, and opens on left side disclosing a panel of cloth almost covered with lines and bars of Russian braid in blue and gold. The vest is finished to match panel, but the jacket and overdrapery are entirely without trimming. In another suit the jacket and overskirt are trimmed with braid, while the waistcoat and panel are of velvet, and are left perfectly plain.

***

DECORATIVE FINISHINGS.

Odd and elegant trimmings are constantly created by the wonderful machines of the Kursheedt Manufacturing Company, and as they appear, they are described and illustrated in a journal of fashionable specialties, which is issued by that firm five times a year.

The figures herein given represent some of their almost countless productions. One is of the curious rich Russian braid, another shows adaptations of the dainty Persian ruching in shell design, and the third shows a variety of guipure net, which is now much used for draperies and overdresses. Five numbers of the fashion sheet will be sent to our readers for 15c.

***

NEW DRESS FABRICS.

Sharpless Brothers have already opened new lines of materials for fall and winter. Some special novelties have been introduced to form bridal toilets, in the new tinted silks with gros grain and moire grounds, covered with lovely flowers in all colors, and the satin rhadames in colors to match. They also have complete lines of ready-made muslin undergarments, and ladies and children's suits and cloaks. Infants ward robes furnished to order.

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WIRE NOVELTIES.

The Weston & Wells Manufacturing Co. are creating many health-preserving articles in braided wire. The bustles are light in weight, cool, and in such shapes as to give required style to the hang of a fashionable dress skirt. The Mikado hair roll of braid wire is another useful article, saving the wearing of false hair, and preventing headaches.

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Our readers sometimes get statements mixed. We will send goods to our patrons, but prefer that they should deal direct with advertisers, hence, ladies who wish Ball's elastic section health-preserving corsets, for their daughters of from ten to fourteen years of age, had best send 90c. with order to Chicago Corset Co., 402 Broadway, N. Y.; also send there for illustrated price list of Ball's elastic section corsets for ladies. It will save time and trouble.

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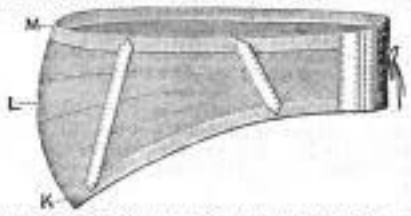

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

One of the most satisfactory plants for the house in winter is the Bouvardia, if—there is always an if in the way in flower-growing as in other things, you see,—if you can keep them entirely away from frost, and will take pains to shower them at least three times a week, (once a day is better,) and will also take care that the aphis does not establish himself among them. If you let them become chilled they are ruined, for

BOUVARDIA.

they are very tender, and they must have a warm room to grow in, and a pretty even temperature. If you do not shower them well, and often, and thoroughly, each time, the red spider will be sure to get on them, and in a very short time he will ruin them. And you will be sure to have him if you do not use a good deal of water on the tops of your plants, as he revels in the hot, warm air of the ordinary living-room. The aphis is quite sure to be found on most house plants unless precautions are taken against his coming, and he seems to have an especial liking for this plant. But if you will shower the plant once a week with a weak tea of tobacco he will not be likely to cause much trouble. This tobacco tea and clean water can be applied easily, and any one who really cares for flowers will not find it too much trouble to use them. If you are not willing to be to some trouble, don't try to grow flowers. The probabilities are that the person who is not willing to take some trouble will not have flowers to experiment with long, for if they cannot have the care they need they will die, or drag out a miserable existence. So, knowing that the Bouvardia requires the attention that I have spoken of, don't try to grow it unless you are willing to properly care for it. Give it the treatment I have referred to, and you will find it a very fine plant for the house.

It takes a light, rather sandy soil, which should be kept clean and open. It should have a sunny place to grow in. The best way to procure good plants for winter blooming is, to buy small ones in spring, and put them in little pots which should be sunk in the ground, care being taken to put coal ashes under them to keep the worms out. Water with some fertilizer at least once a week, but do not have it very strong. As soon as the plant begins to grow, cut off the ends of the shoots to within a few inches of the soil. If you do this, and persevere in doing it until there are several strong branches from the crown of the plant, you will have a compact, bushy specimen, from which a large number of branches will be thrown out, later in the season. If any "suckers" appear about the roots, by all means let them grow, as they make stronger and better flowering branches than those which are produced on the older wood. It should be given just enough water to keep the soil moist all through, but never wet. Do not encourage the plants to bloom during the summer, but keep them growing to form a large flowering surface. Unless there are many branches there will not be as much of this as one would like, because the plant is not one that branches freely like most other plants. A plant grown in this way through the summer, will be in excellent condition for winter blooming, and will give a great deal more satisfaction than one that you buy of a florist in the fall. I frequently hear the Bouvardia complained of as being such a "scraggly, loose-jointed sort of a thing, all roots and no top to speak off." This is sure to be the case when the treatment I have advised to make it bushy and compact is ignored.

We have many very desirable varieties, some double, some single. Leianthia, one of the oldest, is still one of the best. It is a bright red. Davidsonii is a pure white, very free-flowering and fragrant. Among the doubles, there are none better than Alfred Neuner, pure white, and President Garfield, rose color. The engraving of the double Bouvardia which accompanies this article is an excellent one, and shows the flower to perfection in all but color. It is well to act on the defensive, always, in growing plants, and you should never wait for the red spider or the aphis to come, but take measures to prevent his coming. If you will treat your Bouvardia just as if these pests were there, from the start, the probabilities are that they will never be there, and that is precisely what you want.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"S. B." Cannot tell why the leaves on your "Holy Thistle" decay. It may be that there is a grub at work at the root. I had some Canterbury Bells last season which were troubled very much in the same way, and on examination, I discovered that the source of the difficulty was in the root. They were so far gone when I found out what the matter was that I could not save them. The "waxy-looking" plant you ask about is a Sedum, a very good plant for hanging baskets, and much in use on rock-work, its succulent nature enabling it to live in a very dry soil where most other plants would soon die. The other plant, which you say is called "pickle plant" in your locality, is Othonna crassifolia, also an excellent plant for baskets. This, you will see, is also of a succulent habit, and such plants are always best for all uses where they will be exposed to the wind, very dry air, and the hot sun. The leaves store up moisture to enable them to stand the heat for a long time without the application of water to the roots. The small leaf, shaped something like that of the Geranium, is the vine which grows wild in some localities, and is called "Creeping Charlie," "Cat's-foot," "Wandering Jew," "Gill-over-the-ground," etc. Its true name, botanically, is Lysimachia. It will grow with the most ordinary treatment. Here in central Wisconsin, it has become a weed in the garden, and is regarded as a nuisance, for when the gardener attempts to get rid of it and digs it up, he finds that he only makes it spread more rapidly, as every little piece of the branches will take root and soon form a plant by itself.

"M. B."—The purplish flower, which produces its blossoms in spikes, is a variety of Lupine. The other two I am unable to give you any name for.

"A. S. D."—The Pelargonium is a variety of Geranium, or, to speak more properly, I should say that the Geranium is a variety of Pelargonium, that being the proper name of the class of plants to which both belong. The Pelargonium is not a constant bloomer. It gives an abundant crop of flowers in May, June and July, some varieties blooming early, others late. We have no more magnificent flower. Most varieties combine delicacy and extreme richness of color. For instance, a plant now in bloom in my window, has flowers whose petals are a very soft shade of pink,—so delicate that you might call it a hint of color, rather than the color itself,—with a large blotch of deepest velvety maroon, shading into violet on the two upper ones. Another kind has flowers of a clear crimson, blotched with black, and a third variety has a black "feather" in each upper petal. There are dozens of varieties, and all are well worth growing. I can think of no other class of plants which will give such remarkably gorgeous color-effects. Peter Henderson, who knows all about plants, says that he would select the Pelargonium in preference to any other for producing a brilliant effect in the conservatory.

"Miss A. A. F."—One of the very best of all Roses for the garden is "George the Fourth," a robust grower, and a very profuse bloomer. It has very double flowers of a rich shade of crimson, and is very fragrant. It is a most profuse bloomer. Another excellent Rose for the garden is the Persian Yellow. This variety is as nearly iron-clad as any variety I have ever grown. It will live through our most severe winters without any protection whatever. It is an exceedingly robust grower, and a great bloomer. In June, its tall stems will be almost completely covered with flowers, of a very rich shade of yellow. The best white variety is Madame Plantier. This is, like the two other kinds, an old "stand-by," which has been extensively grown for years, and which has not been equalled by any new variety of its class. For use in the cemetery, where white flowers are wanted, it is one of our best shrubs. The best climber is perhaps the old "Queen of the Prairies." This is a very fine, double flower, and gives wonderful crops of blossoms each season, if it is properly taken care of during the winter. On account of the difficulty with which its stiff stalks are laid down, it is very often neglected, and as it is not hardy enough to stand our winters without protection, it will nearly always be killed back half its length if left on its trellis, and in consequence, it often fails to give a good crop of flowers. If a considerable quantity of earth is heaped about its roots, and the stalks are bent carefully over them, it may be taken care of without much trouble.

"Anna S."—If you have never tried the double dwarf Hollyhocks, you have no idea of the pleasure they will give you when well-grown. The old single kind was good in large clumps, because it produced a strong and brilliant effect, but the new varieties are not dependent on massing for a satisfactory result. Their flowers are as double as Roses, and are almost as delicate in color. The colors range from pure white to the very darkest maroon,—so dark as to be almost black, in fact. The brilliant effect of a group in which the pale lemon-yellows are mingled with the crimson and maroon varieties must be seen in order to be appreciated. We have no finer flowers for the lawn. It is of grand effect when used in large vases, for the corner of a room, or any place where a strong mass of color is desired. The coarseness, of which there was so much complaint among the old kinds, has been overcome in the new ones, and the flowers are now as dainty as any one could desire, in texture. It is not too late to sow seeds for next years plants. In fall, give them a covering of leaves, or coarse litter. Or, you can wait until next spring and buy plants from the florists. Many prefer to do this rather than be to the trouble of sowing seed and caring for the plants during the first year. If seed is sown, a large proportion of the plants raised from it will prove double. Those which are not double will be very ornamental. The dwarf varieties do not grow to be more than three or four feet tall, but the flowers are quite as large as those of the old tall growing kinds.

"Mrs. Wood:"—The "white Violets" you refer to are out-door plants, and you can do nothing with them in the house, as the living-room is far too warm and dry for them. They are fond of a cool place, and will spindle away and die in the window. They can be wintered by covering them to the depth of a foot with dry leaves, piled on them loosely. If you have a cellar with a window that will let in a good amount of light, and is not much above freezing, you can have them in bloom nearly all winter. Pot the plants, or set several of them in a box, and put them in this window. Do not give much water, for the low temperature of the room will make it unnecessary to apply much. If plants are used for the garden, put them in a rather shady place, and keep the weeds down among them. That is about all you will have to do. They will take care of themselves, with this little attention from you. They bloom most of the season.

"Mrs. Hamilton:"—The leaf of the climber is Campsidium filletfoltum, a pretty plant for the house. The other leaf is the Laurestinus, a very fine spring-flowering shrubby plant. It is not a very rapid grower, but what growth it does make is good for years. Its flowers are small, but as they are borne in flat clusters, at the ends of the branches, they show well. They are white, and resemble in shape and habit, those of some of the Elders. Above you will find the article you asked for on the Bouvardia.

"Mary L.:"—You need not take up your Chrysanthemums until the buds begin to show. They are among the easiest of all plants to transplant, and if you do not shake all the soil of the roots, but lift them without disturbing them, and water them well when you put them in their pots, and keep them shaded for three or four days, or a week, they will hardly wilt, but will soon go on growing as if nothing had happened to them. If you want fine flowers, as of course you do, you must give them manure water at least twice a week from the time the buds begin to show to the time they bloom. Never let the soil in the pots get dry. If you do you will not have good flowers,—remember that. Do not try to winter your plants after they have blossomed in the way you suggest. Cut the tops off, and put the roots in the cellar. Let them remain there till March. Give them no water through the winter. Keep them in the darkest corner. If you give water and keep near the light, they will try to grow, and the result will be weakening to the plant, because the growth will be an unhealthy one. In March, when you bring up the plants, you will find that dozens of shoots will have formed about the old stalk, and are all ready to begin to grow. And in a very short time, you will have the satisfaction of seeing all the plants you want growing finely. When they have grown to the height of four or five inches, cut among them with a sharp knife, and you can separate almost every shoot from the old plant with roots of its own attached. Pot these in little pots, or put a number in boxes together, and let them grow till the weather becomes warm, when they can be set in the ground.

"Mrs. Kittredge:"—I never heard of the soil in pots becoming covered with little snail shells, all at once, as you say is the case with your Ivy. I think you must be mistaken. I hazard the guess that what you take to be snail shells are worm-casts, little quantities of earth thrown up by small worms that are at work in the soil. Examine the soil and see if you do not find worms. If you do, give them a dose of lime-water. Put a piece of lime as large as a teacup in a pailful of rain-water; let it dissolve as much as it will, then turn off the clear water, and apply it to the earth in your pots. It will expel the worms, and benefit the plants, because lime is a fertilizer. If there are really snail-shells there, as you think, I am not able to tell you how they came there, or how you are to get rid of them. Perhaps the lime-water would have the same effect on snails as it does on worms. There would be no harm in trying it.

BOUVARDIA, ALFRED NEUNER.

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[FOR THE LADIES HOME JOURNAL.]

THE SEAMY SIDE OF SUMMER.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

Some years ago, the housekeeper was considered delinquent who did not "put up" in cans for winter consumption as many varieties of fruits and vegetables as came within her reach. Berries of every kind, cherries, currants, peaches, pears, plums, apples, grapes, were all made available and superseded to a great extent the richer and more expensive preserves that had been deemed essential by our grandmothers. Tin cans were used at first even by home manufacturers, and some writers on cookery still recommend them although the majority prefer the more convenient glass jars.

At the outset, all canned goods prepared for the market were extremely expensive. Tomatoes sold for a dollar a quart can and were esteemed a choice luxury. Fruits were not put up in this style until about twenty-five years ago. Then, as large establishments were formed for doing this branch of housewifery by wholesale, the country was suddenly flooded with canned edibles of all sorts, shapes and descriptions. Every province of nature was taxed to supply the demand, from the birds that fly in the air to the mollusks and fishes that inhabit the sea and the herbs that cover the earth. Soups, meats, fowls, game, crabs, lobsters, salmon, shrimps, all kinds of vegetables from asparagus to dandelion greens, truffles, mushrooms, and fruits of every description were offered for sale at such low rates that the markets for awhile were almost glutted. Every one bought the tin cans and countless tongues were loud in their praises. Some people even went so far as to declare their preference for the canned over the fresh goods as requiring so much less care in their preparation. As was natural, the reaction from this was in proportion to the violence of the first enthusiasm. The manufacturers grew careless. Reports were started of whole families who had been poisoned by the contents of carelessly soldered cans. Many persons returned to their glass jars and to the regular hot weather penance of putting up, and these and other intimations, including close surveillance by committees from state and local Boards of Health, warned the proprietors of canning factories to guard more watchfully against the adulteration of their wares.

At the present day, certain brands of such goods hold an enviably high position. They are sold in enormous quantities to hotels and boarding houses and have a large sale among private families. As makeshifts when fresh fruits are unattainable, they are a boon, but as substitutes for ripe fruit and vegetables, fresh fish, etc., when these can be secured, they are utterly inadmissable by people of just taste. In spite of this they are in constant use in households where better things would be expected. One woman of wealth who gave a large dinner party to an especially honored visitor, offered her guests as accompaniments to the choice fish, game, *entrees* and meat dishes that went to make an elaborate repast of a dozen courses, canned peas, canned corn, canned string beans, and canned tomatoes, all served as they came from their tins except for being warmed. At a slight additional outlay of trouble or money, she could have procured fresh vegetables or prepared them in a far more palatable manner.

One great objection to "canned goods" is what seems to be the general impression, that they were sufficiently cooked at the time they were put up and need only to be turned out of their receptacles and heated to be ready for use. The truth is that even the choicest of such viands require a good deal of "doctoring" before they are fit for the table. Canned corn, hardly palatable when simply warmed, is excellent when chopped fine and converted into fritters, corn pudding or succotash American green peas are seldom good unless transformed into soup or pancakes, while even tomatoes should be allowed to simmer with a little sugar and a slice of onion and then be rubbed through a colander before they are ready for use in the simplest style. As for canned salmon, lobster, etc., it would seem needless to state that they should be carefully prepared before serving, were it not that one often sees them placed on the table with no other care than that of simply turning them out.

Upon canned fruit the same course of treatment must be bestowed. Peaches and pears should have the liquor drained from them and be boiled to a thick syrup with more sugar, the fruit being dropped in at the last for a fifteen minutes simmer. Even then they are hardly equal to fresh fruit when stewed and are chiefly useful in the manufacture of pies, puddings, shortcake, etc.

The tendency to fermentation that renders it impossible to season or sweeten fruit and vegetables in putting them up, makes as necessary careful cooking for the table of those prepared at home as of those bought in shops. Still, there is no denying that the former are usually better. Compounded in a trim kitchen by a neat housewife who devotes her whole energy to the successful accomplishment of her task, it is not to be wondered at if the results are more satisfactory than when the labor is done by wholesale in the perfunctory manner that becomes habitual to those who work only for others.

Even with the added perfection, however, it is doubtful if in these busy days, the game is worth the candle. From a pecuniary point of view, it certainly costs more, except to the possessor of a large garden and orchard whose vegetables and fruits would otherwise go to waste. In this case, if a woman's time is of little value except for household occupations, it may pay her to do her own canning instead of purchasing such articles. But for the dweller in cities who has not only to devote her leisure to this pursuit, but also to buy all her materials, canning pure and simple is about as expensive a branch of domestic economy as she can choose.

With pickling, preserving, jellying, etc., the matter is different. Pickles, for instance, can rarely be procured that will compare with those put up at home. Dreadful suspicions of sulphuric acid rise in the minds of the beholders of the phenomenally clear liquid that surrounds the gherkins and mixed pickles that bear the stamp of various noted English and American firms, and are intensified into certainty when the sharp tang of the so-called pure vinegar greets the palate. Those that are not bitingly sharp are too apt to be insipid, while really good sweet pickles are almost unknown unless made at home.

The wise housewife will content herself with ordinary canned fruits and vegetables and elect rather to give her spare moments to the putting up of cherries, gherkins, peaches, pears, chow-chow and similar appetizers. A pleasant variety upon these stereotyped although favorite dainties may be found in spiced small fruits, cherries, berries, currants, gooseberries, grapes and the like. These are much easier to prepare, requiring none of the preliminary steeping needed for many varieties of pickles or the pickling demanded by others, and have the added recommendation of being less likely to ferment when they are in their jars or tumblers. They possess likewise the advantage of being done at once and finished, instead of having to be submitted to a series of tedious processes that drag on slowly from day to day.

While the canning of large fruits is not advised, the lovers of "roly-poly" and "fruit valise" puddings, berry dumplings, and berry pies will do well to can huckleberries, blackberries and raspberries, to be put to these uses when cold weather comes. With a little care they will keep perfectly and when disposed of in any of the desserts mentioned can be with difficulty distinguished from the fresh fruit. They are not tempting, however, unless served in this manner, except to the very few who like stewed berries. Even for them they should be liberally sweetened and have a little more cooking before they are fit for the table. Canned apple, too, is very nice, whether used in pies and puddings or as furnishing a simple dessert for lunch or tea.

At present a reaction in favor of preserves is taking place. Those old-fashioned dainties have furnished the subject for many strictures. They have been stigmatized as unwholesome, expensive and troublesome to make and canned fruits have been advocated as more desirable, both on the grounds of cheapness and digestibility. But the depraved palate still prefers the more tempting delicacies in spite of all the excellent arguments that can be adduced to the contrary. That they are costly cannot be denied and although mature stomachs may possibly indulge in them with impunity they should be kept from children or administered, if at all, in homeopathic doses.

An excellent substitute for these, less trying to the gastric powers than the regular preserves and more toothsome than the simple canned fruit, is offered by the fruit conserve. With little care and cost, much less than are required for preserving, a goodly store of these may be laid in for use in season when fresh fruit is out of the market. Ranking with them in popularity are jams and marmalades of different kinds. Not the Scotch or Dundee marmalades that delicious as they are, cannot be recommended upon the score of cheapness, but those made at home of berries, apples, and chief of all, of peaches. They are small trouble in the making, keep perfectly and are good whether eaten by themselves or serving as a sweetmeat to be used in puddings and trifles. A properly made bread and marmalade pudding is a dessert that can hardly fail to please any one and a Queen of all puddings well deserves its name when peach marmalade is one of the ingredients. It is delightful as the filling for sponge cake custard or trifle, and makes a pleasant accompaniment to ice cream or blanc-mange.

PICKLED SALMON (canned.)

One quart of vinegar,
One cup cold water,
Six blades of mace,
Six cloves,
Six whole black peppers,
One teaspoonful made mustard,
Two tablespoonfuls white sugar.

Heat to a fast boil and skim clear, taking care not to remove the spices. Cut the salmon into neat pieces, and drop them into the scalding liquor. Boil up once hard, remove the salmon with a skimmer and pack it closely into jars, pouring in the vinegar while it is boiling hot. Screw on air-tight tops and keep jars in the dark.

The economical manager will find it far cheaper to make jellies than to buy them. If those sold in stores are of really first-class quality, both as regards materials and making, they are usually far beyond the limits of the average purse, except in small quantities. On the other hand, the recent investigations into the composition of cheap jellies reveals adulterations that make it highly dangerous to partake of them. More than one case of severe illness has been caused, especially among the poorer classes, by the eating of the jellies sold at low prices. Analysis shows that the ingredients are of the cheapest and coarsest character, often indeed, consisting of spoiled fruit, which has been utilized for jellies, the taste of the decayed matter being masked by strong acids and flavorings.

Jellies make a pretty side dish or garnish for meat dishes and some kinds, notably currant, are almost essentials in the preparation of game and savory dishes. The old custom of boiling the jelly after the sugar has been added is almost discarded at present, as it has been conclusively proved that this course not only involves additional labor without rendering the jelly any firmer, but positively impairs the flavor and color. A few of the old fashioned cooks may still cling to this obsolete custom, but its observance is rapidly growing to be the exception rather than the rule.

While jellies are almost invariably formed in glasses, other sweets are too frequently put up in glass jars. There are few families so large that they require a quart of any sort of preserve or marmalade at a single meal. The pint jars or even the tumblers will be found far better for marmalades, preserves, conserves or pickles. Canned fruits are eaten of less sparingly and these may be put up in quart cans if desired.

A difficulty common to nearly all housekeepers in summer is that of finding some little relish for supper. Cheese dishes are appetizing but are seldom good cold. Common sense in dietetics forbids too frequent use of meat in hot weather. Fresh fish cannot always be found. Salads are delicious and the materials for these can readily be secured by slight forethought. Nearly any of the potted meats sold by first-class grocers furnish an excellent basis for salad. These, however, are apt to be expensive when they are really good and home made substitutes are much less costly and quite as nice, if well seasoned. Odds and ends can thus be utilized and oysters, clams, etc. pickled to be used at times when they cannot be obtained in their natural state. Potted and pickled halibut and salmon are always favorite dishes and those who consider fresh salmon higher priced than they can afford will find that when that which may be bought in cans is carefully pickled, even an epicure would find difficulty in discerning any inferiority in its flavor to that put up when the king of fish has just left his river home.

PICKLED CHERRIES.

Four quarts of cherries. "Garden Red" or some other tart variety are best.
One quart of good cider vinegar,
One cupful white sugar,
Two dozen whole cloves,
Twelve blades of mace.

Heat vinegar and spices together and boil ten minutes. Pack Mason's pint jars three-quarters full of the cherries and fill up with the strained vinegar, when it has been allowed to become perfectly cold. Screw the tops on tightly and keep in a dark place. They will be eatable within forty-eight hours, but mellow and improve with keeping.

PICKLED PEACHES (unpeeled.)

Eight pounds of rather small, firm peaches,
Three pounds of white sugar,
One quart of vinegar,
Three teaspoonfuls of cinnamon and the same of mace and allspice,
As many whole cloves as there are peaches.

Wipe off the peaches and stick a clove in each. Heat spices, sugar and vinegar to the boiling point, drop in the peaches and boil ten minutes. Take out the peaches with a perforated skimmer, strain the syrup, return it to the fire and boil it down to a thick syrup. Put the peaches into jars, pour the boiling syrup over them and seal while hot.

PICKLED SECKEL PEARS.

Twelve pounds of fruit,
Six pounds of sugar,
One quart of vinegar,
Whole spices, cloves, allspice, mace and stick cinnamon.

Peel the pears carefully, taking off as little as possible except the skin. Drop each in cold water as it is finished, to keep the color. Weigh the fruit *after* peeling. Lay in a porcelain lined kettle, cover thickly with sugar and proceed in the same way until the fruit and sugar are all utilized. Bring to a boil on the side of the stove and add the vinegar and spices. Simmer ten minutes. A hard boil is apt to break the fruit. Remove the pears, boil down the syrup and put up like pickled peaches.

SPICED GRAPES.

Ten pounds of Catawba, Isabella, Concord, Delaware or *sweet* wild grapes,
Eight pounds of sugar,
Four tablespoonfuls of cloves,
Four tablespoonfuls of cinnamon,
One quart of vinegar.

Boil slowly until the fruit is tender. Remove from the fire, and rub through a colander. Fill half pint glasses with the strained fruit and cover closely. This is delicious made of fox grapes or tart ones, but where these are used the proportion of sugar must be increased to a pound for every pound of fruit. Spiced gooseberries are delicious as are cherries and currants. The two last need not be strained.

CANNED PLUMS FOR PIES.

Fill quart jars with the fruit and pour in enough cold water to cover them. Set the jars in a broad pot of hot water, taking care that they shall not touch each other. Bring the water in the pot to a boil and cook ten minutes, remove from the fire, screw the tops on the jars while still hot and set away in a cool dark place. Almost any sort of fruit may be put up in this way and will be nice for pies or puddings, or by stewing with a little more sugar will make a good simple dessert.

CANNED APPLE.

Peel, core and quarter tart, juicy apples, laying each piece in cold water as soon as prepared. Drain the water from them weigh them and put them over the fire in a porcelain lined kettle. Cook slowly half an hour, dip out the juice and add half a pound of sugar for each pound of fruit. Boil ten minutes and seal in pint glass jars.

PEACH MARMALADE.

Small peaches serve for this purpose quite as well as large ones. The fruit should be peeled and sliced or cut into small pieces. Weight it before putting over the fire. Cook three quarters of an hour and put in three quarters of a pound of sugar for each pound of the fruit. Boil steadily twenty minutes, stirring constantly to prevent burning. Ladle out all the superfluous syrup and put it into cans to serve for pudding sauce. Be careful that no hard lumps are left uncooked in the marmalade. Fill half pint jelly glasses with the fruit and fasten on closely fitting covers.

PEACH CONSERVE.

Peel and halve fine firm peaches and lay them in enough sugar to cover them in order to extract the juice. At the end of six hours, pour off the juice and sugar, and heat both to boiling. Simmer ten minutes, drop in the fruit and boil ten minutes longer. Take the peaches out with a strainer and put them into glass jars, keeping these hot in scalding water until the syrup left in the kettle shall have boiled thick. This should be in about fifteen minutes. Pour this over the fruit in the jars and seal them while hot.

GRAPE MARMALADE.

Pick over and stem ripe, well flavored grapes. Cook over a steady fire half an hour after they have come to a boil. Dip out most of the juice, and rub the grapes through a colander. Return to the fire and add sugar in the proportion of pound for pound unless the grapes are exceptionally sweet. In this case three-quarters of a pound of sugar to each one of fruit may be used. Boil half an hour longer and put up in air tight glass jars or tumblers.

POTTED HALIBUT.

Pick to pieces cold halibut, removing all the bones. Rub with the back of a spoon until the fish is perfectly smooth. Put it into a double boiler, having the water in the outer vessel at a hard boil and when the fish is heated through stir into it to each cupful of fish a good teaspoonful of butter, a saltspoonful of anchovy paste, a teaspoonful of vinegar and a little cayenne pepper. When the fish is nearly cold, pack it into small jars, cups or tumblers and cover the top with clarified butter. This must be prepared by melting the butter in a cup set in a saucepan of hot water, removing the white cheesy scum that rises to the top as it melts, and finally straining the melted butter through a cloth. Pour it on top of the potted fish while warm, but not hot. Melted beef suet answers nearly as well as butter.

Codfish is nice prepared like halibut, and either will keep a week or ten days in a cool place.

POTTED BEEF.

Chop extremely fine cold roast or boiled beef. Put into it a teaspoonful of melted butter to each cupful of the meat, and season well with pepper, salt and a little mace. A slice of cold boiled ham chopped with it is an improvement. Heat as directed in the recipe for potted halibut, and when cold, pack in the same manner in little jars, covering the top with clarified butter or suet.

Many directions for potting fish and meat insist that they must be rubbed in a mortar. This is not necessary if they are chopped to a dust like fineness. The aim is to imitate pates as nearly as possible and to do this there must be no bits left of gristle, bone or skin, but the mixture to be potted must be reduced to a paste-like smoothness.

Chicken, tongue, ham and mutton may all be potted in this style.

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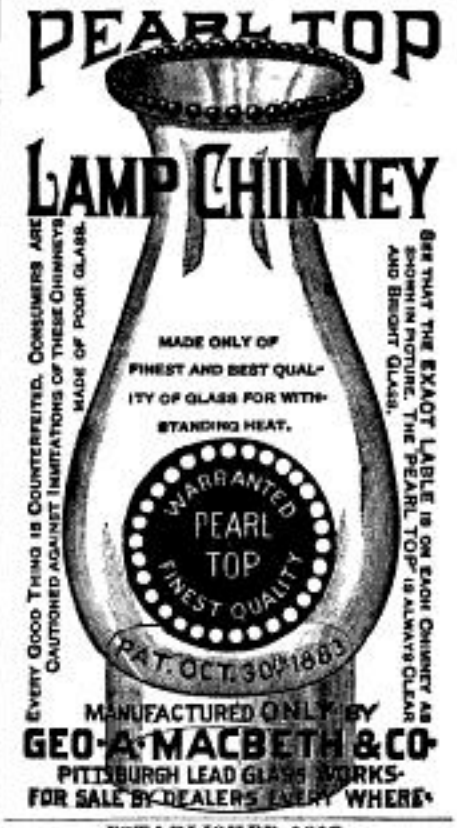

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HINTS UPON ETIQUETTE AND GOOD MANNERS.

BY MRS. S. O. JOHNSTON.

NO. VIII.

Salutations, Leave Takings, Etc.

The Oriental modes of salutation and leave taking possess far more courteous phrases than our language, because the English and the Americans are of a colder blooded race, and prefer the shorter modes of speech, such as "How are you?" "How d'ye do?" or "Hope you are well?" which constitute our forms of greeting.

Each nation on the earth has its own peculiar manner for saluting an acquaintance, and the farther one penetrates towards the East, the more religious are the salutations. Thus the Arabs greet you with: "May God grant you a happy morning," or "If God wills it, you are well," or "May God grant you His favors," and as he speaks, he puts his right hand upon his breast, and makes a low bow; and if he is speaking to a person of much higher rank than his own, he bows nearly to the ground, and lifting the hem of his garment, kisses it. We, of this Great Republic, would deem such an obeisance servile. But do we not err too far the other way, and bring up our children with too curt manners?

The Germans and French are much more polite than the English speaking nations, and the former says, when bidding adieu: "*Leben sie wohl*," (Live well) while the latter says: "*Au revoir*," (To see you again.) Frenchmen are more ready to forgive, it is said, any fault but that of rudeness, and a short nod, in place of a low, courtly bow, is considered an insult by them. The Spaniards are very great sticklers for courtesy, and possess equal claims with the French to being considered the most polite nation on the globe, and they will bid you "good-morning" by saying "God be with you, sir."

"Good morning" and "Good night or evening" are correct salutations when meeting friends or acquaintances. "How are you?" is a more familiar form of speech which passes current among friends of all grades in society, but the bow which accompanies the words should be respectfully low, and not an abrupt jerk or nod of the head.

A gentleman should always lift his hat, and not merely touch its brim with his fingers. If he is smoking, he will remove the cigar from his lips when meeting a lady acquaintance. When walking with a lady he will lift his hat to every person whom the lady greets, even if entirely unknown to him. This is a mark of respect due to the lady.

A well-bred young lady will be ever ready to show attention and deference to an elder lady, and if she sees that the lady does not recognize her, it is her place to speak first, because young persons grow out of the recognition of elderly women, and they are always pleased to receive attentions from them. Indeed, a young girl will show the innate kindness of heart by the little attentions she pays to her elders, more than in any other way, both in general society and in the home circle.

"Be affable and courteous in youth, that you may be honored in age" is an aphorism that all young people should remember, in this age of bad manners and disrespect to one's elders.

If a person of low degree bows to you it should always be returned with courtesy.

La Fontaine, the celebrated French author of the never-to-be-forgotten "Fables," said: "A bow is like a note drawn at sight, and if you acknowledge it, you must pay the full amount."

That is, it should be returned as it is given, either respectfully, cordially, nonchalantly, or lovingly; but above all things avoid giving condescending bows to any one.

Hon. Daniel Webster was walking with a friend, in Washington, when a colored man passing by, bowed very low to him. Mr. Webster returned the salutation with as deep an obeisance. "Do you bow in that way to a darkey?" asked the man. "Would you have me outdone in politeness by a negro?" replied the great statesman.

And in his reply there is great wisdom. None of us can afford to be outdone in courtesy by one of a lower or higher degree; and if all persons followed Mr. Webster's example our lines would lie in pleasanter places. For, deny it though we may, true politeness and good breeding are the salt and the sugar of our daily lives, and only those familiar can live happily, who practice its tenets of love, kindness and good-will to each other.

When walking on the streets and meeting lady acquaintances or friends, it is not well-bred to hold them in conversation, for if the thoroughfare is a crowded one you will incommode the passers by, and if not, the person may not like to stand. It is far better, if you have the time to dispose of, to say "Let me walk a few blocks with you," than to stop them on the pavements.

To cut an acquaintance on the street should only be done for a very grave offence or crime, and never for some little misunderstanding. Unless your quarrel is a very bitter one, bow slightly, with a cold civility, that will show the recipients that you have not any cordiality for them.

Etiquette demands the practice of rational behavior at all times, and in all places, whether it be at church, reception, opera or theatre.

In church, however, the etiquette of society is limited. It is a sanctuary, a holy place, where good-breeding should ever reign paramount, and everyone should feel that God is present. Therefore, conversations should be short, and in low tones, and no laughter should be heard. It is not the place for introductions to be made, unless strangers are introduced to the clergyman, by intimate friends of his, and where invitations should not be given. To offer a seat to a stranger is a proper act, also to offer prayer and hymn-books, and if a lady, to find the places for her. It is also etiquette to proffer half of your book if there is none other to be had.

Gentlemen always walk up the aisle ahead of a lady, whether at church, opera, theatre or concert room, so as to open the pew door, or to find the right seat for the lady, but she should enter first.

While travelling throughout our broad country one sees very bad manners displayed by our people. It would seem that every one thought only of his or her own comfort, and selfishness was the chief characteristic exhibited. We are said to be almost as unsocial a race as the insular English. This may be, but is it not as desirable when a young lady or ladies are traveling alone, without male escort, not to allow men of even the most desirable outward appearance to address them in social conversation? Old age and hoary locks may be a passport in one's favor, yet I would beg young women, traveling alone, to maintain a reticent manner. Married women and ciderly maidens, who possess some knowledge of mankind and their wiles, can usually detect fraudulent appearances by their subtle intuitions, even when arrayed in fine feathers.

Gentlemen traveling with their daughters, can form what acquaintances they please, as they are not often deceived by costly trappings or high position; but unwary young women are very liable to be taken in if they will make acquaintances in the cars, or on steamboats.

If young men make overtures of acquaintance, answer their questions with lady-like civility, but if they ask to exchange cards, unless you have found out that you have mutual friends,—those in whose integrity you may surely trust,—beware! and do not give them the opportunity to exhibit your card to others and relate how very *epris* you were with themselves.

Guard against too great familiarities with strangers of the opposite sex everywhere. I would not counsel you to become a prude, or to purse up your lips in scorn against mankind in general and particular, but to be always well-bred while abroad, and not to err on the side of too great cordiality, young ladies being often condemned by young men on that account.

Extreme selfishness is exhibited in taking two or more seats in a car, by putting one's luggage upon it, when passengers are seeking for seats, looking out of the window persistently and keeping the seats filled up. Right demands that every seat in a car shall be given up that has not been paid for, and a decent sense of courtesy should force one to offer the seat or seats. Not only are you committing a solecism in good breeding, but you are also guilty of theft in holding the seat that you have not paid for.

However one may complain of the selfishness of travelers in this country, yet it is a well known fact that there is no country on the face of the globe, where young women or old women can travel from the Atlantic to the Pacific slope with such perfect freedom and comfort, as in the "States." Native politeness and tact combined will make the journey a succession of pleasures, and the numerous little courtesies that are offered and received, are always a bond of union between strangers. Only confer a favor upon another and you will take an interest in that person.

The English criticise our bad manners freely, but a writer in a London magazine says very truly, that "One is apt to hear unfavorable comments upon American manners, and it is true that they are not always consonant with the highest grace or finish, but a stranger can travel from Maine to California, or from the lakes to the Gulf of Mexico, and not encounter the least wilful impoliteness, unless he himself gives occasion for it."

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

"Mrs. E. N." asks: "Will you tell me the meaning conveyed by breaking over the corner or end of a visiting card when leaving it for an absent member of the family?"

Ans. It means that the card was left in person by the caller, and that it was intended for all the members of the family. It is an obselete practice now, and the caller should leave a card for each member of the family upon whom she desires to call. Thus, if there is a mother and one or more daughters, a card is left for each one who is old enough to go into society.

Answers to questions are not sent through the mail, by private reply, but must be answered through the columns of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

"Mary" asks: "Is it a lady's place to speak first to a gentleman? When you are in company is it proper to say, for instance, John Brown, or Mr. Brown?

Ans. The lady has the privilege of choosing her acquaintances, *i. e.*, speaking first after an introduction, or at any time.

Mr. Brown is the most proper, and he should say Miss Mary. But when people are very intimately acquainted the title of Mr. and Miss can be omitted, yet in society it sounds better to give it.

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THE CELEBRATED DR. W. A. HAMMOND, of New York, formerly Surgeon-General of the U. S. Army, lately lectured upon this subject, and advised all medical men to make trial of these agencies, describing at the same time most remarkable cures he had made, even in cases which would seem hopeless.
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NEWARK, N. J., June 1. Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets have entirely cured me of sciatic rheumatism, and also of a severe case of headache. MRS. L. C. SPENCER.
Hollis Centre, Me., August 29. I suffered severely from back trouble for years, and found no relief till I wore Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets. They cured me, and I would not be without them. MRS. H. D. BENSON.
Memphis, Tennessee, November 28. Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets have given me much relief. I suffered four years with breast trouble, without finding any benefit from other remedies. They are invaluable. MRS. JAS. CAMPBELL.
De Witt, N. Y., June 11. I have an invalid sister who has not been dressed for a year. She has worn Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets for two weeks, and is now able to be dressed and sit up most of the time. MELVA J. DOE.
Chambersburg, Pa., October 8. I found Dr Scott's Electric Corsets possessed miraculous power in stimulating and invigorating my enfeebled body, and the Hair Brush had a magic effect on my scalp. MRS. T. E. SNYDER, Fancy Goods Dealer.
South Abington, Mass., July 8. Dr. Scott—My sister and I are very much pleased with your Electric Corsets. They have given us great satisfaction. For weak stomach and nervousness they are unexcelled. I have felt uncommon well since wearing them, and can confidently recommend them. FLORA E. COLE.
Niles, Mich., January 5, 1885. Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets have cured me of acute dyspepsia, from which I had suffered for eight years. His Electric Hair Brush cures my headache every time. MRS. WM. H. PEAK.
Princeton, Minn., June 5. Your Corsets have accomplished wonders in my case. I was previously thoroughly incapacitated, and could not help myself. I have worn your Corsets now for two weeks, and I am able to be up and around, helping to do housework, etc. My friends are astonished. With many thanks, etc., JULIA J. MCFARLAND.
Streator, Ills., January 7. Dr. Scott—Your Electric Corsets are beautiful in appearance, wonderful in effect, and elegant in fit and finish. M. J. BRIGGS.
2121 Henrietta St., Philadelphia, Pa., Nov. 21, 1884. Dr. Scott—Your Corset has cured me of rheumatism of and around the kidneys. W. H. UPSHUR.
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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HOW WE DID IT.

BY MARGARET B. HARVEY.

That is, How We, Us and Co. did it!

"Let's tell all about it," said We.

"It wouldn't interest anybody but our own people," remonstrated Co.

"Oh, but it would," contradicted Us, emphatically, "somebody would care to hear how we decorated our chapel."

"Not exactly how *we* decorated *our* chapel," corrected We, "but how a struggling little mission created beauty out of unpromising materials."

"That's it," agreed Us, "you know that everybody likes to read articles about 'how we decorated our home,' and so forth, but nobody follows out such an article in every detail—still, an article of the kind is likely to suggest something that *will* suit the reader, and that the reader can do."

"Of course," chimed in We, "so some one, who don't belong to our church, may be interested and helped, as well as some one who does, directly or indirectly."

"But, we haven't done anything worth speaking of," declared Co., "besides, some churchly authorities may pounce down upon us, and tell us that we haven't been strictly correct in our attempts at decoration."

"That's just like a man," exclaimed We, "We are glad that Us and We are a woman!"

"You've done wonders, and can't see them," asserted Us, "but We and Us are going to give you credit, anyhow."

"If church authorities and ecclesiastical artists don't like what we have done, flashed out We, indignantly, "let them do better."

"That's so!" assented Co., with surprising warmth. That was coming close home—he had said the same thing himself, not a great while before.

"Let them remember, too," went on We, "that we are a weak, struggling organization, and, if we don't always know what is the correct thing, the people here are no wiser than we are."

So it was agreed that We might be the one who could tell all about it. Not through the columns of a church magazine or paper, for fear the church authorities on decoration might find it out, and say we were wrong—but, through a publication which might reach industrious, earnest, beauty-loving women, throughout our country, who enjoy having pretty homes, and would like to put a little of the same loveliness into the too-often bare and dreary village churches, in which they meet weekly, or oftener. Or, if they could only make use of the ideas gained, in further decorating their homes, all very well—it is a most inefficient church which cannot give us something to take home with us.

We hadn't a church, even, to begin with—only a big barn of a room, in a dilapidated hall—some of our neighbors wouldn't so much as *call* us a church—the fashionable residents of our village generally went elsewhere to worship. We had the hall rented, but not half congregation enough to fill it—benches, in plenty, however, to seat them, a lot of ricketty settees borrowed from the Odd Fellows. We had ugly, gray, stuccoed walls, rough floor, staring white paint, half-a-dozen bare windows, a battered table, and an old reading-desk which, evidently, had been intended for a pulpit. Nothing else worth mentioning, except a squeaky, broken-pedalled cabinet organ. So, you see, you can't be much worse off than we were. What *could* we do to make the place more attractive? How could we expect our congregation to grow, if the hall repelled by its intolerable dreariness?

Co. thought the first thing to be done would be, to paint the interior. "Oh, what a waste!" cried Tom, Dick and Harry, "those hall-people had better save their money for a new church—the hall is clean, at any rate." "We want a respectable-sized congregation before we build a church," retorted the hall-people, "and while we have the hall, we can make it *look* like a church!" That was Co.'s idea, exactly—and he thought it was just as easy to have it beautifully painted, as not—beauty costs no more than ugliness does.

"But village-painters can't do it!" said Tom, Dick and Harry. "Village-painters can do it—with proper direction," insisted Co. "And they won't charge fancy prices for doing it. Give me authority to spend so much, and I'll promise to keep within it—but I'll give you more than you bargain for. I'll send to the leading authorities on fresco-painting and wall-decoration, for the latest information on the subject—and it will be strange indeed if I can't direct a few village mechanics."

Nobody had thought of that. Village people, who want improvements, generally allow village mechanics to direct *them*. The result is, very often, interiors of the white pasteboard-box order. The hall, now, was like a dirty gray one, on the inside—anybody else than Co. would have considered that it had reached a high degree of perfection had the supposed gray paper been suddenly bleached. What was the surprise, then, to Tom, Dick and Harry, and the hall-people, too, when they saw the result of Co.'s direction of village mechanics, and learned that he had spent less than a hundred dollars!

The ugly walls, and bare floors, and staring wood-work had disappeared forever. The walls were colored a dark red, with a dado of olive, headed by a row of chocolate-brown stencilled stars. The floor and wash-boards were covered with walnut stain, and the old pulpit had been likewise transformed. Co. had had several brilliant ideas—one was, to secure some discarded pews and a prayer desk from some old church. The desk had been stained, and the pews painted buff and brown, to represent oak, with walnut trimmings. The deep cardinal carpet, on platform and aisle, Co. had bought and tacked down himself. All was in exquisite order, the old tables and other nondescripts being hustled out of sight.

Co. had done wonders—and now both Tom, Dick and Harry, and the hall-people themselves, began to imagine that they had agreed with him all the time. We and Us certainly had, and Co. knew it—now was our chance to co-operate. The organ was tuned, and when We took charge of it, we were surprised to find what a sweet-voiced instrument had long been spoiled by a squeak and a broken pedal. So, perhaps, reader mine, may you discover the neglected possibilities of the instrument, the hall, and the village with which you have to do.

And now that our neighbors seemed to realize that there was something *to* which they could give, gifts began to come in—from the hall-people, but also from Tom, Dick and Harry. One thought that rich red shades for the windows would be very useful, and would harmonize most effectively with the walls, woodwork and carpet. Another, that a dorsal hanging would be very elegant, in appearance, at least—this was simply a roughly woven curtain, of red, with olive border, depending from rod and rings, like a straight *portiere*, behind the prayer desk and pulpit. You can make one quite as handsome, from a piece of maroon canton-flannel—the same material can be used in a variety of ways for church purposes.

But what could We and Us do?—Co. was the head and front of everything so far. But Co. had exhausted his resources for the present—not so, any woman who knew any of the Kensington stitches. We and Us could embroider the needed drapery for pulpit and prayer desk. This granted, then We, Us and Co. could co-operate most beautifully.

Perhaps you will be in some just such a fix as we were. A very little money to spend, a fear that recognized churchly authority would pounce down upon us for being artistically incorrect, and a certain knowledge that church furnishers charged a great deal more for their wares than we could afford to pay—why, the plainest *ante-pendium* costs about $15. Still, we determined that we would have two sets—one in green and red, the other in red and gold—each consisting of hanging for the pulpit, smaller hanging for the prayer desk, book-markers for Old and New Testament, and mat for alms basin. (Oh yes,—this last was Co.'s own gift, the work of a sensible young lady, who, instead of confining her efforts in *repousse* metal work to ugly, useless plaques, had created a thing of beauty from a piece of copper—it contained the letters I H S, a text in antique capitals, and a spray of passion flowers. Mind that, girls—perform lovely works, but dedicate them, also, to good purposes.) We wanted two sets, even if we couldn't purchase approved ones,—even if we missed the exact shades and seasons. The green set might be managed. And it was. A half-a-yard of olive green dress cloth, and a quarter of a yard of dull red, double-width, cost us less than a dollar, and were just as effective as elegant broadcloth. We didn't go to the church furnishers, nor to the cloth house, but to the retail dry goods store. Imported, Kensington floss we didn't want—the ordinary embroidery silk, of domestic manufacture, was quite good enough. But the question of fringe puzzled us—the authorities said that only plain, old-gold colored silk, or bullion fringe would do—it could not be bought ready-made, but must be ordered from the church furnisher, or factory. We believed this, until we learned better—we found that the manufacturer of Masonic and Odd Fellows' regalia, could supply us immediately with just what we wanted, at a merely nominal rate. The pulpit hanging was a rectangular piece of the olive-green cloth, measuring about one yard in length, and one-half yard in width. The upper part was intended to lie upon the pulpit, under the Bible, the lower, to hang straight down, in front. Upon this portion were the applique letters I H S cut from red cloth, the edges embroidered over with old gold silk, in double chain-stitch. The lowest edge was finished with old-gold silk fringe, under which was a stiff facing of crinoline—the other edges were simply hemmed. The hanging for the prayer desk was about half the size, and was very similar, except that the ornament was a red cross, in applique, edged with double chain-stitch, and completed by diverging rays, in couching. The mat consisted of a circle cut from the green cloth, with a red Maltese cross, applique; border of gold, in button-hole stitch, with heading of Point Russe, cross-stitch, and herring-bone, in red, white and gold. The book-markers were of olive-green ribbon, the gro-grain side turned outward. Each was a yard in length. Upon the end of one was embroidered, in satin stitch, the monogram I H S, in red, white and gold; on the other, a cross, with rays, all in gold. In embroidering ribbons, the back of which may show, always turn up a deep hem, after completing the embroidery, to hide the wrong side. Both ends, of each ribbon, were finished with fringe, like that on the hangings. The whole set cost us something under $3.50—we could not have bought it for less than $30.

When this beautiful set appeared in the hall, our delight knew no bounds. It seemed to give the finishing touch to the now thoroughly transformed chapel. But We and Us thought that there was still something left for us to do. Why not try floral decoration? We could—we would keep the pulpit supplied with treasures from our native flora, from early spring until time for Christmas evergreen. And so we did—and not until we had done all that we promised, did the churchly authorities tell us that the pulpit was not the place for flowers, and that we should not have used celery glasses on soup-plates, as we did, for only brass vases were permissible for altar decoration. But, then, we had no altar—we were never recognized as a church at all, only a chapel—we hid the water receptacles with our lovely sylvan beauties—and these made the chapel a little more attractive, and so induced people to come into it, to admire and enjoy when they came—so that, after all, no great harm was done. If it is proper in your church to decorate the pulpit, or if you have a correct altar with brass vases, or if you want to arrange flowers in the most effective way, on your own bracket or table at home, perhaps you may profit by the experience of We and Us.

In the Middle States, the native flora can be depended upon for every day in the year, but particularly from March to the end of December. In March, you may find a few sprays of trailing arbutus, or a venturesome hepatica or anemone. The mosses are now at their best, and the few early blossoms may be arranged in a flat dish, upon a bed of moss, a border of ground pine, or the vine of the partridge berry hiding the edge of the dish. As flowers grow more abundant, they may be arranged in masses of color, the paleat being at the top for high lights. A vase, stood in a plate, gives abundant opportunity for the exercise of artistic taste, as both vase and plate may be entirely hidden, and give the effect of a pyramid, or a column resting upon a broad vase. A border of fern, a bunch of trailing vines dropping from the base, and a background of reeds and grasses, are very beautiful. Take everything at its height. That is, don't use the red leaf or berry that you find in July—wait until later, when you will have to depend upon leaves and berries for all your reds—take the cardinal flower now. You need not use clover, either, until November—then it has become a beautiful rarity, while in December, the yellow dandelion, neglected as common in May, is as choice as a miniature sun. Despise nothing that grows—We and Us were often amazed at the wonderful effects created from flowers, leaves and fruit, which seemed to promise little.

The common wild carrot would scarce occur to you as valuable—but massed as it can be, it is as exquisitely dainty as the lightest, purest swan's down. Not a coarse, ungainly swamp flower lives in vain. You have seen the tall, purplish joe-pie—but did you know that a joe-pie head, or several of them, placed alone in a vase, may be compared to a puff of mist? Golden-rod and aster have been appropriated by artists and florists, long ago—but you do not, perhaps, know how beautiful the pappus, that is, the down, is. The golden-rod, gone to seed, has both the effect and the tint, of the real ostrich feather, in its natural state; while the aster mimics a lot of silvery balls of fur. The tassel-like, dull red blossoms of the alder may be found all winter long. Red berries we have in abundance—those of the asparagus, sassafras, spice-bush, dog-wood, sumach and bittersweet; this last, with those of the partridge berry, remaining red until the following spring. In addition to the better-known evergreen leaves, we have those of the tea berry, wintergreen and hepatica; mosses, gray and green, lichens, club moss and ground pine, evergreen ferns, as the Christmas fern, shield fern, and polypodium, from one winter to the next. The milleifoil, or yarrow, and everlasting are about the latest of composite flowers, and these are as available as the chrysanthemums of the garden. Winter decorations are more graceful and satisfactory if arranged flat; one showing a border of evergreen fern and ground pine, with center of moss and red berries being very beautiful. Ferns, mosses, red berries, alder blossoms, and everlasting flowers, are often quite elegant, when giving variety to the conventional Christmas cedars and laurels.

A few months passed, and our chapel gained in popularity. Then somebody said that the proper season for our set of green draperies, was rapidly waning—the time for the red ones was coming, if we were ever going to have them. But it was the same old trouble—not half enough money. Cloth, of the proper shades of red and old gold were expensive—they did not come in the low priced dress cloths. Despairingly We and Us wandered through several big establishments, vainly hoping to find something that might be made to do. Suddenly, we *were* struck with a bright idea—why not try the flannel counter? French pressed flannel looks like cloth, and it can be lined with silesia, to make it heavy enough. Yes, here was the very shade of red required—not garnet, but deeper than cardinal. But, what could we do for old gold?—the only choice seemed between canary yellow and fawn brown.

"What a lovely piece of Jersey cloth!" We and Us exclaimed, as our wandering eyes caught sight of a gay fabric, striped with navy blue, cherry red, and old gold. Old gold! Here was the very shade—but, alas! in narrow stripes. But, what could we do with gold-colored cloth if we had it?—cut it, wouldn't we, into small stripe for applique letters and crosses? Why not cut these old gold stripes out of the Jersey cloth, to lay on the red? Half a yard would give us quantities of stripes, ten times as much as we could use.

Two happy thoughts at once! Now for a third. Bullion fringe is now largely used to accompany tinsel embroidery—why not get some at the art-needlework counter? We could work the monogram X P, in violet and white, in satin stitch. This set was very much more elaborate than the other, because the Jersey cloth was so thick and fuzzy that it required a great many stitches to keep it in place. But it cost us considerable less than the other. Who, then, wouldn't have elegant decorations for her church, when they can be made with no more time, trouble, or expense than would be required for an ordinarily handsome tidy or sofa-cushion? If our green set was actually worth $30, our red one would be valued at $50. The embroidery on this one being heavier than on the other, required an interlining; this was not put in until the work had been dampened and carefully pressed on the wrong side, to take out every vestige of puckering.

Everything, then, in the old hall had been changed for the better. Yes, we have even done away with that miserable makeshift, so common in little churches and Sunday schools, everywhere, of raising an organ seat to its proper height by piling upon it a lot of old books. Our organist always knows just where she is going to find her elbows, before she strikes the first chord; and she knows that she won't discover her feet in vacancy, instead of on the pedals. We have fixed all that by placing a nice carpet hassock on a chair, just where it is expected to stay. Because you have not done this may be the reason why your organist is sometimes flurried and uncertain. No one can play well with drooping elbows, and with feet dragging off the pedals.

This is what We, Us and Co. have done. We hope that it has interested and helped some who are not of our people, as well as some who are. It seems to us that few can have as little to begin with as we had—so it seems that others may meet with even greater success.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MATTIE'S VISIT TO THE CRUST MOUNTAINS.

BY LIZZIE MAY SHERWOOD.

Mattie Preble was an adopted daughter of old Captain John Preble. There were various stories, some of not very complimentary to the captain's honor, as to how, and where he had found the child, but the curious were left to their own conjectures, as must also be the reader, for neither the captain or his wife seemed inclined to throw any light on the subject. Mattie had seen scarce two years when she was brought to the captain's wife, after one of his long voyages, a merry, black-eyed, laughing sprite, who filled the great, and hitherto lonely house with sunshine. Even the blank face of poor Julia, the maid-of-all-work, to whom Nature had been sparing of her best gifts, would light up with a pleased smile whenever the little tot came round, asking questions that her dull intellect found it impossible to comprehend, to say nothing of answering.

Unfortunately for the child, her foster-mother, from some disputed reason, became partially insane, and for four or five years, when Mattie needed most the teaching and wise counsel of a mother, the poor woman was confined to her room, not even seeing, or caring to see, the members of her own family. Mattie was consequently left to the care of servants, and an irritable spinster aunt, or rather sister of Captain Preble, who had no patience with children or their ways. She took no pains to teach her even the slightest household duties. So Mattie found, when Henry Thayer, a young and enterprising farmer asked her to help him enjoy life in his neat brick farmhouse, that she was deplorably ignorant of all that constitutes a good housewife. True, she could rattle off scores of "quick pieces" on her Steinway; she could sketch and paint fairly, was perhaps a little above an average scholar; could do all sorts of fancy work; could talk little nothings to you by the hour, in a most captivating way, yet to save her life she could not make a decent cup of coffee, a loaf of bread, or even a batch of biscuit, and not until Henry had asked the momentous question did she realize her utter inability to do her part as his wife. She was an honest little thing, however, and frankly gave him the worst, fearing, yet almost hoping, he would "go by on the other side" and leave her to her fate. But her sparkling eyes, rosy lips, and merry, happy ways were more than Henry could withstand. "Never mind, Mattie," said he, wiping her tears (for she could not help crying over her ignorance,) with his own handkerchief, "I am able to hire some one to do all those things you speak of, and if you are really desirous to learn, my aunt Jane is almost a perfect housekeeper, without their disagreeable, fussy ways, and she will be only too glad to teach you anyanything. You will love her, I know. I am not asking you to be a drudge, and slave your life out on my farm. I want some one to love, and that will love me always, and brighten up the dull monotony of my life. I have found that one in you, dear Mattie. You must be mine."

Of course she could not say "No," and her "young eyes hopefully glad and clear" gave him his answer. And now she set about learning in one short year what should be acquired in ten. Naturally quick to learn from observation, by keeping her eyes and ears open, and a question now and then, she gained many useful hints. About this time also, partly from favor, and partly for Mattie's sake, Captain Preble invited the new minister, Mr. Shelburne, and his bride, to board at his house. Mrs. Shelburne, though scarce one year Mattie's senior, and a school teacher, possessed a general knowledge of most everything, and was consequently a great help to Mattie in many ways. Yet, notwithstanding all this, when the time came for Mattie to assume the responsibilities of Henry's home she felt very incompetent indeed. However, there was now no reasonable escape, even if she had wished it which she certainly did not, and so she found herself one evening, clad in pure white, her cheeks flushed, her heart fluttering, listening to the deep tones of Mr. Shelburne's voice, as he pronounced her Henry's wife. There were tears in her fine eyes as she left the dear old home to seek the new. But she went forth courageously, resolving to do what she could to make herself worthy so good a husband. And now a year of her wedded life had come and gone. It had not been "all honeymoon" by any means. We wonder why that term should be applied to the first few months of married life. Surely the little knowledge that each has of the others' real character and disposition makes life less satisfactory than in after years when both have learned each other well. The secret of knowing how to live peaceably, profitably and harmoniously does not come to one in a month or a year. So Mattie's first year had its sorrow as well as its sunshine, its blue skies as well as its dark threatening ones, though no storm was ever allowed to culminate. She had learned a great deal from experience, she still had a great deal to learn. A part of the time she had help part of the time she was unable to secure the right kind, and so had to rely on her own resources. But she was the same joyful, happy creature, and the very light of her husband's eyes. His love was not so blind, however, that he could not detect certain defects in Mattie's management. He observed an inclination to waste little things. She seemed careful enough of the quantities, but the mites had to look out for themselves. She appeared to have no faculty of remodeling, or working old things into new as his aunt Jane had—Henry never knew a mother—and how could she! when at home her garments became defaced they were given away, and replaced by new ones—that was one lesson in economy she had yet to learn. Of course to Henry's thrifty, business-like nature these revelations were very annoying. He knew it was a leak in his domestic ship which in time meant disaster, but he did not fly into a rage and tell her with white lips and set teeth that she was extravagant; that she had no faculty for anything profitable; that she would be the ruin of him and his property; that he had been grossly deceived, and had made a gigantic mistake in marrying her; that if matters were left to her management they would all end in the poor-house. No indeed! He was a young man, but a wise one, and knew that such a course would only send he and his beloved Mattie drifting apart. Her love and respect he must have at any cost. He knew she was trying faithfully to become the model wife she had pictured herself. When he took her "for better or worse" he had left a broad margin for defects, and was not so much surprised at discovering them. He knew they could be remedied in time, and he knew of no one so capable of bringing it about as his Aunt Jane.

Uncle Enoch, Aunt Jane's husband, was often called away from his home. Sometimes three and four weeks at a time, and on one of these occasions, Henry requested Aunt Jane to spend the time with them. Few if any words had ever passed between them concerning Mattie as a housekeeper, but there was a perfect understanding, and Aunt Jane knew as well as if Henry had told her, that the grand object of her visit was to benefit Mattie. She came, and with many a silent prayer for direction in the wisest way she began her work, slowly and cautiously, for it is a delicate task to interfere with other people's concerns. Mattie loved dearly the motherly old lady, and was always pleased to receive any suggestion from her, which of course helped Aunt Jane in her good work.

"Now Mattie," said she, the next morning after her arrival, laying her hand gently upon her shoulder, "I am at your service whether it be dressmaker, Bridget, housemaid or cook. You are working too hard, my dear; the roses are paling in your cheeks,—a thing we cannot allow. Suppose, just for the novelty of the thing, and to give you the rest you so much need, that I play hostess, and you company. I know just what to do, and understand so well Henry's tastes, that there will be no trouble in that direction. You shall lie in the morning as long as you wish; you may ride, walk, or swing in your hammock; in fact you are at liberty to spend your time in any way the most pleasurable to you, but the work, and necessary care attending it must be left to me, the next four weeks."

Mattie had her arms around Aunt Jane's neck by this time, and grateful tears glistened in her dark eyes, as she made reply. "You are too kind, dear Aunt Jane, but I couldn't, oh! I never could let you do all there is to be done. It would be cruel; besides, I would not treat the only mother my husband ever knew in that way for worlds."

"Not even if it is her earnest wish! Well, Mattie, we will not waste words over the subject, you simply *must*," and she added, laughing: "when I said 'must' to Henry, dear boy, he knew there was an end to controversy. You must begin now, this very morning, by getting ready for a delightful ride to Alton. I heard Henry say he must go there to-day. And do you know, dear, the glimpse you will get of nature's beauty from the top of the high hill just this side of the town will repay you if nothing more. I had the driver halt some minutes yesterday, while I sat still and drank in the scene. The early frost, though so damaging to some of the farmers, has clothed our New England forests with unusual splendor, and from that particular spot the brilliant panorama stretches as far as the eye can reach, while nestling in a perfect bower of crimson, and amber and gold, is the village, with its lofty spires and glistening roofs."

"Well done! Bravo! Aunt Jane you're a born artist. See, you've sent the blood tingling through Mattie's cheek even with your description. Well, ladies, I humbly beg your pardon, but I have been an unintentional listener to your conversation the last half hour, having been in the next room dashing off some business letters, and Aunt Jane I must say I thank you from my heart, and sincerely endorse and second the proposition you have just made my little wife, and Mattie," coming to her side and throwing his arm around her, "you must not on any condition refuse so philanthropic an offer. Away, dear, get on that bewitching suit of brown, you wear, and we'll be off in a twinkling."

"Oh! Aunt Jane," said Mattie, as she sat at her dinner table, refreshed and invigorated, with sharpened appetite after her ride, "how did you make this delicious pudding, and of what, please?"

"It is very simple indeed, my dear," Aunt Jane replied, filling Henry's cup with coffee for the third time. "Only a few stale pieces of cake I found in your jar which needed to be used at once, the yolks of two eggs, a little sugar and milk. After baking an hour or so I beat up the whites of the two eggs, and with here and there a touch of your nice jelly my pudding was complete. I really have no recipe for such things. Use my brains largely. It is surprising, if one only gives a little thought to such trifles how many appetizing dishes can be made from very meagre materials. You know the oft-quoted idea that a French cook will get up a nice dinner from what the ordinary American cook will waste."

Mattie felt the least bit condemned, for if the truth were known she had that very morning intended throwing those same pieces of cake out to the chickens, but in the change Aunt Jane had made in the order of things generally had forgotten to do so.

The next day she begged the privilege of overseeing the dinner herself, and it so happened she had good success. Her pudding was delicious, too, a trifle too rich Aunt Jane thought, for health, though she praised it, and the dinner as well; but when after dinner she asserted her right, and sent Mattie away while she tidied up

(*Continued on Page 14.*)

Hay Fever.

This malady is an index of a condition of the system which should be thoroughly changed. That this is possible is shown by many letters from patients. The following is an example:

From Rev. J. T. Taylor, Warrenton, N. C., Oct. 21, 1885.—"Some time in August I ordered a Treatment of Oxygen for my aunt. She had suffered with hay fever regularly every year for fifteen years. When I ordered the Compound Oxygen her annual attack of hay fever had already commenced, and as you did not promise relief after the commencement of the attack, we were not very hopeful. But to our astonishment and joy the Oxygen relieved her at once, and only on one evening after she commenced the Treatment, and then only for a few hours, did she have any considerable trouble with her hay fever. Though she really had hay fever, it was so slight after she commenced using the Oxygen, that she was scarcely conscious of it. I do not know what Compound Oxygen will do for hay fever in general, but this case of fifteen years standing was mastered by it. You are at liberty to use this in any way you may see proper, for the good of hay fever victims. I believe it will cure hay fever. It did it in this case at any rate."

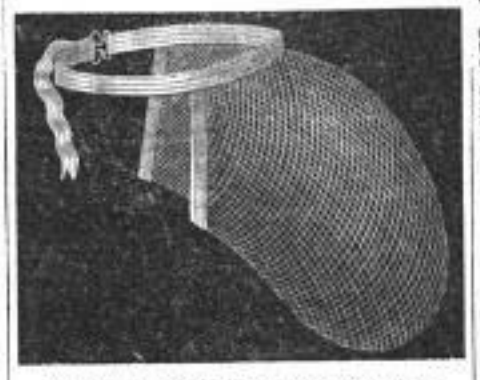
Drs. STARKEY & PALEN, 1529 Arch St., Phila., Pa., publish a monograph on Hay Fever which is sent free to all interested. Numerous cures are reported.

Try kissing your children when they do right, sometime, instead of punishing them when they do wrong, and see how it will work. Rather let the punishment be the witholding of reward.

Send ten cents for a copy of "His Letters from Tallahassee," in a neat and attractive pamphlet. FLORIDIAN, Tallahassee, Florida.

Hundreds of families in the city have used Payson's Ink for marking linen for thirty years, and will buy no other.

THE LADY WASHINGTON



Patented Aug. 25, 1885; Jan. 19, and Feb. 23, 1886.

This Bustle is made of plated steel wire, braided into a TORSION Spring, which gives it great strength and pliability.

It gives universal satisfaction, and is one of the most POPULAR of our

Braided Wire Bustles.

If you do not find it at the stores we will send you a sample by mail, postpaid, for 75 cts. Made only by the Weston & Wells Mfg. Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

STOKES, THOMPSON & CO., Agents,

235 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

"I NEVER!"

Ladies, we make a specialty of giving Premiums for the forming of Tea Clubs. Now is the time to get up orders for our celebrated TEAS and COFFEES. Teas of all kinds, from 30 to 75 cts. per pound. We defy the world on price and quality. No house can give the same quality of goods and premiums as we do. We have a host of useful and ornamental articles to select from. Send us your address (mention this publication) and we will mail you our Illustrated Price and Premium List, and full particulars. Address NATIONAL TEA & COFFEE CO., Washington St., Boston, Mass.

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ONLY $6.50. STEM WINDING, PENDANT SET.

WARRANTED TO STAND ALL ACID TEST.

A Bonded member of the celebrated American watches. Heretofore a low-priced watch has been the poorest of investments, being of no value as a time-keeper and a constant source of annoyance and expense to the owner. This watch is a marvel of accuracy and cheapness, and I am now for the first time in the world's history able to offer a low-priced, perfectly reliable time-keeper suitable for use on railroads, steamers and all other places where accurate time is required.

The movements are genuine American, make known the world over for their excellence and fine finish, having expansion balance, straight line escapement, gilt index to overrunning regulator, exposed pallets, safety winding barrel, quick train making 18,000 beats to the hour, which gives it advantages over the cheap cheap watches with which the market is flooded. We do not claim it to be as cheap as the many worthless imported watches, but do claim it to be the best watch ever offered in this country, and one that ordinarily retails for $25.00. The cases are snap jointed and dust-proof, 14 karat solid gold rolled plate which I guarantee to stand all acid test. We guarantee it to keep excellent time and send a written guarantee for two years and give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Sent by mail charges all prepaid, for $6.50. To show that we are head-quarters for watches: Waterbury Watch, $2.00; fine Lever Nickel Stem Winding Watch, $3.00; Cylinder, $2.50; Rockford Quick Train Watch in Iron, Solid Silversoie Case, for $7.00; Elgin, $6.00; American Watch Co., Waltham, Mass. in Solid Nickel Case, $5.75; fine Ladies' Swiss Watch, $4.00. Will send any of above watches C. O. D. to examine, if $1.00 is sent with order. Elegant illustrated catalogue, 2 cts. Address, WILLIAM WILLIAMS, 121 Halsted Street, Chicago.

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Young people are born naturalists. Their first inquiries are in regard to the attractive objects of nature around them; and their future mental activity—or stupidity—depends largely upon the answers they receive.

Parents and primary teachers should, therefore, be able to encourage and satisfy the first cravings of their minds. To aid in this, and to afford abundant entertainment more pleasing than toys, far cheaper and more instructive than mere amusement, I offer for the trifling

sum of 85 cents, delivered free of cost to any home, my Juvenile Cabinet, size 8 1-2 by 6 1-2 inches, containing a set of 40 Mineral Specimens, regularly and systematically arranged. The objects consist of Gold, Silver, Zinc, Copper, Iron Ores, Topaz, Amazon Stone, Feldspar, Quartz, Cuprite, Iceland and Satin Spars, Cornelian, Selenite, Variolite, Magnetite, Fluorspar, Chalcedony, Petrified and Silicified Woods, and 21 others equally rare and desirable. The specimens in this Cabinet are contained in a strong and neatly finished paste-board box, divided into 40 sections (see illustration), in which the objects are affixed. A descriptive manual is sent with each Cabinet, giving the history, properties and uses of the different minerals and gems.

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J. S. OGILVIE & CO., 31 Rose St., New York.

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We will send 48 pieces New Music, full size, finely printed, including all the Gems from the latest operas, both Vocal and Instrumental, for only 22 cents if you will agree to show the music to your friends and tell them of our offer. At cents per piece these pieces would cost $2.40, while we offer all at less than one-tenth of that price. The selections include Waltzes, Polkas, Marches, Operatic Songs, Ballads, etc., etc. The collection is carefully selected and will please all who may send. We will send the 48 pieces for 22 cents, three lots 50 cents, or seven lots for ONE DOLLAR. Postage stamps taken. Address all orders to the WORLD M'F'G CO., 122 Nassau St., N. Y.

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The beautiful Ladies' Hand Satchel shown in the annexed illustration is made of fine plush, with nickel-plated trimmings and silk cord handles. Ladies will find it very handy and useful for carrying small articles when going out calling or shopping; it likewise answers the purpose of a pocket book, and is an article which all will appreciate and find use for daily. We publish The Cricket on the Hearth, a large 16-page, 64-column Illustrated Literary and Family paper, filled with the choicest reading matter for the family circle, and being desirous of increasing its already large circulation to 100,000, we now make the following wonderfully liberal offer: Upon receipt of only Thirty-Eight Cents, we will send The Cricket on the Hearth for Four Months, and to every subscriber we will also send, Free and post-paid, the handsome Ladies' Hand Satchel above described. Remember, the Satchel costs you nothing; it is given free as a premium with the paper. This is a rare opportunity and a great bargain. Send with out delay. Postage stamps taken. As to our reliability, we refer to our publisher in New York. Address,

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LADIES' SOLID GOLD WATCHES!

Almost every young gentleman prides himself upon carrying a watch of some kind, and gentlemen can with perfect propriety, carry a silver watch, an imitation gold, or a nickel watch, provided it is a good time-keeper. Although ladies have the same price about carrying a watch, and take the same pleasure in doing so that gentlemen do, still the great majority of ladies do not carry watches. There are two reasons for their not doing so. First it is not considered quite the proper thing for a lady to carry any but a Gold Watch, and second, Gold Watches have heretofore been so high in price that the majority of young ladies could not afford to own one. Realizing this condition of things, we have, after much time spent in experimenting, and at great expense perfected a Beautiful Ladies' Watch, with Solid Gold Hunting cases, which we are enabled to sell at the extremely low price of FIFTEEN DOLLARS, making it the

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and placing it within the reach of almost every young lady in the land. This watch is sold by retail firms at $25.00 each and upwards, but we sell thousands and are satisfied with a very small profit. Young gentlemen who have desired to make their favorite sister or sweetheart a present of a Watch, and who have been prevented by the high price of watches from doing so, can now purchase An Elegant Gold Watch, without incurring impoverishment a whole year afterward. We make the cases of our New Ladies' Watch of Solid Gold. Elegantly Engraved, and in every truth, they are "Things of Perfect Beauty." They have no Nickel Movements, and are fully guaranteed for time. Every Watch is put up in a beautiful velvet-lined Case and sent by Registered Mail on receipt of $15.00. Or we will send the Watch C. O. D. if you send $3.00 on account, the balance to be paid on delivery. If you order before Christmas, and send full amount of cash, we will ENGRAVE YOUR INITIALS FREE OF COST. We send a Beautiful Extra Fine Gold Plated Opera or Long Chain with the Watch on receipt $3.00 additional. Send money by Registered Mail, Post Office Money Order, or Draft on New York to World Manf'g Co. 122 Nassau Street New York

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MATTIE'S VISIT TO THE CRUST MOUNTAINS.

(*Continued from Page 13.*)

things, she was surprised, to say the least, at some discoveries she made. For instance, in the basin in which Mattie had stirred her pudding she found dough enough still clinging to bottom and sides to make fully as much as she herself had eaten. She found also the dish which had held Mattie's good Johnny-cake in the same lamentable condition, while on the kneading board and in the mixing pan was dough enough certainly to make a small biscuit. She knew Mattie was not wilful in this waste, she was of a nervous temperament and anxious to do everything in the quickest time possible.

All the while Aunt Jane stood at the sink washing dishes, she was revolving in her mind the best way to approach her concerning this fault. Again she felt the consciousness of Mattie's love and trust, and she resolved to begin at once. So when less than an hour afterwards she joined her in the sitting-room, her way was clearly opened by Mattie herself.

"Aunt Jane," she said, throwing herself upon the lounge, "my head aches a little, and I do not feel like sewing, and I want you, if not too tired, to devote this afternoon to me. I was reading just as you came in, strange to say, of the delight of having a *friend* in whom we can confide.

'To praise us when we act aright,
And when we err to chide.'

"I believe you are such a friend to me. You know I trust you, and have every confidence in your motives, and you know too," and here the tears came, "how anxious I am to become a model housekeeper. I know I err in ten thousand ways, I know I waste lots of things, but it is because I do not know what to do with them. I must confess to you that I intended throwing away those very pieces of cake you used yesterday. I often throw crusts, broken slices of bread and cake out to the chickens, because I cannot bear to have them remain in my jars to mould. Now I want my dear Aunt Jane to point out to me my errors and show me how to correct them."

"Why, you precious child," returned Aunt Jane, wiping her eyes, and taking out her knitting, "you are not the terrible creature you would have me think. You do remarkably well considering the chances you had; you possess one of the secrets of success—you are willing to be taught. But since you have so kindly requested me I will speak of two or three little things that may perhaps benefit you. With regard to the crusts, and broken slices of cake and bread that must of necessity accumulate with the most careful of cooks, what could not be used for puddings I should dry in the oven, and grate them, using one of those large graters, and then put carefully away in a dry, cool place. If rolled in the grated crumbs before frying, your fish and oysters will be a most tempting brown. It will take a little time, of course, every day or so, to do this, but it will repay in the end, my dear. The successful merchant, or business man or woman, in any sphere, is the one who looks carefully after the de ails, and the minor things. Look after the mites, and the quantities will look after themselves. Now, a good way to view these matters is this: You look at a small crust, or a bit of bread or cake that has become hard and stale, and it seems so little, such a trifling thing, so to save it from a mouldy fate, away it goes out of the window to your bantams. Of course it is not wholly lost, but it is wasted because it might have been utilized for yourself; hence I say a good way to look at these things is in quantities. Suppose you throw away only a half slice of bread, or cake, or a small crust every day, only think, if all you disposed of in that way were left untouched, what a mountain of fragments would stare you in the face. This morning you felt nervous and hurried over your dinner, and when you turned your pudding and Johnny-cake into the baking tins, you could not wait to clean carefully all the dough from the bottom and sides of the dish. Perhaps you will not believe me, but I really filled your large mixing spoon twice from each dish. Just once, it seems a trifle, but when repeated day after day, only think what a perfect quagmire of dough would be accumulated in a lifetime."

"Oh! Aunt Jane," laughed Mattie, "you have such a practical way of putting things. I never saw it in that light before. I am truly panic stricken, or would be, if I could this moment see my 'crust mountain' and 'quagmire.' I dare not think of it. I don't believe I'll ever attempt anything of the kind again."

Aunt Jane laughed too. "I used to do very much as you are doing," she said, "when I first began housekeeping, until one day this idea came to me with great force, and do you know after that I found it impossible to waste as before, and began in right good earnest to study how to make the best use of things. Now the habit has become so fixed that I no more think of throwing away a bit of bread than a whole loaf."

And so Aunt Jane went on philosophising in her vivacious way, while Henry's stocking grew apace. But the ticking of the clock, the musical click of the knitting needles, and the soft tones of Aunt Jane's voice gradually died away, and Mattie found herself, equipped for a walk, strolling down a lane thickly studded with elms. She saw no house, neither met a single individual, and the surroundings were unknown to her; still she felt no uneasiness, but loitered on, pausing now and then to pluck the flowers that grew in such profusion and were as beautiful and fragrant as some rare exotics. The air was soft and balmy, with the dreamy haziness of early autumn, and full of melody, for thousands of birds flitted hither and thither among the overarching branches. She was delighted, entranced, and scarcely knew whether she was in the body or out of it, as she wandered on drinking in the loveliness of everything around her.

A sudden turn in the road brought to view what at first seemed a pond or pool of water. The same lovely flowers, and long graceful grasses fringed its bank, and trees of every variety and size stood sentinel over its quiet waters. Mattie hurried to the edge, feeling sure she should find her favorite lilies. Yes, there they were, scores of them, the largest she had ever seen, but the water—something was the matter with that. It was not clear and sparkling, though the sun shone full upon it. She looked more closely, and then clapping her hands laughed merrily. Her laugh echoed and re-echoed from a group of mountains on the other side.

"Aunt Jane's '*quagmire*,' I declare!" she said aloud. "It looks like a huge marble cake before baking," and again she laughed.

Just then a queer little man came running from the mountains, down the opposite bank, waved his hat a moment, and then pushing off a boat which bore a strong resemblance to a burnt biscuit, without oar or paddle, darted across the sticky mass, and stood bowing before Mattie, inviting her to take a seat in his skiff.

If she had believed in fairies she would certainly have pronounced the little creature before her one. His pants and coat were much the color of an overdone cookie, his face plump and rosy, with eyes like two round black beads, that seemed to have a habit of winking and blinking, which amused Mattie intensely. On his head he wore something that looked suspiciously like a half loaf of bread she had been obliged to dispose of secretly just the morning before Aunt Jane came. This was how it happened: She had been out all the afternoon of a sultry day, and when tea-time came felt so confident that she had not bread enough for supper that she did not wait to look, but heated herself and her kitchen unmercifully baking some inferior biscuits, when in reality a half loaf of nice yeast bread lay moulding in its jar. She found it, completely spoiled, a few days afterward, and could have declared that she beheld the same on the head of this queer little mortal, the mould looking now like rich green velvet.

While all these thoughts were passing through her mind her companion continued bowing, and urging her to get into his boat.

"You must first do me the favor," she said, looking curiously at the mountains opposite, "to state where you propose taking me, and with whom I have the honor of going."

"Oh," and his eyes snapped and winked furiously, "I thought I heard you call, and supposed you wished to visit our land—Wasteland—over yonder. I am Crustus, the King of Wasteland. You need have no fear though you came alone. We can show you some of the most wonderful mountains in the world, built by our own hands. Take a seat in my boat, kind lady, and you shall see for yourself."

In less time than we can describe it Mattie had crossed over the river, and was following her guide up the mountains. As she drew near she saw through a narrow pass between the hills clusters of quaint looking cottages, all of the same color and dimensions, the mountains rising above them like a mighty wall, completely shutting them in on every side save the narrow pass referred to. It seemed to Mattie's astonished vision that thousands of the same little creatures as her guide, were running up and down, and around these mountains, all evidently busy at work. She noticed those who came down and went out through the narrow pathway were always empty-handed, while those who were entering the city and climbing the hills carried burdens. As she was wondering what these burdens were, a roguish-faced lad rushed by with some crusts, and small bits of bread in his hands, saying as he passed his king: "Nothing from Mattie Thayer to-day. Guess her Aunt Jane must be there," and on he hurried up, up to the very summit of the nearest hill, where he seemed to deposit his crusts, and came running down again.

Mattie was startled to say the least, at this evident acquaintance with her family affairs, by this strange people; but before she could make any enquiry, she was led by her guide to one of the cottages, a little apart from the rest, which looked more like a huge mound, so completely

(*Concluded on Page 15.*)

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SEWING MACHINE RELIEF SPRING

The alarming extent to which Female Diseases prevail, and their rapid increase throughout the United States, is the subject of much study, fear and comment among the medical profession, learned men and statesmen of our land. To the great astonishment of all, it has been ascertained and conclusively proven that *not one-half of the females of this country enjoy good health!* Statistics also assert that a great majority of female diseases are caused by operating Sewing Machines; and so fully convinced of the evil have legislators become, that a bill has been introduced in the New York Senate, "forbidding females operating Sewing Machines as now constructed." Inventors of the country are now at work, and, no doubt, ere long will devise a practical method to run the machine independent of power required by the operator. While experimenting, a Relief Spring has been invented; although not entirely dispensing with foot power it lessens the labor one-half. THE RELIEF SPRING—WHAT IT IS—Seventeen feet of copper spring wire, closely coiled, making a spiral spring 18 inches in height, five-eighths of an inch diameter. Connected to a large safety hook, and a small hook upon the other. With each spring is a buckle (chain with screw eye). HOW TO PUT THE SPRING ON—Screw the chain to the underpart of the machine table, about two inches from the back, or directly above back part of the treadle. Put the small hook into a link of the chain; some require to be hooked up more than others. The spring is applicable to any machine by fastening for cents. HOW THE SPRING OPERATES—Fill in the usual position, and press down the treadle with the ball of the foot; no other pressure is required, as the spring draws the treadle up, where formerly the operator was obliged to press down with the heels, and this motion has been the most tiresome and injurious. The relief required by using the spring is demonstrated on trial. WHAT IS THOUGHT OF THE INVENTION—Never, in so short a time, has an invention won so many friends or guides opinions. Physicians and an hundreds of customers who have been using sewing machines for years, and they, in turn, send others. One of the oldest physicians expresses his views in the following letter, which is but an index to the many received by us entirely unsolicited: Evansville, La.—The Sewing Machine Relief Spring has been applied to Mrs. Hennessy's machine, and we have fully tested its merits and virtues. It does all that is claimed for it, and even more. I take pleasure in pronouncing it a labor saving and health-preserving appliance of untold worth, and decisively recommend all female operatives of machines to have it promptly attached, and thereby save aches of the spine and back. Yours truly, E. L. HENNESSY, M.D. HOW THE INVENTION WILL SELL—We desire to obtain lady and gentleman Agents all over the country, and there is no doubt but that immense numbers of the Springs can be sold at a handsome profit to the canvasser. Our Agents report that they never miss making a sale where they find the owner of a Sewing Machine. They are more than satisfied. HOW TO SELL THEM—After receiving your goods thoroughly post yourself on the different meritorious points. Take your goods and call at each house, asking to see the machine. Place a Spring upon it, and allow the lady to try it. Once the Spring is on and properly explained, it is sure to sell. If you get a doctor's recommendation, or a newspaper to notice the invention, it will also help you, and we will send you some extra Springs; but the Springs sell without them.

PRICE LISTS AND PROFITS.

Retail price of the Spring 50 cents, for which we send sample by mail, 3 for $1.00 or $2.50 a dozen, post paid.

WHOLESALE EXPRESS PRICES.

1 Dozen,	$3 00	Sell for 10 00	Profits, $6 00
6 "	18 00	" 36 00	" 18 00
12 "	18 00	" 72 00	" 54 00

Goods sent C. O. D., if $5 advance comes with order. To parties sending all cash, we give one Spring extra each dozen, which, when sold, make your profits 50 cents more on each dozen. We desire to impress upon Agents the great merit and value of our Sewing Machine Spring, and know that many, if they could only see the Spring, would become our Agents at once. We have determined to mail, post paid, an Agent's outfit for the low price of 35 cents. Said outfit consists of one Spring and several attractive circulars. Remember the retail price of the Spring remains 50 cents, nor has there been any change in the wholesale rates. We have only made this offer to get a few more good Agents to work, knowing that large orders will soon follow. After getting the Spring, put it upon some machine—the harder running it is the better; then you will see its advantages, and can form some idea of how they will be appreciated by the people. With this outfit you can begin canvassing at once.

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No. 1—8 Pipes,
" 1x—10 Pipes,
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TRADE MARK.

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MATTIE'S VISIT TO THE CRUST MOUNTAINS.

(Concluded from Page 14.)

was it covered with creeping vines, and flowers of every variety and hue. A gay flag floated above it, and soft strains of music came from within. A dozen canaries twittered and sang, apparently trying to outdo their more favored neighbors. Two lovely children ran down the steps as Mattie and her companion drew near. "Welcome, good lady, to the home of King Crustus," her guide said, doffing the half loaf, and bowing very low.

"On heaven and on thy lady call,
And enter the enchanted hall,"

Mattie thought as she crossed the threshold. Everything within was as wondrously beautiful as without. The king, with another bow, left her, and soon some delicate refreshment was sent her on the daintiest of trays. After a short time his highness again appeared looking quite regal in his robe of purple velvet. "Now," said he, "if you are sufficiently rested I will show you some of the wonders of Wasteland."

She followed him silently, too much bewildered even to speak. "There," said he, making a sweeping gesture with his hand towards the mountains, "would you believe all those have been built by my own men, from the little things people around us waste. Crusts of bread, fragments of meat, bits of pie and cake, anything, everything we can pick up; and thus we have built this wall of defence around our city."

"One of your men mentioned the name of Mattie Thayer as we came in. Why did he do so? and what does he know of her?" Mattie ventured to ask.

She noticed a peculiar twinkle in the round bead-like eyes as he made reply. "Oh, Mattie is one of our best customers. When she is housekeeping alone we usually get generous loads from her kitchen. This hat I wear was manufactured from a half loaf of hers. She has done more than any other to make our river yonder, which perhaps you do not know is nothing but the different kinds of dough continually wasted by housekeepers. We utilize everything, from the smallest crumb up to the loaves, for we actually get whole loaves sometimes. Look closely at the mountains. You observe they are formed layer upon layer of the fragments I have spoken of. Here are a flight of steps leading to that high tower, made wholly of slices of bread, and the top of the tower is nothing but doughnuts. Step up, please. The view you get of Wasteland from that point is truly magnificent."

Mattie followed slowly up, up, up the remarkable stairway, but just as she reached the top her foot slipped and with a shriek she fell.

"Why Mattie, dear, what is the matter? How you frightened me. I think I must have been dozing in my chair."

It was certainly Aunt Jane's voice and not that of King Crustus that Mattie heard, for she still lay on the lounge in her sitting-room.

Mattie is an old lady now with children and grandchildren, and one of the most interesting stories she has for the little ones is of her visit to Crust Mountains.

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MILDRED'S CONVERSATION CLASS.

NO. XII.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

"My dear girls," the letter ran this week, "as I am about to leave you for many months I have felt a desire to address you *all*, instead of merely writing a reply to my correspondent.

"Goodness! said Phillippa. "I mean—I wonder what is the matter. And how could she leave us any way when she has never been near us."

"I am perhaps wrong to speak of 'leaving' you when I have never even seen any of your number except Mildred, but you seem so very near to me, that I feel that I must almost have seen you during our late correspondence. However, as I am going to travel in Europe, I really *am* 'leaving' you in leaving my native country."

An exclamation of dismay went round the class, but the reader continued:

"I have noticed many things in your letters of which I have not spoken, for two reasons: want of time on *my* part, and a fear that I might *over*-teach you and require too much patience and memory on *your* part.

However, I shall at present deal with one or two mistakes in the last letter I received from one of your number.

You say "a similar one to that."

Misplaced, my dear child. You should say "one similar to that."

Again you say in referring to something, "till I had not one alike."

"What is the matter with *that* do you suppose?" questioned Phillippa, repeating the sentence to herself in an undertone.

Mildred, grown a little more quick-witted than the others, only smiled. She had detected the trouble with the sentence.

"For things to be *alike*," continued the reader, "these must be at least *two*, and not to have 'one alike,' is manifestly an absurdity. You "had not *two* alike." In other words, each one was different from the rest.

"Why of course!" exclaimed Phillippa. "How easy it all becomes when one knows all about it."

"You need not feel especially mortified," continued Edith Stocker, "in regard to this particular error, however, for it is one of the most popular among the English speaking races, but, (as I have tried to inculcate ever since I began these letters) none the less incorrect on that account.

A friend of yours, you tell me, would like to study English Grammar from the foundation but "she thinks she is too old." Too old at twenty-six! By no means, nor at thirty-six. One of the most accomplished linguists I ever knew, was a woman, already finely educated, who did not begin the study of German until she had passed *forty*. One is never too old to undertake a study of that nature if one has a taste for it. And, believe me, there are few studies in the pursuit of which one may gain more rapid ground than in that of English Grammar. By all means I advise your friend, even at twenty-six, to take up the study, feeling that it will yield not only profit but pleasure.

"How I would like for you to be here," you say. Omit the "for" and say either "How I would (should is better,) like you to be here," or, better still, "How I should enjoy your being here."

You say of "Mother and another man." I really think this must be a *lapsus linguæ*, but, for fear that such should not be the case, I will explain a little. As your expression stands, you would seem to indicate that your mother is a man. If the second party was *another* man (or man No. 2,) who was the *first* man, if not your *mother*. "Mother and a man," or "Mother and another person, a man," but not "Mother and another man."

Among your various errors I have noticed that of a strong inclination to mix your metaphors. This is a not uncommon mistake. Not long ago I read an extract from the sermon of an eloquent divine, in which extract the metaphor was changed three times in eight lines.

Even such literary light as Shakspeare and Addison have fallen into this mistake.

"To take *arms* against a *sea* of troubles," writes Shakspeare.

One "takes arms" against an advancing enemy, one does not conquer the sea by "force of arms."

"I bridle in my struggling muse with pain
That longs to launch into a bolder strain,"

sings Addison.

One neither *launches* a *horse* nor *bridles* a *vessel*, consequently the metaphor is what is termed mixed.

Hart says, (and the rule is one to be adopted and remembered,) "a metaphor having been once introduced into a sentence, all parts of the sentence should be made to conform to the figures thus introduced." So when one of you wrote: "she came steaming into the room, full sail, like a whirlwind," you certainly were dealing with a decidedly mixed metaphor. *Whirlwinds* do not move "under full sail." That motion belongs exclusively to vessels. Neither do whirlwinds steam. Neither do *vessels under full sail*, steam, as an ordinary thing.

Your sentences, too, are many of them weak, or, to use a more technical term, loose. To obviate this tendency, remember to reconstruct your sentence until you have the point, or climax, where it will be most prominent.

For instance: "He went round by the barn, instead of going by the house, which would have been much shorter," you say. His "going by the barn" was the information which you specially desired to convey.

But the lack of strength is not the only fault in the sentence above quoted. "Instead of going by the house, which would have been much shorter." Query, what would have been shorter? The house? I think not. I should prefer to word the sentence as follows: "Instead of taking the shorter path by the house, he went round the barn."

By this arrangement you give first, the minor point of that which he did not do, and finish with the more important statement of what was really done. The proper place and use of the personal pronouns is a subject worthy of careful study.

Yes, you are right and your brother is wrong. A *pair* is taken in a singular sense, even though *two* be necessary to its composition, and the sentence "That pair of horses *trots* very fast," is perfectly correct.

A combination of possessives makes a sentence loose and weak. One of you writes: "My father's sister's husband." She should say "The husband of my father's sister." One possessive should never follow directly after another. "O yes," said the servant of a friend, "I always go to my company-keeper's father's funerals." Could anything be more awkward than the foregoing sentence?

Yes, the present tense is often used to express that which is past, and such use is perfectly allowable. As in the sentence above, "One of you writes."

The truth is that one of you *has written*, but we use the present tense to express the same idea. In that case, the form of all the other verbs in the sentence must agree with it. For instance, having said "One of you writes," I must continue by saying "She should say." Had I said "One of you *has written*," I must continue, "she should have said."

One of you wrote not long ago, "I feel that I must go and I really think that it would have been right."

"It!" What! To what does it refer? To your going, is it not? If you will analyze your sentence you will see that there is absolutely no word or combination of words which can be correctly construed as an antecedent to this pronoun "it." In order to make the sentence perfectly clear, it should be altered. You should have said: "I felt that I must go, and I really think that my going would have been right." By this means you introduce a new substantive and have no need of a pronoun.

And now, my dear girls, I must say adieu. I sincerely trust that you will always remember your friend, AMANDA WILSON."

And so it was over at last, and the doubtful experiment had proved itself. So encouraged did they feel that they all ("to a man" as Phillippa said,) determined to continue their meetings without Miss Wilson's letters as a guide, and the next three months saw them still advancing.

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[FOR THE LADIES HOME JOURNAL.]

RELATIONS-IN-LAW.

BY MARION HARLAND.

The Vrooms sat in council. Madam Vroom, as many acquaintances called her, mother and widow,—and the head of the clan no more truly now than during the life-time of the late Wilhelmus Bogardus Vroom,—had the chair. The back was stiff and straight, and her spine was a right parallel with it. Her arms lay along the horizontal elbows with the expression of directing their right-angularity, instead of being supported by them. Her white hair was rolled over a cushion as Martha Washington wore hers, but the babyish benignity of the First Lady of the Land in 1786 would have seemed simplicity embodied by contrast with Madame's physiognomy. Her widow's cap was always snowy and crisp; her frills never drooped in sultry weather; the inky blackness of her bombazine had no gray shading at the seams, nor brownish blurs in the front breadth. She liked to say that she bought the best of everything and took the best of care of it when it was once hers. Her views were clear-cut, her manner of stating them firm but gentlewomanly. Mrs. Vroom was born a Roosevelt and kept the fact continually in sight.

Her married daughter, Mrs. Grimes, sat at her right.

"Helen resembles her father," Mrs. Vroom would remark, dryly, when friends commented on the dissimilarity between herself and her eldest-born.

Mrs. Grimes's prenomen was a Roosevelt family name. They pronounced it as if spelt "*Hee*-len." Nobody else ever called it thus, but being approved by Roosevelt precedent for five generations, there could be no other admissable way of speaking the word.

Hee-len Vroom-Grimes was ruddy and *risaute*. Had she been anybody else's daughter, she would have been rollicking. She saw the ludicrous side of everything, and was laughing now. Her sisters, Gertrude, Katherine (with a *K*) and Wilhelmina, were grave to solemnity. Wilhelmina, the youngest, was twenty-three. The others were twins, twenty-five years old, so much like one another, and all three so like the mother in feature, deportment and intonation that people said Nature dared not use any other pattern than the prescribed patrician dame.

The only son of the house was twenty-eight, two years the junior of Mrs. Grimes. The open letter in the mother's hand was from him, the subject before the domestic congress was announced therein.

"Of course," said Madam Vroom in the deep chest voice that made her tritest deliverance portentous, "it is not a surprise to us that Everardus contemplated this step."

She never omitted the fourth syllable from the ancestral name. By it was baptised a far-back-in-the-eighteenth-century Roosevelt in memory of "Everardus Bogardus, Dominie, of New Amsterdam," and her steadfast eyes did not wink at modern slovenliness of clipping and elision.

"His frequent absences from home on various and unsatisfactory pretexts, the reports that have reached us from time to time of his attentions at Bar Harbor and Newport, to this Miss—Jones"—the three single sisters sighed in concert in the palpable pause before the plebeian appellation—"must have prepared us measureably for what could not be but a shock, let it come when it might. I had other views and ambitions for My Only Son. If he had consulted me, I should have divulged them to him. He has not seen fit to do this."

The straight neck did not bend, but the drooping eyelids and compressed lips said piously and dumbly,—"The will of Providence be done!"

"Upon my word, Mamma!" began Helen, still laughing.

Mrs. Vroom lifted the hand that held the letter: "One moment, Helen! As matters stand, we have no alternative but to bow to the inevitable. It is not our custom to have family feuds, or make public the disagreements that will arise in the most wisely-regulated households."

"In short, it is part of our religion to wash our soiled linen at home," interpolated the married daughter. "Poor Everard! What would he say to the comparison!"

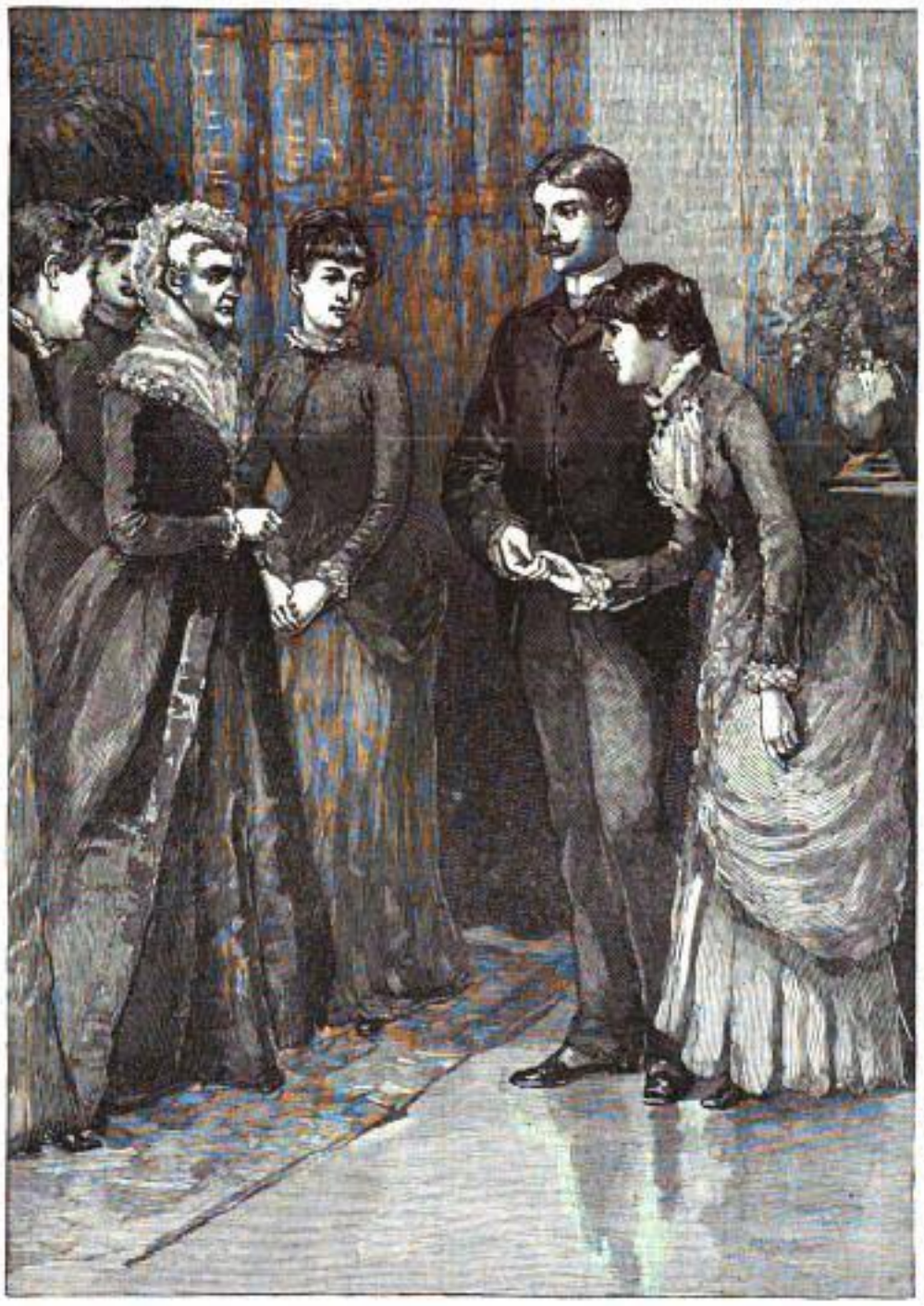
"Doubtless what your sisters and I think—that such figures are vulgar," rejoined Madam, calmly. "I repeat, this engagement is not what we could have hoped and desired for such a *parti* as My Son."

Italicized and double-breasted capitals could convey no adequate impression of the importance with which she clothed the brace of monosyllables.

The irrepressible Helen broke in again:

"Really, Mamma, don't you think this show of resignation is a *little* absurd! Ev. is a nice fellow, good-looking, sweet-tempered, well-bred, and, as you say, your son. But, taken as a naked fact,—if you will forgive the expression—he is no more desirable as a *parti* than hundreds of other New York men. As a patent lawyer, he earns less than fifteen hundred dollars a year. He told John so last week. You make him an allowance of a thousand more. Miss—Jones's father is reputed to be wealthy, but these new men are apt to hold fast to the money they have made by hard work. When he dies ——"

She checked herself abruptly. Her mother took the word with no show of displeasure.



"And my property is divided at my death, My Son may have the means to set up a suitable establishment, you would say! It has never been my desire that he should await my decease to marry. This house and a third of the income derived from the estate will eventually be his. This, I explained to him when your father died. He is, therefore, justified in bringing home a wife as soon as he chooses, and is, by virtue of these circumstances, as I have stated, an eligible *parti* for any woman."

Mrs. Grimes shrugged her plump shoulders, as a duck sheds hail-stones.

"They are to live here, then! What do you girls say to that!"

"It will not be pleasant perhaps," ventured Wilhelmina. "But, as Mamma says, it is unavoidable since they have not the means to keep up a separate establishment, and we must make the best of it. I hope Miss Jones is fond of classic music. We might learn some nice duetts."

"She was born in New Orleans. I hope she is not indolent," said Gertrude. "Most Southern women are."

"She has lived in Cincinnati for ten years, Everard says. I trust, fervently, that she has not the Western dress and manner!" shuddered Katherine. "How could we introduce her to our circle!"

"Any wife whom My Son brings home will be made welcome," Madam reminded them. "If she has faults, it will be our place to correct them, and bring down, or up, her tone to ours. We will put aside all prejudices and repugnances until we can judge for ourselves what she is. Meanwhile, Everard must be assured that we interpose no obstacles to the union. I shall make this apparent in my answer to his communication."

Which answer he read in circumstances that would have caused the heavy, cream-laid sheet sealed with the Roosevelt-Vroom-coat-of-arms to crinkle and creep with horror had it imbibed sentiency and spirit from the hand that had traced the prim characters.

Everard Vroom had been fairly described by his elder sister. Sunny-haired and sunny-faced, faultless in dress and engaging in demeanor, he made a goodly picture in the alcoved window of the Jones library, wreathed now with scarlet-and-orange creepers. The day was warm for late October and, the sash at his elbow being open, the girl perched on his knee plucked a handful of the variegated leaves and pulled them to pieces nervously while he perused his mother's manifesto.

Nellie Jones was slight, dark, and as quick in motion as a cat-bird. While not ten people who knew her, thought her pretty, she was piquantly attractive, and it was the fashion to call her "fascinating." Her conquest of the aristocratic New Yorker was wrought by the soft Southern tongue, the naive fearlessness of her speech and carriage, and a perennial play of animal spirits. Always ready for and with fun, quick of apprehension, apt with retort that amused him more than more refined wit would have done, she pleased him by her very unlikeness to the women of his sister's "circle." Another element of fascination, unacknowledged by himself, was the evident fact that she never thought of him as a "catch." Like other Southern-western girls, she had had beaux and proposals since her seventeenth year, and intimate friends among the men who liked and admired her. One of these, a platonic worshipper, had presented Everard. He was careful not to mention to his mother that the introduction took place at a swimming party in a quiet cove on the Maine coast, and that she captivated his fancy by her daring performances in the waves.

She wore her hair in a fluffy bang that gave her somewhat the look of a spirited Shetland pony, and her hands were never quiet while she talked. Her gown, this morning, was of white cashmere, confined at the waist by a striped Roman scarf. As she tore the leaves apart, she swung one foot so energetically that the slipper dropped off from a red silk stocking. Everard laughed at the sound of the fall on the polished floor, kept her in place by tightening his arm about her waist while he stooped for the lost shoe.

"Put it on!" she ordered, holding out a pretty foot.

He obeyed, releasing the member with an affectionate pat and squeeze.

"You do it as well as if you had waited in a fashionable boot-and-shoe store for years," she complimented him by saying. "Have you!"

The seriousness of the query tickled his sense of humor. Such nonsense was the more diverting for the secret speculation as to "what the girls would think and say could they hear her." The home atmosphere was potent but limited as to area. At this distance he found infinite enjoyment in such sacreligious fancies.

"What a witch you are!" he said, pulling her cheek down to his lips. "Have you no curiosity to hear what your new mother says of our engagement!"

"Curiosity! it has consumed me to ashes for the last ten minutes, but I would have perished in the fires sooner than hint it to you. "Not"—hastily interposing her hand between his eyes and the page—"that you need read a word of it unless you choose. Perhaps it would be better not to do it."

For reply, he possessed himself of the small brown hand and kissed it, then, still clasping it, began:

"'My dear Everardus ——'"

"Does she call you *that*!"

"Always."

"How funny!" with a gurgle of amusement. "Go on!"

"'As you will readily conceive, the intelligence conveyed in your last, if it did not wholly surprise, interested us exceedingly. Your sisters and I have discussed it in full this forenoon. I do not propose to waste your time or mine in giving counsel as to the propriety of mature deliberation before taking so important a step as selecting a partner for life. You are a man twenty-eight years of age, and should know for yourself how much depends upon a judicious choice. Respect for your family, one of the oldest and best in the city, state or country, and for the society that family has so long adorned, has, doubtless had due influence in shaping your decision. To believe otherwise would cast discredit upon your antecedents and environments. Waiving this point, therefore, I come to practical arrangements for the accommodation of yourself and wife ——

"O good gracious!"

The little hand was jerked from his and joined its fellow in shielding the burning face.

"What is it, pet?" queried Everard, soothingly.

"Nothing. Only it sounds so awfully realistic. Hurry on, and get the operation over. Next time, give me chloroform before you begin!"

"Where was I?" The laughing lover turned back to the letter. "Here we are!" "'your wife in the homestead. Your bachelor apartments can be converted into a handsome suite by including the guest-chamber on the same floor. The business of re-furnishing, etcetera, you will prefer to superintend in person. My taste in these respects would hardly coincide with yours, and since the whole establishment will, in the course of nature, pass into your hands before long, you should carry out your views, rather than mine, in whatever improvements you may deem expedient. All expenses attendant upon these preparations will, of course, be defrayed by myself. It is unnecessary to enter into details as you will be at home next week. Meanwhile, believe me to be, my dear Everardus,

As ever, your affectionate mother,
DOROTHEA ROOSEVELT-VROOM.'"

The brown hands were still, and so cold that the reader exclaimed as he chafed them tenderly. Nellie's eyes sought his piteously.

"Is that *all*—every word!"

"Yes, birdie. A satisfactory letter, isn't it! My mother never wastes words, but her heart is in the right place, and a more generous woman never lived. I foresee how sumptuously she means to lodge my little wife. Are those tears in your sweet eyes! Why, my beauty!"

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Her head drooped to his shoulder, a long sob broke from the heaving breast.

"O, Ev! it would alost kill me if your relatives should not like me! And don't you see there is no message in there—not one syllable for me! What can it mean?"

"Isn't there?" running his eye rapidly over the epistle. "Ah, well!" his voice falling a semitone, "they mean it all, you know. We are not a demonstrative family. Wait until they have a chance to prove their affection by deeds. I can imagine what a darling they will make of you. To be frank, our girls, although fine women, ornaments of society, and all that you know,—are made on too large a scale to be *pelfable*. You will supply a felt want in our household, midget."

CHAPTER II.

None of the Vroom ladies found it convenient to attend Everard's marriage. Cincinnati was a great way off; Mrs. Vroom had a bronchial cough that prevented her from winter travel, and her daughters professed to have their hands full in superintending the preparations for the reception and residence of the young couple.

The bridal trip was to be to New Orleans and back via Washington, Baltimore and Philadelphia. At Madam's suggestion, the travelers rested two days in the last-named city that the bride might not be too much fatigued to play her part properly at the state dinner-party given in the patrimonial mansion one month from the wedding-day.

When in exact obedience to the general's plan of operations, the ponderous chariot with coachman and footman in sober liveries, stopped in front of the Vroom homestead, at noon of February 3, Nellie alighted rather stiffly between her husband and the footman who held the door open.

"Tired, little one?" whispered Everard anxiously.

He had been *distrait* from the moment they touched the city wharf. To Nellie's sensitive imagination an impalpable something like a mist seemed to envelope him.

"Not at all. But"—squeezing his arm as they mounted the steps—"*awfully* nervous!"

"Would you mind saying 'very' instead of 'awfully,' dear? My mother has a horror of slang. You must keep all that sort of thing for our *tete-a-tetes*."

It was a rapid "aside" uttered with a constrained laugh. Even a masculine mentor could not have said a tactless thing at a more malapropos moment. Nellie's face reddened and tingled as from a blow when the heavy double-leaved door, opened noiselessly by another footman, showed a plump little woman in the hall. The careless laugh with which she met them was to the stranger's ear like the ring of shates on ice.

"How do you do?" brushing the hot cheek with cool lips. "Madam says it is a violation of *les convenances* to rush out to receive you on such an occasion. But I am lawless and perishing with curiosity to see the bride. I hope you enjoy being an "occasion" more than I did when I was married. Well, Ev!" She shook hands with him, but neither offered warmer salutation. "Come, and get it over!"

Everard had just time to say, "This is my sister, Mrs. Grimes, Nellie," before they were ushered into the drawing-room.

Madam stood on a venerable and precious rug; the twins supported her on the right, Wilhelmina on the left.

"As My Son's wife you are welcome to his mother's house," said the chest voice, rumbling more deeply than usual by reason of the bronchial affection. "My daughter! kiss your sister."

Nellie, like the educated children of most "new people" had a profound veneration for old blood and thorough breeding. Her ideals of the perfect ease and fine courtesy that obtains in "our best circles" broke and fell under the experiences of the next few hours. The family luncheon to which the party sat down as soon as the dust of travel was removed, was elegant as to fare and service, prosy and formal as to those who partook of it. Mrs. Grimes's rattle effected no more towards relieving the dullness than did Madam's ponderous periods.

The Misses Vroom were aristocratically commonplace, more than content with themselves, and in the persuasion that, if their existence and ideas ran on a dead level, the level was velvet of thickest pile and silk-backed. The mother had a powerful will and plenty of brains of a slow and solid order. Mrs. Grimes was good-natured and selfish. Having married a man of twice her age out of regard for his noble fortune, she regarded her brother's love-match with "a dark, insignificant nobody," with amused contempt, the "occasion" as a capital joke. Everard tried to laugh at allusions the wretched taste of which must be patent to his quick-witted consort.

Nellie froze into a neutral-tinted caricature of her joyous, vivacious self, heart and hope sinking into a depth of homesickness hitherto inconceivable.

This was no home-coming,—not even a "reception." The Vroom wheel revolved solemnly in an ancient and conventional groove, and she was nothing better than a bit of clay sticking to one of the spokes, she was saying bitterly to herself when she became conscious that she was the theme of Madam's discourse.

"It is an unfortunate coincidence, Everardus, that your wife's name should be the same as that of your eldest sister. I foresee many absurd complications in consequence. Have you no middle name?"

"Yes, Madam. But I do not like it. It was given to please my grandmother."

"I should have thought that a reason for *liking* it. What is it?"

Nellie gave a feeble laugh. "Jerusha. It is very ugly."

"I disagree with you. It is a respectable name and so uncommon that it will answer our purpose admirably. In the family, you will hereafter, be known as 'Jerusha.'"

Mrs. Grimes leaned back, shaking with laughter. Everard smiled uneasily.

"Really, Mother, it is hardly fair to impose upon her a name which she dislikes. Especially when her own suits her so well. She will always be 'Nellie' or 'Nell' to me."

He said it so deferentially that his wife was scantily grateful for his advocacy.

"I disapprove—*highly*—of nicknames of all kinds,' said Madam, judicially. "They vulgarize those who apply them and those to whom they are applied."

"I ought to have a vote on this question," put in Mrs. Grimes, good-humoredly. "Helen and Hee-len are sufficiently unlike to avoid confusion. It is bad enough to exchange one's surname for her husband's without being forced to sink her identity altogether. Even brides have rights."

"Nothing would induce me to mispronounce a name that has been in our family for generations!" Madam sat taller in her elbow-chair. "As to the exchange of surnames, it is sometimes a gain. But that view of the present case need not be discussed here and now."

"A palpable hit at you, Helen!" Everard hastened to say, as the blood coursed over Nellie's neck and forehead.

The parry was awkward and futile. The little plebeian's spirit was pricked to the quick. Timidity and discretion went down before it.

"I suppose," she said,—looking straight at the head of the august table—"you mean that remark for me. I am not ashamed of my patronymic. There have been as many distinguished Joneses as Vrooms, and quite as many good and honest men have been called by my name as by my husband's."

Madame never lost her temper. She left that indulgence for the lower classes. She only petrified, and her voice took on a strident quality.

"She becomes intensely gentlemanly when she wishes to become peculiarly hateful," wrote Nellie to her sister of this scene.

"I beg pardon! I do not happen to recall any eminent citizens or prominent families of the name to which you allude. Let it pass!"

(*To be Continued.*)

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

FLOWER SEEDS.

BY HARRIET PRESCOTT SPOFFORD.

(*Conclusion.*)

If I would! Of course I would. And I hurried along with him next day, my pleasure and ardor not at all abated by the wonder and disbelief and contempt of the girls, whom he didn't ask, although I should have been delighted if he had.

But I thought no more of the girls when I was once in the hall of the exhibition. The anteroom, full of startled cyclamens, plats of primroses, dishes of pansies, and great jacqueminots with half-yard long stems, was nothing beside this place of enchantment where, tier over tier, rose the weird, wondrous creatures with their threads and filaments sailing on the air, with all their beauty and diablerie, like flowers and serpents speaking together, each uncertain if it were not the other. "They resemble, more than anything else the floral ornament of the cinque-cento painting and carving," said Allen. "You think it is a fish, with all its scales and contours and colors, and suddenly it is a flower. Nature had done with work when she made them and was in a mood of wanton freak and frolic."

"See that upper one over there," I said. "It is a flower,—but how it is trying to be a bird!"

"Perhaps it is a bird," he answered, "that has just succeeded in becoming a flower."

"And there are others in disguise, trying not to seem the flowers they are, but other flowers. If they were not so cool, so calm, so refined, wouldn't you say they were full of the wildest fun, playing surprises and making jests?"

"There is a sort of dignity through it all, though, as if they were of a separate order of creation, and were only obedient to the elfin law of their being. Perhaps the dignity takes root in their prices," he added gayly.

"Are they dear?"

"Immensely so. This collection is worth thousands and thousands of dollars. They outweigh gold in preciousness."

"Oh!" and the falling accent in my voice, I suppose, told him the story of my little secret hope of wearing my old gown and boots another while, and getting some bulb or shoot or seed among them all. "Oh, that caps the whole!" I exclaimed. "That just shows they are the very spirits of flowers, to be capable of such work as outweighing gold. Perhaps they are ghosts of the dead and gone gnomes and trolls who handle the gold and gems in the heart of the hills in the fairy stories. I suppose that gnomes could have ghosts. See that scarlet fellow with the white spathe—they are the witches and warlocks of flowers. How I should like to look in here when the moon shines to-night through the great windows, and see them at their wild play all alone! If one only had ears fine enough to hear their language!"

"Do you know," said he, suddenly stopping and turning toward me, for we were in a corner by ourselves, "that you have something in common with these orchids? Yesterday a little unnoticeable body, suddenly something has clothed you to-day with a beauty lovelier than Clara's. What freak was Nature playing when she gave you this color, this smile, this sparkle, to hide yesterday and come to-morrow?"

"Oh, hush, hush!" I said. "You musn't speak to me so. Nobody ever speaks to me so. They talk so to the other girls. They don't talk so to me."

"I can think it just the same, can't I?" he said, smiling. "There you go again. The enthusiasm has died down, the flame is wrapped in grey smoke, the cloud has come over the sun; the great shining orchid that you were, with your illumined eyes and changing blush a moment ago, has turned back and become the little forget-me-not. But I have seen it before, many a time, as I looked at you out of the windows next door, when you found one of your new plants in bloom."

"I——I am sorry you said so," I murmured. "For now——perhaps I shall never feel quite free again when——when I'm there."

"Then I must never look at you out there again, and that would be a good deal more than I would like to deprive myself of," he said. "So you think I am jesting?" he said, all his old barriers suddenly seeming to give way. "Look up at me, look up at me a moment. Why do you keep those blue eyes veiled so? Lift those white lids just for one swift, shy glance, one sweet shy glance, and see if I am not in earnest." And I tried to, and my lip quivered; but determined not to yield I did raise my eyes, and out spurted the tears. "Louise!" he exclaimed, but under his breath, and standing between me and the crowd beyond. "My darling! My little darling, I didn't know, I didn't dream I was hurting you! Do you suppose I would hurt the thing I love best in the world——"

"You love best in the world!" I repeated in amazement, looking up at him through all my tears and in spite of them.

"Yes," he said. "Does that surprise you? It ought not. I have always wanted to tell you when I felt I might. Does it surprise you? Why, who is it that you love best in the world?" he asked quickly.

"You!" I said, before I thought a word. And then, when in a moment, I would have cried out at myself, and would have turned and tried perhaps to run away, "That is all right then," he said, coolly. And he took my hand and tucked it under his arm in a perfectly matter-of-fact way, and walked off with me. "You must have known I loved you," he said. "I never doubted that you loved me. After my stock is paid for, and the day for our marriage is fixed, I shall tell you all I have thought about you for this long time as I have seen you going and coming. I shall tell you I was always afraid you would put out wings like any other angel, and fly away and leave me desolate."

"I—I think you musn't—say any more to me—just now," I murmured. "I am afraid I—I shall do something—silly."

"Whatever you do," answered he, "will be the best and wisest thing a woman could do. But come! I've a greater surprise than this in store for you. For I believe you knew this all the time——"

"I—I—never dreamed of it!" I answered, catching my breath, for fear it would turn into a sob of joy. And just then we stopped before some shelves clothed in moss, and there, in several trays, in pots and baskets, were some wild flowers which I couldn't see, and a large card which I couldn't read, for the unshed tears and doubles of everything, dancing like sparks before my eyes. "I will read it for you then, my darling," he said. "'Prize for the best collection of native specimens of Orchidaceæ, Miss Louise Forrester, Fifty Dollars.' The old housekeeper and I took them up the moment you went in after watering them."

"I—I think I must go home," I half sobbed. "It is all too much for me. I don't know what the girls will say."

"I know what the President and Managers of the Horticultural Society will say," he exclaimed. "They will say: 'Buy your flower seeds of Miss Louise Forrester, at Mr. Annersley's Book and Music store.' And people will flock to buy at once, you see if they don't! so many of them that it will crowd out all the books and music. And our fortunes will be made in the twinkling of a snap-dragon seed!" And so he ran on, to direct the current of my too intense feeling. And while he was talking, there they were all about me, the President, and Managers, and the Board of Ladies, saying all sorts of pleasant things about my pretty orchises, not all of which, of course, were in bloom, asking me questions, and waiting for my replies. And before I was conscious of it, I was talking with them just as easily as with the friendly housekeeper, and telling them all the little I knew. "And I was proud of you," said Allen, when on the way home. "There wasn't one among them knew as much as you did, and nobody half so modest! You were like a little encyclopædia made easy. The President said you were already a botanist who would take rank anywhere."

"It's the dear old gentleman who taught me," I said. And then the house was near; and it seemed to lift itself so strangely and look so like another place, that at first I couldn't make out what was the matter. "Oh, the whole world has been changed, Allen!" I said. And he drew me inside the door, and in the dark hall he folded me close in his dear arms and gave me one long deep kiss,—the first lover's kiss I had ever had, the first kiss, except for Annabel's that had ever touched my lips since my dear mother died.

It seemed to me the next day as if everything were happening at once. I had hardly told the amazed girls about my prize, and I was going round the house in my light-hearted happy maze, singing with a whole heart in my songs, when the dear old gentlemen next door sent for me to come in. Allen was there, and we staid for an hour or two, and a lawyer came, and we signed our names to papers, and I don't know what and all.

When I came back Annabel was waiting for me. "I've been making you a bonnet," said she. "It made me ashamed to see you yesterday, and we flaunting about in all the finery we could catch."

"I am so glad that you did it, Annabel, before you knew," I said.

"Knew what?"

"That I am going to be married,—and to live in the country, ten miles from here, on a little farm that the old gentleman is to let us have till we can pay for it. A flower farm it is to be, and the Horticultural Society will sell my seeds for me. And as soon as we get it well under way Allen will give up his other business, and we shall do nothing else than raise and sell flower seeds. And we expect to pay for the place, and create a great business, and make our fortune, and make, besides, oh, such great and beautiful flowers by giving our whole souls to it and having all out-doors to do it in!"

"Oh, Louise!" she cried. "What a life you are going to live! Who would have thought of it from just the beginning of those window-boxes and tiny beds in the yard! Oh, it isn't because of the flowers only,—it's because you were in earnest and never thought of yourself! And now you are going to be so happy——"

"Would you like to come with me?" I said. "Clara and Emily can take care of the house and themselves here, and you can help me enough to have a salary, presently, if all goes right. Allen said something about it, his very self." And then Annabel flung her arms about me and we both cried together,—for all at once I felt that I had found a sister as well as a lover. And I can tell you I took care never to lose her.

But you ought to see my garden now,—no little back yard at all, but acres of blossom. There is one half-acre of tuberoses alone that drives the wind before it heavy with deliciousness. And there, at another season, are the roses, such roses! they climb over walls and poles and trellises, and they fill whole garden plots, drift-white, and maiden-blush, and cream, and crimson red, and purple red to blackness. And sometimes, in late spring, when Allen and I go out and stand in the middle of a bed of violets, and the samphing sweeting rises round us in heavenly clouds, we feel, not as if we were in a little flower seed farm that had paid for itself and was making a large income, but as if we were in the very heart and center itself of the Garden of Eden!

THE END.

DESTROY POOR PHOTOGRAPHS.

BY MARGARET MERIDETH

Do not consent to give around poor photographs; resolutely destroy them. Friends who care for you will beg for them, and the possession of them would give pleasure, since they, knowing your face well, could enjoy the little shade of resemblance, and disregard the deformities by not taking them into account. But when they have carried your picture a hundred miles away and laid it out upon their library table, they will not write a commentary upon the margin to defend you from the dreadful impression strangers are getting of you. I lately spent some time in a distant city with near relatives, and it so happened just as we were leaving, that a note from our father was read in the hearing of an intimate friend of the household. "Why," he said, in a surprised tone, "your father seems to be an affectionate, warm-hearted sort of man!" Of course we were in blank astonishment that he should ever have been considered anything else, till the old gentleman went on to say: "His picture looked very severe." No wonder then at all, for the picture was one of those grim monstrosities, like a specially determined murderer, which not infrequently result from sitting still under a strong light till every muscle of the face is set and deep lines form about the mouth. Good-naturedly to let such a photograph start forth on its work of defamation was the part of a madman—though the victim in this case refused to repent and thought it only a fine joke. We felt really thankful to clear up one fraction of the evil wrought.

Moreover they are powerful in the end even with those who know you. The moderately truthful pictures of your dearest friends, which, indeed, you realize to be only moderately truthful, will nevertheless gradually grow to represent them to you, rather than their actual breathing selves which are fading from your memory. Keep a picture which you regard as "better than nothing" constantly on your bureau as a reminder of your absent friend, and in a year that piece of pasteboard will be what will rise to your mind when that friend's name is mentioned.

It may take great resolution to put in the fire a pack of photographs that cost five dollars, but why one is tempted to get the worth of his money in envious slander is hard to see.

"O! sir," said a prisoner, tears running down his cheeks, "I had a good home education. It was the *street* education that ruined me. In the street I learned to swear and steal. It is in the street that the devil lurks to work the ruin of the young.

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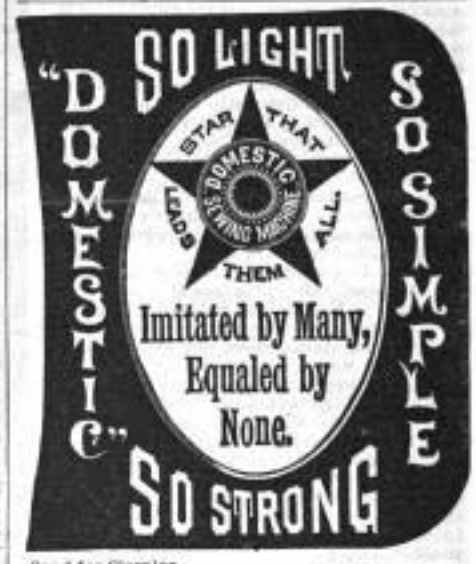

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

AUTUMNAL BLOSSOMS.

MARGARET B. HARVEY.

Her name was Betty. She lived in New England, on a farm of stony pastures and weedy waste-lands, with frame house surrounded by stunted pines and ungainly elms. A few lean cows fed, or rather starved, in these same stony pastures and weedy waste-lands. And, one summer evening, as the sun was setting behind the purple mountains that framed this poverty-stricken farm-district with a circle as royally-hued as though it enclosed some region of fabulous beauty; and while the sun, with his splendor of scarlet and amber glorified with flame from heaven, even the stunted pines and ungainly elms and stony pastures and weed y waste-lands and frame cottage—Betty was driving home her father's cows. It was the red and yellow light of the sun, and the violet shadows of the mountains that made the scene one of wondrous beauty—not the homely elements upon which the light shone and which the shadows framed. So the light of love or heaven, so the shadows of suffering or duty, make of the humblest earthly existence earlier of a saint or a martyr. Was Betty saint or martyr? Was she destined to become either? Certainly, her life was a lowly one, but she already knew something of the light of love and heaven, something of the shadow of suffering and duty. Was she to know more of either?

Betty herself might be described in the same general terms as the scene of which she was the central figure. She was rugged and homely, like her surroundings—but over and about her, as over and about them, hovered light and shadow. The light in her eye was not altogether that of the sun, the shadow upon her face was not altogether that of the mountains. Was it the light of love or heaven—was it the shadow of suffering or duty? Certainly, the light glorified her, somewhat as it might have glorified a saint—certainly, the shadows ennobled her, as it might a martyr.

To particularize, Betty had flaming hair, colorless eyes, and irregular features. She was large-boned, muscular, and far from graceful. But the same description might apply to some of the most famous Madonnas, they have flaming hair, colorless eyes, and irregular features; and if the painted representations were suddenly endowed with life, and attempted to stand and walk, you would discover that they were large-boned, muscular, and far from graceful.

Cows are patient creatures. They generally go exactly in the path in which they are driven, like some women. But then, they occasionally stand still, or step aside, so that the use of the rod seems necessary. In this also, they resemble a woman—can a woman stand still, or step aside from the path in which she has been driven, without feeling the rod upon her shrinking back? Perhaps it was the fact that Brindle departed from her usual custom, and stood still long enough to crop the scant grass by the rocky wayside; perhaps it was Betty's vigorous employment of the switch in her hand that roused the long-patient young woman from the revery into which she had fallen. Perhaps this aided her in forming the resolution that she would follow Brindle's example, and be no longer patient, like a woman or a cow. Perhaps her new air of determination, and her decided utterance, might explain why Betty could not be considered in all things, a copy of the Madonna.

"Four whole years!" she exclaimed. "I've waited long enough! If he don't make up his mind to-night, he's got to go!"

The words were few, but they meant nothing less than a life-tragedy. Had Betty been a Madonna, she would never have uttered them, but suffered patiently until her death. But it is difficult, if not impossible, to make an unqualified assertion. Perhaps Betty was a Madonna after all, for, with her we always associate sword-pierced hearts, tears of blood, and agonies of crucifixion!

For four years past, William Wilton had been coming to her father's house, three evenings in the week. These visits must have been intended for Betty, for they were spent in Betty's company, but the conversation during these visits consisted of but little more than the ordinary greetings and farewells. Through the autumn winter and spring, William sat bolt upright in one particular splint rocking-chair by the kitchen stove, while Betty darned stockings by the big table. Through the summer, William sat on the front steps, while Betty perched on the door-sill. And this was the only variety in the whole affair. Betty realized to-night, as never before, that she had been like a cow.

What did William want? If he wanted to marry Betty, he had never said so, but it was certain that he did not want to marry anybody else. Still if he wanted Betty, what was he waiting for? William was not handsome, he was tall, gaunt, and awkward, like the conventional Yankee, but, then, he was no homlier than Betty. Farms in that desolate mountain region were not very valuable, but his the most valuable of all. He was industrious, intelligent, and economical, he had no incumbrances, and no near relatives but his mother, who presided over his home and kept the white-and-green farmhouse as neat as hands could make it. It was evident, moreover, that Betty's parents could not live much longer, it was also evident that William's mother was growing feeble, and his house would need a new mistress. William uttered nothing but the usual greetings and farewells, still, he sat quietly in his accustomed place in the kitchen, or upon the piazza steps.

The sun sank lower. The light in the heavens paled out, the shadows upon the mountains grew deeper. What might be said of the light in Betty's eyes, the shadows upon Betty's face? Before the light in the heavens had all paled out, before the shadows upon the mountains had deepened into gloom, the cows were milked and attended to, for the night, and Betty, in a dainty robe of pearly grey, with baby-blue ribbons, stood irresolute in the doorway of her home, as though hesitating whether or not to take her accustomed place upon the sill. In her eyes the light had not entirely faded; upon her face the shadows had not fully deepened; and her pearly grey robe, and baby-blue ribbons seemed like a soft cloud, through which gleamed azure fragments of sky. Betty, still might have been more like the Madonna of poetry, than the Madonna of tragedy.

A hint of annoyance, like a chill breeze, passed over her countenance. For a tall, seem ingly-starched figure emerged from the clump of spiræa bushes, hiding the turn in the path, and William, with a muttered, "Evening" deposited himself upon the steps. The sun sank, the light of the heavens died away; the shadows upon the mountains turned to inky night. The darkness hid Betty's eyes and face, and blotted out her cloudy robe and sky-blue ribbons. Are our surroundings typical? Shall I add that the stars came, and that by-and-by, the moon would rise and flood the scene with a splendor little inferior to that of the sun? But neither William nor Betty noticed the stars, and the piazza was deserted before the moonbeams shone upon it.

The evening wore on. Neither William nor Betty spoke, neither William nor Betty stirred—until, rather in advance of his usual time, William arose to go. Betty sprang to her feet with a movement swifter than her wont. But, to her surprise, William hesitated a little, and when he at last found voice, did not utter his simple accustomed, "Good-night." Oh, no! He said,

"Betty"——then he stopped.

"What is it?" asked Betty, gently. The light in her eyes was not borrowed from that of the sun—but the shadow upon her face was that of the night hiding her eyes.

"Betty—I was—a thinkin' "——

"Thinking what?" softly queried Betty, compassion for William's hesitancy mingling with any more tender feelings that she might have had.

"That you and I"——William started at the sound of his own voice, while the cold perspiration broke out upon his forehead. He glanced half involuntarily around him as though he expected to be shot instantly for his temerity.

"That you and I——what?" desperately demanded Betty, a shade of contempt almost overpowering any other sentiment.

"Looked somethin' alike!" declared William madly, with one headlong plunge. Betty suppressed an exclamation of disgust and stepped inside the door. William stood where he was, like a post, and stared at her through the gloom which nearly hid her. Then, with a sudden, "Good-night," he jerked himself to the lowest step. If ever there had been any light in Betty's eyes, it was gone now; and the solemn shadow upon her face was not altogether that of night. In the darkness, her cloudy, sky-mimicking dress might have been sable.

"Good-night," she answered firmly, "and never come here again!"

"What!" cried William, finding abundant voice now, brought to a sudden, amazed halt.

"Never come here again!" repeated Betty, bravely, "I am going to marry Solomon Jones."

"Marry——Solomon Jones?" If men do not exactly shriek, they come very near it sometimes.

"Yes," declared Betty, "I am to give him his answer to-morrow. He was man enough to speak his mind—and I won't keep him waiting any longer.

"But—but—Betty," faltered William, "didn't you know!"——

"What did I know?" interrogated Betty, "and how did I know? How am I to tell that a man wants me, unless he says so? And Solomon Jones is the only man that ever did say so!"

"Has he been courtin' you?" William asked, wildly, his words covering an insinuation which he did not exactly mean.

"No!" cried Betty, indignantly, repelling such insinuation." He came here yesterday to see father. Then he asked me if I was engaged, and I said, no. He answered that if I wasn't, I ought to be—I was wasting my time, and waiting too long, and that he'd marry me, if I'd have him. He said he'd wait till to-morrow for his answer—I've made up my mind to tell him, Yes. Good-bye!" And Betty shut the door. She never saw William again.

If William had been silent in company with Betty, he had not been so with the older people of the community, and with young men of his own age. His ready wit, his general intelligence and kindly disposition made him a universal favorite. But from that memorable night, William dropped out of his small world as completely, almost, as if he had died. Henceforth, for years, he never left his farm, except on business—his only companions were his mother, his horses, and his hired men. William had undoubtedly wronged Betty—but Betty, to her dying day, never knew how deeply she had wronged William. If she knew it then, it must have been revealed to her by supernatural means. For Betty's four years of repression, William was destined to endure forty; where Betty's lips had been sealed, William's whole heart, soul and life were frozen.

But two weeks after William and Betty's strange parting, Betty was married. She suffered after her wedding-day, no doubt—but her greatest agony was before. Probably she resembled the Madonna most in her long, silent, tragic suspense, terminated by Solomon Jones's precipitious declaration. Or, she may have resembled the Madonna, when, after a terrible season of grief and pain, she sat, with her infant son in her arms, a new light in her eyes, a new shadow upon her face. This time, the light really was that of love and heaven, the shadow that of duty and suffering; and there shines a celestial halo around every baby brow, like that given by art and faith to the Infant Christ. Clasping her babe to her heart, like the Madonna, Betty closed her eyes upon the lights and shadows of this world, to open them in a world where all is light, and where there is no shadows.

I have said that for years, William never left his farm, unless on business. I must make some exceptions to this—that is, if you define "business" as merely trafficking and money-getting. It was not always for purposes of buying and selling that William stepped beyond his boundary-fences. For instance, just one year from the night which had suddenly chilled him to a living stone, he quietly took a rugged path leading to the village, and wended his way to a lowly cottage upon its outskirts. There seemed to be an awed crowd about the front door, but he avoided all bystanders, and made an entrance by a rear garden-gate. Then he never spoke a word, nor looked right nor left, until he found himself in a darkened chamber. He noticed and remembered the pearly-grey robe that the silent figure wore—a silent figure, lying before him, so helpless that now he could dare to bend and kiss the cold, white cheek. And the baby beside her—how could he help kissing the son for the mother's sake?

This was the first time that he left his farm for a purpose which was not strictly one of business. The second was some years later, when he followed his mother to her last resting-place, which was near that of Betty. Only a few feet apart in the little, stony, weed-grown graveyard. This is one feature of New England, which I could never reconcile with New England thrift—the unsightly appearance of country burying-grounds. But a certain corner of this particular graveyard never presented evidences of neglect. Somebody made it his business to see that the weeds never grew, and the brush never accumulated; that grass and flowers took the place of sticks and stones. This business was that somebody's only solace for many years—and this little spot of verdure and bloom was all that created a corresponding spot of verdure and bloom in his own barren, rocky heart.

Twenty years passed. One day, William suddenly woke up to the fact that his place was going to rack and ruin, for want of a competent head. He might hire a housekeeper, but he knew that, in this locality, no woman could very well live in that capacity, upon a lonely farm, with no companions but a middle-aged bachelor and his hired men. If he wanted one who could properly manage his house, he must marry her. But, where could he get a suitable person? He had lived the life of a recluse so long, that he really knew but one woman, a homely spinster, who had sewed for his mother. She was now about forty, but she had been prim and old-maidish when quite young. He might secure her by driving to the next town—which he did.

"Lucy Ives," he said, "I need a housekeeper. Will you marry me, and take charge of my house?"

It was a business arrangement, nothing more. Lucy had, in spite of her outward primness, cherished some of the ideals of her early youth, until quite recently—but she called to her aid common sense, which told her that she was now growing past the age of romance, and this was, to borrow a common phrase, "her last chance." So she consented to assume the duties of a housekeeper, without receiving regular wages. The marriage ceremony was simply a legal form; and within a few days after, the bride was installed in her new home, William apparently forgot her existence, and lived on just the same as before.

Lucy was the conscious one. It was a long time before she could reconcile herself to the change, and at first would blush like a girl when addressed as Mrs. Wilton. The only relief from embarrassment was work—and soon a wonderful transformation was noticed about the old farmhouse. The outside was newly painted, the inside freshly papered; the neglected lawn and garden were put into exquisite order, and many tasteful little touches added beauty on every hand. Now that there was a mistress in the house, the long-diffident neighbors became sociable, and, altogether, it really seemed that new life had come into William's old home. The ever-silent owner of the house seemed the only one who could not observe.

One morning, a kind motherly old woman, who had spent the night in the farmhouse, came and told William that he had a little daughter.

"Call her Betty," was all he said—nor did he ask to see his child for many a long day.

The same story was repeated, with little variation, two and four years afterwards. Only, as these children were boys, he cared, if possible, still less to see them, and left their naming to their mother. Lucy, then, without opposition, called the first William, the second, after her cousin Solomon Jones. Lucy, alone, settled all questions as to their training and education, with the result, that at the end of twenty years, or so, she saw, as the reward of her faithfulness, one lovely young woman, and two noble young men rapidly preparing to take a useful, honorable part in life.

The children, as children, often wondered at the reserved man, who so seldom noticed them, and out of whose way they were so strictly charged to keep. Later, as their youthful, romantic instincts awoke, they discovered that their father made frequent, surreptitious visits to the old graveyard, and rightly surmised the reason which however, they never dared tell their mother. But this discovery, simple as it seems, awoke within all of their hearts a tender sympathy for both, which may have influenced the heavenly spirits to the happy conclusion.

Would William's long dead heart ever come to life? It did, with a force as tremendous as a volcano. A week of surprises came. First, a stranger from the far South asked for Betty; second, William Jr., announced it as his intention to take a mate, and settle upon the farm which had belonged to the other Betty's father; and third, Solomon declared that he was preparing to join an Arctic expedition. Why, he, William, did not know his children—and, here they were arrived at the years of accountability, and ready to leave him! A stranger had discovered his daughter's beauty before he had—his sons showed an energy which put his negative life to shame. Was it possible that, absorbed in a dream long past, he had let life's real happiness slip out of his grasp?

They were gone—and William turned restlessly from side to side, as though looking for something that he could not find. But, evidently, Lucy missed something also. True enough—it struck him with all the force of a novel suggestion—she was lonely, too. Perhaps he could comfort her.

When he came really to look at her, he was surprised. This was not the homely woman whom he had formerly married. Age had softened all angularities, and made her positively beautiful—while Betty's taste had taught her how to dress. Upon this summer evening, when William really saw his wife, for the first time in years, he was startled to observe that she wore a robe of pearly grey, and upon her silvery puffs rested a cloudy tulle cap, with baby-blue ribbons; while in her face were lights of love and shadows of suffering, which reminded him strangely of the Betty long dead. Two summer nights, wonderfully alike, with an interval of over forty years between—upon the first, he had lost a love, and now, upon the second, he had found one, who now appeared singularly like her.

It was true. The children were gone—and now, the old folks had fallen in love with each other!

This story I picked up in New England, and brought back to my native Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, because it reminded me of our very late autumn that wonderful semi-season, between real fall and winter. I don't believe it occurs any where else exactly like this—further north it is quite winter, further south it is still fall, farther west, other differences may be noted. But, at the begining of last December, it was warm like spring, and dandelions, jessamines, violets and clovers were in bloom. Do you suppose that William and Lucy, gathering their autumnal blossoms, allowed themselves to dread the winter so near at hand? No, no! They were too happy, gathering their late roses and blooming apple-sprays, such as come with us here and there, when the trees all around are stripped bare.

I did hear, since, that William took Lucy to the graveyard, and over Betty's tomb, told the story of his early love.

I did hear that Lucy, after a few years of blessedness, died, and that William dressed her grave as well as Betty's with flowers; that, when he, too, was finally laid in the graveyard, his son William saw that none of the four mounds were neglected. But all this is not essential to the story of which the following is more. Love is the same in old as well as in young, the same everywhere—and as well told, by the lips of November's late violets, unseasonable though they seem as by those of the early ones of April and May, which apparently bloom in their natural order. A violet is always violet—and love is love.

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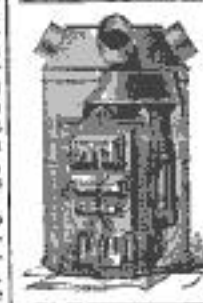

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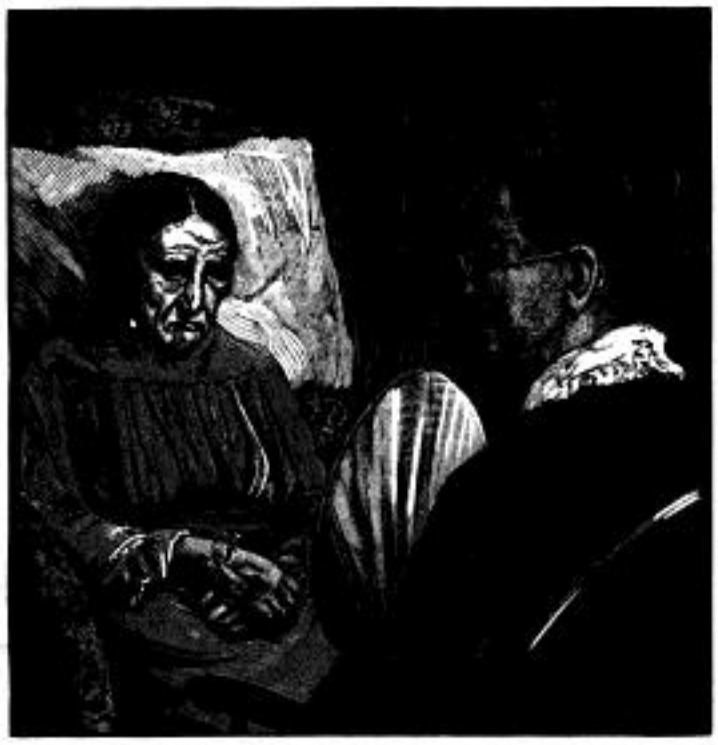
[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

Ephriam Trembly's Celebration.

BY JOSIAH ALLEN'S WIFE.

I have been a visitin' to Melinda Blodgett'ses, she that was Melinda Ann Allen, Josiah's 3d cousin.

She sent for me to come, sayin' she wus a runnin' down, and if I didn't come to see her now, she more'n mistrusted I never would see her alive. She said her sufferin's went far ahead of any other wimmins sufferin's in that part of the country. And some of the relations had been to



see her and *had wept* to see the change in her. Her color was "gashley."

Melinder never was much on spellin', she wuz better on figgers—we went to school together.

Wall, I thought the letter wuz a kind of a proud letter, it seemed as if she felt kind o' haughty to think she wuz so bad off. But I never said a word to my companion. Wimmen that talk about the relation on his own side es what he can't brook. No, he never could brook it.

But held up by the iron arm of duty, I packed my portmantue, and sot off for Melinda's, my Josiah promisin' to come after me at the end of the week.

Wall, when I got there Melinda wuz disapinted, bitter disapinted, to think I didn't weep over her. She did look bad, I couldn't deny it. It wuz Erysuplus I think, and had struck in, or that is, some thought it had struck in, and some didn't think so, as for me, I thought then, and I think now, it had stricken.

But what wuz the use of weepin', no, my idee wuz, instid of givin' her tears, as all the rest of the relation' had, I'd try and give her help.

So when she begun a long and tegus tale of her sufferin's that she had suffered, I sot calm and polite, not brought to tears once—though I see she wuz a tryin' to bring me to 'em, and not bein' melted, though I see plain, that she wuz a tryin' to melt me. And she ended by sayin' with a deep tragical look:

"Samantha Allen! A heart of stun would be melted by my sufferin's."

And then she looked sharp at me to see if I wuz a bein' melted—but I wuznt. I says calmy: "Melinda Blodgett, have you ever tried red clover blow tea?"

And she sort o' tosted her head, and said "No, but she had had 18 doctors, and had tried 32 kinds of patented medicines."

I didn't say nothin', but I looked over my specks at her sort o' respectful, to think she wuz alive to tell the tale. And then I silently and calmly pinned up my dress round my waist, and went out to the meadow, and picked a bowl of clover blows, and brought 'em in, and steeped 'em, and gin 'em to her, and gin 'em regular all the rest of the time I wuz there, and them blows cured her. And I thought then, and I think still, that it wur better for me to sally out and git 'em for her, that it would have been for me to set down and weep, or even to be melted. Melinda's a widder. Howsumever I am a gettin' ahead of my story.

She took the tea, after some demkrrin', and we visited a spell quite cheerful, for I kep up, and held up her feelin's first-rate, a meanin' to it, and then leanin' still on the arm of duty, I retired, and went to bed.

Wall, the next mornin' I set a visitin' with Melinda, and she had branched off from religeon and politicks, and ether cheerful subjects onto which I had tried to hold her down, onto her distempers, and she wuz jest a sayin':

"That she had never been sot up by it at all, but her pains had been voyalent enough time and agin, to throw her into a spazzum, and she had fell from one spazzum into another, till the voyalence of the gripins' had subsided; and old Miss Brophy had tried to make her think she had suffered jest as much, because she had been in such pain that her finger nails had turned blue; "But," says Melinda, "what are blue finger nails to my agony!"

Says I mechanically: "If you and Miss Brophy took half the pains a tryin' to cure yourselves that you have in braggin over your distempers, you might both be well women to-day."

And then I turned the subject right round, by sayin': "How is Ephriam Trembly's baby?"

She didn't seem to like it, to be shot off from relatin' her agonies. She says kinder short: "It is runnin' down." And then she kinder tosted her head, and gin a sithe, and marched out of the room.

But I didn't care, I knew I meant well by her. And I wuz interested in Ephriam Trembly's baby, dretful interested, for I knew the hull story. You see Ephriam Trembly married Anny, Melinda's husband's sister,—as sweet and pretty and lovin' a girl as ever wuz seen.

She wuz the most affectionate little thing when she wuz a child that I ever see in my life. When she was a little girl she would pet a pocket-handkerchief, or the tongs, rather than not have anything to love.

Why, she always had a perfect drove of corset lambs, and chickens, and kittens a followin' her round, and goslin's, why she brung up goslin's like corsets; she petted em to that extent that they worshiped her.

And rag babys now—why I spose she had from first to last, pretty nigh a cord of em—what with the ones she buried with funeral honors, mourn'in' under her mothers long apron put on as a veil, (and sheddin' real tears under it, too,) and what with the ones that survived, and perished naturally under the hands of enraged relatives. And dolls—why, she had hull families of em, all named, and underguin' motherly treatment from her. Why, she jest loved them dolls, and rag babys, and lambs, and goslin's and things, till jest about the time she fell in love with Ephriam Trembly. And then the hull love she had poured onto them goslin's and rag babes, and etc., she jest condensed into one great meltin' passion, and poured it out over Ephraim Trembly.

Well, Ephriam wuz a likely young man. Middlin' good lookin', and well behaved, and pretty middlin' stiddy habits. He never got worse for liquor, hardly ever—only when some great good fortune would happen to him, he would kinder celebrate by drinkin' some.

The next day after he got engaged to Anny, they said he drinked about 2 quarts of hard cider, durin' the day, he felt so well. And they say, (I wouldn't want it to go from me) but they say, he had to be carried up stairs to bed, or helped up; he could walk some, but he wobbled.

Wall, it run along till they wuz married—and he had been stiddy and good durin' the engagement, which wuz middlin long. But the day after they wuz married, on their tower too, if you'll believe it, he kinder celebrated it by drinkin' enough to make him tongue'y. Not enough to make him lop over, or anything, but dretful talkative and communicative. They say, (I wouldn't want it told from me,) but they say, he skairt Anny most to death, confessin' to her things he had done years before, things he wouldn't have told on for the world, if he had been himself.

Not big sins—not the great mistakes of life that one would naturally want to confess to the one soul which had become, as it were a visable conscience,—but curius and strange things, made sort o'lurid by his condition, and his wantin' to make out how bad, and strange he had been.

They say she busted out a cryin' before he had got through with it, and that brought him to, for he loved Anny, jest as well as she loved him, he fairly worshiped her.

Wall, his father had left him a big property—old Trembly was rich. He had only two boys, and his will was like this, that the property wuz to be equally divided between the two. Two great big farms, with nice housen and horses, and cattle, and sheep, and fruit trees of all kinds—and everything for comfort and luxury. But if one of the brothers should die it was all to go to the other one, unless they had heirs to inherit it—never made no provision at all for the widders.

Old Trembly had jest had a scrape with a maneuverin' sort of a woman—she did use him shameful, deceived him, and tried to get his money, and everything. But he no need to revenge himself on the hull female race—so I thought then, and so I think now—but howsumever the will wuz such, and had to stand,

Ephriam's brother Beliza had a big family—disagreeable children too, as I ever laid eyes on, but years run along, and Ephriam and Anny didn't have no children.

That wuz the only cloud on their happiness, for Ephriam was just as good and lovin' to Anny as he could be, and she—wall, to them who had known her through her beautiful girlhood, there wuz no need to tell how sweet, and lovin' and tender she wuz to Ephriam.

But the mother heart in her ached for the touch of dimpled hands on it, the mother love born so full and strong in her (unbeknown to her) yearned and longed with an inexpressible achin' love for the sweet presence of childhood in her splendid, silent home.

Her room was jest full of pretty baby faces, lookin' down an her from every side. The pure faced Madonna holdin' the infant Christ, and beautiful human babies, children's faces, with every expression from tears to laughter in their eyes. A statuette of the water babies looked out between the lace curtains of the window—the hull house wuz beautiful, and it seemed that she had everything else on earth that she wanted, only jest a little one to hold to her heart, and ease it of all its yearnin' and longin'.

Wall, feelin' as she did, and feelin' as Ephriam did about, what tongue or pen can picture their happiness, on a bright June mornin' when God sent a little white soul into their keepin'. A dear little, dimpled baby boy.

The hull sky wuz cloudless that mornin', warm sun, happy world. The hull sky of their content and happiness wuz clear, warm hearts, happy lives. They say Anny's face looked jest like the Madonna's at the foot of her bed, full of jest such intense, broodin' love, with a touch of the inspired, the divine, in it.

She had passed through great danger, too, the doctor said no other blessin' of child love could ever come to her. But she lived, she wuz out of danger, and the baby wuz so sweet, so dear, a perfectly healthy child so the doctor said.

What wonder that Ephriam, on that fair June mornin', after a night of blackness, felt dizzy with his delight.

To tell the truth, he just worshipped Anny, and in his heart the childs love, and the love of his possessions, had so little weight through this night of danger, that he hardly thought of them, he wuz so engrossed in his fears for her.

But when the bright mornin' dawned, and she wuz safe, would be safe now in her beautiful home, if he had to leave her, and the baby boy lay like a white rose in its mother's nest.

And Ephriam—wall, everything would have gone well, and jest as it laid out to—but Ephriam had to celebrate.

He *would* do it—it *wuz* to be. Wall, he drinked enough to make him tonguey and spry, not stupid drunk at all, but a sort of high-headed, prancin' sort of drunk. He stepped round lively, held his head in a airy sort of a way, seemed kinder light on foot, and stepped high, and wuz all for showin' off the baby.

He would have the nurse bring it down into the parlor, so's to show it. He held it on a pillow all wrapped up in soft laces and flannels, jest as safe as if it wuz in its nest up stairs. But along towards night, the third time she had brought it down. An old uncle of hisen had come, that wuz near-sighted, and Ephriam had to take it himself, and show it to his uncle, hold it up to him so's he could see plain it wuz "the very image of Ephriam when he wuz a baby" which the uncle declared it wuz.

And after holdin' it up to his uncle, instead of givin' it back to the nurse, he went to set down, and bein' sort o' lifted up, and bigger feelin' than common, he over sot himself, and sot down on the floor, baby and all; the piller slipped out, and the baby got an awful jar. The nurse ketched it up quick, but it begun to cry and moan, and it kep it up all night. The doctor came and said it wuz hurt on the inside some way.

Ephriam wuz white as a sheet. He didn't feel high-headed at all, when the doctor got there, he wuz agonized. Anny didn't know nothin' about it, it wuz kep from her.

Wall, towards mornin', the baby seemed to be better, and Ephriam dropped off to sleep in the mornin', thinkin' that mebbe the Lord would forgive him, and let the baby live.

Ephriam looked ten years older, all that night, so they said, than he did in the mornin'.

Wall, the baby lived. But it wuz spindlin', it grew like a lily stalk that had got bent, and most broke off (unbeknown to itself). And when it got to the age that other babies stood on their feet and begun to walk, it lay still on its little pillow and kep its big blue eyes bent on the blue sky—it loved to lay by the winder.

And so it lived along until it wuz two years old, and then the doctor said it would never walk, its spine wuz deseased.

And then, its eyes got to to lookin' as if it wuz a tryin' to see through the blue sky into somethin' beyond.

And that had run along for most a year, when I made that visit to Melinda's.

Wall, however all this, it is no wonder that I felt agitated when I see Ephriam Trembly a comin' in through the front gate, lookin' pale and agitated. And he says when he had come in, (and he wuz white around the mouth as any thing, while he said it:) "That the baby wuz worse, and his man had gone away for the day, and would Melinder let her hired man go for the doctor?"

She says "yes, of course he will go."

And I says: "Shan't I go over, Mr. Trembly, and see if there is anything I can do?"

His lip trembled, (I was sorry for Ephriam, sorry as I could be,) and he says "Yes, he would be glad to have me come over if I could.

Ephriam hurried back, and I went to pickin' up my work, and puttin' it into my work-basket, prior and before puttin' on my bunnet, I wuz knittin' a pink worsted hood for the babe.)

And while I wuz pickin' it up, Ephriam's hired man's little boy come a runnin' over as fast as he could run and says:

"Miss Allen won't you hurry and go over to Mr. Trembly's!"

"Is the baby worse?" says I.

"Yes," says he, "Miss Trembly thought it wuz dyin' when I come away, but Mr. Trembly thought it wuz havin' a spavin'."

"A spazzum," says I.

"Yes," says he. "Won't you hurry?"

"I will come right off," says I. But while I wuz a tyin' on my bunnet, Melinda spoke, and says: "Oh! I guess nobody can tell me about spazzums." And she wuz a goin' on, and boastin' about the voyalence of em, and the number of em that she had had, till I got to the gate—the door wuz open, and the wind wuz my way.

Wall when I got there, it wuz a sight pitiful enough to melt a stun, if stuns could be melted. The dear little patient white baby lay in its crib by the winder, its favorite spot. And Anny sot by it, with her face lookin' whiter and patienter than the baby's, and Ephriam wuz on the other side of it, with his face lookin' the worst of all, for under the agony and the paller, lay the black shadder of remorse.

I took off my things and sot down, for there wuz nothin' I could do. The baby lay quiet, and seemed to be asleep. And we all set watchin' it for most a hour. When suddenly it opened its deep blue eyes, and looked as if it wuz a listenin', listenin'. And then it spoke out, in its pretty broken speech: "What for you call Ally?" And then it looked agin as if it wuz a hearin' somethin' we couldn't hear, and then it says agin, lookin' up into the clear blue of the June skies: "Yes, Ally will, Ally will come," (it's name wuz Alan.) Then it dropped to sleep again.

This is *true*, true as the Gospel, or the hills, or anything. And I wondered then, and I've wondered more'n a hundred times sense, what the baby did hear, and who spoke it, and where they wuz, and how far from here, and whether it wuz the sweet innocence, the heavenly purity of the baby, that made the hearin' possible, and if we wuz better, more simple, and childlike, if we too could look up through the clear blue of the summer sky, and see divine faces and hear voices callin' us out of serener depths.

But this is *true* what I have told, though I can't explain it, nor Josiah, nor nobody.

Wall, the next day when the first pink and rose of the sky melted into the serene cloudless blue of a perfect June mornin', baby left us. It had lain white and silent, all the latter part of the night, its little brows knitted with the fearful pain, and Ephriam and Anny sot by in their tearless agony, (agony caused by celebration.) But towards morn' the pain seemed to grow less and less. And at the last, it opened its eyes and fixed em on the clear, mysterious depts of the blue sky, and I believed then, and believe now, and have told Josiah so, went right up into it. It never moned, nor struggled, but its little life just melted away, over faded, as a shadowy cloud melts into the severe blue of the heavens.

And Anny fell down in a dead faint. And she goes about now as if half her life, the best half, went up out of her sight that mornin', and she is tryin' to reach after it. And Ephriam stands by his baby's grave under the sun, and the stars, and walks over his broad fields that he knows will pass away after him into his brother's family, (and he can't bear his brother's children.) And Ephriam don't celebrate any more. The lights are put out, the music is silent. He don't want to celebrate.

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EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I have watched to see if any of the mothers would answer "John's Wife's" article entitled "Picking," and as I have experienced the difficulty of amusing and keeping harmonious a family of small children, I shall tell her of my plan and how it usually works. I think all mothers will agree with me that we have very little care and annoyance from our children in the forenoon, but during the summer and winter afternoons they are generally tired of their amusements, and then you may look out for mischief and "picking" among them.

What rests and refreshes any of us after a tiresome mornings work? Sleep! One says, "Oh! that is laziness." No it isn't! It has always been my custom just after the noon meal, to call my children to enjoy a short *siesta* or nap. There is rarely ever rebellion because "dear mamma lies down with them, and then "one story, mind," of "the good boy," or "Daniel in the lion's den," or "the bad boy," and soon the tired little bodies and minds are in repose. Mamma is refreshed and she can steal away and begin her work, be it the dinner table, sewing, or anything she may have neglected for so short a time, and have renewed strength and a quiet hour for it, which is so refreshing to every mother.

Soon the little rumpled heads begin to "pop up," and usually there is a romp, each one runs to mamma with the query, "Mamma, has I roses in my cheeks?" Then comes the face-washing and hair-brushing, which serves to interest as the older children perform this service for the little ones and themselves, after which they are as fresh for their plays as they were in the morning.

One mother says: "I could never keep my children quiet long enough!" Where is your discipline? Another says: "They will not be sleepy at their usual bed-time." Yes, my dear mother, they will; for after the habit is established, should the noon nap be missed, they will be restless, fretful, plague or tease, and more trouble to quiet for sleep than if the rest had been taken.

Every few days a contrary one says: "Mamma, I don't feel at all sleepy to-day. "Very well," I say, "stretch your limbs and rest quietly until the others are asleep, and then you can get up when mamma does." Thus assured, usually the quiet resting brings sleep; if not, I keep my word, and we slip out quietly together.

I have had many inquiries: "How is it your children are so large and healthy looking?"

My answer is: "Plenty of sleep, good nutritious food, such as the grains; cracked wheat and grits in summer, oat meal, (sparingly given in winter,) entire absence of coffee and tea, meat in moderation, (none for supper,) plenty of bathing and fresh air; these for the bodies. An abundance of love, amusement, music and religion in our home; these for the hearts and minds.

MRS. CLARA D. ARMSTRONG.

EDITOR L. H. J.:—I notice that "M. A. M.," "Inquisitive," and others, protest against the idea unwittingly conveyed, that baby's head should go scot free during its daily bath, since soap and water is essential for the cleanliness and health of the little scalp. I heartily agree with them. Our own little babies have always had their heads washed as often as their bodies, as without doubt, did the babies of the lady to whom I referred, but *after* babyhood, her children as well as ours have the benefit of but one bath a week, (excepting in hot weather, when perspiration demands it,) and the saturday night's scrubbing was not taken into account when we questioned if continual wetting of the hair would not injure it.

We have had a little experience with long locks recently, sparing the winter's growth of hair on our little girls' heads till late into June—though often tempted to closely clip them when tried with tangled snarls and squirming, crying little ones, who rebel against brush and comb—for the sake of adding to Mrs. Lambert's picture gallery of babies, a photograph of our trio, and one that should not represent them *off* with heads as innocent of hair as those of baby mice.

Possibly, it would interest Mrs. Lambert to know that the very next day after the photo's proof had been received and approved, found me and two little girls complaisant over a towelfull of bright, newly clipped locks that had lost their power to pull and snarl and wake either a howl or scream.

It is such a relief to see the little heads always smooth, and to know they are clean and comfortable. No towsled pates to tire your already tired eyes and hands, for if not brushed and combed every half hour, or water sopped each half or quarter day, they would be towsled pates. We still think it injures the hair to constantly wet it; preventing the natural oil of the hair from developing, and resulting in dry, brashy, flying locks.

Our trio have short hair, but it is moist and silky, which we think is due to their hair escaping so many soppings of water, which you mothers well know are daily given, not for cleanliness of the hair and scalp, but to keep rebellious locks smoothly in place.

When our little girls are older, old enough to brush snarls free themselves, and to keep their uneasy, inquisitive heads clear from bristling thickets of rag weed seed and burdocks, and burrowed holes in sand banks and clay gullies, and proud enough to keep reasonably smooth and clean, longer tresses, they shall be spared to them, and we confidently expect these tresses of hair will be so moist with natural oil there will be no need of water soppings to keep them in place.

JOHN'S WIFE.

THOUGHTLESS CRUELTY.

"My baby is just as good as gold," said a proud young mother to me a few days ago. "Why I find that I can do as much sewing and fancy work *now* as I could before she was born. She sat *four* hours in her high chair yesterday while I was embroidering this yoke for her dress. Then I took her out of the chair, nursed her, and played with her awhile, and then put her back, and she sat there until supper time, two and a-half hours later.

I gasped in mute astonishment. Just think of it, oh ye friends of babyhood! Think of a little six months old baby sitting in one position for four long hours on a stretch, and then being taken out, and allowed to stretch its poor little limbs for a few minutes, and then thrust back again in the same uncomfortable upright position.

The mother in question was a bright, intelligent, educated lady, and loved her baby just as well probably as you and I love our precious, wee morsels of humanity, And she was both shocked and grieved when I pointed out to her the manner in which she was bringing perhaps life-long injury upon her little helpless infant.

"Why," said she, with great tears starting in her eyes, "I would not do anything to injure my baby for the world. But a lady told me that she always made her babies sit in their high chairs for hours at a time. She said it was so much better than putting them on the floor, as they would not run any risk of getting colds, and then they keep their clothing so much cleaner than when rolling about on the floor.

Poor little innocents! Their mother thought more of keeping their clothing in a state of immaculate whiteness, than she did of their poor little aching spines and hips, and that dreadful n umbness in the little dangling legs and feet.

Something less than a hundred years ago I was a baby myself, and although I cannot seem to remember much about that interesting period under the age of three years, still I now remember perfectly well being taken to a country church once by my maternal grandmother, before I had attained my fourth birthday, and sitting on a hard seat, with my poor little fat legs dangling over the edge of the seat, and my feet several inches from the floor, for what seemed to my childish fancy to have been an eternity.

How my poor little back and limbs ached, and how I twisted and squirmed trying to get into an easy position, and how my grandmother nudged me to make me sit still; and now if I suffered so much from being obliged to sit in an uncomfortable position for from an hour-and-a-half to two hours, at four years of age, what must a little tender baby sufferer, with their poor little weak back and limbs, after being tied in a high chair for three times as long a time!

If there are any mothers inclined to "laugh," or say "nonsense" at my theory that it is nothing short of absolute cruelty, to keep a little helpless baby sitting in one position for hours, or even *one* hour at a time, I would say to them, "Just try it for yourselves." Some of these fine days climb up on top of the refrigerator or the table, or any place where you can sit with your feet poked right straight out in front of you, or else dangling a tantalizing distance from the floor, or any other support, and sit there for an hour or so, (if you don't get too tired and cramped,) and then give us your opinion upon the subject. CLARICE.

(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

OUR MORNING CALL.

BY JENNIE WALLIS.

"Aunt Clara, would you like to go with me this morning to see Mrs. Barstow's twins?" said Annie Temple, one fine day in the autumn.

Mrs. Benton's eyes brightened with pleasure as she replied: "Are you a mind reader, Annie! You have suggested the very excursion that was in my own thoughts. I remember Mrs. Barstow when she was Lucy Plummer, one of the most attractive of our young girls. Spirited and full of fun—the life of our town. She could wield the paint brush for the furniture of her own *boudoir* or for a picture for the Academy as well. Then such bread and cakes as hers could nowhere be found. My daughters stood a little in awe of her because of her varied accomplishments."

"Yes," said Annie, "and no one could equal her skill in needlework, and the nicety of everything that passed through her hands. Nothing was ever slighted. We were tempted to laugh at her when she was preparing the wardrobe for her first child. By some oversight a napkin was hemmed on the wrong side of the 'bird's-eye. She promptly ripped and rehemmed it. We thought it mattered little for such an article, but nothing could satisfy her that failed of her idea of perfection."

"That was her nature," said Aunt Clara. "I imagine, however, that with five young children, and her husband's small salary, she will find this ideal impossible at times. In which case she will suffer severely."

Arriving at Mrs. Barstow's snug cottage, they were charmed with its appearance of comfort and its artistic surroundings.

They received a warm welcome, and, being quite old friends, were invited at once to the nursery.

The beautiful twins were well worth seeing, and were shown with commendable pride.

Amy, now three years old, and Freddy, two years older, were on the floor enjoying their blocks, under the care of a young nurse.

Ruth, the eldest, now seven, was away at the kindergarten.

No wonder Mrs. Barstow was fond and proud of her dear children; they were charming.

Soon she begged the privilege of resuming her needlework, saying: "I have to improve every moment with my growing family. Our income is not sufficient for me to hire a seamstress, and I have all our sewing to do by hand."

"By hand!" exclaimed Mrs. Benton, "Pray where is your nice sewing machine?"

"There it stands," said Lucy, "as 'idle as a painted ship upon a painted ocean.' I dare not put my foot on the treadle."

"But, my dear Lucy, it is said: 'There is more than one way to kill a cat;' so there is more than one way to run a machine."

"Oh, I know all about the many motors that are proposed; but the expense places them quite out of my reach."

"That may be true, but is not your wheel above the table? Have a handle put on it."

"But I must send for a workman to put it on, and, really, I do not know that I could use it if I had it. It would be but an experiment, and the cost uncertain. This little dress will look but shabby without the dainty stitching. I really have no leisure now for reading or painting," she added, with a sigh. "Truly you would be shocked to see the way I am obliged to slight things. What would my mother say if she could see me pat and pull and pinch my gathers, as I often do now, instead of stroking them properly? But what can I do? My basket is piled with work, and these young people must be clothed."

Here she broke down in utter discouragement, and the tears coursed down her cheeks.

"It is no moral crime to pinch your gathers," said Mrs. Benton, "and in these busy days one must judge for themselves where it is excusable to slight. It is not necessary, for instance, to set your stitches as closely together in hemming a towel as on a cambric skirt."

While making these remarks she had been turning over the contents of a box of knitting needles of various sizes, and now held up half of a large wooden needle. It had been sawed apart for some purpose, and this portion was about eight inches in length. The flange or knob was on the end.

"Cheer up, my dear Lucy," said she, "here is a little friend in need. Let me stitch that little dress for you."

Throwing off the belt from the machine, that no strength need be wasted in carrying the lower portion, she rested her arm on the table, and applied the stick to the wheel. The little garment was quickly stitched.

Lucy looked on with eager interest.

"Oh, Mrs. Benton," said she, "I could do that, I could do that, I know; my chest and arms are strong.

"Well, my dear, try it, but do only a little at first. You will feel the unaccustomed strain upon the arm. It is often a great convenience to be able to use a machine for portions of a garment that need stitching. It is very tedious to do it by hand."

"Do you think I could guide my work with one hand?"

"You can, by practice, do so nearly as well as with both. Then here is your little maid; when she can leave the children, let her turn the wheel for you."

"Mrs. Benton," said Lucy, with enthusiasm, you are a genius. Whenever I am puzzled I will send for you. I am glad I named one of my twins Lucy Benton."

"Thank you, my dear Lucy, for the compliment. I hope this little stick will lighten your labors. Be sure not to use it too long at a time, and vary your position at the table. Sit near enough to lean upon it, or farther off; then to the right or left in turn, as it seems easiest to you. Even with a handle on the machine, it is sometimes a rest to use the smooth stick. If you choose, you can tie it loosely to the wheel to keep the knob from slipping out. I have known persons who find the treadle to wearisome for constant use, to alternate with this improvised handle.

"For my part I prefer to sew by hand. I have then such beautiful thoughts for my companions, that take to themselves wings when I am driving the sewing machine."

"I could have help from the nurse sometimes," said Lucy, "but my children take the larger portion of her time. If she is called away, they are sure to be in mischief. There is Amy, now, drawing pictures on that window, with her fingers, and but yesterday I had them cleaned."

An odd smile crossed Mrs. Benton's face, and then with some hesitation she said:

"My dear Lucy, will you allow an old housekeeper, and one who has raised eight children, to make a few suggestions that may be of benefit to you?"

"Certainly, dear Mrs. Benton, I feel very grateful for those already made, and hall be only too glad to profit by your experience."

"I found, when my children were small, that it was quite impossible, as well as very unwise, to try to have the room devoted to them in perfect order. I allowed them to feel that they were entirely at liberty in the use of their blocks and toys, gradually teaching them, as they grew older, to put them in their places when they were tired of them. I often keep portions of them in reserve, to reappear as quite new after a season of retirement. But for a long time I was sorely tried because of the frequent marks of their fingers upon the window-panes.

I wanted them immaculate!

Then I conceived and carried out the idea of giving to each child a pane of glass, in the nursery, that was quite his own, and for which he should be responsible.

The plan worked admirably.

How many happy hours my children spent drawing on the glass the trees and figures they saw beyond it! They used their fingers or crayons; whatever came handy. They were entirely at liberty to follow their own devices. At dark each must leave his portion clean, unless, as often happened, there was some picture so 'beauf' that permission was given to let it remain.

When the frost appeared each claimed the delicate tracery on his own pane as a direct gift from the fairies to himself. I gave them little blank books, in which they copied, with varying success, these wonderful traceries.

As they grew older, the pictures suggested stories, which they wrote for their own amusement. Sometimes some of their favorite stories seemed, suddenly, to be illustrated on the window.

I remember one morning, little Harry shouted to me that his favorite, "The Fairy's Rescue," by Annette Bishop, was on his 'very own pane of glass.' Sure enough! there was the den of the elves, with the poor fairy baby writhing in the arms of the wicked elves with their long beards and cruel hands; the entrance was barred with spears; outside was the poor, bereaved fairy mother, brandishing her 'beard of golden rye,' and mounted on the bee, her faithful steed, who was fighting with his 'big, sharp lance' to recover the precious baby. One could almost fancy, finally, the shout of triumph to be audible:

'Buzz! buzz! hum! hum!
Here I come!
I've got here! the hateful elvish men
Shall never, never find her again.'

Harry's eyes were glistening with joy and pride in the possession of this picture."

"But, my dear Mrs. Benton, did not the glass get scratched sometimes, and broken?"

"Yes, both of these results followed; but I never regretted giving the permission. The pleasure it gave to the children, and the cultivation of their taste and imagination more than repaid me."

"Well, said Mrs. Barstow, thoughtfully, "you have made some helpful suggestions. Have you any more to make?"

"Only this: nothing delights children more than to be allowed to do some *real* work. A child tired of all its books and toys, will bubble over with pleasure if given some little household occupation, that has *never been given to it to do as a task*. The particular mode of using this childish trait must be left to the mother's ingenuity. But I fear I have wearied you with this long monologue."

"Far from it," said Mrs. Barstow, "you have set me to thinking. I thank you sincerely for all you have told me."

We left her with a bright and happy smile on her earnest face, and enjoyed our bracing walk home.

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

Terms Used in Knitting.

K—Knit plain. P—Purl, or as it is sometimes called, Seam. N or K 2 tog—Narrow, by knitting 2 together. Over—Throw the thread over the needle before inserting in the next stitch. This makes a loop which is always to be considered a stitch, in the succeeding rows or rounds. Tw—Twist stitch. Insert the needle in the back of the stitch to be knitted, and knit as usual. Sl—Slip a stitch from the left hand to the right hand needle without knitting it. Sb and B—Slip and bind—slip one stitch, knit the next; pass the slipped one over it, exactly as in binding off a piece of work at the end. * indicates a repetition, and is used merely to save words. "Sl 1, k 1, p 1, repeat from * 3 times"—would be equivalent to saying sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1. Tog means together.

Terms in Crochet.

Ch—Chain; a straight series of loops, each drawn with the hook through the preceding one. Sl st—Slip stitch; put hook through the work, thread over the hook, draw it through the stitch on the hook. S c—Single Crochet; having a stitch on the needle (or hook) put the needle through the work, draw the thread through the work, and the stitch on the needle. D c—double crochet; having the stitch on the needle, put the needle through the work, and draw a stitch through, making two on the needle. Take up the thread again, and draw it through both these stitches. T c or Tr—Treble Crochet; having a stitch on the needle, take up the thread as if for a stitch, put the needle through the work, and draw the thread through, making three on the needle. Take up the thread and draw through two, then take up the thread and draw it through the two remaining. S t c—Short Treble Crochet; like treble, except that when the three stitches are on the needle, instead of drawing the thread through two stitches twice, it is drawn through all three at once. L t c—Long Treble Crochet; like treble, except that the thread is thrown twice over the needle before inserting the latter in the work. The stitches are worked off two at a time, as in treble. Extra Long Stitch—Twine the cotton three times round the needle, work as the treble stitch, bringing the cotton through two loops four times. P—or picot; made by working three chain, and one single crochet in first stitch of the chain.

Can any one tell us what will take the letters out of flour sacks? L.

Will some one send directions for knitting a Roman stripe for afghan?

The directions for Mikado Lace given in August number of L. H. J. are correct.—Ed.

Can any one inform us of Daisy stitch in crochet? Reader.

"M. W. J." wishes for pattern of tea cosey. Can any of the sisters send us one?—Ed.

Will some sister send tried directions of a crochet hood for grown person? A. M. M.

Can any one, through the Journal, tell me how to crochet a ladies vest? F. L. B.

Will some one tell me how to knit an undershirt for a child three years of age? what kind of yarn and needles? Subscriber.

One scallop of Pineapple edging, given in the July number, makes a pretty watch pocket, made of purse silk.—Ed.

Will some of the readers of the L. H. J. please send directions for knitted Anchor Lace? and greatly oblige.—Ed.

"Idella:"—Any correct and tried directions of fancy work you are pleased to contribute, will be gratefully received.—Ed.

We are obliged to remind our correspondents that all requests for information must be accompanied with their full address, in order to secure the attention they desire.—Ed.

"Wapsie:"—You will find Roman Key or Greek edging just the thing for aprons. You can make insertion of the same, by leaving off the scallop. It will appear in the December number.—Ed.

Can any of the readers send correct directions of ladies crocheted Sleeveless Jacket, or Hug-me-tight, with long square fronts, short over the hips and bustle, slit on the side and in the back? M. F. W.

Crocheted Lace in June number, is called Antique Lace, and Spider Lace Insertion can be made from the same directions, by filling in between the points with the open squares, like the upper side.—Ed.

"E. A. C.:"—Do not know what books you refer to as having directions with tunis stitch in them. Afghan, victoria and tricot stitch are all one. Have not yet learned tunis stitch. Can any of our readers explain it? Have never heard any complaint about the white powder in stamping outfit disappearing when hot iron is applied. See no reason why it should.—Ed.

Crochet Clover Leaf Edging.

Make a foundation chain of 7 stitches.

1st row. 3 d c in 5th stitch of chain, ch 2, 3 d c in same, ch 3, 1 d c in last stitch of chain; turn.

2d row. Chain 5, 3 d c in chain 2 of last row, ch 2, 3 d c in same; turn.

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]

3d row. 1 s c in top of each 3 d c in last row, 3 d c in ch 2, ch 2, 3 d c in same, ch 3, 1 d c in 3d stitch of ch 5; turn.

4th row. Ch 5, 3 d c in ch 2, ch 2, 3 d c in same, ch 13; turn. 1 s c in 7th stitch of chain 13, (this makes a loop,) turn, ch 6, 1 s c in loop, ch 6, 1 s c in loop, ch 6, 1 s c in stitch where the loop joins, turn; 1 s c in loop last made by ch 6, 6 d c in same; take the hook out of the work, put it through the first stitch of second shell, (or last stitch of second row,) through the stitch that you took your hook from, and draw it through, then turn the work over and put 6 d c in loop, 1 s c in same, 1 s c in next loop, 12 d c in same, 1 s c in each of chain 6, and in the top of 3 d c of last row, 3 d c in ch 2, ch 2, 3 d c in same, ch 3, 1 d c in third stitch of ch 5. Begin at second row, and proceed the same, until you come to the second loop of clover leaf, and you join that to the middle of the first clover leaf, the same way you join the first loop to shell, or last stitch of second row. A. S. K.

Handsome Fancy Mitt.

The same number of needles used in knitting stockings. Silk can be used, but these mitts are very much prettier if made of fancy colored linen thread. I use a thread I buy of the Singer Sewing Machine Co. No 30 or 40. These mitts will wash, and look nice after each washing. Cast on 84 stitches, and knit once around plain, for the first row.

2d row. Knit 2 tog, over, knit 2 tog, over; repeat.

3d row knit plain.

4th row. Knit 2 tog, over, knit 2 tog, over; repeat.

5th row knit plain.

6th row. Knit 2 tog, over, knit 2 tog, over; repeat.

7th row knit plain, and be sure there are only 84 stitches on the needles.

8th row. Slip and bind, knit 5, purl 2, over,

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]

knit 1, over twice, purl 2; repeat.

9th row. Slip and bind, knit 4, purl 2, knit 3, purl 2; repeat.

10th row. Slip and bind, knit 3, purl 2, knit 1, over, knit 1, over, knit 1, purl 2; repeat.

11th row. Slip and bind, knit 2, purl 2, knit 5, purl 2; repeat.

12th row. Slip and bind, knit 1, purl 2, knit 2, over, knit 1, over, knit 2, purl 2; repeat.

13th row. Slip and bind, purl 2, knit 7, purl 2; repeat.

14th row. Over, knit 1, over twice, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 5, purl 2; repeat.

15th row. Knit 3, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 4, purl 2; repeat.

16th row. Knit 1, over, knit 1, over, knit 1, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 3, purl 2; repeat.

17th row. Knit 5, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 2, purl 2; repeat.

18th row. Knit 2, over, knit 1, over, knit 2, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 1, purl 2; repeat.

19th row. Knit 7, purl 2, slip and bind, purl 2; repeat. This finishes one leaf of the pattern, and the 20th row is the same as the 8th row. I knit 12 of these leaves before I widen for the thumb. Then I knit 4 more leaves, widening four leaves, (or 24 stitches) during the knitting of these last four. Put all this widening in on the thumb side of the mitt. After knitting 16 leaves in length, slip off 5 leaves, (or 29 stitches) on to a thread, for the thumb. Make ten new stitches for the gore, on the inside of the thumb, and narrow a stitch each row 'till it leaves only the one stitch to start another leaf with. You will see that it fits in all right, when you come to knit it. I make one and one half leaves in length from the thumb, for the hand, then knit several rows of open work the same as at the top of mitt, and finish off with small crocheted shells. Narrow the gore of the thumb the same way, and make the thumb only one leaf in length, finishing with the open work and crocheted shells. If any one gets into trouble over these directions, send 2 two-cent stamps to Mrs. H. E. Tucker, 610 Larimer St., Denver, Col., and she will try to help them.

Deep Shell Lace.

Cast on 39 stitches.

1st row. Slip 1, k 1, o, n, o, n, k 2, o, n, o, n, k 5, o, n, o, n, o t, n, k 12, o t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog.

2d row. O t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog, kn 14, p 1, k 20, p 1.

3d row. Sl 1, k 1, o, n, o, n, k 3, o, n, o, n, k 4, o, n, o, n, k 15, o t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog.

4th row. O t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog, k 35, p 1.

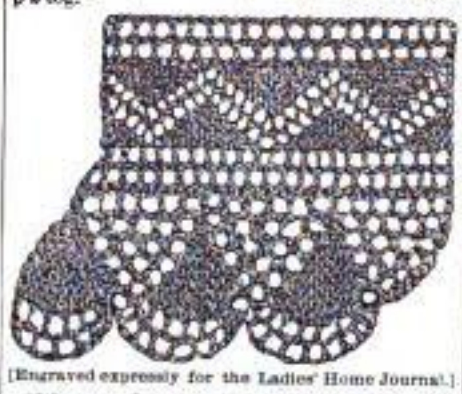
5th row. Sl 1, k 1, o, n, o, n, k 4, o, n, o, n, k 3, o, n, o, n, o t, n, o t, n, k 11, o t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog.

6th row. O t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog, k 13, p 1, k 2, p 1, k 20, p 1.

7th row. Sl 1, k 1, o, n, o, n, k 5, o, n, o, n, k 2, o, n, o, n, k 17, o t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog.

8th row. O t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog, knit all but last stitch, p 1.

9th row. Sl 1, k 1, o, n, o, n, k 6, o, n, o, n, k 1, o, n, o, n, o t, n 3 times, k 11, o t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog.



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10th row. O t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog, k 13, p 1, k 2, p 1, k 2, p 1, k 20, p 1.

11th row. Sl 1, k 1, o, n, o, n, k 7, o, n 4 times, k 20, o t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog.

12th row. O t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog, knit all but last stitch, p 1.

13th row. Sl 1, k 1, o, n, o, n, k 5, n, o, n, o, k 2, o, n, o, n, o t, n 4 times, k 12, o t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog.

14th row. O t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog, k 14, p 1, k 2, p 1, k 2, p 1, k 2, p 1, k 20, p 1.

15th row. Sl 1, k 1, o, n, o, n, k 4, n, o, n, o, k 3, o, n, o, n, k 24, o t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog.

16th row. O t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog, all plain but last stitch, p 1.

17th row. Sl 1, k 1, o, n, o, n, k 3, n, o, n, o, k 4, o, n, o, n, o t, n 5 times, k 14, o t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog.

18th row. O t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog, k 16, p 1, k 2, p 1 4 times, k 20, p 1.

19th row. Sl 1, k 1, o, n, o, n, k 2, n, o, n, o, k 5, o, n, o, n, k 29, o t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog.

20th row. O t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog, knit all but last stitch, p 1.

21st row. Sl 1, k 1, o, n, o, n, k 1, n, o, n, o, k 6, o, n, o, n, o t, n 6 times, k 17, o t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog.

22d row. O t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 tog, k 19, p 1, k 2, p 1 5 times.

23d row. Sl 1, k 1, o, n, o, n, n, o, n, o, k 7, o, n, o, n, k 18, slip the last one knit on the left hand needle, and pass the remaining 21 over it, knit the last stitch.

24th row. Knit all but the last stitch, purl 1; repeat.

Terms used:—sl, slip; o, over; n, narrow; o t, over twice; p, purl; k, knit; p 2 tog, purl 2 together. Sallie De M.

Infant's Hood.

No. 70 unbleached linen thread. Crochet a chain of 6, and join, work 7 times round, with d c, widen often enough to make it smooth like a mat. Then two rows of scallops, 6 d c in each scallop; catch down between each scallop, with s c in first row, not the second, but separate by 2 chain. Three rows d c same as first seven. Two rows with three d c in every third stitch. Three rows two d c in every other stitch. Two rows d c only one third round. Two rows of scallops, same as before, making 21 scallops across the front. Six rows d c. One row with 1 d c in every other d c. Frill all round the hood. Make 4 t c in every stitch, four times all round the hood, then finish with scallops. Run twisted thread through the back, and across front, to bring close to baby's face. I finished mine with pale blue bows and ties; some prefer white ribbon.

Anamosa, Iowa. Mrs. J. Moreland.

Leaf Edging.

Cast on 26 stitches; knit across plain.

1st row. Knit 2, over, narrow, knit 1, over, knit 2, slip 1, narrow, throw slipped stitch over, knit 2, over, knit 1, over, knit 2, slip 1, narrow, throw slipped stitch over, knit 2, over, knit 2, over, narrow, over twice, knit 2; (28 stitches on needle.)

2d row. Knit 3, purl 1, knit 1, over, narrow, purl 17, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1.

3d row. Knit 2, over, narrow, knit 2, over, knit 1, slip 1, narrow, throw slipped stitch over, knit 1, over, knit 3, over, knit 1, slip 1, narrow, throw slipped stitch over, knit 1, over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 4.

[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

4th row. Knit 5, over, narrow, purl 17, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1.

5th row. Knit 2, over, narrow, knit 3, over, slip 1, narrow, throw stitch over, over, knit 5, over, slip 1, narrow, throw slipped stitch over, over, knit 4, over, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, knit 2.

6th row. Knit 3, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 1, over, narrow, purl 17, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1; (31 stitches on needle.)

7th row. Knit 2, over, narrow, narrow, knit 2, over, knit 1, over, knit 2, slip 1, narrow, throw slipped stitch over, knit 2, over, knit 1, over, knit 2, slip 1, knit 1, throw slipped stitch over, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 7.

8th row. Knit 8, over, narrow, purl 17, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1.

9th row. Knit 2, over, narrow, narrow, knit 1, over, knit 3, over, knit 1, slip 1, narrow, throw slipped stitch over, knit 1, over, knit 3, over, knit 1, slip 1, knit 1, throw slipped stitch over, knit 1, over, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 1; (34 stitches.)

10th row. Knit 3, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 1, over, narrow, purl 17, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1.

11th row. Knit 2, over, narrow, narrow, over, knit 5, over, slip 1, narrow, throw slipped stitch over, over, knit 5, over, slip 1, knit 1, throw slipped stitch over, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 10.

12th row. Cast off 8 stitches, knit 2, over, narrow, purl 17, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1.

Insertion can be made to match by casting on 25 stitches, and leaving off the point. Lizzie Porter.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

BRUSH STUDIES AND HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

NEW SERIES—NO. XI.

BY LIDA AND M. J. CLARKSON.

Suggestions for Mantel Valence, Fabric painting and Applique—Hints, Queries, etc.

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The mantel decoration described in June number of JOURNAL has given rise to so many queries and requests that it seems best to furnish further suggestions of the kind, for the benefit of those readers anxious to embellish their homes with their own handiwork. The macrame trimming which once adorned the parlor mantel has been banished to some cosy bedroom where it is better keeping with the pretty draped toilet table with its bright ribbons to correspond. Something is wanted in its place and many very beautiful novelties are shown in the new lambrequins, and although the plain straight valence is declared by fashionable authority to be the correct thing, many people prefer something a little less severe in style.

Our illustation this month suggests something novel enough to suit the most capricious, and yet not the least fussy in its arrangement, as were the old-fashioned lambrequins with their box-plaits, and grotesque shapes. Simplicity is the leading order of the day, as shown not only in dress, but in house decoration. The valence here given is very handsome made of some rich material as plush, velvet, or satin sheeting in any dark, rich shade. The decoration partakes of the same simplicity in its design. A graceful cluster of large white magnolias and leaves, furnishes a bold, and yet tasteful subject. This is a design sure to find favor with many it being very easily executed, and having a charming decorative effect even where the material used is of moderate cost. The work can be done in lustra, Kensington, dye, or plain oil painting, or it may be executed very handsomely in embroidery, or applique. The plain oil painting is advised as the most satisfactory, but for the benefit of the many who will query as to the other methods, each will be described in order.

To execute the work in lustra if plush is to be used select that with a short, close nap, as otherwise it will be difficult to manage. Care should be taken in handling this fabric as it is easily crushed by rough usage.

The magnolia is an excellent subject for lustra painting, as large, simple flowers are always to be preferred to small, or intricate patterns, which are wholly unsuited to this branch of work. To paint the white blossoms, the general tone of color may be laid over the entire flower. For this use silver alone, mixing with the general medium to the consistency of syrup, or thick cream. A stiff bristle brush is required, and the touch should be firm, taking long, steady strokes, in order to lay the color well upon the surface of the pile. The shadows can be imitated by allowing the fabric to show through, using less color in the deeper accents, and more for the lights. Afterwards the shadows can be deepened yet more with steel, and the lights brightened with sparkling silver. Edge the lighter part of petals with a full brush, working gradually into the shadows. Upon satin, or satin sheeting, the local color should be laid over the entire flower, and the shadows painted in afterward with steel and black mixed. Use the color liberally, in order to avoid a dull, streaky appearance. Work with the flat of the brush, and let the pressure be firm and even. Put the high lights where they belong, as in other painting, remembering that the light is supposed to strike those particular planes turned toward it, not here, there, and everywhere, as is so often noticeable in amateur work.

The centres of flowers are painted in rich gold. Fill the brush with color and dab it on in quick touches; a little brown can be used in shading around the centres.

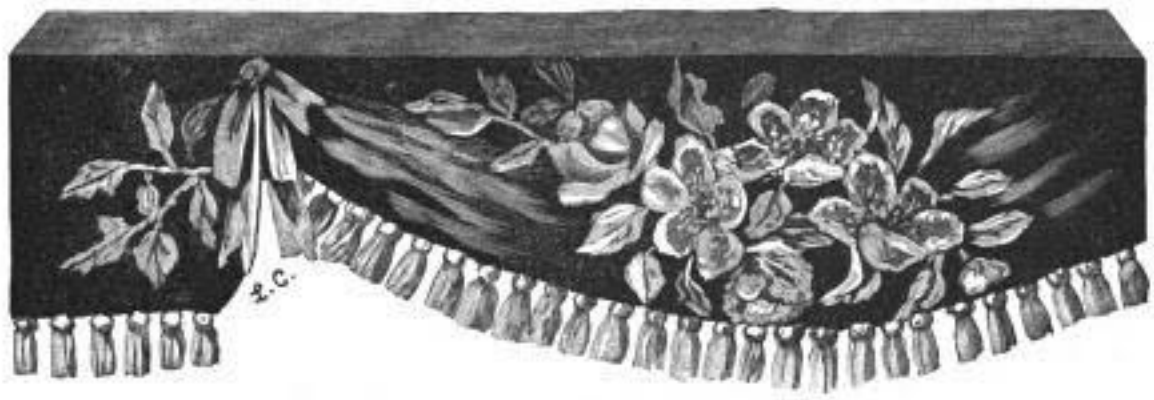
The leaves are painted with a combination of the lustra greens; dark green, dark dull green, and light dull green mixed. A little practice will enable the worker to get them in right proportion. Use for the high lights light green or green gold. As previously stated great liberty is allowed, the aim being richness rather tha realistic effects. When plain oil paints are used instead of the lustra bronzes, the scheme or color is as follows: The blossoms are a soft, creamy white, inclined to a greenish tinge towards the centre of petals. The stamens are yellow shaded with warm brown. The leaves are a dark, glossy green with brown in the shadows. For the general tone of the flowers use silver white, Antwerp blue, a trifle ivory black, yellow ochre and light red. Into this paint the shadows with white, raw umber, black, burnt sienna, and a trifle madder lake. The yellow stamens are painted with light chrome yellow, or cadmium, yellow ochre, silver white, a trifle madder lake and ivory black. For the shading around centre, use burnt sienna and raw umber. A little madder brown, if in the color box, is also good. For the high lights use silver white, with a very little madder lake; not enough, however, to give it a perceptible tinge of pink. A little madder lake used judiciously in the high lights of white flowers, gives a freshness, or as we once heard a German professor say, "a juicy look" to the flower. For the green leaves permanent, or Antwerp blue is used, with chrome yellow, or cadmium, white, ivory black and burnt sienna. Raw umber is needed in the shadows, and in the warmer tones zinnober green can be used.

To execute this design in Kensington, or pen painting, the same palette is required; but the paint should be laid on very generously. Apply with a bristle brush, laying the local color over the entire flower, then the shadows where they belong, and lastly the high lights. Then when the paint thickens a little, or is what is termed "tacky," taking a pen proceed to scratch in lines, imitating the stitches of embroidery. Do this firmly, wiping the pen point clean after each stroke.

For the centres lay the paint on in a thick lump, and then with the pen point, or with a coarse pin, punch it, drawing it up in little points, or knobs. This imitates the knot stitch of embroidery. The veins of the leaves can be drawn with a fine sable brush, loaded well with the paint, which is dislodged by twisting the point of the brush as it is drawn along. All the leaves and petals can be outlined in this way if the aim is to imitate embroidery with exactness. A good embroidery pattern is of great assistance in Kensington painting, as the design can be followed very accurately. We have work of this kind in our studio which has been taken repeatedly for embroidery. The design of magnolias can be executed in dye painting, using either the regular dye, or tapestry colors, or oil paints thinned with turpentine. In this style of work the color is rubbed into the pile of the velvet or plush, instead of being laid upon its surface, as in lustra painting.

An English writer recommends ordinary kerosene oil, as a medium to be used instead of oil, and claims that it makes the work more durable, and the colors brighter, and not so liable to spread.

There is another method of decoration for valence more acceptable to those who prefer the needle to the brush. This has been alluded to in previous papers as pictorial applique. Flowers and foliage can be arranged in various ways to suit the taste of the worker, and the grouping in illustration will serve as a suggestion. The materials necessary are pieces or scraps of colored cloth, velvet, or plush; flosses, embroidery silks, or crewels of the finer sort, and sometimes thin, flexible wire is used for the stems, although few are shown in this design. In this work the outlines of flower petals or leaves are first sketched upon linen. The cloth is then pasted smoothly upon the reverse side, and when dry the forms can be neatly cut out, following the lines as indicated by the drawing. The fabric to be decorated in this way is stretched in an embroidery frame, and the general outlines of the design sketched, or stamped upon it. Transfer paper can be used for this purpose upon satin, or felt, but not upon the right side of plush, or velvet. The pieces to be appliqued, are now placed in their correct positions upon the ground, and secured at first by lightly pasting them in place. Afterward they should be sewed around with fine silk, the stitches being covered in finishing with a cord, or with silk, or crewel couching. For the petals of the white magnolia blossoms, plush, velvet, or broadcloth can be used. The centres are worked in knot stitch, or in French knots. The green leaves are applied in the same way as the blossoms, the veining being done with silk or crewel. If plush is used care should be taken to lay the pile the right way as reversing it changes the shade. Couching is done by laying strands of floss, or crewel, around the edges of leaves or petals, and catching them down with stitches taken across the strands at regular intervals. Gold or silver cord is sometimes used instead, caught down from the underside in fine stitches. The veining of leaves may be darker in shade in accordance with the natural leaf. The French knot used for centres of flowers is made in the following manner. The silk is brought up through the fabric in its proper position in the design, then taking it between the thumb and forefinger it is wound around the needle several times close to the work. The needle is then reversed and drawn through again at the starting point. The thread should be held firmly with the left hand until tightly drawn up, and to make the knot firm, care should be taken to keep the thread wound around the needle close to the work. A finish to the valance can be made of the silks or crewels, short lengths left over from the work. Wind them around a piece of cardboard, and catch them firmly at one side, then cut the other, and either comb out for a fluffy fringe, or divide into little tassels, which are made by tying again to form a head. These can be fastened to the valence by a cord made of twisted strands of silk, or crewel. Elaborate fringes detract from a handsomely decorated article, rather than add to its beauty. Fringes should not be used so much for ornament as for simple finish.



[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]
SUGGESTION FOR MANTEL VALENCE.

HINTS AND QUERIES.

"Lily R. and others:"—Lincrusta Walton is eighteen inches in width, and ranges in price from seventy-five cents per yard to several dollars. In color it is either a pale buff, or a light or dark brown, but can be given any color in decoration. There is the widest scope for experiment, and the work is very fascinating and easily done. Lincrusta can be made to imitate hammered brass, or other metal, as bronze, silver, etc. Carved woods, leather, majolica, tapestry, crepe, in fact the different styles of decoration are most varied and beautiful. The patterns being raised, or in relief, require little skill as to shading, and can be painted in oil according to directions given in last paper for terraline ware. This fabric is not paper as many seem to conjecture, but as appearance would seem to indicate, some kind of wood fibre, backed by strong muslin. It is very flexible, and easily applied to almost any surface.

"L. R.:"—Your other queries cannot be answered for lack of space, and are not of interest to the general reader.

"Artist:"—Chrome yellow can be substituted for cadmium, but is not so good or permanent a color. Instead of terre vert you can use zinnober green and black. We consider the English or German vermillion best. Cobalt is a very necessary color, but Antwerp blue can often be made to take its place. Pansies and poppies have both been fully described in previous papers.

"S. B. H.:"—We are gratified to learn of your appreciation of "Brush Studies." Landscape painting will be given before long.

"D. T. H.:"—The "fixatif" of the art stores is doubtless a simple spirit-varnish made by dissolving white lac in alcohol. The rule is one-third of an ounce of the lac to one pint of spirits.

"Mary:"—The reason your color dried too quickly in painting the jug, was doubtless because the ware was porous and absorbed the paint too freely. If you follow directions in last number of "Brush Studies," you will not experience any such difficulty. Sugar of lead is an excellent drier and especially useful in decorative painting. A design for umbrella stand was given in last paper.

"G. B. H.:"—Your query is answered above.

"G. G.:"—The best way to sell your decorated jar would be to put it in some fancy store, or to advertise it in these columns.

"Mrs. E. M.:"—Your query is too vague to answer satisfactorily. Our "ideal" as to a head might be widely different from yours. It might be of a man, a woman, or a child, and the flesh tints would of course depend upon the subject chosen. If you will state your preference in the matter we will try to furnish the desired information.

"I. W.:"—To paint creamy white roses, use for the general tone, white, yellow ochre, a trifle ivory black and madder lake. In the shadows raw umber and burnt sienna should be added to the above palette, and a little cobalt should be used in the middle accents. You will need to lay on the general tone first, making it a little darker where the flowers are in shadow. Afterwards the shadows and high lights are painted in. If you can arrange your roses so as to get strong lights and shadows it will make a more effective painting. Texture in flowers is only had by a careful study of light and shade, and by correct blending. The tints should not terminate abruptly but merge imperceptibly one into the other. The rich purple of the centre of some varieties of fuchsia can be obtained most readily with mauve. Schoenfeld's German paint of this name, gives rich and beautiful purples in combination with madder lake and ivory black. The intense red of the cardinal flower can be had best by glazing. Use at first vermillion, and when dry go over with madder lake thinned with oil. This latter process can be repeated several times to give brilliancy. Madder carmine, sometimes called *carmin de garance*, is a very beautiful red for brilliant flowers, but an expensive color.

"B. G. C.:"—A dark, rich red, or sapphire blue Turkish satin would be handsome for your bookshelves with a bold design such as sunflowers or large lilies. This material makes a very rich hanging and is not very expensive. If something cheaper is desirable, felting can be used, and will be found very pleasant to work upon. A sage green, with design of large, simple poppies makes a handsome curtain. Turn over the top to the depth of a yard, and either trim with fringe or ornaments, or slash up the felting for a fringe, which makes a neat and pretty finish. Bolton sheeting, serge, crash, oatmeal cloth, are all fabrics much in use now for hangings of various kinds.

"Con. C. T.:"—If your paints are too thick to work well, that is of a consistency like jelly, there is no remedy, they are worthless, and oil of any kind will not better the matter. When merely thick but not jelled, a little linseed or poppy oil can be used as a vehicle. No, it is not always necessary, or expedient to cover the whole flower with the local color. Lay on each form distinctly as you see it in your copy. The canvas can remain uncovered in the lights until you are ready to paint them. Oftentimes these lights are painted so heavily that the pigment projects from the canvas, and the knife is used to lay on the color thus heavily. This, however, is not to be recommended as a wise method to the beginner. The local color can be laid on until it meets the shadows, noting carefully the forms of the shadows, softening into a half tint between the lights and shadows. Do not however try to blend the whole by going over it with the brush, or worse yet, a blender, or you lose the shapes of lights and shadows. Merely unite the edges enough to blend them until they show no harsh lines. No fixed rule can be laid down as to regular methods, as varied subjects call for different modes of procedure.

"Subscriber" who wishes information as to methods of the Chautauqua So. Fine Arts should write directly to one of the directors of that society, as the space in our colums is too limited to enter into such details. Mr. Frank Fowler, University Building, New York City, is president of the above mentioned society.

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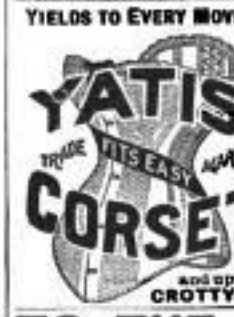

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Prepare for the holidays by securing one of our stamping outfits given for only six subscribers, or for only four subscribers and 25 cents extra, or for only two subscribers and fifty cents extra.

Punctuality does not consist in mere avoidance of being behind time. To be ahead of time is very nearly as bad, and is liable to produce the most disastrous results. Take up any newspaper you please, examine the causes of the horrible railroad slaughters, and the fact is plainly perceived that three fourths of the accidents are not because one train has been *behind* time, but because another train has been *ahead* of time. To be truly punctual one must neither be ahead nor behind, but on time.

We receive requests from all parts of the country, to forward our premium lists. As we do not publish any lists separate from the JOURNAL, in reply to these requests, we send a copy of the paper from which, all desiring premiums, can make a satisfactory selection. But we wish especially to call your attention to the premiums offered in *this issue*. Read our offers on page 15 and if you have not hitherto had any desire to raise a club, you certainly will wish to do so after having noted the beautiful premiums we offer to club raisers.

CHRONIC invalids are won't to lament aloud their uselessness and talk of the trouble they are giving. If they could but realize it, there is a species of selfishness in this, for by it they are adding tenfold to the burdens of those around who are cheerfully bearing the load and not feeling it as such. One can be *useful* without raising a finger to work. Many things are useful by simply *being*. So it is with people. Let invalids take heart of grace and let none despair of being able to do the task set them by the Eternal Father. Their work may be and evidently *is*, to bear *idleness* patiently.

IT is frequently the case that those sending in for some particular premium, cut from their JOURNAL the picture or notice of the article specified and forward it to us, thus entirely defacing their paper and cutting out on the other side of the page something that might be of real value to them as reference in the future.

This clipping is entirely unnecessary. We know just exactly what premium we offer for a certain number of subscribers, and subscribers have only to say what they want and we can send it quite as well *without* the picture as with it. Should they feel, however, that this is not sufficiently explicit, they may give us the number of the page and column.

We feel it necessary to publish this notice, as we have had more than one demand, after several days have elapsed, to *send back these slips, as the sender wasted them.*

All such slips find their way to the waste basket at once.

When your own subscription expires you can, at least, find ONE friend or neighbor who would like the JOURNAL for a year, Send her name with your own renewal, and choose a premium for two subscribers. We offer quite a number of good and useful articles for only two subscribers.

POSTAGE TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

A discrimination in the rates of postage to city subscribers is made between weekly and monthly periodicals, to the great disadvantage of the latter; for, while the weeklies can be mailed to city subscribers for one cent per pound, monthlies can not be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent for each two ounces, except where the subscribers go to the post-office for their mail. And, as the JOURNAL in its present form weighs over two ounces, we are, therefore, obliged to ask Philadelphia subscribers twenty-four cents extra for postage, unless the paper is addressed at the post-office to be called for, or to any P. O. box.

Remember when raising a club that two 6 months subscribers count the same as one yearly. When you cannot induce your friend to spare fifty cents for the JOURNAL, get her to take it six months on trial, anyhow, that will cost her but a quarter. If she reads it six months, she will never go without it.

SELF CONTROL.

One of the most desirable, if not absolutely *the* most desirable, of the gifts given to the human race for their well being, is that of self control.

Self control is a power given to few except in a slight degree, but in every human being is implanted the germ which, by careful watching and judicious training, becomes the sturdy tree about which all the other virtues and attributes cling as the vine to the oak, and without which support few of these virtues would ever grow sufficiently tall to be in any way conspicuous.

What fills our drunkard's graves? Lack of self control; for few are those addicted to intoxication but will tell you they know it is wrong, but they "can't help it." Some there be, 'tis true, who maintain that they do no wrong, and they really seem to believe it, but these are happily the "mighty few."

What fills our prisons? This same deadly evil, want of self control. The impulse to do wrong, the longing for another's property or his wife, the anger that sears the brain and shrivels the heart, seizes a man, and, having been taught little or no self government, he looses his self control and gives rein to the plunging beast of passion which carries him over the precipice; and the man that *would* have been but for one moment's madness, is dashed below and, if not crushed for all time, remains at best but a cripple.

What is true of our drunkards graves, our prisons, and our almhouses, is likewise true of our insane asylums. There are many cases of positive insanity that have risen from a devilish temper. It is argued that the disease which produced the insanity produced the vile temper. Supposing this premise to be correct the converse of the proposition is equally true, i. e. what would have controlled the *temper* would have gone a great way towards controlling the disease.

Children have been known to fall down in fits, real convulsions of an epileptic nature, because some desired article was refused. What then? Such nervous irritability can be controlled in a great measure by judious management on the part of a parent.

Look at the almost babes-in-arms, one reads of daily being arraigned before this judge or that for what? *Murder!* A fit of anger over some trifle and the boy of eleven whips out a knife and plunges it into the breast of a boy of nine. A mother refuses to allow her son to go somewhere or do something, and he forthwith brains her with an axe or a flatiron. And the verdict is insanity! Insanity? Not a bit of it. It is pure wicked want of self control for which the murdered parent herself is mainly responsible. O Mothers! Mothers! Little do you think of the *awful* responsibility you are taking on yourselves when you permit your children to display fits of temper, towards yourself or their playmates, without serious reproof, because in your estimation "they are so little that they do not know it is wrong."

Take to heart the fact that such a course of training is well calculated to fit them for the gallows. The sad story of a poor mother told not long ago needs no comment. "I had lost one child," she said, "and I indulged the second one. I never attempted to control him nor taught him to control himself." "At last," she added brokenly, tears choking her voice, "at last, the law took it out of my hands; they *hung* him."

O mothers, if you would have your sons and daughters good citizens, respected and self-respecting, if you would work for their external welfare, teach them self control.

SMALL TRUSTS.

We read of the "Great Unwashed" but story has been comparitively silent in regard to the "Great Unfaithful." Yet their name is legion, a legion which can hold its own, nay, even put to rout, the members of the "Unwashed." The Unfaithful" are not only those who deny the tenets of religion, who beat their wives, who starve their children, who steal their neighbor's wives or goods, who betray bank trusts. There is another tribe of unfaithful ones which far out numbers any or all of these. It is those who betray *small* trusts. Babies are taught with their earliest breath to repeat

"Little drops of water,
Little grains of sand,"

and one would think that a race of human beings into whom this had been ground day after day, year after year, century after century, would finally have absorbed some sense of the great importance of little things and of moral obligation in the minor matters of life. How utterly at fault this premise is, nine tenths of the people with whom one has small dealings, are an evidence. You make an engagement with Jones to go to the Park for instance, for an afternoon walk. Reaching the rendezvous and not seeing him, after a good half-hour of waiting, you, being a man exceedingly particular as to engagements, are naturally rather incensed.

Seeing him later, you say, "Hello, Jones! You're a nice sort of a fellow! I waited for you a half-hour yesterday!"

"Did? Why it was so frightfully hot that I didn't think you'd go, so I stayed at home and kept cool," and Jones is as complacent as if *he* were the one who had kept his engagement and you were the one at fault, (more so, in fact, we fancy).

If Smith borrows five thousand dollars, he is extremely anxious to pay it, and would regard himself a scoundrel if he did not refund the money the first moment he could. If he borrows five *cents* to pay his carfare, he seldom, if ever, thinks of his obligation again.

Five cents is a small matter perhaps, in the abstract. The question considered is not one of *sum* but of *principle*.

"He who borrows and does not repay" says some one, "is guilty of stealing" (Not intentionally perhaps, but he is certainly guilty of *keeping* that which is not his own even if he have not originally abstracted it without the knowledge of the owner. When a man asks for a *gift*, it is *one* thing but when he desires a *loan*, his moral obligation to repay that loan be it large or small, is precisely the same.

To ask for a loan is to give a tacit I. O. U. and the act should be so regarded by every one.

Another class of those faithless to small trusts, is that which intrenches itself behind the ever ready "O, I forgot." When such people forget, it is not thoughtlessness but a culpable failure to remember.

It is a fact, so well demonstrated that elaboration on the subject here is unnecessary, that the memory can be stimulated by a strong desire to remember, and them who will do something (if he *thinks* of it, generally manages to forget all about it, and this short coming is all sufficient for them as an excuse, should, in their estimation, pass current with you as a plea for pardon. That you should be put to inconvenience by their forgetfulness is certainly unpleasant for you and as such is a fact to be deplored, but it is something with which they have nothing to do, though they *sympathize* with you in your discomfort.

Such forgetfulness, if not a sin of commission is certainly a sin of omission.

To relate a fact, a man, (a gentleman and a business man,) said once upon a time laughingly, "People used to ask me to attend to their commissions, but I made it a point to forget their commissions and leave their bundles in the cars so often, that they have given up asking me any more," and he chuckled as if he had done a really smart thing, instead of a very selfish one.

It is doubtless an annoyance to any man to be constantly burdened with commissions, but how much more manly to honestly say so, than to accept a trust if ever so small, with the distinct intention of betraying it, or at least, the distinct intention of doing nothing to keep it in mind.

There would be dignity in saying, "I really have no time to attend to anything for anybody," and the speaker would attain the reputation for being a very busy man, instead of a very selfish one. (However, the latter opinion would be the more true perhaps). By so doing he would confer a real favor for some one else would attend to the commission, either for love or for money, and the disappointed one would *not* be disappointed after all.

The selfish ones are not always those who take the largest apple in the basket, nor the warmest place by the fire, neither are the unfaithful ones always those who betray bank trusts, or loving hearts.

Blessed indeed is he of whom it can be truthfully said, He was "Faithful in Little things."

CORRESPONDENCE.

"E. J. A." can get Lincrusta Walton from J. Marshing & Co., 27 Park Place, N. Y.

MRS. M. LAUGHLIN, Lamertine, Ohio, will send, on receipt of ten cents, diaper pattern, two sizes.

ANSWER TO AN INQUIRER:—Lace shades can be had from John Wanamaker from $4.00 to $6.50 per shade.

To some one who desires to know how to renovate feathers at home:—If she will lay her feather ticks and pillows on snow in winter, it does very nicely. If the snow is damp so much better. Please try and report,

A SUBSCRIBER.

SPRING GROVE, VA., Aug. 25th, '86.

ED. L. H. J.:—Can you tell me if a nun's veiling which was dyed a cardinal, and did not dye evenly, will take a seal brown, or any other dark shade? And oblige, MISS MATTIE T. GREENE.

[Yes.—ED. JOUR.]

MANAYUNK, S. 25, 1886.

Having seen in Answers to Correspondents that "Lavinia" says that Peruvian Syrup is a *sure cure* for gall stones, will Lavinia please tell me more particulars? how large a dose, or whether it should be taken by the advice of a physician? And kindly oblige, MRS. J. H. GALLATI.

"LA VERITE:"—We are sorry not to comply with your request. Having published two letters we have space for no more of those which we have received on both sides of the question. Your communication awaits your order. A communication addressed to any periodical should always be accompanied with full name and address of writer, no matter what *non de plume* has been assumed for publication.—ED.

POTSDAM, N. Y., Aug. 27, 1886

ED. L. H. J.:—In answer to the question I saw in that department of the paper, asking what would remove ink stains from carpet, I would give the following remedy: Sprinkle salt over the soiled spot and pour on boiling water; do it several times if necessary. I would like to know whether communications are to be sent to the publishers or to the editors. E. M. H.

HOLLY, NEW YORK, Aug. 19. 1886.

ED. JOURNAL:—Will you kindly inform me through your paper, where I can obtain Blaine's "Twenty Years in Congress," and the "Life and Letters of Elizabeth Prentiss?"

We are greatly pleased with your paper, and have renewed our subscription.

Yours respectfully, A YOUNG GIRL.

[The books you inquire about can be procured from Porter & Coates, Philadelphia, at the following prices: Blaine's Twenty Years in Congress, 2 volumes, $3.75 per volume; Life and Letters of Elizabeth Prentiss, $1.60.]—ED JOUR.

ED. JOURNAL:—In one of your late numbers I saw directions in regard to erasing, or scratching a word with a knife, suggesting that you rewrite and then scratch the unnecessary lines. I have another way which I should think would need less care, viz., scratch the word or letter as carefully as possible with a sharp knife, and then, turning your pen over, write with the back, and the ink will not run. I find it quite convenient, and hope it may be a hint to some who have not thought of it. Also, a piece of potato or apple lying near the inkstand will assist a new pen to shed the ink, by simply pushing the pen in once or twice. I think it much better than moistening the end in the mouth as I have been told to do.

IZA.

DEAR EDITOR:—I send a recipe for cleaning soiled ribbons or silk, which is excellent. 1 tablespoonful each of honey soft soap and alcohol. Melt honey and soap over the fire, then after taking from stove add the alcohol and a spoonful or more of rain water, then take a soft brush and dip in mixture and brush your silk back and forth, placing silk on board or clean table. When thoroughly cleaned rinse in several waters (rain water) by drawing silk or ribbon through the hand to get out all the soap. Roll up in a sheet and iron damp. Put a cloth over the silk before ironing. Have iron hot enough to iron nicely. Silks cleaned in this way look new and fresh—of course some colors fade. I washed a green and grey and black silk, and they looked beautifully.

Very truly, HELEN V.

LIME SPRINGS, July 31, 1886.

DEAR SISTERS:—With very young infants please use very fine grated nutmeg with browned linen, instead of fresh grease of any kind. It is very heating, therefore acts like a charm. I have known cases when the cord seemed almost decomposed, to heal and come off nicely in two days' time.

Can any of the sisters give me the words to these old pieces? "Old Dog Tray," and "Hard Times Come Again No More." These are old pieces and I would be much pleased to get them. The chorus of "Dog Tray" is this:

"Old Dog Tray is ever faithful,
Grief cannot drive him away,
He's gentle and he's kind,
And you'll never, never, find
A better friend than Old Dog Tray."

If the sisters' who are unable to run their sewing machines would have their 8-or-9-year-old boy or girl, (if they are fortunate enough to have them,) sit back of the machine, they can run it quite as well, and the delicate mother can sit before the machine and guide the work as well as tho' they killed themselves running the machine. I was thankful for this discovery and I hope it will benefit others. DOC'S WIFE.

WE are in receipt of a very pleasant letter from Mrs. M. H. Valentine, 136 Essex St., Bangor, Maine, in which she expresses herself as delighted with the little gold watch just received from us as a premium. She pronounces it an excellent time keeper, a perfect beauty, and perfectly satisfactory in every way. We congratulate her upon its possession.

ED. L. H. J.:—Some months ago I saw in your correspondence column an inquiry in regard to the Florence Lamp Stove. May I state my experience?

We have found the stove in every way satisfactory—one might almost say more than satisfactory. As a lady writes: "It is a treasure and we would not be without one for many times its cost." By the advertisement one can judge little of its value. It gives both light and heat, and with it water can be brought to a boil, or any hot drink prepared in less time than it usually takes to kindle a fire As we have proved, it is very desirable in a sick room, and with proper care, is no more liable to smoke than a common lamp. In ordinary work it will heat an iron, cook various articles of food, and has, besides, an oven attachment for baking.

Should one wish a larger oil stove, none, we think, could do better work than those of the Florence make. The Company is reliable, and by fair dealing must win the confidence of all.

Our family being small, we find the Florence Junior with extension J does our cooking nicely, and besides,—with the heater attached,—gives out a most pleasant warmth on a chance cold morning. The saving in labor, as well as heat, is wonderful. No wood to split or bring in, no hungry fire to feed, simply a reservoir full of oil, to begin each baking, and then the heat regulated by turning the wick up or down. Would that every weary, flurried housewife might have both labor and heart lightened, as ours have been, by a Florence Oil Stove. K. L. D.

ED. L. H. J.:—I wish to tell the readers of the JOURNAL how well I succeeded in washing some old black guipure lace, also some hand-made white lace which had taken on other hue than that of age.

For the guipure I took about a pint of strong coffee, a little hot, soft water, and a tablespoonful of strong aqua ammonia. In this I squeezed and pressed the lace but did not rub. After squeezing dry I rinsed in more coffee and water in which I had dissolved one tablespoonful of granulated sugar—this for stiffening. I hung out in the sun until nearly dry, then clapped in my hands until nearly dry, pulling out each point or scallop. It is now replaced as trimming, and save for a few darns with black silk twist, you would think it fresh from the manufacturer's hands.

The hand-made point, which was very delicate, (the price of which I dare not mention, since those who have not a *penchant* or weakness for fine laces might deem me extravagant,) I avoided manipulating by winding over a large bottle, and placing in a cold suds, in which there was a liberal supply of ammonia. I placed the dish—a new pan—on the range, where it would gently simmer, turning the bottle over from time to time. Then I squeezed and pressed the lace in the water *without removing from the bottle*. After the same process in soft, warm rinsing water, I pressed as dry as possible and put out in the sun a few moments. When dry it unwound from the bottle looking as new as the day—some five years' since—that I became its possessor.

I would tell an inquirer that the best piano polish which I have tried is called Imperial Polish, prepared by W. J. Dyer, music dealer, of St. Paul, Minn. It is warranted free from injurious chemicals. It is very easily applied, and produces a lasting polish, leaving no sticky surface, as have other polishes which I have used.

I reply to another inquiry I would say: soak table damask or children's aprons, in kerosene, previous to laundrying, to remove the stains of apples, pears, or peaches.

FANNY FANSHAW.

WESTBORO, WIS., Sept. 18, 1886.

DEAR EDITOR:—I have been a subscriber of your paper since March, and value it highly. I have no brilliant idea which I wish to air, but I have a good deal of fault to find with the sisters, for the spirit of retaliation possessed by them, and in which they indulge so freely. I was not a subscriber in January, and therefore did not read "Poppy's" letter which called forth such a fierce tirade from "Bell," in the July number, in which she quoted the words of Jesus as coming from the lips of General Grant. Then in the August number "Poppy" must take up the cudgel—pen—in self-defence. Well, I fear if I had been out in a boat on a deep pond with these dear sisters I should have considered them candidates for immersion. However, my sympathies are all with "Poppy" for I think she is honest in her endeavor to aid inexperienced mothers, by her counsel and advice.

Then Mrs. Herrick must come out so strongly against servant girls that one who had held that position must have felt their heart swell with indignation. I will leave her to the "tender mercies" of "Elsie Rose," for I think she met a "foe worthy of her steel" in the person of that individual, as she defends servants so valiently that I felt like crying "Bravo!"

"Mrs. Emma C. Hewitt" gives her views in regard to the training of children.

"Mrs. Clara D. Armstrong" instead of giving her views in a friendly spirit, begins by saying she doubts the truth of "Mrs. Hewitt's" story. Pretty strong language for one who is leaning upon Jesus, day by day. Do not thus deceive yourself, sister, but when you feel like telling a fellow being they lie, just say with all the force you can muster: "Get thee behind me, Satan."

Let us strive to exchange ideas in a christian spirit, and not bring our beloved JOURNAL into disrepute by wrangling. I heard one person remark that the sisters of "the HOME JOURNAL were as quarrelsome as politicians."

"John's Wife" is a model of good sense and we have yet to hear her speak of others' theories in a harsh or unladylike manner.

I have had my say, and sincerely hope that you will not all declare war against me at one time, lest I be annihilated. H. M. M.

IF "Pinkie" will pour some sweet milk on the ink stain in her carpet, leave it over night, then wash with soap and water, the stains will come out. L. M. M.

ASHLAND, PA.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

COTTAGE DINNERS.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

The practice of publishing bills of fare accompanied by recipes for the preparation of the various viands enumerated has become extremely popular of late years. Few leading household magazines and journals lack some department of this sort. With all due respect for their compilers, who are often highly skilled in culinary matters, it may be said that one fault marks all these *menus*, valuable as many of them are. They are written either for those who can afford to engage trained cooks, or else for those who have abundant leisure to devote to the concoction of elaborate dishes. But to the thrifty housewife who has the aid of only one maid-of-all-work in the management of her home, or to her who is forced to make the charge of the culinary department only one of a number of equally pressing duties to be accomplished by her own hands, such directions are more often a discouragement than a help. She reads descriptions of dishes far beyond the limits of her purse in cost or of her time in preparation and goes back sighingly to the old round of tough steaks, stringy chops and juiceless roasts.

Yet it has been abundantly demonstrated that a wholesome variety may be obtained without a large added expenditure of time or money. To illustrate this truth will be the aim of this series of papers. Each month the dinners for a consecutive week will be given, thus affording opportunity to direct how to dispose of the "left overs" from day to day. For the present, the breakfasts and suppers may be left to take care of themselves. The faculty of making the best of things and of manufacturing tempting and novel dishes from simple or hackneyed materials is one that grows marvelously with practice. If the outline for seven days meals may lighten by a feather's weight the burden upon even one housekeeper's shoulders, or give her a suggestion which will render less sickeningly monotonous the never ending, still beginning toil of catering to her family, the writer will be more than rewarded.

SUNDAY.

Braised veal with tomato sauce.
Boiled potatoes,
Sliced beets,
Succotash,
Almond tapioca custard,
Almond cream cake.

BRAISED VEAL.

Order from the butcher a breast of veal, or as it is sometimes called, a "pocket" of veal, in which there is left a cavity for stuffing. Fill this with a forcemeat of finely chopped salt pork and bread crumbs, well seasoned with pepper, salt, a very little onion and sweet herbs. Lay in a dripping pan, pour over it a large cup of boiling water, cover with another pan and bake slowly, about fifteen minutes to the pound. Baste once or twice and turn the meat over when it is about half cooked. When done, transfer it to a hot dish, cool the gravy by setting it in cold water, skim, heat again to boiling, add half the liquor drained from a can of tomatoes, and thicken with *browned* flour. Gravies for roasts of all kinds should invariably be thickened with browned flour. The practice of using uncooked flour for thickening is unpleasantly common, and should be avoided by all those who aspire to really dainty and savory cookery. Not only is the appearance of the gravy affected but the taste as well. It is easy to brown a good quantity of flour at a time and keep it on hand in a glass jar or tin box with a closely fitting top.

BOILED POTATOES.

Select large firm ones, put on in slightly salted boiling water and cook until tender. Drain off the water, leave them in the pot long enough to become dry and floury and serve folded in a napkin laid in a vegetable dish. Many cooks claim that it makes potatoes mealy to give them two or three vigorous shakes in the pot after the water has been drained off entirely.

SLICED BEETS.

Wash carefully and boil for an hour. Scrape the skin off, slice thin, and pour over them a tablespoonful of melted butter, two tablespoonfuls of vinegar and pepper and salt to taste. Serve either very hot or very cold.

SUCCOTASH.

Eight ears of corn,
One cup and a half of shelled lima beans.

Boil the beans half an hour in slightly salted water. Cut the corn from the cob, add to the beans and stew gently half an hour longer. Drain off the water and pour in half a cupful of boiling milk into which has been stirred two teaspoonfuls of butter rolled in as much flour. Season, cook fifteen minutes longer and serve. This dish can be made with the canned corn and beans, but the fresh will be found more palatable. In either case serve very hot.

ALMOND TAPIOCA CUSTARD.

One cup of pearl tapioca, soaked in a cup and a-half of cold water,
One pint of milk,
Four eggs,
One cup sugar.
Two teaspoonfuls vanilla flavoring,
Quarter of a pound of shelled almonds, blanched and shelled very fine.

Soak the tapioca over night in the water. Heat the milk in a double boiler with a tiny pinch of soda. Add to it the soaked tapioca, and simmer until this is tender. Beat the yolks of the eggs light with the sugar, stir into it the boiling tapioca by cautious degrees and return to the fire. Cook until the custard has a creamy look and taste, which should be in about ten minutes. Turn out into a bowl and when cool, stir in the flavoring and the almonds. Just before it is to be eaten, whip the whites of the eggs to a meringue with a little powdered sugar and heap upon the top of your custard.

This dessert, it will be seen, must be prepared the day before it is to be eaten. This is the best plan to pursue with all Sunday desserts, as by this course the labor of dinner getting,—always heavy enough, is materially lightened.

ALMOND CREAM CAKE.

Two cups of sugar,
Half a cup of butter,
Four eggs, whites and yolks beaten separately and very light,
Three cups prepared flour,
One cup of cold water,
One lemon, the juice and grated peel.

Cream the butter and sugar, add the lemon, the yolks of the eggs, the water, flour and the whites. Beat hard and bake in jelly cake tins.

Filling.

One cup of milk,
Three teaspoonfuls of corn starch,
One egg,
Half a cup of sugar,
Half a cup of almonds, blanched and chopped fine,
One teaspoonful of vanilla.

Heat the milk to boiling, thicken with the cornstarch wet in a little cold milk, pour upon the whipped yolk of the egg and sugar and cook all together for ten minutes. Take from the fire, and when cool add the flavoring and the almonds. Spread thickly between the layers of cake.

A simple icing may be made by beating the reserved whites up with powdered sugar and a little lemon juice or bitter almond flavoring.

MONDAY.

Veal Pate,
Baked Potatoes,
Scalloped Tomatoes,
Fruit.

VEAL PATE.

One small cupful of rice,
One egg,
Half cupful of milk,
Remains of cold veal, chopped,
Gravy left from yesterday.

Boil the rice in plenty of water at breakfast time, and when cold work to a stiff paste with the milk and the beaten egg. With this line a well greased brown bread mould, or if this is not available a small tin pail, and fill the centre with the chopped meat moistened with gravy and well seasoned. The stuffing will make a pleasant addition. Spread more of the rice on the top, fasten on a tight cover and boil hard for an hour and a half. Turn out and pour the remains of your sauce or gravy about the base of the pate. A very nice gravy may be made out of the bones from which the veal has been cut. These may cook at the side of the stove, as may the pot containing the mould without interfering with the boiler.

BAKED POTATOES.

Potatoes roasted in their jackets are generally a popular dish, but they are sometimes sent to the table with the aforesaid jackets bearing too strong a reminder of mother earth to be altogether agreeable. Potatoes to be served in their skins should be very thoroughly washed. It is best to keep a small stiff brush for the especial purpose of scrubbing them. Cook them until they yield readily to the pressure of the thumb and finger, and send to table wrapped in a napkin.

SCALLOPED TOMATOES.

Cover the bottom of a greased shallow baking dish with bread crumbs and on this lay the tomatoes left over from the can opened yesterday, first chopping them to avoid lumps. Sprinkle with salt, pepper and sugar, cover with another layer of crumbs and dot this with small bits of butter. Bake covered twenty minutes and then brown.

FRUIT.

In the busy households, where every added item of work on Monday is a burden, a dish of grapes and pears or even of apples, will prove the easiest dessert. Let the fruit be arranged temptingly and decorated with a few green sprays, or autumnal leaves, the plates supplied with finger bowls, doilies and fruit knives. In this day, when pretty Japanese finger bowls can be purchased at twenty and twenty-five cents apiece, one can easily get a pretty harlequin collection that will cost far less than a more pretentious set and be fully as ornamental. The Japanese paper mats, selling at fifty cents a dozen make excellent doilies and if carefully handled, will last for some time.

TUESDAY.

Salmon au gratin,
Mashed Potatoes, Stewed Macaroni,
Celery,
Boiled Chestnuts.

SALMON AU GRATIN.

One can salmon,
One cup drawn butter,
Fine bread crumbs.

Pick the salmon to pieces with a fork, carefully removing the bone, and stir into it the drawn butter. Season to taste, add the juice of half a lemon, and pour into a buttered pudding dish. Cover with the crumbs, and bake covered ten minutes. Uncover and brown. Pass sliced lemon with this.

MASHED POTATO.

Peel potatoes, cut in pieces and boil in slightly salted water until tender. Beat with a fork until light and creamy, then whip in a good tablespoonful of butter and enough hot milk to soften the mixture to the desired consistency. The housekeeper will do well to use the small potatoes for such purposes as this keeping the large ones for roasting and boiling whole. It is also a good plan to cook a generous supply of mashed potatoes, as they can be utilized in so many forms.

STEWED MACARONI.

The best variety of macaroni to use is the spaghetti, a size between the pipe and the vermicelli. Break half a pound of this into inch length, thus simplyfying its management for the eaters, and put it into salted hot water. Boil half an hour, or until tender. Drain in a colander, pour into a dish and stir into it a tablespoonful of butter melted in hot milk and two tablespoonfuls of grated cheese. Set in the oven a few minutes before sending it to the table.

CELERY.

Wash and pick over carefully, selecting the whitest and freshest pieces. Send to table in a celery dish, or a high goblet, with ice about the celery. Pretty, long, shallow dishes are now sold for this use.

BOILED CHESTNUTS.

This is an easy dish for ironing day and to most people, a pleasant one. Boil the chestnuts until tender, drain dry, moisten with a little melted butter and sprinkle with salt. Serve piping hot. A good cup of tea is a refreshing adjunct to Tuesday's dinner.

WEDNESDAY.

Mutton Chops with Eggs,
Potato Puff, Baked Sweet Potatoes,
Bread and Apple Pudding.

MUTTON CHOPS WITH EGGS.

For this dish the dainty French chops that are at once so delicious and so expensive need not be used. The large, coming further down the leg and resembling cutlets more than chops are quite as good. Beat them hard with the flat of a hatchet crushing the bones, and dip each first into beaten egg and then into cracker crumbs. Have ready plenty of boiling hot dripping in a frying pan. Test it with a piece of bread, and if this browns almost instantly the fat is in proper condition. Fry the chop a good brown, remove with a skimmer and place on a hot platter. Fry an egg for each chop and lay them on the meat.

POTATO PUFF.

Two cupfuls of cold mashed potato. A little foresight the previous day will result in having this already in the pantry.

Yolks of two eggs. Reserve the whites for the pudding.

Half a cupful of milk.

One teaspoonful of butter.

Beat the potato until it is free from lumps. Whip the eggs light, stir in this and the milk, butter and salt and pepper to taste and bake in a buttered pudding dish. It should be eaten as soon as ready, as it is apt to fall as it cools.

BAKED SWEET POTATOES.

Wash and wipe sweet potatoes and bake on the floor of the oven until soft to the touch.

BREAD AND APPLE PUDDING.

Cut enough slices of stale bread to fill a baking dish, trimming the crust from each piece. Butter the slices lightly, place a layer of them in the bottom of a greased pudding dish and moisten them with milk. Spread thickly with apple sauce, sprinkle with sugar, and then repeat the layer of bread. Continue with this until the dish is full, making bread the last layer. Bake covered half an hour, draw to the door of the oven and heap on it a meringue made of the whites of egg saved from the potatoe puff, beaten up with a little sugar. Brown lightly and eat cold with sugar and cream.

THURSDAY.

Corned Beef.
Stuffed Potatoes, Creamed Cold Slaw,
Rice Croquette with Jelly Sauce.

CORNED BEEF.

Buy a piece from the round, taking care that it is not too fat. Soak overnight in cold water. Put it on the stove in plenty of warm water, bring to the boil slowly and cook about twenty minutes to the pound.

For sauce, make drawn butter. Take a cupful of the pot liquor, strain and stir into it two teaspoonfuls of melted butter rolled in a good tablespoonful of flour and a little tart pickle minced fine.

Set aside the *liquor* for soup.

STUFFED POTATOES.

Select fine large potatoes and bake until tender. Cut off the ends, scoop out the contents with the handle of a spoon and work soft with butter, hot milk, pepper, salt, and if desired, a little grated cheese. Return the mixture to the skins, mounding it up on the open ends and, with these uppermost, set the potatoes in the oven for five minutes. Eat from the skin.

CREAMED COLD SLAW.

Half a firm white cabbage,
Two teaspoonfuls of butter,
One cup of vinegar,
Half cup of milk,
One egg,
One teaspoonful flour,
One tablespoonful sugar.

Heat the vinegar to scalding, and add the sugar and seasoning. Stir into this the cabbage and take from the stove. In another vessel heat the milk and thicken with the flour rubbed smooth with the flour. Pour this on the egg, whipped light, return to the fire and cook five minutes and pour over the cabbage. Mix thoroughly. Eat very cold.

RICE CROQUETTES.

Two cupfuls cold boiled rice,
One egg,
Two teaspoonfuls sugar,
" " butter.

Beat the egg, whipped light with the sugar and butter, into the rice, guarding carefully against lumps. Shape the mixture into croquettes by rolling between the floured hands. Coat with flour. Make them some hours before they are needed that they may be firm. Fry in very hot dripping, lay in a colander and sprinkle with powdered sugar.

JELLY SAUCE.

Half small cup of boiling water,
Half cup currant or other tart jelly,
Two teaspoonfuls cornstarch,
One tablespoonful butter.

Wet up the cornstarch with a little cold water and stir into the boiling water. Cook until it thickens and add the butter. Beat in the jelly, and pour over the croquettes.

FRIDAY.

White Soup,
Baked Cod with Cheese,
Mashed Potato,
Pea Pancakes,
Nuts and Raisins.

WHITE SOUP.

Skim all grease from the liquor in which the corn beef was boiled and clear it by beating to a boil and breaking into it the white and shell of an egg. Boil up hard and strain. Return to the stove and when it is once more boiling stir in a couple of tablespoonfuls of corn starch rubbed smooth in a cupful of milk. Dip out a little of the soup and pour it on two beaten eggs, doing this carefully, to avoid curdling them. Pour these into the rest of the soup, add a good handful of chopped parsley and send to the table. This will be found a cheap and palatable soup.

BAKED COD WITH CHEESE.

Soak overnight a piece of salt cod. In the morning, pick to pieces, removing all bits of skin or bone. Heat a cup of milk to boiling, and thicken with four good teaspoonfuls of corn starch, rubbed into a tablespoonful of butter. When the gravy is smooth and thick, add the flaked cod. Let this become thoroughly heated and pour into a greased baking dish. Strew the top thickly with grated cheese and brown in the oven.

MASHED POTATO

may be prepared as directed before, again taking care to prepare a larger amount than is needed for the day.

PEA PANCLKES.

Drain the liquor from a can of peas and put them over the fire in enough boiling water to cover them. Cook tender, pour off the water and mash them very smooth with the back of a spoon. Rub into them two teaspoonfuls of butter and pepper and salt to taste. Whip up one egg, add a cupful of milk, half a cupful of flour and a teaspoonful of baking powder and stir the peas into this. Bake as one does griddlecakes and eat hot with butter as a vegetable.

NUTS AND RAISINS.

Hickory nuts, walnuts, butternuts, almonds, filberts, etc., are apt to be cheap and plenty at this time of year. They make a good dessert balanced by a dish of raisins.

SATURDAY.

Scalloped Beef,
Mashed Turnips, Buttered Sweet Potatoes,
Soft Gingerbread,
Cocoatina.

SCALLOPED BEEF.

Chop the remains of your corned beef fine, as for hash, put into a greased pudding dish and moisten with gravy or drawn butter into which has been stirred a good teaspoonful of Worcestershire sauce. Be very careful that the mince is not too dry. Spread over the top a thick layer of mashed potato which has been softened by the addition of half a cupful of milk, a beaten egg, and a tablespoonful of butter. Salt and pepper to taste. Bake covered twenty minutes and then brown.

MASHED TURNIPS.

Drop, after peeling and slicing into cold water, to prevent their blackening. Put over the fire in slightly salted boiling water and stew gently until soft. Drain very dry, mash smooth and return to the pot with a spoonful of butter and seasoning to taste. Eat very hot.

BUTTERED SWEET POTATOES.

Boil the potatoes in their skins until soft. Peel them and slice them lengthwise, butter liberally, lay in a hot dish and set them in the oven for two minutes before sending them to the table.

SOFT GINGERBREAD.

Two cups of flour,
Half cupful of sugar,
Half cupful of flour,
One cupful of sour milk or cream,
Butter the size of an egg,
One teaspoonful of cinnamon,
One teaspoonful of soda dissolved in a little boiling water and stirred into the milk.

Cream butter and sugar, stir in the molasses, spice, the milk and soda, last of all the flour. Beat very hard for five minutes and bake in a large card. Eat warm, and break instead of cutting it. Add more flour, should it seem too thin.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

AUTUMN STYLES.

Novelties for November in Hats and Bonnets. A Few Fall Wraps. High Art Dress Goods, and Pretty Inexpensive Fabrics for beautiful Garments. Late Fashions in Skirts and Corsages. The Newest Conceits in Shoes.

BY MRS. JAS. H. LAMBERT.

The fancy for wearing stylish hats and bonnets of straw, in the various popular braids, will last until the earlier winter winds have whirled away the brilliant hued autumn leaves, and then new shapes in felt and the bonnets covered with velvet, plush, brocade and cloth will be generally adopted.

The brim of almost any head covering of straw or felt, whatever its shape may be, is lined or faced with plain velvet, or silk arranged in folds, shirred or puffed. High trimmings adorn the tall crowns of elegant hats, and velvet, plush, gros grain and satin ribbons, with flowers, feathers, plumes or tips are used upon capotes and curiously shaped hats.

The trimmed bonnets have wider strings than were worn last year, and bunches of natural looking fruit are arranged with peculiar loops of the ribbon or material used for decorative purposes. In a new and handsome hat, the velvet lined brim is upturned at the back, and puff folds of the trimmings are brought up in the back, laid high and carelessly over the top of crown, and then supplemented in front with upstanding loops of ribbon, and bunches of flowers which rest on front of crown one below the other, down to the brim.

Accompanying the new suits in any one of the fashionable woolen materials are jaunty jackets, fitted or half-fitting. Sometimes trimmed but more frequently with only the buttons for ornamentations, the style consisting simply in the cut, and manner of putting the garment together, and its perfections in finish. Long dust coats and traveling cloaks come in plain and rough cloths, while charming little mantles for full dress, are in dozens of pretty graceful shapes, in velvet, plushes, brocades, satins, and other handsome materials, trimmed in fanciful conceits with laces, fringes, passementeries, and the handsome bead ornaments which are still so popular.

For elegant novelties in dress goods, a high price must be paid, and but few of our readers can aspire to possess a dress of the superb fabrics which cost from $5.00 to $12.00 a yard. Some have ground in wool or camel's hair, with stripes or figures in plush, or velvet, and others show corded silk or sicilienne ground with stripes in plush or velvet.

In one style, the grounds are in satin finished cords, with center stripes of velvet flowers in rich and perfect colors, in exquisite hand painted or shaded effects. Another pattern shows velvet stripes with fern leaves in velvet and frise effects, while neat stripes and plain surfaced groods in velvet and plush, come in dozens of styles and colors at from $1.25 to $3.00 and $5.00 a yard. Good plushes for fancy work cost $1.50, $1.75, or $2.00 a yard, and come in all desirable colors. Splendid Arcadia Velveteens in the hues and shades of new woolen goods will be used for handsome and enduring costumes, or for skirts to be worn under draperies of some pliable silken and woolen goods. Lovely grades of these Arcadia Velveteens cost only $1.00 and $1.25 a yard, and suits of them can be worn in all weathers without injury to the material.

Among the novelties in stylish dress goods are the English checks and plaids, in Camel's hair, and soft wools, and then there are useful goods in broken checks and plaids in best wool that cost 75c, $1.00 and $1.25 a yard. Hair line striped goods 42 to 54 inches wide are cheaper than they were in August, costing now 75c. $1.00 $1.25 and $1.50, and the still newer hair line checks are sold at the same prices, save the finest grade which is marked $1.75 a yard. Fine all wool serges in useful colors cost from 75c. to $1.25 a yard, and plain Ladies cloths 52 and 54 inches wide are 75c. and $1.00.

Still cheaper and very fashionable are the silk and wool goods showing minute checks and stripes the body being in black, brown, gray, blue with white dashes; these are 55c. a yard, and a fabric with durable hair line stripes, is 38 inches wide, and costs 50c. a yard. All wool French cashmeres in new colors are also 50c. a yard, and still more expensive grades run as high as $1.25 while the lovely two faced colored Henriettas are $1.50 a yard. For good service there are Camel's hair suitings in plain colors and mixtures at 50c. a yard, and an extra quality Camel's hair serge in street colors is sold for 37½c. a yard.

As usual B. Priestly & Co. send out from their English Bradford, some most elegant novelties in black silk-warp dress goods. The odd silk-warp Camel's hair fabrics, both the plain and those with raised diagonal lines, are very handsome, and very rich is the new Maria Theresa, which resembles corded silk, and is soft and pliable hence susceptible of being most gracefully arranged in draperies. Real India Camel's hair in light, medium, and heavy weight, and rough twill Camel's hair are handsome to look at, and splendid to wear. These new goods of Priestley's like the celebrated silk-warp Henriettas come in the jet black ane blue black' and are in favor for mourning costumes, and full dress toilets for house and street wear.

Some decided bargains in black dress goods can be secured in November and December, so that costumes for fall and winter can be gotten up at small cost. A useful and stylish suit can be formed of the 44 inch wide Boucle cloth, at 50c. a yard. Then there is a 45 inch wide black diagonal homespun at 65c. a yard, and still another style of goods is a black diagonal texture with boucle stripe, a great bargain at 75c. a yard, recently sold for $1.35, while a wider useful material is the 58 inch wide rough twill Camel's hair now offered for 85c. a yard, which cost the makers double that money. These bargain goods are all in style, handsome and will wear well, but they are not novelties, hence they are sold, not for what they are worth, but for what they will bring.

Our own American productions in dress goods demand favorable recognition for although the standard varieties are widely accepted, their good wearing qualifications entitle them to more general approval and adoption. First among the silken novelties are the Cheney hair line silks, in dark blue, brown, and green, and black, with light hair lines, like the cloth for gentlemen's pantaloons, and the new woolen dress goods. Another durable and handsome silk from the same manufactory is the Tricotine or Jersey silk, in favor for graceful draperies, and stylish, perfect-fitting, elastic corsages. The reason why these, domestic or Cheney silks look quite as well, if not better, after being worn for a time, than they do when entirely new, is because they are of pure silk, without being "loaded," and hence have none of that objectionable gum, which can be realized when silks that have it are exposed to salt air or damp atmospheres, or when dresses of the impure silks are worn for traveling purposes and dusty rides. With the knowledge of these facts, it seems strange that our ladies will patronize a foreign silk simply for the glossy finish, which so often speedily changes to the wearing out "shine."

Some of the new skirts are made rather full, and when of the velvet or other heavy meterial, they are generally plain, that is the decorations, if any be used, are in bands, panels, plastrons and fronts of the rich combining fabric, instead of plaitings, and puffs of the more pliable goods, which alone form graceful draperies. The heavy textures are also converted into vests, waistcoats, plain plastrons, lapels, collars and cuffs, while any full portions of corsage and sleeves are of the softer fabric.

Plain and embroidered gants de suede are to be the gloves for general use this fall and winter, and the new dressed kid gloves come in appropriate shades to wear with the lately introduced suitings and other dress goods.

Straw shoes and slippers were among the curiosities exhibited at the recent State Fair in Philadelphia, and a decided novelty made in the miniature factory of the Day Sewed Shoe Manufacturing Co., in the Main building on the Fair Grounds is a quaint and stylish shoe of French kid or Kangroo and kid, laid in front up to just above the instep, and buttoned at the side, above this point. Numbers of shoes ordered and made on the ground under the eye of the ladies who are to wear them had cloth tops or uppers of the cloth of their costumes, with kid or leather vamps, in some one of the new styles of these most comfortable shoes.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENCE.

"M. E. C."—Good, warm, cloth, all wool, in various widths from 42 to 56 inches, can cost you 50c. 75c. $1.00, and $1.25 a yard, bringing the entire dress with buttons and finishings to cost you anywhere from $5.00 to $10.00.

"Mrs. F. Jacobs—Beatrice, Dakota."—If the boy is near five years of age why not put him at once in pants! He will feel very manly, and besides he will be less trouble and expense, as you can get his clothes ready made for very little money, or you can make them yourself, if you have Demorest's patterns, and one of Demorest's $19.50 Sewing Machines. The address is W. J. Demorest, No 17 East 14th St., New York, and you should write there for catalogue of patterns and information about sewing machine.

"Mrs. J. H. H. Elkton, Tenn."—You can get pattern of Infant's cloak from either Demorest or Butterick at about 25c. A ready made cost or cloak can cost you anywhere from $5.00 to $8.00. You can get pretty and inexpensive wraps for children through the mail order department of Sharpless Brothers.

"Miss A. R. H."—The gloves you admire can be found at James McCreery's, N. Y. and Sharpless Brothers, Philadelphia..

"Mrs. T. Bethune," Ripon, Wis.—Yes, you can get Ball's corsets with elastic sections for Misses and Ladies, by writing either to the Chicago Corset Co., Chicago, or Chicago Corset Co., 462 Broadway, New York. You are right, both houses are in the hands of one and the same company.

"Stylish Girl."—"Miss E. C. P."—If your dresses and wraps are so very heavy, why not try one of the Alaska Down Bustles, they are said to be brave supports. You can get an illustrated circular or price list by writing direct to Alaska Down Co., 25 Waverley Place, N. Y. Say you were directed to do so in the Fashion Departmens of The Ladies Home Journal.

"Little Mrs. Smith."—Don't wear the hair rolls, they make the head warm and moist. The Mikado rolls for the hair are of braided wire, and you will find them light and cool. You can get two for 25c. by waiting for them and sending the money to Weston and Wells, 1017 Chestnut St., Phila., Pa.

"Country Merchant."—Have sent you desired information by mail. Contracts for wholesale lots of Day Sewed Shoes can be made by addressing W. W. Apsley, President D. S. Shoe Manufacturing Co., No 23 North Eighth St., Phila., Pa.

"Millinery Artist and Dressmaker."—If there is no special reason why you cannot visit New York or Philadelphia, do so by all means, for one day's looking at novelties will teach you more than days and days of reading serials on styles. Certainly we will tell you or any of our friends exactly where they can find articles desired at wholesale or retail.

"Minette," Glenville, W. Va.—Get Plain or Hair line cloth for your suit, make kilted skirt and jacket with velvet vest. Have your hat made of the material and trimmed with velvet. The higher the crown of your hat is, the taller you will look. Wear your hair braided down your back, that is the prettiest and most simple manner of dressing the hair for young girls. You are entirely too young to use any kind of face powder.

"Farmer's Wife," and "Tired Housekeeper."—During the recent summer, ladies at the sea-shore, who could not get as much rain or soft water as they required, found great relief and advantage in using what they called "Hard Water Soap" which cleaned their clothes in even the sea-water and is said to be just as efficacious in lime, or any other hard water. Do not know the address of the maker, but you can procure circular of information about Hard Water and other labor saving soaps, by sending name and address in full with four cents in postage stamps to Mrs. J. H. L., Fashion Editor Ladies Home Journal, 441 Chestnut St., Phila., Pa., who is constantly on the outlook for articles to aid in their daily household work.

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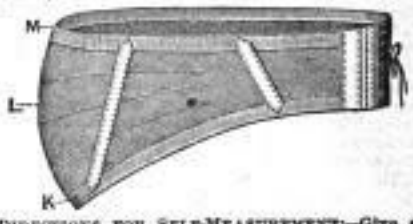

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

Caladiums.

A correspondent asks me to tell something about Caladiums and their culture. She says she has tried them in the garden and they never look like cuts given of them, their leaves being a dark green, without any of the peculiar markings shown in illustrations in catalogues. The variety she has grown was most likely *C. esculentum*, which is the kind most used for out of doors; the fancy Caladiums are too tender for out of door culture, and are rarely seen outside of greenhouses. They are more delicate in habit than the garden variety, and can only be grown satisfactorily in the conservatory or the house. They are well adapted for the decoration of the parlor or sitting-room in summer, and whoever likes brilliant colored plants should try two or three. Illustrations of two kinds are given herewith.

The above cut gives a very good idea of the variegation of the darker section of these strange plants. The main part of the leaf is a rich green, and the colors shown by the light spots are laid on picturesquely, in irregular quantities. In some varieties, the variegation is white; in others red or pink; and some are marked with ivory yellow, with green veins running through it. And some of the rarer varieties show mixtures of all these colors in wonderful combinations.

The above illustration shows as well as black and white can the peculiar variegation of another section of Caladiums. These have leaves in which white and yellow mostly predominate, with veins in dark green. Some are beautifully marked with rose color, and the general effect is such as to make the person who sees them for the first time think that they are not natural but are artificial.

This class of Caladiums should not be planted before March. Get them when you send for seeds. The florist will not send them unless he thinks there is no danger of frost. The roots are not large like those of the variety grown in the garden. Plant them in a light, rich soil. They will soon commence to grow. Give them plenty of water, but be sure, when you pot them, that the drainage of the pot is good. Do not give them strong sunshine, but they must have a good light in order to bring out the colors well. The red spider will quite likely attack them if you do not use a good deal of water on the leaves. In fall, when the leaves begin to turn yellow, gradually withhold the supply of water, and let the soil become dry. Then set the pots out of doors, putting them away in some warm place, and give only enough water thereafter to keep the bulbs or tubers from shriveling. In March or April repot them, and start into growth by giving more water and light. A well-grown specimen of these plants will always attract attention, and any one can grow them well in the sitting-room.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

To "Several Fault-Finders," I would say that this paper is made up some time before it is sent out, and it is impossible to answer any query at once. From one to two months must necessarily elapse before the answer to a question can get into print, if all questions are replied to, because so much space is taken up by the answers, and to do the fair thing by all, each question must take its turn in being attended to. This will explain why it is that there seems to be too great a delay in replying to some of the questions asked. The fault is not mine, or the publishers', and the only remedy for the matter, is to induce the publishers to make the paper a weekly, instead of a monthly. The space devoted to the floral department is much larger than the editor intended to give it, and all inquirers must admit that the questions asked and answered occupy the greater share of it, thus proving that the publishers as well as myself are willing to give them the information they ask as fast and as well as we are able to do so. So, please be patient, and as soon as possible we shall get around to any question you may ask.

"M. D. Freeman:"—The plants spoken of in the July number, (Cyclamen and Cineraria), can be procured of any florist. If you want to find out the addresses of reliable dealers, consult the advertising department of this paper. I have no plants to sell, and no catalogues to send.

"Mrs. E. S.:"—I cannot tell why the leaves on your Calla turn black, because I do not know how you have treated it. If you have let it stand in the hot sun it has probably been scorched. If you have not showered the foliage frequently, the red spider has most likely taken up his habitation on the lower side of the leaves, and is sucking the vitality of the plant slowly away. I have never had the leaves on my plants of this kind turn black, but they often turn yellow and fall off because they are diseased, or old. Examine the plant well, and you may find some insect at work on it. If you do not, repot it, using loam, well-rotted manure, and clean, sharp sand. Set in the shade for a time, until it shows an inclination to begin growing. I always give the Calla a good deal of water, but I do not neglect to give the pots the same drainage that I would give any other plant. I keep the soil wet by giving water often, not by having the pot water-tight. It does much better when there is no stagnant water at its roots, as there must be when drainage is not provided.

"A Subscriber:"—You can get agricultural ammonia of any dealer in phosphates and guano. You ought to be able to find it at almost any place where agricultural specialties are sold. If you cannot, send your order to the florist you are in the habit of patronizing, and he will get it for you.

"D. E. W.:"—This subscriber wants to know what flowers to get for the coming winter. She wants some that will not require too much care, and will not take up too much room. I would advise her to get an English Ivy to train about her window. It will not bloom, it is true, but the leaves will have such a fresh, bright look that they will be quite as attractive as any flowers, and nothing makes a room look more cheerful than a pretty vine. And, too, the Ivy is so easy to take care of that I always feel comparatively safe in recommending its cultivation where I would not feel justified in advising the amateur to attempt the care of more exacting plants. I would also advise her to get a Calla, a Chinese Primrose,—the double white is the best for winter blooming,—a Begonia,—preferably B. rubra,—and for a pot or basket to hang up in the window, an Oxalis; the pink variety is most satisfactory, on account of its profuse bloom, and bright, cheerful flowers. It is also of the easiest cultivation, and any one can succeed with it if they will not let it get dry at the roots, and stay so for days at a time. This is so frequently done with plants in hanging vessels that I would caution every one to take especial pains to see that plants hung up do not suffer for water. They are often inconvenient to get at, and on that account are neglected. It must be remembered that the air is always warmer at the top of the room than in the lower part of it, and this helps to hasten the evaporation. Be sure to give water to all hanging plants daily. And be sure to give enough to thoroughly wet all the earth in the pot or basket. The Veronica will afford you great satisfaction, and will make the list as large as you probably care to have it, if you can have but one shelf full of plants. Water only when the surface of the soil looks dry, and then give enough to wet the earth in the pot well, and be governed by this rule. Never get into the habit of giving your plants a little dribble of water now, and pretty soon a little more, for such a practice is sure to result unfavorably. If you give much at a time, and give it often, the earth gets too wet, and becomes sour and heavy; if you give but little, the soil will look, on the surface, as if it were wet enough, but that in the bottom of the pot will be as dry as dust, and you will find, on examination, that the roots in the lower part of the soil are dead in four cases out of five. And you must also give your plants a frequent showering all over if you would have them clean and free from red spiders which will almost invariably attack them in a dry room. Keep a vessel of water standing on the stove and let there be a constant evaporation going on to moisten the air. Sprinkle them at least every other day, and every day is better, and let this sprinkling, like the watering, be thorough. If you will give these points the attention they require, I think you will be able to keep some plants during the winter, which you say you would like to do. As to the Rose Geranium which you say has not bloomed, don't let that fact trouble you in the least, for this Geranium is not valued at all for its flowers, which are small and not at all showy, but its fragrance is what makes it so desirable. Do not cut it back if it is doing well, for a large plant of it is a fine ornament to any room, and is worth more than a score of poor flowering plants. If it has not been repotted for some time, dig out all the earth you can without seriously disturbing its roots, and fill in with new and rich soil.

"M. L. R.:"—This correspondent wants to know what treatment an Oleander requires, and how old it will have to be before it will blossom. Some plants blossom before they are a year old, and most of them bloom early the second season. To grow it well, it should have a rich, light soil, and plenty of water should be given it when it is growing rapidly. It has a great mass of fibrous roots, and they like a soil which they can easily penetrate, therefore a heavy, stiff soil is not at all to its liking. If you want a tree of it, let it grow to a height where it seems desirable to have the top begin, and then cut it off. Branches will be put out below, and these should be cut back when they have made a few inches of growth, to force them to branch, and thus help in making a bushy top. I prefer to grow this plant as a shrub, because this keeps it down in the room, while a tree becomes in time, so large that the top of it comes away up to the top of the window, out of good light. I think you will do well to put your plant in the cellar in fall, giving it only enough water to keep it from drying up. In March, bring it up and give it water, light and heat, and in a short time it will begin to grow, and soon you will see buds appearing on the ends of the branches. In summer, you can keep it on the veranda. It is never advisable to put Oleanders in pots in exposed situations, for they dry out and the blossoms are never as large and fine as when in a somewhat shaded place. When growing or blooming they must have a good deal of water. I would not advise you to turn your plant out of its pot into the open ground, because the roots will spread so that when you come to take it up in the fall you will have to cut off a great many of them, and this will seriously damage the plant. I have two old plants which I keep for blooming in the open ground, but I never think of putting them in pots in fall. I lift them, and crowd their roots into a large box, which is put into the cellar and receives no more attention until April. Then it is brought up, and the plant soon begin to start. As soon as the weather becomes somewhat warm, I set the plant in the open ground, where it gives a profuse crop of beautiful flowers, and often two of them during the season. Treated in this way, the Oleander can be made one of the finest ornaments of the summer garden, and with as little trouble as it is to lay down a tender plant and cover it.

"N. H. N.," Elgin:—The trouble with your Carnations is, they have exhausted themselves and are dying slowly from lack of vitality. It will not be worth while to take them into the house expecting they will give a good crop of flowers the coming winter. It is always advisable to get new plants each year. Let them grow through the summer without blossoming, and keep the tops pinched back well to make them bushy and compact. Lift them in September, and keep them in a cool place until it is no longer safe to leave them out of doors. Carnations do much better in a cool room than in a very warm one. For your use this winter, you can get fine young plants of the florists, which they have grown for this especial purpose.

"A Subscriber:"—In using ammonia on plants, I generally put from one-half to two-thirds of an ounce into a pailful of water, according to its strength. The pail I use to mix it in holds about twelve quarts. I do not use this oftener than once in three weeks, as a rule, thought it might be safe to apply it once a fortnight. But it is always best to be on the safe side, and it would be easy to overdo the matter, for the drug is a strong one.

"Reader:"—The Yucca is a "freakish" plant. I have known quite young plants to bloom, and I have known plants to go for years without producing a flower, and both had the same treatment. You will have to exercise patience, and hope for the desired result to come soon. It is quite necessary at the north, to give the plant some protection, if you would have it stand our severe winters well.

"L. B. Geist:"—I have no knowledge of the so-called "Cinnamon Vine," and can therefore give you no instructions about wintering it. If it is a tuberous-rooted plant, I would advise lifting the tubers as one does a Dahlia, and putting them in the cellar. That is the best place for Chrysanthemums after they have bloomed. Give only enough water to keep them from drying up completely. The Hardy Gladiolus is a fine garden plant, and must have protection in winter.

"Mrs. Whitmore:"—This correspondent wants to know how to take care of the Dahlia and Gladiolus through the winter. Some persons do it in one way and others in another. Which is the best way, I am unable to say. I will, however, tell you how I take care of them, and as I have but little trouble in wintering them safely, I think you will be satisfied if you try my plan. I take up the bulbs and tubers on a pleasant day, and lay them in the sun to dry. When they have become dry enough for the soil which adheres to them when you lift them to crumble off easily, I put the Gladiolus in paper bags, with dry bran. Sawdust is equally as good. When the bag is full, I tie it up and hang it in some cool room where I know the frost will not do damage. If you have a dry cellar, you can keep them easily there, hanging the bags containing them along the joists of the floor overhead. The point to aim at in wintering these and all other bulbs and tubers successfully is, to keep them from the frost, and to keep them dry enough to prevent rot, but not dry enough to make them shrivel. It is well under all circumstances, to examine them occasionally, and if they show signs of dampness, to put them in a dryer place. If they are drying up, and seem to be becoming hard, put them where they will absorb a little moisture from the air. Dahlias I put in boxes of dry sand, and set them on the potato-bin. I look them over frequently, and if I see indications of too much moisture or dryness, I act according to instructions given above regarding Gladioluses. Cannas can be wintered the same as Dahlias.

"Mrs. L. A. G."—Pansies grow best in the shade; need rich earth.

"M. P. L.:"—The trouble that you complain of may be largely avoided, I think, by taking precautionary measures before you move your plants into the greenhouse. I would have the room thoroughly cleaned. Scrub it well from top to bottom with soap and sand. This ought to remove all pests which may be lurking there, in wait for the plants you will bring in by and by, but in addition to this, I would go over the woodwork well with paint, putting on a good thick coat, and taking especial pains to fill up and cover every crack and crevice. If this is done, there will be few places for the pests to stay in, and the chances are that the cleaning and the painting will leave but few, if any, pests to stay in them.

"S. C. K.:"—I have never grown the Pancratium, but I find the following in reply to a correspondent in Vick's magazine: "Take the bulb out of its pot, and allow it to dry, placing it on a shelf in a warm room, and thus keep it for two months. After this treatment we think it will flower." I think the treatment for this plant should be similar to that given the Amaryllis, which is, to encourage a vigorous growth during its growing season by giving plenty of water; when it shows a desire to rest let the soil become quite dry. In this way I have good success with the Amaryllis. I do not take the bulbs out of the pots, as many do, for I do not think it necessary to do this in order to secure the rest the plants need.

PROF. DOREMUS ON TOILET SOAPS:

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HINTS UPON ETIQUETTE AND GOOD MANNERS.

BY MRS. S. O. JOHNSTON.

NO. IX.

Letter Writing.—Letters of Introduction.

Letter writing is an all important part of etiquette, and there are some few rules concerning it which must be observed. Letters of introduction are of great service in this world, not only to those who are entering new spheres of life, moving into new localities. If you are going to reside in a new place, letters from mutual friends will prove both valuable and agreeable. But they involve a decided responsibility on the part of your friends, as they would not desire to introduce to their friends those who were not wholly deserving of their confidence; and it is really a breach of trust to introduce young men into families who are not honest, upright, and of good habits.

Very serious results have occurred when this practice has not been carefully observed. Young men, who were known to possess bad traits of character and to have contracted bad habits, have thus introduced to friends those, in whom the families had faith and confidence, and have married their daughters, and, thereby, made both them and their relations wretched for life. Therefore, the first rule in giving letters of introduction is—to be sure that those you introduce are in every way worthy, and will add to the pleasure and comfort of those to whom they are presented.

In giving business letters this rule may not hold as strictly as in giving social letters, yet one should be very careful not to introduce business men to each other in distant cities or countries unless they are worthy of it. In presenting letters of introduction connected with business, carry them to their address at your earliest opportunity.

Make a very short call at that time, always remember that "*time is money*" for business men, and a minute may often seem ten to a man whose mind is intent upon his occupations, and he cannot afford to give it to you.

The gentleman however, will return your call within a few days, and you must return his visit within the week, or in three or four days, as you please. This is a particular point to be observed and should he be sufficiently pleased with you, to invite you to dinner, by all means accept the invitation, as it would be a decided breach of etiquette to decline it. Yet if it is impossible to do so, state frankly, the reasons which prevent accepting it at that time, and another invation will probably be given. Always call after receiving such attentions within a few days after the dinner or supper party has been attended. A careful observance of these punctilios of etiquette are very essential, and those who fail to heed them, are never well-received in society, as their deficiencies are always noted.

If letters of introduction are given you to present yourself or family to the notice of mutual acquaintances, send them in an envelope with card and address enclosed in it.

It is much better to thus introduce yourself to their notice, than to call in person, for by so doing you may avoid an unpleasant position. You are a perfect stranger to the lady, and although your name is mentioned by your mutual friend, yet it will take a few seconds for her to read it, while you must stand, hat in hand, waiting a reception which may not always be a cordial one. For in these days of agents of all kinds, and in this lagging age, people of respectable appearance will force themselves into your houses, and insist upon seeing some one of its occupants, solely for the purpose of obtaining money for themselves or others, and therefore, strangers are looked upon with suspicion at their entrance into a parlor, and while your letter is being read, you must fall somewhat under this suspicion.

Yet, if the mutual friend poessessed the right to introduce you, the moment his and your name are comprehended, you ought to receive a cordial welcome, but if he has been more kind than wise, and the mistress is worldly-wise, the reception may not be a very warm one. Make a short call at that time, and if being a gentleman, you are requested to call again soon, be sure to do so.

Letters of introduction should never be sealed, but left open to be read by the one who presents them, and to be at once opened by the one who reads them.

They should be written upon the best note paper obtainable, and the envelope should match it exactly. The hand writing should be made very legible, and the lines wide apart, so as to be quickly read. An attention to these seeming trifles is not only desirable, but reputable.

If friends sends you a letter of introduction stating that intimate friends of theirs are going to reside near you, and asking your kind attentions for them, you should answer the letter at once, and express your willingness to accede to their wishes. To neglect to do this, would show you to be an ill-bred person, and it would also be a slight which would be deeply felt by your friends. The Scripture phrase, "*Be courteous*" should be remembered hourly, and introduced into all the intercourse of our lives, and the small sacrifices of ourselves are as needful as large ones. Therefore, let us never neglect to pay civilities demanded of us, even if their performance does involve much of weariness of body and mind. And by doing so at an expense of our comfort, we may reap a good harvest, as no one can tell the evolutions to be produced by a kindly performance of the courtesies of life. And we know that by entertaining strangers, some have entertained angels unawares. Receive strangers therefore, with a hearty good-will, no luke-warm reception should be given, we can none of us solve the mysteries of the soul or mind, we cannot tell how mind acts upon mind, yet all of us can recognize at once the cordiality of a welcome when we enter the houses of others. A kindly, hearty, reception will drive timidity out of each heart, and will give to every guest happiness and pleasure.

While without it there will be an indefinite feeling of restraint which will cast a gloom, a benumbing influence over the most buoyant heart.

Do not, my young readers, think for a moment that the forms and observances pertaining to little things are unworthy of your attention.

It may seem of little consequence to you whether your letter of introduction is written on the best note paper you possess, or on the poorest; or whether you call a day or two earlier or later upon a new comer; or whether you are in the drawing room ready to receive an expected visitor, or walking in your garden, yet upon such little things much may depend. *They are not immaterial*, because your reputation for good breeding may be involved by them, of course, persons may bring to you letters of introduction with whom you cannot desire an intimate acquaintance. If so, you should call, but it is not your positive obligation to invite them to dinner or tea. Yet, it is considered an exhibition of kindness on your part to do so. But do not give the invitation with an air of "it must be done, therefore I do it."

A lady once invited guests, and said to her husband, as she gave the verbal invitation to her little daughter, to deliver to her friends:

"Well! I hope they will come, and done with it."

The child supposed that was a part of the invitation, and rendered it literally.

Of course, the recipients of such an invitation were indignant, and refused curtly.

After a while, the story being repeated from mouth to mouth, it reached the lady from whom it was supposed to have been given, and she, questioning her little girl, found out how her reputation for politeness and good breeding had been spotted, and the unpleasant words she had spoken returned to sting her like a scorpion's bite.

Butler tells us in his "Hudibras," "Full oft have letters caused the writers to curse the day they were inditers." And bitter uncourteous words might well be substituted for letters.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

L. B. H. writes:—"Will you please state whether it is wrong for a young lady to wear a ring on her little finger?"

Answer. No, there surely can be nothing wrong in so doing, yet it is not the custom to do so, but a ring can be worn upon the little finger quite as well as upon the fore finger.

"A. B. C." asks: "Would it be proper for a young lady to wear mourning for a gentleman to whom she was engaged, but the engagement had not been announced?"

Ans. It is not considered the proper thing to do, yet if both families knew of the engagement, and it would be a comfort to the young lady to dress in black, she should suit herself, but to wear widows' weeds would only subject her to ridicule.

"Mrs. K." asks: "Is it etiquette to direct a letter to Mrs. Dr. A. B., or simply Mrs. A. B.? Should cards for calls be written with the wife's or the husband's christian name?"

Ans. Either forms are correct. Yet some sticklers for etiquette would say that you should direct the letter thus: Mrs. A. B., care of Dr. A. B.

Visiting cards are engraved with the husband's christian name or initials, thus: Mrs. John B. Jones, or Mrs. J. B. Jones, as one prefers.

The Fountain of Youth.

In all the searches for the fabled fountain of youth there has been disappointment in the final result. This has been more or less keen, according to the state of health of the seeker. But modern scientific research has found a real "fountain of youth." In Compound Oxygen the old ideal so long sought for has been found to be attainable. One who has tested its value writes from Waukan, Wis.: "I sleep better; dyspepsia is less troublesome, and I think I can say my heart is better. I am stronger, and I think I am losing that worn and haggard look; perhaps I may say I am growing young again. It must be that Compound Oxygen is the fountain of youth." Another writes from Clinton, Mass.: "It has given me so much strength that I feel like a new person." A clergyman at Queen City, Mo., writes: "My wife has used your Compound Oxygen with the best of results. Her cough is not entirely removed yet, but with that exception she has become the strongest and healthiest woman of her age in this community." The editor of The New South, W. H. Worthington, of Columbus, Miss., says:

"You will doubtless remember my getting your Compound Oxygen for my mother (who is very aged) in February or March of last year, and its happy effect upon her. When I wrote you my mother was very low. When she commenced taking the Treatment she began at once to improve, and this improvement was steady. She is now in good health. Last week she made several visits to her friends, walking several squares. Her restoration to health from the use of Compound Oxygen has attracted considerable attention in this section."

Curiosity as to this remedy may be fully gratified by any one who will take the trouble to write to Drs. STARKEY & PALEN, No 1529 Arch St., Phila. They publish a brochure of nearly two hundred pages, entitled Compound Oxygen—Its Mode of Action and Results. This will be sent, postpaid, to any address on application.

Children in the neighborhood of Drury Lane, London, now use as a play ground the formerly disused burial ground of St. Mary-le-Strand, that is said to have furnished the original of "Tom All Alone's" in "Bleak House."

A treasure of interesting matter—the new LADIES' BOOK. Beautifully printed with illustrations on cream super calendared paper, all sent postpaid, with pretty picture cards and other interesting enclosures, for only four cents in stamps, by addressing the old reliable house of R. H. McDONALD & Co., N. Y. City.

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It is a mistaken economy to buy a cheap indelible ink as a substitute for the ever reliable Payson's. Quality is more important than quantity. Sold by druggists.

In the present day when fashion demands bustles long or bustles short, bustles large or bustles small, but a *bustle* at any rate; it is a matter of no small importance to both modiste and daily purchaser, to find the *best*. The question arises, "in what consists 'the best.' How is one to know, when tastes vary so?"

In the selection of a bustle something more than taste is to be exercised. One must have besides a firm foundation on which to drape gracefully the loopings and puffings of the skirt, lightness and durability. These three requisites are at least combined in an unprecedented manner, in the "Improved Genuine Alaska Down Bustles," manufactured by the Alaska Down Co., 25 Waverly Place, N. Y.

A variety of Bustles similar in appearance to these are made, styled Imitations, but being filled with cotton, which is heating, and weak supports they are sure to disappoint the wearer.

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A YOUNG WOMAN'S RIGHTS.

LECTURE I.

BY REV. F. E. CLARK, BOSTON.

It has long been evident that one large class among the younger members of the community has been too much overlooked by preacher and essayist and moralist:—we mean the young women and girls. While every pastor preaches occasionally to young men, how few ever devote a half hour to the special needs of the young women in the audience. While our library shelves groan with admirable books for the guidance of the so-called stronger sex, how few volumes are there distinctly for their sisters. And yet the need of one is as great as of the other. The future welfare of our country depends as much, surely, upon Mary and Alice, as upon John and Henry.

To make up in some measure for past neglect this series of addresses to young women and girls was undertaken.

The author makes grateful acknowledgement to Marion Harland, Timothy Titcomb, Mrs. Livermore and some others, for valuable assistance which their books have furnished, but, at the best, the literature of the subject is comparatively scanty, and to supplement this lack, he sent the following letter to nearly a hundred wise women of his acquaintance; mothers and teachers, some in high position of influence, others known perhaps but little beyond the family circle which they adorned; and yet all capable, as the sequel shows, of earnest thought and loving counsel on this subject.

SOUTH BOSTON, April 1, 1881.

To Mrs. ——

Dear Madam:—For the sake of helping the young women and girls to a noble womanhood, I propose to give a short series of Sunday evening addresses, directed especially to them. Will you kindly help me by pointing out (1st.) *The dangers which you think most threaten them*, and (2d) *The points of womanly character which in your opinion most need strengthening.*

I feel that what the mothers and sisters may say out of their own experience will have great weight, and I desire in these addresses to present those practical aspects of truth which shall tend to build up an earnest, christian womanhood. No names will be used without special permission. I am aware that in making this request I am taxing your kindness, *and while I should be very glad to have your views at length, yet a very short reply, pointing out a single danger, or safeguard of character, would be heartily appreciated* by

Yours in behalf of the girls.

F. E. CLARK.

Nearly every one of these good ladies responded, many of them with many pages of wise and helpful advice, and these chapters are largely the result of a careful study of these many letters. It is felt that, by pursuing this method, more that is practical and vital to a true, womanly life can be presented than in any other way. This advice is not that simply of a recluse in his study, delving among his books, but is the condensed wisdom of a hundred wide-awake, intelligent, loving women, and while the author can take little credit for it to himself, he feels that it is of far more value to his young friends than if he was solely responsible for it.

These addresses have been delivered to an audience embracing hundreds of young women, and, in writing them for the press, the same direct form of address is retained, and the same desire prompts their presentation to the immense audience of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, as prompted their original preparation; namely, that they may contribute somewhat to the upbuilding in many lives of a *noble womanhood*.

I desire to present the most important subject of A Young Woman's Rights. I trust that no enthusiastic friend of the political rights of woman who may glance at this article, attracted by the subject, will be disappointed, because I have nothing to say about the rights of women to vote, attend the caucus and hold office. Important as these questions are, I believe that there are other rights that belong inherently and unquestionably to every young woman, which are more important still, and which are far more often overlooked. Dr. Holland, in a half-bantering, yet in its purpose wholly serious lecture about women, stands up stoutly for a woman's right to shave and sing bass if she wants to do so; "but," he adds, "while I claim the right of every woman to sing bass, I confess that I should not care to see it exercised to any great extent, for I think treble is by all odds the finer and more attractive part of music. Bass would be a bad thing for a lullaby, and could only silence a baby by scaring it. If I can witch the eyes and win the hearts of men and women by doing that which I can do naturally and well, then I shall do best not to exercise my right to do that which I can only do with difficulty and unnaturally and ill. * * * * I will admit all the rights that any woman claims—all that I myself possess—if she will let me alone, and keep her distance from me. She may sing bass but I do not wish to hear her." And this leads us naturally to the first right of a young woman which I would ask you to insist on—namely, *The right to be herself. Have an individuality of your own. Be all that you should be.* Let no sentiment or fashion rob you of this right. It is an inalienable one, and it is worth more to you than the ballot box and the caucus.

There is just one person in the world who has your work to do and she is called by your name. There is one place that no one of the million of young women of America can fill except yourself. You can, to be sure, so dwarf and stunt yourselves, that you may fill no useful place, but it will not be God's fault or Nature's fault. You have every natural aptitude needed. Whatever your voice, treble or alto, cracked or musical, there is a melody in some life which you can best awaken. But to do this you must be yourself and not try to be a weak imitation of ten thousand others. It strikes me that this is one of her rights which the young woman of the present day is all too unwilling to insist upon. She always seems to be afraid of her own individuality. She must follow the prevailing fashion if it takes the last dollar out of her pocket and the last ounce of strength out of her life. If bangs are the fashion she is at once banged; if frizzles are in vogue she must be at once frizzled. If flounces are the thing that other girls wear then there is only one thing she can wear, and she hides herself with a Gainsborough hat or envelopes herself in a sugar scoop, according as the sugar scoop or the Gainsborough is the mode. Why, I have more respect for Mary Walker in her pantaloons than I have for some fashionable girls whose sole idea is to make dressmakers dummies of themselves.

Not that I have any quarrel with bangs or frizzes or flounces or Gainsboroughs, (all these things are enveloped in too deep a mystery for the average man to understand them) but I have a quarrel with that for which they often stand—the total lack of individuality and appreciation of life's mission.

We have some patience with the sheep that jumps through a gap in the wall simply because another sheep has done the same thing, though it would be much easier to go another way by itself, but we expect more of a young woman than of a Southdown. Our Lord's question implies that she is better than a sheep.

I would not have you understand that I mean by individuality something odd and bizarre or pert and perverse. To be one's self is to be just what nature intended, nothing more, certainly nothing less. It is not to strain after oddities and quiddies nor is it to copy slavishly some other person's oddities. It is not to bend over backwards because others stoop forward, nor is it to cultivate the Grecian bend because the leader of French society happens to have a crook in her back. It is not to try to sing bass because most other girls sing treble, nor is it to try to sing treble because others do, when nature has given you an alto voice.

In fact, it seems to me that Mary Walker and her ilk, and the butterflies of fashion who always paint themselves in the same spots that other butterflies affect, are all committing the same mistake—all are trying to be what God and nature did not intend they should be, and partly because they want to be different from the rest of the world, and the others because they cannot bear to be different.

If God has given you a witty tongue and lively imagination, use them, but do not try to ape the wit of some one else. If your place is among the leaders of your set do not fail to fill it, but if it is in the rank and file, remember that in fighting the battles of life as well as of the country, the private is needed as well as the general, and do not envy his glittering epaulettes. In fact we need a great many more privates than generals. There are a thousand men in my regiment and only one colonel. Remember, too, that the private soldier stands by himself, that he cannot do the general's work but he must do his own. If your capital in life is only a pleasant smile, a soft voice, a bright face, a winning manner, and very few to whom I speak have less, use them every one, and use all you have, but, *use your own.* Do not try to acquire the smile and voice and manner of some one else. If you do you will simper instead of smile, you will make eyes instead of shooting the dangerous glances you think you are giving, and you will really repel instead of attract.

In short, insist on your proud, God-given right *to be yourself.*

Another of your rights which I hope you will all insist upon, a right which is worth far more than your right to shave and sing bass, is your right to *be self-reliant, and in the best sense of the term, independent.*

I know it is often said that woman should be like the vine, lithe and flexible, twining around the masculine oak, covering up his defects and gracing his gnarled branches.

I think this vine and oak simile has been overdone, but, admitting its force, and it has much force, let us remember that there is a vast difference between a healthy vine and a parasitic creeper. The vine flourishes where it is planted and graces a wooden trellis or the blank side of a house as well as the living tree. Its has its own roots in the ground, is fed by the sap which it collects for itself, and bears its own fruit. The parasite always feeds on the life of that against which it leans. It is nourished only by the sap of the stronger plant; it uses the roots and leaves of the stronger plant to furnish it food; it has no independent life of its own; it bears no fruit in itself; it diminishes the yield of that which supports it; in short, it is always a weakness and a nuisance, it serves no purpose except the ornamental, and, when we know its true nature and character, it loses its doubtful claim to beauty.

This, then, is what I mean to urge when I say insist on your right to be self-reliant and independent. Be a vine if you will but do not be a parasite to a stronger nature by a thousand delicate tendrils, but have a root of your own, bear fruit of your own, do not sap the life of another to keep yourself alive. Have some other mission than the very equivocal one of being merely ornamental. Then if the support on which you lean and around which your affections twine, fails, as fail it often does, you will not be torn up by the roots, but will be able, like the oak tree itself, to live a useful, fruit-bearing life.

I have many wise words to bring you upon this point, from those who have kindly interested themselves in your welfare. I cannot begin to quote them all, but let me give you some.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

WASHING AND IRONING.

BY ELIZA R. PARKER.

There is no department of household labor that requires closer supervision than washing and ironing, and while it is not necessary or advisable for every housekeeper to do the work herself, it is very important that she should know how to do it in order to direct others.

To wash properly, it is important to have every thing in readiness, and all the utensils in order for the work. Tubs sufficient in number and of suitable size should be furnished, and kept clean, the wash board should be smooth and free from nails, and the work bench firm and nigh to prevent fatigue from bending.

The clothes line, and pins should be put in a basket or bag for safe keeping; hemp or cotton cord is better than a wire line.

Soft water is better than hard water for washing, and rain water preferable to any other. When every thing is in readiness for the work, assort the clothes, separate the fine from the coarse, and the slightly soiled from the more soiled. Hot suds will set stains, and it is therefore best to scald all of the table linen, and articles which are stained, by pouring boiling water from the tea kettle on them.

Have the water in the tubs as warm as the hand will bear, being careful not to have it too hot. Wash first one boilerful, taking through two suds, then place in a boiler of cold water, with soap to make suds. A little borax added to the water will whiten the clothes, without injuring the texture of linen. Clothes should never boil over five minutes, and many excellent laundresses do not boil them at all, but pour boiling water over them. After they are removed to the tubs, cold water should be poured over them, and every garment turned wrong side out, and thoroughly washed, and rinsed in a tub of clear soft water. Then in blue water, from which they should be wrung out for the last time; those not to be starched should be hung out immediately, and the others dipped in starch as hot as the hands will bear. Those desired to be very stiff should be starched first, and well shaken before hanging on the line to prevent wrinkling.

When dry remove to the clothes basket. Turn all garments right side out, shake well, pull smoothly, beginning at the top of the garment, roll each to itself; fold sheets without sprinkling, after stretching and lay on top, over all spread the ironing blanket.

If a machine is used in Washing, it is better to soak the clothes over night in warm water. Some housekeepers use washing fluids, and if the ingredients are harmless, they lighten the labor, without distroying the fabric. The following are among the best fluids—

To five quarts of water put one pound of sal-soda, half a pound of unslacked lime, and a small lump of borax. Boil, when cold pour off and bottle. Use one teacupful for every boiler of clothes.

WASHING FLUID.—One tablespoonful of soda, and one teacup of coal oil to ten gallons of water.

WASHING FLUID.—One half a bar of hard soap, one ounce each of saltpetre and borax disolved in four quarts of water, when cold add five ounces of spirits of ammonia. Bottle and use as soap.

WASHING FLUID.—Equal parts of turpentine and ammonia. Add to water.

Ox gall soap is an excellent article for use in the laundry. Take one pint of gall, cut into it two pounds of bar soap, and add one quart of boiling water. Boil, and pour out to cool, cut in squares. Add to the suds used for washing.

Before washing flannels, dust and shake well, and never apply soap, but make strong suds.

For washing woolen and silk goods, never rub them but cleanse by drawing them through the hands, up and down in the suds. Rubbing shrinks them.

Never wash woolen goods or blankets on a cloudy day.

For washing colored cotton goods great care is necessary to preserve their freshness, Sateens, ginghams, calicoes, and muslins washed in warm suds will retain their freshness a long time. They should never be left long in the suds, but should be washed and dried as speedily as possible.

Ammonia may be used instead of soap for goods liable to fade. Black pepper put in the water in which buff, gray, or black dresses are washed will preserve the color.

Fruit stains may be removed by wetting with whiskey or ammonia before washing, or by pouring boiling water over. Thoroughly rubbing common baking soda, and wetting with coal oil, letting hang in the sun, will remove the worst stains from the most delicate fabrics.

Making good starch is more difficult than most people imagine, but if attention is given the subject, the process is easily learned. Dissolve two tablespoonsful of starch in a little cold water, when it is perfectly smooth, pour in boiling water and stir briskly. A pint of water should be allowed to an ounce of starch; add a pinch of salt, half a teaspoonful of coal oil, add a few drops of blueing. Boil twenty minutes, strain, and use as hot as possible. White glue may be dissolved in starch to make it glossy, gum arabic is also excellent.

Isinglass is a very nice starch for thin fine muslins.

If starch sticks to the irons, it is too thin, or not sufficiently well done.

IRONING.

Every housekeeper should acquaint herself with the general rules necessary for this part of laundry work. It is difficult to give directions how to iron well, as experience is the best teacher, but there are several things to be observed in doing the work to which strict attention must be given.

A strong table of suitable size, and a light ironing board, also a bosom board should be provided. Irons of three sizes are convenient, and should always be kept clean, and smooth, ashes, salt or brick dust are good to clean irons, and wax rubbed occasionally on them will serve to keep them in good order. The sheets and table linen should be ironed first, then the shirts. First iron the shirts all over, wringing a clean cloth out of warm water, and rub over the bosom, which should be rapidly gone over with a clean hot iron, then the plaits should be raised, and ironed again, then dampened with water or polish, and ironed with a polishing iron.

Fine thin dresses, or other soft articles that do not need polishing should be ironed on a soft blanket. Embroideries should be ironed on the wrong side. Always have near, a bowl of clean water, so any spot imperfectly ironed may be dampened and ironed over until smooth. Muslins and laces should be carefully stretched and pulled, ironed, and then pulled in shape; all the edges or purling should be picked and arranged to look as before washing. This occupies a considerable portion of time, but is essential to a finished appearance of the clothes to be ironed.

As far as possible iron by the thread, pull the material straight, and move the iron in the direction of the thread of the cloth.

Any servant willing to learn by giving attention to these directions, after a short space of time will soon acquire the art, and the mothers will be repaid for the trouble of giving the necessary directions, and insisting on having them followed.

There are many inventions at the present day for supplying the perfections which nature has forgotten to bestow, or care or sickness has destroyed.

One of the greatest beauties a woman can possess is a fine head of hair. This article always comparitively scarce can now be abundantly supplied by art, and those afflicted with a scanty crop can, by sending to *John Medina, Boston, Mass.*, obtain anything in that line, from one tiny "Montague curl" to a whole wig, wherewith to supplement the niggardly supply which nature has vouchafed.

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Persons who would purchase a copy of Musical Studies, if published in book form, will please send their names to Margaret B. Harvey, Ardmore, Pa. Also, those who would purchase volume of poems by same author. Persons writing please specify which volome they prefer or whether they would take both.

A GOLD WATCH FREE.

The publishers of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL will give a thoroughly first-class—solid gold—Ladies Watch, to any one sending a club of only 180 subscribers, or for a club of only 100 subscribers, and $10 extra in cash, or for 50 subscribers, and $13 extra in cash, or for 25 subscribers, and $17 extra in cash. 180 subscribers can easily be secured, by simply showing a copy of the JOURNAL to your friends and neighbors, and explaining the low price. There is no trouble at all in securing large clubs anywhere, the price is so low, every woman can readily afford 50 cts. for so good a paper as the JOURNAL, and it is always wanted, after once seeing a copy. We are receiving a dozen or more clubs every day in the week, of from 20 to 100 subscribers. Ladies write us, who have never before tried to procure subscribers, that they have not the slightest trouble in procuring from 20 to 40 subscribers, by simply showing the paper to their friends, as they come in, or taking a copy to the sewing circle, or at social evening parties, or church entertainments, you can easily get subscribers enough if you will but try it. If you start and get but 100, or 50, or even but 25, and you want the watch before you can get the full number required, then you can have the watch by paying the small difference in cash, as per our special terms, announced above.

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Edited by Jenny June.

Knitting and Crochet.—A guide to the use of the Needle and the Hook. In arranging this work the editor has taken special pains to systematize and classify its different departments, give the greatest possible variety of designs and stitches, and explain the technical details so clearly, that any one can easily follow the directions. There are a large variety of stitches and a great number of patterns fully illustrated and described, which have all been tested by an expert before insertion in this collection. The aim of the editor has been to supply women with an accurate and satisfactory guide to knitting and crochet work. This book is printed on fine paper, bound with a handsome cover, and contains over

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The list of stitches, with illustrations, are: Buttonhole—Hemstitch—Brier Stitch—Crow's Foot—Herring Bone—Feather Stitch—Two Tie—Three Tie—Drawn Work—Stem Stitch—Twisted Chain or Rope Stitch—Split Stitch—French Knot—Solid Leaf—Satin Stitch—Padding—Darning Stitch—Skeleton Outline—Couching, Kensington, Filling, Coral, Italian, Leviathan and Holbein Stitches—Applique—Interlaced Ground—Weaving Stitch—Gold and Silver Thread—Arrasene Ribbon Work, etc

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MILDRED'S CONVERSATION CLASS.

NO. XIII.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

One wretched day in October, when the wind sobbed sullenly and the rain beat against the eastern window panes, Mildred lay upon the lounge, doing what she called "glooming." But a spark of electricity, in the shape of a letter from Miss Wilson animated her whole countenance and in a moment, all gloom was gone.

"Why mother!" she excitedly exclaimed, "She's home! she's home!"

"Who's home, dear?" gently asked her mother who was not quite so excitable as the daughter; further than that she had not the most remote idea as to whom "she" referred. "Why, Miss Wilson, of course," answered Mildred, her ardor slightly dampened by the quiet reception of her news.

Her mother smiled at the "of course," and said: "Well, what are you going to do about it?"

Mildred laughed merrily as she answered: "O mother, mother, to think that you should ever be convicted of the crime of using slang!"

Mrs. Green blushed a little at the accusation so unexpectedly brought against her.

"Why, is that slang? It seemed to me a very innocent expression. I knew of course from your face that you meant to do something and I wanted to know what it was."

"Yes, I know it sounded innocent enough. So do lots—I mean—very many *other* things, but it's slang all the same. There it goes again! 'All the same' is slang, and so is 'there it goes.'"

"It is very unpleasant, certainly, to have the least word one says turned into something one does not intend. I presume I shall be obliged to alter my expression then and ask you if you intend doing anything, or rather *what* you intend doing?"

"I shall put on my waterproof and rubbers, and make myself generally hideous, and then I shall take the biggest umbrella we have in the house, so as to hide the general hideousness as much as possible from the eyes of the casual observer. I shall go round and impart the good news to the class, and ask them what *they* mean to do. (You will observe, Mrs. Green, that I carefully avoid saying 'about it' after the word 'do,' for I believe that in those two words the offence consists.")

Mildred spoke with this lightness in order to ward off, if possible, Mrs. Green's probable refusal to allow her to go out in such a storm. But the mother, looking in the eager daughter's face, had no heart to say the word which should prevent her going.

"Bundled up" by mother's careful hand, and made "generally hideous" by her own, Mildred sallied forth on her mission, the result of which was so satisfactory that two hours later she came in, glowing with excitement, pleasure and exercise.

"O mother!" she called as soon as she came in sight of that good lady: "they're all going to, least ways all but Phillippa."

"Going to *what*, my dear. Does it not strike you that you are not very explicit?"

Mildred laughed gayly. "You'll really have to excuse me, Madame Green. My spirits 'is riz,' and when my spirits 'is riz,' Madame Green, I won't vouch for myself. But the honest truth is, the old Conversation Class is 'prepared to resume work at the old stand' as soon as the warm weather is over. All but Phillippa, as I before observed."

"And why not Phillippa?" asked her mother, seeing the question was expected.

"Because Phillippa is going to be married the 15th of September, and she's going 'wee, wee, off' as little Ned says."

"Well, won't her sister become one of you?"

"She is not sure; but then we are five (not the proverbial 'seven') without her, and while we shall all miss Phillippa, with her quick answers and saucy ways, there will be quite a class of 'old maids' left, who cannot put their time to better purpose than in improving their minds."

So the preparations for Phillippa's wedding went on, and when the fourteenth of September came nobody but Phillippa's mother and Mildred's mother suspected what a grand surprise was awaiting the five girls who were to be Phillippa's bridesmaids and spend the last evening with their friend at her home doing the thousand and one "last things" for the morrow. Even the groom and the best man were not allowed on the scene of action except for one short, privileged hour. They "would be in the way," Phillippa declared. They "did not want anyone but themselves," Mildred averred. "Six was a company, more was a *crowd*," said Sara Tasker. But they all changed their minds without hesitation, when Mrs. Green walked in about nine o'clock with Miss Wilson at her side.

Delight mixed with awe held them silent a moment. Phillippa of course recovered herself first.

"I am very glad to see you, Miss Wilson" she said, coming forward and shaking hands, cordially, "but shall be afraid to speak before you. Every time I open my mouth I shall 'put my foot in it' I expect," as the Irishman says.

This speech of Phillippa's produced the desired effect, and all stiffness immediately vanished.

Indeed, under Miss Wilson's genial manner, all chill must have melted.

"Miss Wilson," said Mildred the next morning, "while you are here this week suppos'n you 'hold a s ssion' with us?"

"Well, 'suppos'n' I do," smiled Miss Wilson.

"Amanda," said Mrs. Green, "Do you reckon Mildred will say 'suppos'n' as long as she lives?"

"Well, Elinor," answered Miss Wilson, gravely, but with a twinkle of fun in her eye, "I am afraid she will, unless she should be as successful in correcting that habit, as you have been in correcting the one of saying 'reckon.' How you did used to try my grammatical soul with that 'reckon' of yours when we were young."

Mrs. Green laughed with the other two, at finding herself fairly caught.

"Well now, Miss Wilson, 'suppos'n I had pronounced it correctly, would 'supposing' have been incorrect in that connection?"

"Not absolutely incorrect, Mildred, but, 'suppose' as standing for the imperative mood or as an abbreviation of 'let us suppose' is better. By the way, Mildred, one of your number was quite surprised that the grammar and rhetoric of the daily papers could not be regarded as a criterion. Suppose we read one of them this morning with a view to criticism. You shall read aloud to me and I will stop you at each sentence that is incorrect, leaving you to tell me wherein the error lies."

"Stop!" said Miss Wilson, after Mildred had been reading a moment or two, "Please read that sentence again and tell me what is wrong."

"'A noticeable feature of the occasion was the pressure among the guests of a clergyman,'" repeated Mildred, slowly. "It simply doesn't make any sense at all as it stands. 'The guests of a clergymen' would only be correct if the company were being entertained by a clergyman, whereas it is the Clover club."

"Precisely; and how should it have been worded?"

"'Was the presence of a clergyman among the guests.'"

"Correct. Taking the next 'This was the first time the cloth was ever represented,' we find another imperfect sentence. The tenses are bad. It should read: 'This is the first time the cloth *has ever been* represented.' Give me the paper, Mildred, and I will glance down the columns, noting here and there, the sentences needing correction. For instance, 'Men think quicker and act quicker.'"

"'Men think more quickly and act more quickly,'" answered Mildred, promptly.

"Yes; or 'Men both think and act more quickly.' Again, 'I generally find that the man who prays longest in public, prays the shortest in private.'"

"'The man who makes the longest prayer in public, etc.,'" again answered Mildred, promptly.

"Here is another. (It is always much better to follow the 'fact' with 'that' instead of 'of.') 'The week past has been noticeable only from the fact of a large number of society people having returned to the city.' It would be better to say, 'The fact that a large number has returned.'"

"I see even in Dickenses works, Miss Wilson, sentences that seem to be very much involved."

"Yes, you will find them, many of them. But I would not say 'Dickenses. Do you not know the rule for forming the possessive of a noun ending in 's?'"

"Yes," answered Mildred, "nouns ending in 's' form the possessive by adding an apostrophe after the 's,' but if you will believe me Miss Wilson, my copies of Dickens, all of them, are printed on the back 'Dickenses Works.'"

True enough. When the book was brought Miss Wilson made the astonishing discovery that a reputable publishing house could put upon the market an edition of books so marked. "Well, my dear, the fact of its incorrectness remains unaltered."

"'Prof. Lochman when advocating the opening to women of the pharmacy school' should be, 'the opening of the school of pharmacy to women.' 'Near the *salon* is a study in which stands a desk whose appearance shows good wear.' 'Near the *salon* is a study where stands a desk the appearance of which, etc.,' would be better. Further down the column we see, 'A second round was again fired.' If *again fired*, the *second* round would become the *third*. A 'second round' can be fired but once. 'But they *run* a coffin full of slag and held a funeral.' 'Ran' is not the past tense of the *transitive* verb to run. The boy *run* yesterday, but he *ran* a nail into his foot yesterday. This error is exceedingly popular, especially among the writers for the press.

"Can you give me a good reliable rule which I can quote to people who persist in saying they look nicely or feel badly? Why, would you believe it, I asked Anna Raymond's mother how she was yesterday, and she said, 'Nicely, thanks.' I don't like 'nicely' and I don't like 'thanks' but I am not sure that I know just why."

"There is no objection to the word 'thanks' used in that connection as it is a recognized abbreviation of the words 'My thanks to you,' but I do object to it, nevertheless, as being the rudeness of a certain kind of indolence. A favor done, if appreciated, is worth the trouble of saying 'Thank you,' clearly and distinctly. If not, a curt 'thanks' does not mean anything except that 'I must say *something*, I presume, so I will make it as short as possible.'"

"Now then for an answer to your former question. The rule you need is this: The verbs 'look' 'seem' 'appear' 'feel' 'taste' 'smell' and 'sound' when a quality of the subject is to be expressed, are followed by adjectives relating to that subject and not by adverbs relating to the verb. That is an old, old rule, but one which is good for many years yet, and which is not likely soon to be replaced."

Here the "private lesson" as Mildred called it, was interrupted by visitors. It was again resumed, however, when the five collected on one afternoon during the next week. "O girls," wrote Phillippa from Washington, "all that lost! To think I am not with you to sit at the feet of Wisdom."

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

AN OLD-FASHIONED MOTHER.

BY ELIZABETH STUART PHELPS.

Her name was Joy; but she was baptized Joyful in the bare white Congregational meeting-house on the windiest hill in East Pontawasset eighteen years ago that summer of which I have to tell;—Joyful Hathaway.

His name was—not that it matters. What does it ever matter when there are two, and youth and longing for each other and the old sweet power of the difference with which "created He them?" It might have been Tom or Algernon, Bob or Sidney; for she was at the years when a girl's heart lifts itself like a morning glory and easily loves or easily thinks it loves the first trellis of a bright young creature that comes in the way. It happened that it was Dick—Dick Drew; and she thought and he thought that it could not have been anybody else under any circumstances—though they had died for it; that for her, Joyful, to turn her young fancy to Tom or Sidney, while he, Richard, was a cotemporary in the same universe, would have been an infringement of every law of affectional mechanics known to govern the human heart. And I would not give much for their love if they hadn't thought so.

It goes without saying that they did not go to East Pontawassett. Such a thing as a new young man was dreamed of, by imaginative girls; but none had ever been seen since the seeing of the eyes whose their mothers were girls before them and married their fathers, new or old, as Pontawassett women were expected to marry, without asking questions, or expressing preference. You grew up and saw him in the pew across the broad aisle, on Sunday; he had always been there Sundays, since you played tag with him Saturdays and boxed his ears if he beat; by-and-by he asked you to marry him and you said "Yes," and went on playing with him the rest of your life; only now he always beat, and you went over and sat in his pew; you ceased to box his ears lest the Deacons should hear of it, and the choir should say you'd been disappointed in your marriage; but that was the main difference.

Joy Hathaway had been heard to declare that rather than marry a Pontawasset boy, she would be the seventy-sixth old maid in Pontawassett. She had counted. There were just seventy-five.

"Seems to me, Joy," her mother used to say in her plaintive, refined voice, "I'd wait, before I said that, till there were some Pontawasset boys to marry. It sounds as if you'd been asked."

But Joy laughed; she laughed a great deal; she was a happy girl.

"I'd have been asked, if there'd been anybody but widowers and peddlers here! Every boy with any gumption moves out of Pontawassett as soon as he can walk alone. I don't blame 'em. I would if I were they." Joy added that the only one left in that blessed town was the butcher boy; who was understood to offer as an excuse that his uncle had bound him over to the butcher and he didn't dare run away because he'd be sent to State's Prison. The butcher boy admitted that he would rather live in East Pontawassett than be hung. Then there was half-witted Joe who shoveled snow,—Snow Joe they called him. These two masculine possibilities, and the widower (and the peddlers) constituted the supply for seventy-five old maids. Joy remarked in conclusion, that she thanked Heaven that she had an invitation to Brookline; if there were an instance of Divine mercy ——"

"Joy, dear, I think I wouldn't."

Up from the quiet corner where her mother sat, this gentle interruption floated. Mrs. Hathaway, like most gentle people, had rock in her opinions; and one of the rockiest of these was an old-fashioned objection to what she called "making light of sacred themes." Joy associated this phrase with her mother, just as she did black silk aprons, caps pushed a little far front, with narrow purple ribbons looped up. Mrs. Hathaway was a little bit old-fashioned all through; it did not stop at caps and sacred themes; her mind worked on the cog of the last generation, leisurely and not without persistence. She had theories about women that were far from modern; she had always done as Mr. Hathaway wished; she considered this good manners in a wife; she liked women who were contented in East Pontawassett, and she thought but did not often say that circulating libraries indicated a dangerous laxity of morals. The only novels she had ever read, she said, were "Sandford and Mertons" and "The Infant's Progress." She liked a girl to be diffident, and not speak too loud or too much; to have two calico dresses and one good stuff one; too make her winter suit last three years before she put it on afternoons, and to wear a pair of kid gloves a year-and-a-half, and then keep them mended for driving and gardening. She had taught her daughter that "no lady would ever allow herself to become at all interested in a gentleman until he positively sought her hand in marriage." Her heart was as old-fashioned as her head. She was the most self-sacrificing of mothers. Old-fashion or new-fashion there was none to outdo her when it came to "mothering."

She loved like a tigress, and manifested it like a dove. Her daughter laughed at her and kissed her; obeyed her and managed her; teased her and revered her—as daughters do; accepting her as she did the sunshine or elm trees, or pure water; it was a matter of course to have a mother who adored you.

It is a simple story to tell of—the visit of a little country girl to a city relative. But the great matters of life hang pivoted upon just such small ones; and Joyful Hathaway came to the sweetest—and the saddest—of all her days, wearing her best clothes and dreaming her dearest dreams at the summer home of an Aunt Mary, as so many another girl has done beside her.

People called it going to Brookline. To the girl, it was going to Paradise. To the end of her life she will remember those last days in Pontawassett; that running over to the dressmaker's, in a pretty, palpitating hurry, because the buttons didn't match the rose-pink surah; standing to be fitted in the cool spare room, before a dimity dressing-table, amid a little feminine buzz of East Pontawassett neighbors, who thought the white tennis cloth too low on the biases, or doubted if the daisy and fern satine would wash without salt. To the end of her life she will remember little things her mother said: "Miss Pincher, would you loop it *quite* so high behind?" "Yes, Joy can wear all these blonde colors." "Not too low in front, Miss Pincher, please." "I'm glad you like it. I meant her to have a proper wardrobe." "Oh, yes! She will enjoy herself. I want she should. I like to see my daughter happy, Mrs. Runner. She is the only one I have. I'm pleased you think the surah is becoming." "I want it made up *modestly* and *plainly*, Miss Pincner—I told Joyful that was all I'd ask."

To the end of her life the girl will remember the queer unfashionably-attired figure in all that flurry and bother; how she sat and sewed and sat and sewed,—"and how I let her do it!"—how pale she grew toward supper-time; how lank she looked without a bustle, beside Miss Pincher; what a lady she looked beside Mrs. Runner; how she lost her breath coming up stairs so much to the spare room; how her cap got askew on warm days, and how sweetly she took it to be laughed at and called a "crooked old dear;" then the "grace" she asked at supper that evening: "Go Thou with this dear child and remain Thou in her empty place until we meet again around this empty board." Joy winked and blinked, and wouldn't cry, and didn't cry, but wondered why and almost wished she had—and so put her two arms about the dearest, thinnest old neck in the world, next morning, and kissed, and kissed and kissed, and vowed she would write every day, and declared she should be home within a week, and laughed and cried, and kissed again and whirled away. To the end of her days Joy will see the old lady standing there in her black silk apron and straight dress and cap with purple ribbons pushed too far forward on her fine white hair. She looked like a quaint figure on an old black and white teacup. She put up her hand to shield her eyes, and watched Mr. Runner's yellow stage drive laboriously away with the pretty, thoughtless, excited young face bobbing and nodding at the window—and then she turned and walked slowly with bent head, up the path, and went into the house, and shut the mosquito door carefully, and crawled up stairs.

"You looked peaked," said Mandy Wholly, "Shan't I make you a cup of the comp'ny tea?"

Mandy Wholly was what they called in East Pontawassett, "the hired girl."

"You've set too much," said Mandy Wholly. "You've jest sewed the life out of you gettin' that girl of yourn to Bosting. Will you have two lumps?"

"I don't know but I will," said the old lady, weakly. "I seem to feel a goneness, Mandy. It's very strange."

But, ah me! the "goneness" was the goneness of old age and a lonely heart. Company tea and two lumps do not "go to the spot" when it comes to that. Joy was all she had. That old-fashioned mother spent the morning in her room reading her Testament for comfort and company; and put her handkerchief out of sight and bathed her eyes before she unlocked her door and came down to Mandy's early dinner.

Call it Brookline or call it Paradise—thither the girl went and love came. Dick had an invitation to the tennis ground, the croquet game, the afternoon tea, or whatever it was, and the deed was done in two books. Falling in love at first sight has become so old-fashioned that it is fashionable not to respect it in these days. Like many another beautiful unmodern thing, it is none the less a true thing for that. Do I quite believe in it? Quite. Joyful Hathaway and Richard Drew looked into each others' eyes, and that was the beginning and end of it. He was a big brunette fellow, with square shoulders and curly hair. She was a blonde, and little. There was nothing remarkable about either of them, taken separately; she was a pretty girl and he a nice fellow; there are a plenty more! But taken together, as Dick and Joy's ideal of Dick, and Joy, and Dick's ideal of Joy, they made a glorious total. It was all over with them from the first; only that neither of them said so, and that was the charm and the harm of it. Unconfessed love took these young, unresisting creatures into the outer swirl of its whirlpool, and bore them on. It is the girl who has most of this inexorable prelude to bear. She who neither knows nor shows, who makes no sign though she die for it, who dreams and doubts and dares and despairs lest she be not indeed beloved, and may only put on a pink surah or wear a daisy pattern or lift a laughing eye, nor drop a word whereby to say: I love you; she who must stem the torrent of a blush or gnaw down the quiver of a lip, or clench back the tremor of a hand, lest she betray the secret of her sweet, mysterious nature, which has set this sacred law of reserve upon her; she who had better—Heaven knows why—yes, better forever lose her lover than lose the deep, divine instinct which we call maidenly; the mighty power which lays the seal of silence upon the parted lips of a woman's love;—in this dim borderland where men and women meet and miss or find their way, it is she who takes with her first taste of delight, her first draught of suffering. Girls know.

This girl, drifting along on the old swift delirium in those summer weeks, lost the perspective of life. Things slipped out of their true proportion. Daily looks of watching eyes measured the world and all that was therein. What was home? A place where he was not. Mother's love? A fading dream before a glorious fact. Mother's need? A forgotten entry in the record of the heart.

Go back to Pontawassett in a week? Go back to cell-life or be a jelly-fish upon a harbor beach! Write home? Of course; but one had everything except time in this bubbling, babbling new life. Letters go every day, but—how many days? Till the first sailing party?—till the next dance? It is hard to say it, but it is true, that a girl in love can forgot the mother who bore her, and not be the only girl in the world of tenderness so slight, or loyalty so tremulous.

Why is it that a woman is so apt to know beforehand just when a man means to tell her that he loves her? The telephone of the heart is a subtle wire. Joy, like many another hesitating young creature, waiting to be won, and quivering with the peril and the pain of those whose part in this sweet trial it is to wait—Joy knew by the knowledge that is above all proof, that Dick would speak—if speak he did, if to speak he meant—when the garden party came. The garden party, which would last from five to ten; when the great arbor would be lighted and splendid; the musicians hidden in the arbor vitae; the long walks scattered with twos talking in undertones; and the moon on the linden arbor by the pond. As well as if he had told her, Joy knew that Dick was waiting for moonlight. Such things are known without a sign—who knows how?—in these cruel, kind days while girls are tormented before their time. So overwrought she was, so hesitant with fear, so palpitant with hope, that it seemed to Joy if anything happened to that garden party she could never bear it. "I should die," she said, as young things say it; not knowing how hard it is to die; what years and what edges, (sharp and blunt,) of pain, it takes to kill.

That letter from Pontawassett came one merry morning when she had been fewer than three weeks away from home. Something led the girl to run away up stairs alone with the letter. She curled herself luxuriously into the gay chintz-covered window-cushion of her Aunt Mary's guest room, and idly read:

"MY DEAR DAUGHTER:—It is ten days since I have heard from you. I think I have written three times a week as you asked me. I know you are very much occupied in the pleasures of your visit, but I should like to hear a little more about them and about yourself. Give, if you please, my dear love to your aunt. I have had some thoughts of coming on while you are there. The truth is, I am not very well. Mandy Wholly takes excellent care of me, and Mrs. Runner sits with me sometimes; but I have a goneness and giddy turns. I miss you very much, but I would on no account have you shorten your visit for me; it is not worth while. I presume I shall soon be better. It occurred to me that it might do me good to spend a few days in Brookline. Your aunt has so often asked me to come, and I go so seldom. We could occupy the same room and not crowd her. Has she much other company? Do you think it would be a good plan? I thought I would ask you before I said anything to her. It seems to me some days as if I might pick up a little appetite at her table; and perhaps the change of air might do something. But I don't suppose it matters much. I should like to see you, my child. I am glad you are so happy. Do you wear the pink surah? Does the satine begin to need washing? I hope you keep your gloves and stockings neatly mended. You have not written much about your friends. If there are any gentlemen

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among them I am sure you will remember that I have told you that no *lady* will allow herself to become interested in any man until he positively has sought her hand in marriage. If I should come, I should have Miss Matilda trim over my lace bonnet, I think. I wonder if you could get me a new parasol in Boston? I am afraid mine isn't quite modern enough for the society in which your aunt moves. I should not require anything else new. With love to yourself, uncle, aunt and cousins, I am, your loving "MOTHER."

Joy laid down the letter; she leaned back on the old-gold cretonne cushion; it had a pattern of chrysanthemums; she traced the fat flower with her finger. The window was open. Gay voices from the piazza came up. Her little cousin ran down across the lawn in a velvet suit and broad lace collar; fine shadows from the linden trees fled over the little fellow's figure and bare head. He cried out shrilly:

"Mr. Dick! Mr. Dick!" Her aunt's modulated cultivated voice made murmurous welcome; Dick's rang out in his off-hand way—that dear way! How terrible for a human voice to grow so dear in three mad weeks!

Behind the yellow and white India silk curtain the girl looked down at him; he stood twirling his cane; he lifted his hat and showed his close-cut curly hair and honest forehead and glancing eyes; the little velvet-clad boy pulled at him; Aunt Mary, in her white mull and Valenciennes morning robe moved with her slow, elegant step across the lawn; a nurse with a white cap brought the luxurious-looking baby; the coachman drove the landau leisurely up the avenue; there was talk and chatter about the drive; somebody asked where Joy was; Dick suggested in an aggrieved tone that he hadn't seen her since yesterday.

Joy drew back from the silk curtain. Her face fell into her hands. Set sharply down upon the scene she saw a quaint old figure with a black silk apron and cap (how many seasons old?) pushed too far forward; with narrow purple loops. With a sinking of the heart she thought of Miss Matilda's millinery, and just how that trimmed-over lace, bonnet would look in Brooks' line. She remembered the parasol—bought the year she had the measles. All her mother's oddities and whims—her prim ways of speaking—her views of life and society—her little weaknesses, came flashing to her mind; even the way she put her spoon in her teacup and sometimes forgot to use her napkin, now that she was growing old. For she was—she was; it must be faced. She would talk about "Sandford and Merton." She would ask if they were not going to have family prayers. She would not use her finger-bowl. When she heard some of Dick's stories she would say he made light of sacred themes.

(*To be Continued.*)

RELATIONS-IN-LAW.

BY MARION HARLAND.

Her gesture remanded the topic to an epoch when Joneses had never been heard of and the Roosevelt clan was almost young.

"By no means. When I make an assertion I am prepared to prove it. Jones is a good old Welsh name. Every educated Englishmen is proud of the fame of Inigo Jones, and every American ought to be of John Paul Jones."

"Helen!" Madam addressed her eldest-born as if Nellie's vindication of her vaunt had not been spoken,—"I hope Mr. Grimes will be able to dine with us this evening?"

While his wife replied that he considered a dinner engagement as binding as a promissory note, Nellie dismissed the feint of eating; sat with her hands pressed cruelly together under the table, eyes bright and lips white with generous indignation. She had scarcely hoped to avoid unpleasant friction with the people so unlike herself and her congeners. Her worst fears had not forecast a battle-royal with her husband's mother within two hours after she entered her doors.

"Yet how could I help it?" she mused while the sluggish stream of talk flowed by her as if her chair were empty. "She cast a slur upon my dear father and his family; treats me as if I were a beggar-child she is forced to adopt, yet means to keep in mind of the pit whence I was digged. And my husband has seen me with her eyes ever since we came to this house. Her influence is stronger than mine!"

"Everardus!" the queen-mother ordered in making the motion to rise when the agony of the repast was over. "Jerusha should rest this afternoon that she may be quite ready for dinner. There will be twenty-five at table,—all family connections, but as you know, people of critical taste and excellent judgment. You will, I am sure, do all in your power to prepare your wife for the occasion."

Nellie flitted from her spouse's detaining hand at this juncture. All heads turned with his to see through the doorway, the slight figure escaping up the staircase.

Mrs. Grimes laughed: the other sisters compressed patrician lips and looked what the parent spoke:—

"A charming person, I have no doubt, My Son, among her own associates and relatives. But, I fear me, sadly in need of the discipline of a well-ordered home. It is evident that she has never had the advantage of such."

"She suits me, as she is, madam. That is the chief thing to be considered."

Respect and obedience to his mother had been wrought into his nature from his infancy. Her rule was absolute over the father who had left their offsprings dependent on her for the bread they ate and the clothes they wore. Everard knew himself to be her favorite child, and his heart smote him as a gray pallor stole over the proud face.

"That depends," she said, quietly, "upon what your object in life is. My criticism was prompted by a desire for your best good."

It was ungracious in him to follow Nellie without reply, but he was bound by husbandly duty to stand by his wife. Nellie must be talked to, nevertheless, and the raw spot on feeling or conscience prepared him for the task.

She was crying stormily, lying on her bed without thought of the damage done to the delicate peach-blossom satin and lace coverlet by tears and clutchings. Everard laid his hand on her shoulder, and she tossed it off.

"Don't come near me! You are as bad as the rest of them! I wish I had never seen one of you!"

His mother was a sensible woman. He had never been so sure of it as at that moment. As a section of the "well-ordered home," he began the work of discipline forthwith.

"Nellie! you are behaving more like a spoiled child than a reasonable woman. You are injuring yourself, mortifying me, and doing all in your power to incur the just displeasure of my mother and sisters. Your conduct to-day, has pained and shocked me."

She stopped sobbing. Her face was hidden, but she was so motionless, the fingers tangled in the lace so tense, that he might have been warned not to go on, had his wits been more alert.

"Affection for me, if not self-respect, would have dictated a different course. You would be incensed were I to use such language to your mother as you did to mine."

Nellie whirled over, and sat upright, her eyes fairly snapping hot sparkles.

"The two women are not to be named in the same week! That is, if that graven image down stairs is a woman! What had I done that she should brow-beat and irritate me—a helpless child in comparison with her—a stranger within her gates! My only crime was in marrying you, and it is unpardonable. You must have known this, and how I would be received here. I—who was so happy and beloved in my own blessed, blessed home!"

She then threw herself down again.

Everard bowed his face upon his hands and groaned aloud.

"I hoped——I would give my life to make you happy, child!"

"Well! we kissed and made friends as was inevitable," wrote Nellie, in unwise confidence to the sister who was nearest her age and heart. "He is the darlingest fellow on the earth, which I never suspected to be a mass of badly-mixed mud until I became a captive in Castle Dismal. But I drew one humiliating lesson from this, our first tiff-matrimonial. Blood is thicker than water. You would have said that blue Knickerbocker blood is thickest and coldest of all, could you have seen the dinner-party last night. The enclosed sketch, 'Owls in Council,' is my feeble revenge for the unspeakable and indescribable boredom I endured. We sat at table three dreadful hours, and not one frivolous remark was made in all that time. I wore my white silk with the pearl-dotted lace *tablier*, and Miss Wilhelmina asked me if it were not 'just a *little* theatrical.' What *will* she say to the pink-and-silver brocade? Ev. said I looked lovely before we went down. Madam 'regretted' when the last owl had flown (except, of course, the home-brood) "that Jerusha was so evidently jaded! She had hoped the precautions she' (Madam) 'had taken to avoid this, would have been more effectual.'"

"I didn't blame her much for the criticism, for I felt, and know I looked, as if I had been in a clothes-wringer for one-hundred-and-eighty excruciating minutes. My dear! hearken unto your afflicted sister's warning, and lay it unto your simple little soul. Marry—if marry you must—a Melchizedeck, without father, without mother, without descent—to speak of!"

CHAPTER III.

"Did you ever read Dante?" asked Nellie of her husband, apropos, it would seem, to nothing.

They had been married over a year, a period passed, with the exception of one month—in the society of the young wife's relations-in-law. The Jones family had spent the summer in Europe returning late in the autumn, and Nellie had paid a visit to them in December, including Christmas.

"Not that I recollect. Why?"

"I was thinking of his hell of perpetual ice and snow, where people froze and froze eternally. There is a touch of the salamander about me. I should prefer a steady fire—for a change, at any rate."

Everard's brow contracted.

"Let us talk of something else, dear. We so seldom have a cozy evening together that we will not spoil it."

"Don't 'our best circles' talk of Dante's Inferno?" queried the wife, in mock surprise. "There!" smoothing out the creases in his forehead with a taper forefinger. "We wont waste the evening we wouldn't have to ourselves were it not that your mother has a bad cold, the twins are at a ball, and Wilhelmina has stayed at home to practise new music. We are very much the slaves of other people and routine, darling. Don't you think after twelve month's bondage, we might cut our leading-strings and do as we like, now and then? If I could have you for my very own even for one evening a week, I should have hope that this awful homesickness would not become chronic."

Everard sighed. "I do my best. But, situated as we are——"

"That is just it!" interposed Nellie, briskly. "Why need we be "situated" at all? Other young people take "flats" in the city, or small houses in New Jersey or Brooklyn, or up the river, and live in peace and comfort. Now, listen to my secret. Papa told me at Christmas that he would give me a cottage and furnish it whenever we are ready for it. Just think of setting up our own household gods under a Queen Anne roof, with no end of gables and stained glass, all manner of cheap Japanesities about us, a Newfoundland dog on the porch, and chickens and illimitable fresh eggs in the back-yard! I went into happy hysterics when Papa made the offer. They had to administer red lavender and valerian. I told Papa he was the carrier-dove that 'beat the bars with his snowy wing,'—a bold figure for his moustache. But the angelic Pater never criticises my tropes and metaphores."

Everard's was not a suspicious disposition, but a thought suggested by this speech stung him smartly.

"Why should your father say anything about a change of residence for us? I thought he understood the terms on which we are living here, and that the arrangement is a permanent one, at least during my mother's life-time."

"Dont glower at me as if I had fractured every commandment in the Knickerbocker decalogue!" retorted Nellie in merry audacity. "The Jones' blood may be red instead of blue, but it isn't easily put down. Papa cannot but know that I am not happy here: that, while you are all that I could ask, and a great deal better than I deserve—your relations and I do not (may I use the term as Mrs. Vroom is not here to be shocked?) pull evenly together in harness. He and Mamma think it better for young people to make a home for, and by themselves. It is but natural they should consult my happiness. Why, Ev! what is the matter?"

He had put her down from his knee and arisen abruptly, the visage, usually so pleasant, dark and warm with wrath. His manhood, class prejudices, family pride—were outraged, rather by what was implied than asserted.

"I had thought"—he said, his voice made rasping by emotion,—"that a sense of propriety, some glimmering of common honor would have withheld you from entering complaints against my nearest of kin. I had supposed that the mother who bore me, and from whom you have received unnumbered benefits."—a woman, who—misunderstand her as wilfully and ingenerously as you will—is incapable of such a breach of courtesy and good-faith as you have committed,—I should have believed, I say, that she was entitled to some consideration at your hands. Nothing she has ever said in praise of blood and breeding, has convince me so fully how much there is in both, as the discovery that you have made our domestic life the theme of adverse criticism and, I have no doubt, of ridicule, in your family.' A well-bred servant knows better than to carry tales from one house to another."

(*To be Continued.*)

GETTING READY FOR SICKNESS.

BY HOPE HARVEY.

You don't want to get ready for any such thing! Neither do I. But don't we all want to *be* ready in case it comes? If yourself, or your good man, or daughter, or the baby should be suddenly prostrated by disease or accident, shouldn't you want to have everything all handy, nice, and comfortable for the sufferer? But you can't bear to be always expecting something of that kind in your family? Still, the unwelcome thing will come all the same. "It is the unexpected that happens," and that was very recently illustrated to me, when, without a moment's warning, I saw my best beloved fall unconscious at my feet one early morning, to be confined to the bed and one or two rooms, for a two months' illness. Then I was thankful for whatever readiness was found at hand, and so will you be, good people, in similar circumstances. And the comfort and security you will have all along previously, in frequently thinking of your preparations, will far more than repay you for all your efforts, not to mention the greater blessedness when you come to avail yourself of them.

This getting ready does not imply sadness or gloom as for a funeral task. To be sure, sickness may mean death, and then again it may not. What of either case? Is there not much of so-called living that is daily dying? And is there any dying at all when right living does but open out and up into a larger, brighter life? So we may prepare for sickness with as much of real cheerfulness as for to morrow's breakfast, since both affairs are promotive to the living so strongly craved.

It can only be a general getting ready, after all, for one cannot enter into every detail of coming sickness in imagination or preparation. The daily contingencies have to be daily met. But to begin with, every home should at least hold a "medicine closet," well stored with domestic remedies, and some of the simplest of the druggists', each of which should be carefully labeled, and convenient to the hasty and often anxious approach of the mother or nurse, seeking relief for the ills of childhood, or the ills of the adult by day or night. A prompt dose or outward application selected from this cupboard, may prevent a long sickness, or even save life during the delay of sending for the doctor. Antidotes for poisons should be in their places, and the knowledge in place also, to use them; also the treatment for burns and scalds. Lotions and liniments should be there for stings, sprains, cuts, bruises, etc., and abundant material for bandages for dislocated and broken limbs, which if stripped and sewed are all the better.

And forget not the innocent but efficient mustard, with soft linen and flannel for a paste appliance in swift, deadly pain. Don't have to send to the neighbors for it in the night, either. Think of a whole corps of physicians and nurses sending a messenger running in the darkness away over to the hotel to relieve the death-stricken Garfield! Why wasn't that mustard box in the cottage!

But the getting ready anticipates other things besides a few temporary remedies. Let us think over at our health and leisure, what room we can appropriate to a possible patient. If some wise prescience has not built a convenient nursery, one must be extemporized as the next best thing. (*Mem.* The "coming man" will design his house for the sick as well as for the well.) In the meantime we will decide what room we can best spare for an emergency, just as we plan beforehand, if we are sensible, what we would best save or sacrifice in case of a fire. Well, if we have a large, light, easily ventilated room in the house, away from all sights and sounds of family works, we must let our sick ones have it.

Perhaps it is the parlor. If so, we will mentally select the bedstead we wish to have in it, and examine it to be sure of its construction. That we may rapidly take it down and set it up on occasion. Consider where we can readily remove the bric-a-brac, for, except the pictures on the walls, not much is needed in the sick room but the chamber furniture, till the patient is convalescent. Be sure to have an old fashioned, easy lounge, upon which the watcher or nurse may often drop for a little rest.

A lever patient, whom I saw quietly settled in such a quickly arranged, yet prevised bed and room, upon opening her eyes on the comforts, and looking further through open doors into an other room with sunny west windows, exclaimed with supreme satisfaction and restfulness, "Oh, this is paradise!"

We must especially prepare plenty of bed clothing, towels, and wearing apparel for our prospective invalid, for the cleanliness with frequent changes which every sick person requires and upon which may depend recovery. Besides, in many kinds of malarious or contagious disease, much clothing must be burned, so that a plentiful supply is indispensible. This demand may be thought almost impossible to supply, by families not very "well off," and so it would be, if delayed till wanted; but by this very fore-thought which I am trying to emphasize, it can be done, without burdening or impoverishing the family. We can manage to lay by these articles in small quantities; a piece or two at a time, so that when the days of need come, there will be a store accumulated to meet them, without depending upon kind friends. Both clothing and bedding are better neither new or old, only worn enough to be soft and comfortable, and on the other hand, strong enough to allow of turning or moving the person by the sheets or garments, as is so often necessary. Dressing gowns and wrappers will be required at some stage of the illness for a man, woman, or child, so we will contrive to have one for each, to meet the occasion.

Another thing. I do not wish to affront my readers by affirming that their houses throughout are not ready for sickness, for whose is exactly as one would wish for such a season, longer or shorter? Yet by giving occasional thought to the matter, much confusion may be saved, and comfort secured. Not that one should be carrying the burden always, and house cleaning all the time, neither flee to the other extreme, and begin a course of sudsing and scrubbing as soon as disease steps inside. If this is thoroughly done before, the dreaded fellow may not dare for a long time to step in at all, as he is afraid of clean buildings.

A lady I know says she always begins to clean house, as soon as one of her folks is taken sick! But who wants a task of that kind at such a time? There are weariness and dismay enough with the sickness without the added job of cleaning. The better way is evident, which is to make a few judicious touches frequently, here and there, and so *keep* in order. And the blessedness thereof will be felt and appreciated, whether it is ourselves or some other one who "comes down."

Further, we must get ready by attending in season to matters of business' etc., which may be of the long importance to the family in case of the death, or prolonged sickness, or mental disability of some member. A friend with small children, calling upon me, said in reference to this very point: "I must go home, and this day before I sleep must attend to two matters, which in case of any sudden happening to me, *must not* be left undone." No, it wasn't "a sign she was going to die," for that was several months ago' and she is still well and strong. It was a "sign" rather, of a sensible woman, who is not afraid to look her realities in the face, and to do her brave best to meet them.

Much more of course could be said in pursuance of this general subject, but some of the chief requisites have been named, and we may each elaborate these hints to any desirable extent.

But one thing more of vital importance. We must keep *ourselves* ready for sickness in our persons or families. Habits of self control, calmness, patience, and hopefulness, should be our reservoir. There are plenty of extra labor and anxiety when the calamity comes, so that we and all concerned have need of conserved forces and resources.

A trust in the All Father will prepare us better than any thing else for a campaign in the war with disease. This, in addition to other readiness spoken of, may often shorten and alleviate the better, if not avert it for an indefinite period. So the getting ready for an evil may bring us only good.

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ONLY A CARD.

Only a card, a modest card
Borne to her on the Christmas tide,
It might have been a child's reward—
So simple was her store beside,
Yet o'er that unpretending token
She wept as though her heart was broken.

Twin roses on whose petals lay
In crystal beads, the glistening dew—
Drawn closer by a ribbon gay,
For on a simple stem they grew;
No master-hand the flowers had fashioned,
Nor master-mind the lines impassioned:

Yet as she prayed and wept, and kept,
The garnered pride of ripened years
From out her stole life was swept—
By that swift avalanche of tears;
And chained emotions burst their fetters
As grew to words the dazzling letters.

For long ago—before the world
Had drawn its ruthless bars between—
Two sisters played where blithely purled
A streamlet through the meadows green;
And sat in shady nooks together
To weave the rushy cap and feather.

But childhood passed, and "childish things
Were put away" from hand and heart,
When an unwelcome sprite with wings
Smote one fair sister with her dart,
And from the old home's kindly cover
She flitted with her lowly lover.

Her name was banished from the hearth
Where erst in love 'twas ever breathed;
And the fair record of her birth
A sister's hand with rue had wreathed;—
Her hand, to whom that Christmas token
Thus tenderest rebuke had spoken:—

"The fragrance of the flowers will stay
When from their leaves the bloom has fled,
So hallowed mem'ries round our way
Still linger—though our loves be dead!"
The cherished wrongs at last were righted;
The sisters by that card united.

—M. A. MAITLAND.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MISTRESS VS. MAID.

The young woman who, in the last number of the JOURNAL, styles herself, in much humility "one of the despised class of servants," seems to be so much above most of the servants that I have ever seen, as to surprise me. Her letter shows that she can read and write, (very few can,) and can think ('till fewer seem able to do this.) If she only does not belong to the class who would "shirk" their work to go to a ball, or say "they were not hired to do this," or "its not their place to do that." I should think she would be an unusually good servant. There are two sides to every question, and we might take the trouble, sometimes, to look on both sides of the shield.

Our own side, to be sure, most concerns us. The majority of servants, too often, seem lacking in the very first necessary qualification: the *misnamed common sense*. Take, for instance, the *raw material*; a *green* girl, just landed from anywhere, Germany, Ireland, England, Sweden, or any other place; the housekeeper, while recognizing the fact, that she may become a *first rate* servant, looks forward to the process, with horror. Their inability to do *anything*, but their willingness to tackle *everything*, makes one ache. Just imagine a girl who never heard of *dusting* anything after sweeping; never heard of peeling potatoes, never starched, dampened or ironed clothes, knows *nothing* about cooking; cannot even make a bed, has been one week in this country, and *demands* three dollars. Is it any wonder, that the lady, each night, is much more tired than if she had *only* done the work herself alone? sits down at night, in despair, with the thought: "I cannot stand it! With all the hot weather coming on, I must stand over the hot stove, and do all the cooking myself, while she looks on, or hinders me. My children must be taken care of, and my sewing is still undone!" This is tolerated because the girl has one virtue; she is good natured; so she is paid for the work that the *nuisance* performs, because the next might be infinitely worse.

A lovely old lady had never had any trouble with her service, until a woman died, who had lived with her for twenty-four years. She has had almost every degree of incompetency since. Excellent cooks, but bad tempered; good laundresses, but intemperate; clean workers, but impertinent; willing and good-natured, but capable of nothing but a grin; and worst of all, *excellent* servants, but not reputable. I say "worst of all," for after finding one who answered all requirements, whose cooking was perfect, her laundry work equal to a professional's (?), who was tidy in dress, willing, good-natured! Does it not seem like a "rara avis?" So all of the family thought, and had decided to increase her already large wages, when the lady discovered that every night, after the family had retired, she would climb out of the window, remain away all night, get back at four or five o'clock. One lady keeps a servant, even after she has been "in trouble," (although she has not reformed,) because she is such an excellent worker, and because it is so hard to replace her.

There is *some reason somewhere* for such a "state of things," and even the "Elsie's" must see where most of it is to be found. A great deal of trouble is made by the meddlesome friends of the newly landed girls, who say, "Don't let them be foolin' ye! Make 'em give ye three dollars, or don't ye stay, at all!" Human nature resents being swindled, and paying twelve and sometimes sixteen dollars a month, and doing almost the entire work oneself, makes one—well! riled! It is "keeping a dog, and doing your own barking!" But the girls count the lodging, for which they pay nothing, and the board, for which they pay the same, (both so much superior to any they have ever known,—) as simply nothing, because they do not have the actual dollars in their hands.

It is a discouraging but not unusual experience to hire one of these workers (?), at three dollars. You find she cannot wash and iron, so you hire a woman two days each week to teach her. She cannot cook, so you hire a girl to take care of the children, while you teach her that Wages, $12—Washerwoman, $8—Nurse, $8—$28 for one month. You are a good housekeeper. The girl gets a good drilling from you. In all the details of the work. She serves her apprenticeship, without showing that she has profited at all, and by the end of the second month, she's "goin' to leave, mem," and you look ruefully at your time, patience, money, health, wasted, and the dreary routine to be gone through with again; until purse, health or patience is exhausted you may give up housekeeping, and become, as a friend terms it, "boarding tramps!"

The trouble with the servants is, that they do not know their *trade*. If there only were some school, some institution where they could learn it, what a blessing it would be. If it were impossible to obtain a *place*, unless they could produce a certificate that they could *systematically*, sweep, wash, iron, cook, and make beds, and were respectable and *respectful*! But this is so Utopian an idea, as long as the supply is so much less than the demand, that we must await the Millennium! But perhaps we may have a greater blessing in not needing any servants, at all then.

My advice to the mistress is, to learn as much about house-work herself, as she possibly can. The idea was excellent of the young mistress, who sat on the stairs studying the cook-book, preparatory to coming into the kitchen, and with dignity issue her orders for the dinner, and how she wished it cooked. But more than that is necessary to the well-ordering of the service. When I was married, I knew absolutely nothing of housekeeping or cooking. When the "girl's day out" came, I did all the "fussing" I could in the kitchen. I ignored my failures, paraded my successes. Through several times of trial, 'between girls,' I was thankful for the little knowledge thus gained, and encouraged to try again. So, dear housekeeper, do not be discouraged! Even the most excellent experts must once have been beginners, and no one knows how many dishes dear "Marion Harland" has spoiled. If you try to roast meat, learn all you can, about it, first, bend all your energies upon it, and roast it *well*. I will spare you Dr. Watts, oft quoted line, about the sweeping of a room. I think, in all of our housework, if we knew more of the working details, we could so much more efficiently direct and govern our servants; beside the advantage of not being so dependent on them for their superior knowledge. We should tell *them*, how we wanted the birds cooked, and there would not be quite such a complacent air, "Sure, she's got to put up with it! She can't get along without me!"

These remarks, in regard to servants, apply to the class one generally finds, in offices, through advertisements, or those newly landed. One almost prefers teaching one of the latter, because they have not yet learned to be impertinent. I have not spoken of, or reflected in any way on American girls, who "live out," or "help." These usually, have common sense, if not much knowledge. The trouble with this latter class, is that they are not brought up to know *how* to work. Too often the mother prefers to work her loving hands to the bone, rather than let Araminta's hands be injured by hard work. I have had one American girl who made excellent *lemon meringue* pie, but *never* washed *dishes* clean, and *always* swept the dirt in a corner, and left it there.

So, dear housekeeper, especially *young* housekeeper, learn all the details of work that you possibly can, practice whenever you get a chance. It may use up some of your valuable spare time, strain temper and patience, but, my word for it, if undertaken earnestly, you will be more than repaid.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HOW TO TALK IN SOCIETY.

"Conversation" For The Million.

BY MARGARET MEREDITH.

I believe there are "finishing schools" where girls are taught the art of conversation, and though we generally smile at such training and expect the girl to come out from it stilted and underbred, I am not at all sure but that, wisely carried out, it is a step in the right direction.

Girls, especially those who have no older sisters, or have not been constantly with them, have cruder ideas than one could deem possible, and with young men, it must be the same. Recall your own first days in society. I, for one, can talk pretty steadily now, whatever else I failed in, and at my first parties I scarcely opened my mouth unless I had somebody to talk to whom I particularly liked—naturally making myself so unattractive. I seldom had any of these great lights. I had a general idea that parties were places for enjoying yourself if you were so fortunate as to have somebody nice to talk to you; but that I could myself give any pleasure by talking had not been suggested to me, much less the commonest views of self interest in the matter. When I was sure of someone agreeable, I had spasms of fear lest I should not find anything to say. That was no great trouble, as the fear was short-lived and never quite came true; but I half believe a few hints logically given, or a little practice, would have prevented it.

Why, we hear, of half the debutants: "She has nothing to say;"—"Very pretty, yes, but so hard to talk to." We find the same in the younger young-man, but it does not seem to make altogether the same difference in their case; a girl is entertaining or nobody; if she cannot talk, she cannot be a success in society, and this applies as much—perhaps more—to plain country society as to that of glittering metropolitan life. A little advice and encouragement from their mothers would help much to change these stupid young people into lively companions. One does not need to be brilliant, but one does need to say something, and to try not to leave longer pauses than are necessary to give others opportunity to take their turn if they choose.

And after the early dumb stage is over, we have more chance to improve our powers in this line than we realize.

Of coure wit or humor, repartee and vividness, are sharpened and quickened by practice. Those who have done constant entertaining for years, and have taken an interest in it and done their best, developes amazingly, the more if they have talked with brilliant people. But do you realize that in the dull routine of a quiet life, seeing for the most part only very ordinary people, and going little into the gay world, you are not without the means of learning to be a fine talker?

My hint is simply this: "Try;" go at learning to talk well as you would at learning German: I mean, with practical industry when you are at it; try to entertain the person to whom you are talking; try this with the merest morning caller, and for whom you care nothing and who you wish had not come. She will give you excellent practice, better far than one who is brimful of news and talk interesting to you both, so that you are entertained and entertaining whether you will or no. How many of us do that or dream of it? We aim to get through the tiresome call decently, and that is all. It would not be nearly so tiresome if we made it an exercise for ourselves in the art of being entertaining. No amount of studying, I believe, and philosophizing, would so improve our "conversational ability" as this invariable effort to be entertaining. And then what compensation will be thrown in! The more agreeable one is, the more popular, and we all love popularity only too well.

We do not take into consideration that people care to be entertained when they are, for instance, making duty visits, but they notice the difference in a moment. I myself remember being left till very late at night in a lady's parlor, to her inconvenience and weariness, I felt sure. But as I was helpless, I struggled in desperation to talk of everything interesting I could think of, with a forlorn hope of keeping them awake and making them part of the time forget what an imposition I was upon them; and my efforts succeeded so well that, though they had known me for years, they made mention to people afterwards of my agreeableness, evidently basing it all upon that one evening.

We generally know, if we stopped to consider, some of the subjects likely to please an acquaintance, and as soon as we launch out into these, can feel whether we are interesting them or not. "Try;" that is the hint; do not be lazy and laissez-faire.

Do not deliver continuous harrangues; be very careful to pause after every few sentences, so that your friends may not fail to say what they want to say—that is a failure specially hard to stand. And if they, dring up from your vivacity, take the bit in their mouths, and forthwith engross the conversation, rein yourself in as for your life, listen, listen, listen—not just put on an appearance of listening; and be thankful that they are giving you now a rare chance to acquire that gilt edged gift of a fine talker, the power to be appreciative when talked to. And whoever you fail to fascinate, it will not be the wordy bore whom you encouraged to do all the talking he wanted to; while from many such an one you can learn as much as from some more agreeable men, much that others less self-contained lose by putting, so to speak, their fingers in their ears and going half to sleep instead of listening.

Put your mind to all this, and that practice which makes perfect, will have speedy effect. You will not need to lament that you are cut off from the polishing opportunities of constant society; you will, to a great extent, have made opportunities, and, may attain in your girlhood the conversational skill which otherwise you would have come to you only in later life, or still more likely never.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

A BRIGHT FACE.

BY MARGARET MILLER.

I am not of a sociable disposition as regards callers. I never remember the time when I was not engrossed with my work or play and indisposed to respond to the sudden demand to go sit idle in the parlor and make conversation. Sorrowful ladies who have met with the misfortune of finding you in, are not the stuff of which delightful entertainment is apt to be made.

But I remember one lady who called at our house oftener than others, and yet whose coming was always welcome, simply because she brought in with her such a fund of cheerfulness. I was very young, and she elderly, so that I might have been quite excused from seeing her, but I was generally glad to take part of the visit to myself. She was not brilliant, still less was she noisy and rollicking. She was not at all handsome, but when she sat down in the grey dullness of a winter afternoon, her sunshiny face and heartsome talk shed a soothing balm over our spirits. When she bid good-bye, the world seemed a happier place to live in than it had seemed when she came.

As we must make formal calls, it might be possible to throw into them a friendly brightness somewhat like hers, and so make our victims feel a little happier under the necessity of entertaining us.

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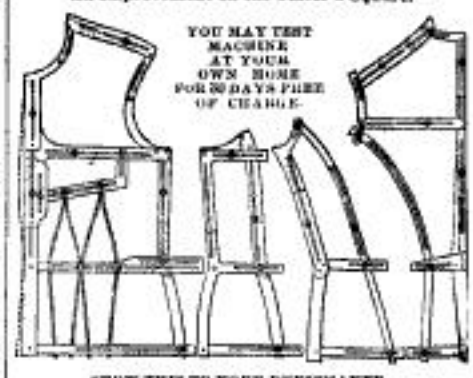

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

The Charity of The Jonesvillians.

BY JOSIAH ALLEN'S WIFE.

We have been havin' a pound party here in Jonesville. There wuz a lot of children left without any father or mother, nobody only an old grandma to take care of 'em, and she wuz half bent with the rheumatiz, and had a swelled neck, and lumbago and fits.

They lived in an old tumble down house jest outside of Jonesville. The father wuz, I couldn't deny, a shiftless sort of a chap, good-natured, always ready to obleege a neighbor, but he hadn't no faculty. And I don't know, come to think of it, as any body is any more to blame if they are born without a faculty, than if they are born with only one eye. Faculty is one of the things that you can't buy.

He loved to hunt. That is, he loved to hunt some kinds of things. He never loved to hunt stiddy, hard work, and foller on the trail of it till he overtook success and captured it. No, he drather hunt after catamounts and painters, in woods where catamounts haint mounted, and painters haint painted sence he wuz born.

He generally killed nothin' bigger than red squirrels and chipmunks. The biggest game he ever brought down wuz himself. He shot himself one cold day in the fall of the year. He wuz gittin' over a brush fence, they sposed the gun hit against somethin' and went off, for they found him a layin' dead at the bottom of the fence.

I always sposed that the shock of his death comin' so awful sudden onto her, killed his wife, she had been sick for a long spell, she had consumption, and dropsy, and so forth, and so forth, for a long time, and after he wuz brought in dead, she didn't live a week. She thought her eyes of him, for no earthly reason as I could ever see. How strange, how strange a dispensation of Providence it duz seem, that some women love some men, and vice versey and the same.

But she did jest about worship him, and she died whisperin' his name, and reachin' out her hands as if she see him jest ahead of her. And I told Josiah I didn't know but she did. I shouldn't wonder a mite if she did see him, for there is only the veil of mystery between us and the other world at any time, and she had got so nigh to it, that I spose it got so thin that she could see through it.

Just as you can see through the blue haze that lays before our forests in Injun summer. Come nigh up to it and you can see the silvery trunks of the maples and the red sumac leaves, and the bright evergreens, and the forms of the happy hunters a passin' along under the glint of the sunbeams and the soft shadows.

They died in Injun summer. I made a wreath myself of the bright colored leaves to hang on their coffins. Dead leaves, dead to all use and purpose here, and yet with the bright mysterious glow upon them that put me in mind of some immortal destiny, and blossoming beyond our poor dim vision. Jane Smedley wuz a good woman, and so wuz Jim, good but shiftless.

But I made the same wreath for her and Jim, and the strange mellow light lay on both of em, makin' me think in spite of myself of some happy sunrisin' that haply may dawn on some future huntin' ground, where poor Jim Smedley even, may strike the trail of success and happiness hid now from the sight of Samantha, hid from Josiah.

Wall, they died within a week's time of each other, and left nine children, the oldest one of 'em not quite fifteen. She, the oldest one, wuz a good girl, only she had the rickets so that when she walked, she seemed to walk off all over the house backwards, and sideways, and every way, but when she sot down, she wuz a good stiddy girl, and faithful; she took after her mother, and her mother took after her grandmother, so there wuz three takin' after each other, one right after the other.

Jane wuz a good faithful hard-workin' creeter when she wuz well, brought up her children good as she could, larnt 'em the catechism, and took in all kinds of work to earn a little somethin' towards gettin' a home for 'em; she and her mother both did, her mother lived with 'em, and wuz a smart old woman, too, for one that wuz pretty nigh ninety. And she wuznt worrysome much, only about one thing—she wanted a home. She wanted a home dretfully. Some wimmen are so; she had moved round so much, from one poor old place to another, that she sort o' hankered after bein' settled down into a stiddy home.

Wall, there wuz eight children younger than Marville, that wuz the oldest young girl's name. Eight of 'em, countin' each pair of twins as two, as I spose they ort. The Town buried the father and mother, which wuz likely and clever in the town, but after that it wouldn't give only jest so much a week, which wuz very little, because it said, town did, that they could go to the poorhouse, they could be supported easier there.

I don't know as the town could really be blamed for sayin' it, and yet it seemed kinder mean in it, the Town wuz so big, and the children, most of 'em, wuz so little.

But any way, the Town wuz jest sot on it, and there wuz the end of it, for you might jest as well dispute the wind as to dispute the Town when it gets sot.

Wall, the old grandma said she would die in the streets before she would go to the poorhouse. She had come from a good family in the first place. They say she run away and left a good home and got married, and did dretful poor in the married state. He wuz shiftless and didn't have nothin', and didn't lay up any. And she didn't keep any of her old possessions only jest her pride. She kept that, or enough of it to say that she would die on the road before she would go to the poorhouse. And once I see her cry she wanted a home so bad.

And lots of folks blamed her for it, blamed the old woman awfully. They said pride wuz so wicked. Wimmen who would run like deers if company came when they wuzn't dressed up slick, they would say the minute they got back into the room, all out of breath with burryin' into their best clothes, they'd say a pantin', "That the old woman ought to be *made* to go to the poorhouse, to take the pride out of her, pride wuz so awfully dretfully wicked, and it wuz a shame that she wuz so ongrateful as to want a home of her own." And then they would set down and rest.

Wall, the family was in a sufferin' state. The town allowed em one dollar a week. But how wuz ten human beings to live on a dollar a week. The children worked every chance they got, but they couldn't earn enough to keep em in shoes, let alone other clothin' and vittles. And the old house was too cold for em to stay in durin' the cold weather, it wuz for Grandma Smedley, anyway, if the children could stand it she couldn't. And what wuz to be done. A cold winter wuz a comin' on, and it wouldn't delay a minute because Jim Smedley had got shot, and his wife had follered him, into, let us hope a happier huntin' ground than he had ever found in earthly forests.

Wall, I proposed to have a pound party for em. I said they might have it to our house if they wanted it, but if they thought they wanted it in a more central place (our house wuz quite a litti to one side) why we could have it to the schoolhouse.

I proposed to Josiah the first one. He wuz a settin' by the fire relapsted into silence. It wuz a cold night outside, but the red curtains wuz down at our sitting-room winders, shuttin out the cold drizzlin' storm of hail and snow that wuz a descendin' onto the earth. The fire burned up warm and bright, and as we sot there in our comfortable home with the teakettle singin' on the stove, and the tea table set out cosy and cheerful, for Josiah had been away and I had waited supper for him.

As I sot there waitin' for the tea kettle to bile (and when I say bile, I mean bile, I don't mean simmer) the thought of the Smedleys would come in. The warm red curtains would keep the storm out, but they couldn't keep the thought of the children, and the feeble old grandmother out of the room. They come right in, through the curtains, and the fire-light, and everything, and sot right down by me and wanted me.

And what curious creeters thoughts be, haint they? and oncertain, too. You may make all your plans to get away from em. You might shet up your doors and winders, and set with a veil on and an umberell up—but good land! how easy they would jest ontackle the doors and windows, with no sounds of ontacklin' and come rigot in by you.

First you'd know there they would be right by the side of you, under your umberell, under your veil, under your spectacles, a lookin' right down into your soul, and a huntin' you.

And then agin, when you expect to be haunted by 'em, lay out too, why, they'll jest stand off somewhere else, and don't come nigh you. Don't want you. Oncertain creeters, thoughts be, and curious, curious where they come from, and how.

Why, I got to thinkin' about it the other day, and I got lost, some like childern settin' on a log over a creek a ridin', there they be, and there the log is, but they don't seem to be there, they seem to be a floatin' down the water.

And there I wuz, a settin' in my rockin' chair, and I seemed to be a floatin' down deep water, very deep. A thinkin' and a wonderin'. A thinkin' all through the ages what secrets God had told to man when the time had come, and the reverent soul below was ready to hear the low words whispered to his soul, and a wonderin' what strange revelation God held now, ready to reveal when the soul below had fitted itself to hear, and comprehend it.

Ah! such mysteries as he will reveal to us if we will listen. If we wait for God's voice. If we did not heed so much the confusing clamor of the world's voices about us. Emulation, Envy, Anger, Strife, Jealousy, if we turned our heads away from these discords, and in the silence which is God's temple, listened, listened,—who knows the secrets he would reveal to us.

Secrets of the day, secrets of the night, the sunshine, the lightning, the storm. The white glow of that wonderful light that is not like the glow of the sun or of the moon, but yet lighteth the world. That strange light that has a soul—that reads our thoughts, translates our wishes, overleaps distance, carrying our whispered words after holding our thoughts for ages, and then holding them at will. What other wondrous mysteries lie concealed, wrapped around by that soft pure flame, mysteries that shall lie hidden until some inspired eye shall be waiting, looking upward at the moment when God's hand shall draw back the shining veil for an instant, and let him read the glowing secret.

Secrets of language! shall some simple power, some symbol be revealed, and the Nations speak together!

Secrets of song! shall some serene, harmonious soul catch the note to celestial melodies!

Secrets of sight! shall the eyes too dim now, see the faces of the silent throngs that surround them, the "great cloud of witnesses!"

Secrets of the green pathways that leads up through the blue silent fields of space—shall we float from star to star?

Secrets of holiness! shall earthly faces wear the pure light of the immortals?

But oh! who shall be the happy soul that shall be listening when the time has fully come, and He shall reveal His great secret! The happy soul listening so intently that he shall catch the low clear whisper.

Listening, maybe, through the sweet twilight shadows for the wonderful secret, while the silver shallop of the moon is becalmed over the high northern mountains, as if a fleeting heavenly guest had floated down through the clear ocean waves of the sky to listen, too—to hear the wonderful heavenly secret revealed to man,—and a clear star looks out over the glowing rose of the western heavens, looking down like God's eye, searching his soul, searching if he be worthy of the great trust.

Maybe it will be in the fresh dawning of the day, that the great secret will grow bright and clear and luminous, as the dawning of the light.

Maybe it will be in the midst of the storm—a mighty voice come along by the breath of the wind and the thunder, clamoring and demanding the hearer to listen.

Oh! if we were only good enough, only pure enough, what might not our rapt vision decern! But we know not where or when the time shall be fully come, but who, who, shall be the happy soul that shall at the Time, be listening!

Oh! how deep, how strange the waters wuz, and how I floated away on em, and how I didn't. For there I wuz a settin' in my own rockin' chair and there opposite me sot my own Josiah, a whittlin', for the "World" hadn't come, and he wuz restless and ill at ease, and time hung heavy on his hands.

There I sot the same Samantha—and the thought of the Smedleys, the same old Smedleys, was a huntin' of of me, the same old hunt, and I says to my Josiah, says I: "Josiah, I can't help thinkin' about the Smedleys," says I, what do you think about havin' a pound party for em, and will you take holt, and do your part."

"Good land, Samantha! Are you crazy? Crazy as a loon? What under the sun do you want to pound the Smedleys for? I should think they had trouble enough without poundin' them. Why," says he, "the old woman couldn't stand any pounding at all, without killin' her right out and out, and the children haint over tough any of em. Why, what has got into you, I never knew you to propose anything of that wicked kind before. I shant have anything to do with it. If you want em pounded you must get your own club and do your own poundin'."

Says I, "I don't mean poundin' em with a club but let folks buy a pound of different things to eat and drink and carry to em, and we can try and raise a little money to get a warmer house for em to stay in the coldest of the weather."

"Oh! says he, with a relieved look, "That is a different thing. I am willin' to do that. I don't know about givin' em any money towards gettin' em a home, but I'll carry em a pound of crackers or a pound of flour, and help it along all I can."

Josiah is a clever creeter, (though close) and he never made no more objections towards havin' it.

Wall, the next day I put on my shawl and hood (a new crown hood knit out of zephyr worsted, very nice, a present from our daughter Maggie—our son Thomas Jefferson's wife—and sallied out to see what the neighbors thought about it.

The first woman I called on wuz Mrs. Beazely, a new neighbor who had just moved into the neighborhood. They are rich as they can be, and I expected at least to get a pound of tea out of her.

She said it wuz a worthy object, and she would love to help it along, but they had so many expenses of their own to grapple with, that she didn't see her way clear to promise to do anything. She said the girls had got to have some new velvet suits, and some seal skin sacques this winter, and they had got to new furnish the parlors, and send their oldest boy to college, and the girls wanted to have some diamond lockets, and ought to have em, but she didn't know whether they could manage to get them or not, if they di, they had got to scrimp along every way they could. And then they wuz goin' to have compan, from a distance, and had got to get another gir to wait on em. And though she wished the poor well, she felt that she could not dare to promise a cent to em. She wished the Smedley family well—dretful well—and hoped I would get lots of things for em. But she didn't really feel as if it would be safe for her to promise em a pound of anything, though mebbe she might, by a great effort, raise a pound of flour forem, or meal.

Says I dryly, (dry as meal ever wuz in its dryest times) "I wouldn't give too much. Though," says I, "a pound of flour would go a good ways if it is used right." And I thought to myself that she had better keep it to make a paste to smooth over things.

Wall, I went from that to Miss Jacob Hess's, and Miss Jacob Hess wouldn't give anything because the old lady was disagreeable, old Grandma Smedley, and I said to Miss Jacob Hess that if the Lord didn't send His rain, and dew onto everybody only the perfectly agreeable, I guessed there would be pretty dry times. It wuz my opinion there would be considerable of a drouth."

There wuz a woman there a visitin' Miss Hess—she wuz a stranger to me and I didn't ask her for anything, but she spoke up of her own accord and said she would give, and give liberal only she wuz hampered. She didn't say why, or who or when, but she only put this "that she wuz hampered," and I don't know to this day what her hamper wuz, or who hampered her.

And then I went to Ebin Savenses, and Miss Ebin Saven wouldn't help any because she said "Joe Smedley had been right down lazy, and she couldn't call him anything else."

But, says I, "Joe is dead, and why should his children starve because their Pa wasn't over and above smart when he wuz alive." But she wouldn't give.

Wall, Miss Whymper said she didn't approve of the *manner* of giving. Her face was all drawed down into a curious sort of a long expression that she called religus and I called somethin' that begins with "hypo"—and I don't mean hypoy, either.

"No, she couldn't give," she said, "because she always made a practice of not lettin' her right hand know what her left hand give."

And I said, for I wuz kinder took aback, and didn't think, I said to her, a glancin, at her hands which wuz crossed in front of her, "that I didn't see how she managed it, unless she gave when her right hand was asleep."

And she said "she always gave secret."

And I said, "so I have always sposed—very secret."

I spose my tone was some sarcastic, for she says, "Don't the Scripture command us to do so?"

Says I firmly, "I don't believe the Scripture means to have us stand round talkin' Bible, and let the Smedleys starve," says I. "I spose it means not to boast of our good deeds."

Says she, "I believe in takin' the Scripture literal, and if I can't git my stuff there entirely unbeknown to my right hand I shan't give."

"Wall," says I gettin' up and movin' towards the door, "you must do as you're a mind to with fear and trembling'."

I said it pretty impressive, for I thought I would let her see I could quote Scripter as well as she could if I sot out.

But good land! I knew it wuz a excuse. I knew she wouldn't give nothin', not if her right hand had the num palsy, and you could stick a pin into it—no, she wouldn't give not'n her right hand was cut off and throwed away.

Wall, Miss Bombus, Dr. Bombus'es widow, wouldn't give—and for all the world I went right there from Miss Whymperses, Miss Bombus wouldn't give because I didn't put the names in the Jonesville *Augur* or *Gimlet*, for she said "Let your good deeds so shine."

"Why, says I, Miss Whymper wouldn't give because she wanted to give secreter, and you won't give because you want to give publicker, and you both quote Scripter, but it don't seem to help the Smedley's much."

She said "that probably Miss Whymper was wrestin' the Scripter to her own destruction."

Wall, sez I, "while you and Miss Whymper are a wrestin' the Scripter, what will become of the Smedleys? It don't seem right to let them freeze to death, and starve to death, while we are a debatin' on the ways of Providence."

But she didn't tell, and she wouldn't give.

A woman wuz there a visitin', Miss Bombus'es aunt, I think, and she spoke up and said, "she fully approved of her niece Bombus'es decision. And she said, "As for herself, she never gave to any subject that she hadn't thererly canvassed."

Says I, "There they all are in that little hut, you can canvass them at any time. Though," says I thoughtfully, "Marville might give you some trouble." And she asked why.

And I told her she had the rickets so she couldn't stand still to be canvassed, but she could probably follow her up and canvass her, if she tried hard enough." And says I, "There is old Grandma Smedley, over 80, and five children under 8, you can canvass them easy."

Says she, "The Bible says 'Search the Sperits.'"

And I worn out a seatin' place after place, for three times a runnin', the Bible lifted up and held as a shield before stingy creeters, to ward off the criticism of the world and their own souls, that I says to myself—loud enough so they could hear me, mebby,—"Why is it that when anybody wants to do a mean, ungenerous act, they will try to quote a verse of Scripter to uphold 'em, jest as a wolf will pull a lock of pure white wool over his wolfish foretop, and try to look innocent and sheepish."

I don't care if they did hear me, I wuz on the step mostly when I thought it, pretty loud.

Wall, what happened to me next, that day, I will relate in another epistol.

(*To be continued.*)

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WILL some one from "Mother's Corner" in HOME JOURNAL please give me a list of articles needed in an infant's wardrobe, and what kind of material that each is to be made from?

YOUNG WIFE.

DODGE CENTRE, MINN., Sep. 5, 1886

ED. LADIES HOME JOURNAL:—I wish to give "Inquisitive" a bit of my experience in regard to baby's pillow. When my little one was about six months of age, I took him up one day from a protracted nap, and his little head was dripping with a heavy perspiration, moreover, his small pillow, feathers of course, was wet through. This led me to investigate the matter, for, I felt that such a heat must prove injurious to the brain. I then found the following sensible advice from the pen of the lamented Dr. Dio Lewis: (By the way where is the man or woman, upon whom his mantle shall fall? Despite the cry of "Quack" by the learned profession, Dio Lewis' effects in inculcating the masses of the people a knowledge of hygiene, were most salutary.) He says:—

"The proximate, if not the original cause of a large proportion of deaths among American babies is some malady of the brain. When we suppose the deaths to result from dysentery, or cholera infantum, the immediate cause of the death is an affection of the brain, supervening upon bowel disease. The heads of American babies are, for the most part, little furnaces. What mischief must then come from keeping them buried twenty-four hours out of every twenty-four in feather pillows. It makes me shiver to think of the number of deaths among these precious little ones, which I myself have seen, where I doubted not that cool straw pillows would have saved them. The hair pillow is inferior to straw, since it is not so easily renovated. Do not fail then to keep their heads cool while sleeping." The material which I then found the best for my baby's pillow, for straw seemed too hard, was deers hair, such as is used to stuff the foolish bustle worn by us "slaves of fashion."

One word in regard to the attendance of children at church.

Should we not take them with us sufficiently young to form in them church going habits? I now call to mind aged Christian people that trump up very flimsy excuses for the absenting of themselves from the house of God, and why? Because church-going habits were not formed by in early life.

FANNY FANSHAW.

DEAR EDITOR:—Having been for many months a reader of your paper, and particularly enjoying the "Mother's Corner," I am tempted myself to "put in a word."

For the encouragement of those mothers, particularly those with their *first* baby, who do believe in training children to go to sleep alone and who may have been somewhat discouraged by M. A. T's. article in the September number. I want to give my experience in that particular.

I have two children, a boy of nearly four, and a girl of eighteen months. During the first six or seven weeks of my boy's life he refused to sleep or allow any one else to sleep till nearly, or quite midnight.

For the first two or three weeks there was the colic, so we wrestled with the colic and were patient. Then later after the nurse had left me, I became convinced it was no longer colic, but habit of wakefulness that was growing more and more fixed and must be broken up. Hour after hour we would walk and rock and sing without the slightest result, unless perhaps increased wakefulness, until about midnight when he would calmly drop to sleep and sleep the rest of the night.

Determined to create a better order of things if it could be done without harm or injustice to the baby, I consulted my physician, herself a mother, who assured me that simple crying never hurt any ordinarily healthy baby so long as they lay on their side, their right side preferred. So, fortified with her advice and her assurance that she had passed through the same ordeal with her three children, I determined to give the plan fair trial.

That night my son and heir had his supper and was then put to bed and "left alone in his glory."

You may be sure it was a very hard trial for me as I am not utterly heartless though some of your readers may think so. But however, I persevered and after crying hard at intervals for about an hour Baby went to sleep. The next night he cried much less, the next less still and at the end of the week he went to bed alone without a murmur, and to this day goes happily to bed in a dark room.

When my little girl appeared on the scene she followed precisely in her brother's footsteps, so when she reaches her seventh or eighth week I tried the same plan with her and with even better success. Now when taken to bed, she claps her hands, says, "oh, beddy, beddy!" and goes happily to sleep. I have known her to lie there in the dark for an hour, talking to herself though usually she is asleep in about ten minutes.

Certainly I would not advise any mother to try this way with a very delicate child, and with a child afraid of the dark. I should be very patient and leave a little light in the room until I could gradually overcome their fear.

A word on this point and then I will retire to make room for the next.

Except in cases of a *constitutional* fear of darkness, I believe that such a fear is always *taught* a child by threatening to "shut them up in a dark closet" or "put them out into the dark night."

Shut them up alone all you think best, it is a very simple and effectious punishment, but don't say anything about the dark. Neither of my children have the slightest fear of the darkness and I never allow myself or any one else to threaten them with it in any way or at any time.

Hoping that I may long continue to be a reader of the "JOURNAL," and may perhaps again be permitted to "speak my mind" I am

Yours sincerely, LOUISE ISHBURGH,
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

I WISH all mothers would adopt the practice of making their baby's diapers of from *one-half* to *three-quarters* of a yard square. I think there are fully as many children made bow-legged by diapers that are too small, or by wearing too many diapers at a time, as are made bow-legged by walking too young. Many mothers labor under the mistaken idea that all of baby's clothing must be made so that it will be *firm*, (very much so sometimes.) My theory is that every stitch of baby's clothing should be made large enough so that when the little one is encased in it he will have plenty of room to grow. Let everything be just as loose and easy as possible, and especially let the diapers be so. I know of more than one little one whose limbs were bent and deformed by their mother's ignorance or stubbornness, in persisting upon making the little helpless creatures wear diapers so small that it must have caused the poor little innocents perfect agony at the time.

When making baby's clothing it is just as easy to make it plenty large, as to make it small; and it is infinitely more comfortable and better in every way, for the little one, than to be bound up in garments that might fit an ordinary-sized doll.

No wonder that so many of our little ones are misshapen in so many ways when mothers persist in this "firmness." If the baby's diapers are large and made of some soft material, they will answer the purpose a thousand times better than small ones, for then they will not bind or crowd the soft, tender flesh and bones, out of place and the diaper can easily be kept in place by fastening it with small safety pins, to the shirt in back and front. There will never be any difficulty in preventing chafing, when the diaper is large and soft, and perfectly clean. A tight diaper, or one that has been soiled and then dried without washing, will cause baby to chafe quicker than anything else. I always washed my babies, night and morning, with blood-warm water and a tiny bit of Castile soap, then dust them lightly with cornstarch. Let them always wear *one* large soft diaper at a time. I never had one of my precious morsels of humanity sore, or even slightly chafed, in their lives.

No child should ever be allowed to wear more than one diaper at a time. In imagination I can see some of our good old-fashioned mothers hold up their hands and shake their heads at this, but it is my theory and I will *stick to it*. No baby can be comfortable with more than one diaper on at a time, and this habit of folding one, two, or even more, as some mothers do, and placing them between the little limbs, is absolute cruelty, for they force the limbs unnaturally apart, and *keep* them so, and in nine cases out of ten, when baby begins to walk the thighs and knees will bulge out, and then the mother and nurse will say, "I cannot imagine what makes him or her so bow-legged, I am sure I kept him from walking as long as possible, that he might not be so." Stop and think, mother. Was not your baby's diaper too small, or did you not make him wear a number of them? That is usually where the mischief lies, and through the mother's ignorance or stubbornness baby must suffer all through life.

CLARICE.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HOW TO KILL THE BABY.

The most casual observer must admit this subject to be one of vital importance to family, social and political circles. It is usually viewed from the negative side, but since perverse humanity, advised "How Not To Do It," is prone to adopt opposite measures, we approach the subject from the front.

Presupposing the little scion to have struck root as a separate existence, it becomes an absorbing question how the giants in the land shall root him out—in plainer terms, How Shall we Kill the Baby?

A large and increasing force of nurses—made, not born—are early in the field, capable of out-Heroding Herod in the "slaughter of the Innocents." Select one who has never borne a child, or, who, having thus enriched the world, has voluntarily passed the treasure into others' keeping; let her be hard-visaged, angular ever stamped with unmistakable lines of selfishness, (see upper lips and lines about the corners of the mouth) a good sleeper, with a *penchant* for snuff taking; if addicted to potations of doubtful flavored tonics, or doses of compressed poppy juice, the end will be more readily obtained. This ideal secured, the climax is measureably certain. Never try to tell her anything. She knows it already. Give her full sway, day and night. Allow her a room by herself with the child. You will sleep better; so will she; so will the baby. Do not disturb the serenity of the morning interview by enquiring how she kept the child so still; neither examine the labels on the bottles in her handbox. She knows her business best. To be thoroughly sure of the desired end, you would better bring the baby up by hand, but should you hazard success by personally furnishing the elixir of life, the following rules will go far towards setting all right.

During the two or three days when Nature ignorantly ordains that the supply shall be limited, let "Sairey" rise and shine. It is hers to show how grave the error of delay. She must feed the baby by all means; but first, physic him! A dose or two of sweet, or castor oil, is precisely what is demanded to adjust the delicate mechanism of his digestive apparatus; if it gives him colic, dose him. Get some prepared food; try three or four kinds—you want the best. Alternate between them and Nature's supply. Try whey. It shows, on the very face of things that it will be appetizing and nutritious. If you try one cow's milk, serve it mostly water. There is nothing like a liberal diet of water to build up the system. If Sairey chances to be a night-worker—and there are some exceedingly valuable baby-killers in the ranks of night-workers,—see that she feeds the baby often, but do not oblige her to warm the "milk." Let her hold the bottle over the chimney of a kerosene lamp. It will warm—the bottle. Have the preparation well sweetened, and put in a generous supply of anise. N. B.—Feed nothing to the baby, under any circumstances, without adding a smart flavoring of anise. It is a carminative, and you may safely assume that it will find scope for its virtues. If the baby chances to be comfortable, put it in on general principles. Something may ail it presently, and it is prudent to send the remedy in advance. The baby will enjoy it. The heated, drawn, puckery sensation which it will impart to the delicate membranes will be grateful in the extreme. Besides, it will make him sleepy. Persevere in feeding, to the point of repletion. Unless the little stomach rejects a portion of its libations, the presumption is safe that it is underfed. Said rejection is, moreover, the sign of a healthy baby. Do not inquire why we adopt a different standard of sanitary judgment with his elders. A baby—as the world knows—is not a person. Moreover, the best of theology has been spoiled by asking questions.

Let the untrained kitchen girl frequently aid the nurse in her mortal designs, and even the father may—in the case of the first-born—contribute valuable services. We recall the case of a young father, who, entrusted in an emergency with the charge of his son and heir,—aged four hours—perambulated into the pantry, and set about fulfilling parental obligations, by treating the screaming baby to a taste of cold baked beans! To the credit of the toothless autocrat—the Bostonian diet was rejected.

But the individual consciences of the mortuary band are subject to brief seasons of rest in the matter of feeding. Then let the churning begin. Set the pudgy little victim up straight upon your knee. Settle the wee, cartilaginous frame by pressing firmly upon the distended stomach with the left hand, place the right upon his back, pressing the thumb well into the tender, creasy neck—then trot, for dear life! Bring the heel firmly down with each trot; the mother will enjoy the steadily recurring thump. Let this rule be rigidly enforced, but vary positions. Occasionally lay him across your knee, face downward—anticipating the years!—if his head hangs over, never mind,—and proceed to trot him, long and well, to a lively tune, pounding meantime, as your strength permits, on his non-resisting spine. This treatment is good to relieve flatulency. Get a cradle with a wide sweep, and rock him a good deal—and rock with a will. Do this in the presence of the mother, keeping up meantime, an unremitting, high-pitched monologue, seasoned with much laughter.

The matter of bathing must by no means be overlooked. If Sairey is the woman we take her to be she will need no points. She is mistress of the situation. Certain editions of the "Gamp" make it a rule to bathe baby in a cool room. It is warm work at best, and the nurse gets uncomfortably heated, if near the fire. How the baby gets—away from the fire—no one has yet heard him say. But she of the lethargic circulation seeks the more-or-less hospitable atmosphere of the kitchen, restores baby to his normal simplicity of attire, lays him on her lap, head toward the fire, gives him the bottle, and proceeds to business. This point is vital. See that baby's stomach is full when you begin, and overflow it during the bathing process. This will produce indigestion, and secure a lively colic. Subdue with paregoric.

Use highly scented soaps; apply freely, especially about the head and joints. The eruption will soon follow; use something scattering, and drive it in. Expose the baby as much as possible to currents of air, and do not be afraid to touch him. Your muscular grasp is just suited to his velvety flesh, and only a baby, and he eloquent, can do justice to the well-developed, properly aggressive thumb! Pin him up tight, especially the band; have well-defined ridges of protruding flesh at either edge of the swath, and don't be over-careful about pins. Also, see that those invaluable adjuncts towards baby-killing—the "common" pins, are left so far behind that their aid cannot be invoked! But even a safety pin in the right hands may be made to tell! Put them in so that the sheath will goad into the bent body, observing this plan throughout the entire dressing. As far as possible use new linen—rather starch—next the flesh, and do not be over fussy in the matter of frequent change. It is just as you get a baby used. Use this one, whom we are trying to dispatch, to wholesale neglect in this matter. A "word to the wise."

Use an abundance of skirts—very long and heavy. Baby has never done anything to tire himself, and has an excess of strength which may as well be exercised in sustaining this weight upon his hardy little stomach, hips and back. They will not "drag" him. Never fear.

Sing to him a great deal. Sing mightily! He has only known, thus far, the music of the spheres. Lay his head upon your shoulder, pat his back,—not too lightly—and when you have his ear, sing! How shall his tympanum gain strength but by resistance?

Hand him about a good deal. Let each visitor as well as member of the family, take him and trot him. Some of the more dexterous might toss him a little. If anybody calls while he is sleeping, awake him, unhesitatingly. Life is short, and he cannot too early make his impression upon the world. Then feed him, trot him to sleep again, and lay him down, head towards the fire, well loaded with coverings. A safe rule is to put an eight pound baby under a four pound pressure. You, weighing 150 lbs. would sleep peacefully under a 75 lb. covering.

Both child and mother will prosper greatly, and the spirits of all concerned will be charmingly buoyant, if the air of the sick room is rigorously confined, subject to no removal.

Give the mother a good deal of spirituous drink. It will react pleasantly upon the child. Also give her strong tea, and as many drugs as possible. As baby grows older, infinite possibilities open along this line. As an encouraging precedent, note the case of a bereaved mother, who thus unconsciously illustrated cause and effect. "I don't see how in the world my baby came to die, after all we did for her. We gave her every kind of medicine we could get hold of." The earnest seeker after means will not lose sight of this suggestion.

Buoy yourself up by a glance at the statistics. Note the fact that "one-tenth of all the children born die during the first month"—the average period of Sairey's ministry. But yield not to discouragement though she depart,—handbox, plethoric umbrella, soothing syrup, paregoric, "drops," and laudanum,—all synonymous—and you are left chief executioner. Again the statistician's table: "Four times as many die during the second month." That is when the mother comes into power, to seek her own lines of labor or to complete the work begun. Realize that baby is launched, and little remains to be done. When you bathe him, which may be at irregular intervals, if you notice a little abrasion, do not attend to it. Wait till it is worth doctoring. Neglect to swab out its mouth with fresh water. Wait till the canker appears. You will have swabbing enough to do then. If you have gone off altogether to the bottle, let it stand around partially filled; it will get cold and a little sour—when called for, fill it up with warm water, and let him go to sleep with it. If he draws in "wind" you can trot it up, when he awakes. If you do not depend upon a bottle, summon baby to refreshments whenever you are tired, overheated, and above all, mentally agitated. By catching fortune at the flood, in the latter particular, you may have the satisfaction of seeing fatal convulsions immediately ensue.

Should baby belong to the not uncommon type of strong-minded infants who resolutely refuse solid sustenance, do not despair. The stomach, though important, is by no means the only objective point. Bumps, especially upon the back of the head, are easily secured, and do great execution; buttons, pins, coins, knives and scissors, left within reach of the little explorer; open windows and unguarded stairs: the unlimited use of the perambulator, in careless hands, over irregular curbings; incipient bowel complaints; neglected colds, only space forbids an indefinite list of expedients. It is but a degree less easy to kill the baby than to spoil him. A person with brains will find the task easy along lines indicated; the brainless need no assistance.

For the thoughtful consideration of the amateur, we append the words of the great Law-Giver, who set a little child in the midst.

"Whoso shall offend one of these little ones it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea."

GEORGIA A. PECK.

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

MARY F. KNAPP, EDITOR,
No. 30 Linden St., S. Boston, Mass.

Terms Used in Knitting.

K—Knit plain. P—Purl, or as it is sometimes called, Seam. N or K 2 tog—Narrow, by knitting 2 together. Over—Throw the thread over the needle before inserting in the next stitch. This makes a loop which is always to be considered a stitch, in the succeeding rows or rounds. Tw—Twist stitch. Insert the needle in the back of the stitch to be knitted, and knit as usual. Sl—Slip a stitch from the left hand to the right hand needle without knitting it. S and B—Slip and bind—slip one stitch, knit the next; pass the slipped one over it, exactly as in binding off a piece of work at the end. * indicates a repetition, and is used merely to save words. "Sl 1, k 1, p 1, repeat from * 3 times"—would be equivalent to saying sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1. Tog means together.

Terms in Crochet.

Ch—Chain; a straight series of loops, each drawn with the hook through the preceding one. Sl st—Slip stitch; put hook through the work, thread over the hook, draw it through the stitch on the hook. S c—Single Crochet; having a stitch on the needle (or hook) put the needle through the work, draw the thread through the work, and the stitch on the needle. D c—double crochet; having the stitch on the needle, put the needle through the work, and draw a stitch through, making two on the needle. Take up the thread again, and draw it through both these stitches. T c or Tr—Treble Crochet; having a stitch on the needle, take up the thread as if for a stitch, put the needle through the work, and draw the thread through, making three on the needle. Take up the thread and draw through two, then take up the thread and draw it through the two remaining. S t c—Short Treble Crochet; like treble, except that when the three stitches are on the needle, instead of drawing the thread through two stitches twice, it is drawn through all three at once. L t c—Long Treble Crochet; like treble, except that the thread is thrown twice over the needle before inserting the latter in the work. The stitches are worked off two at a time, as in treble. Extra Long Stitch—Twine the cotton three times round the needle, work as the treble stitch, bringing the cotton through two loops four times. P—or picot; made by working three chain, and one single crochet in first stitch of the chain.

Can any one send correct directions for crocheted cap or hood for a little girl of 2 years.
CLARA.

Can any of the sisters send directions for crocheting a ladies tobogganing cap? And oblige a reader of the L. H. J.

Will some one give explicit directions for piecing carpet rags on the sewing machine?
And oblige L. S. G.

"Clara."—If you will send me your address and enclose five two-cent stamps, I will send you directions for preparing rose leaves, etc.
M. F. KNAPP

20 LINDEN ST., S. BOSTON, MASS.

I send the following directions for cleaning feathers at home. Wash them in two or three waters, the first, warm suds, moving them well about; rinse in two clear waters, squeeze them as dry as possible, and spread on the floor in a spare room, turning and tossing every day 'til they are dry and light.

In reply to "Peggy" I would recommend (if her hood is woolen) washing in lukewarm suds, rubbing gently, and squeezing tightly in a cloth, after being rinsed in vinegar and water (proportion, tablespoonful of vinegar to one-half pint of water) and hang in the shade to dry.
SUBSCRIBER.

Crochet Square for Afghan.

First, second and third rows are each worked with different colored wool. Fourth and fifth rows are of black. Chain 6, join with single crochet, (s c.)

1st row—Chain 3, 15 d c in loop, fasten with s c in second stitch of chain 3 at commencement of row. Break the wool and sew down the end.

2d row—Join the wool between first and second d c of last row, chain 3, 1 d c in same, 2 d c between 3d and 4th, 2 d c between 5th and 6th, ch 2, 2 d c in same, 2 d c between 7th and 8th. 2 d c between 9th and 10th, ch 2, 2 d c in same, 2 d c between 11th and 12th, 2 d c between 13th and 14th, ch 2, 2 d c in same, 2 d c between 15th and 16th, 2 d c between 1st and 2d, ch 2, fasten in top of 1st d c of row. Break the wool, sew down the end.

[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

3d row—Join the wool under last chain 2, chain 3, 1 d c in same, 2 d c between 2d and 3d of last row, 2 d c between 4th and 5th, 2 d c between 6th and 7th, chain 2, 2 d c in same, 2 d c between 8th and 9th, 2 d c between 10th and 11th, 2 d c between 12th and 13th, chain 2, 2 d c in same, 2 d c between 14th and 15th, 2 d c between 16th and 17th, 2 d c between 18th and 19th, ch 2, 2 d c in same, 2 d c between 20th and 21st, 2 d c between 22d and 23d, 2 d c between 24th and the first one, ch 2, fasten same as second row.

4th row—Join in the black, work same as last row, having 3 groups of 2 d c between the corners. Fasten same as previous rows, without breaking wool.

Fifth row—Chain 3, put 2 d c under ch 2 of last row, *2 d c between 2d and 3d d c, 2 d c between 4th and 5th, 2 d c between 6th and 7th, 2 d c between 8th and 9th, 6 d c between 10th and 11th, which is a corner;* repeat from star to star 3 times, only the last corner, put 3 d c (as you already have three stitches made at beginning of row,) then fasten as before.

Squares for afghan are sewed together which is better than crocheted. Mine has 156 squares, no two alike, that is, the centers are different. Border of black about a finger in width, any stitch you like. Crazy stitch is pretty if one does not care for shell. I lined mine with red flannel. They are full as pretty and lighter in weight if not lined. After it is put together a cross stitch of gold silk in corners of each block is pretty.
AVON, N. Y. H. VAN ZANDT.

Handsome Fan Lace.

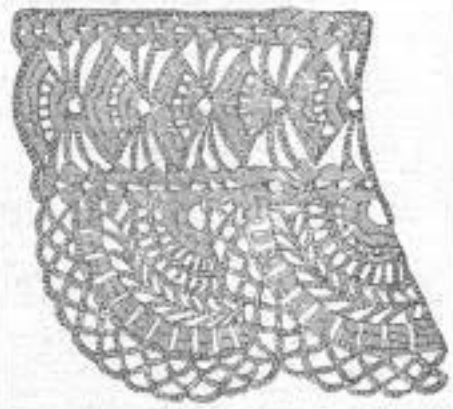
Use No. 50 thread and a fine crochet needle. Make a chain of 18 stitches.

1st row—2 d c (double crochet) in fifth stitch of chain, 1 ch, 2 d c in same, ch 5, 1 d c in 10th stitch of chain, ch 3, 1 d c in same, ch 5, 2 d c in 15th stitch of ch. 1 ch, 2 d c in same, ch 5, and catch with slip stitch in the end of foundation chain; turn.

2d row—3 ch, 11 d c in the first ch 5, make a shell by putting 2 d c in ch 1, ch 1, 2 d c in same, ch 4, 8 d c in ch 3 of last row, ch 4, make a shell, 1 d c in last stitch; turn.

3d row—3 ch, make a shell, 3 ch, 1 d c between each of the 8 double crochet in last row, with 1 ch between each, 3 ch, make a shell, 1 d c between each of the d c in scallop (no chain between;) turn.

4th row—3 ch, 1 d c and 1 ch between each of the double crochet in scallop make a shell, ch 2, 3 d c under the 1 ch in the fan, and so on until you have filled all of the 1 ch with 3 d c, making no ch between, ch 2, make a shell, 1 d c in the end; turn.



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

5th row—Ch 3, make a shell, ch 5, 1 d c in the middle of the fan, ch 3, 1 d c in same, ch 5, make a shell, ch 2, 1 d c with two chain between each of the d c in scallop; turn.

6th row—3 ch, and 1 d c between each of the d c in scallop, make a shell, ch 4, 8 d c under the 3 ch in last row, ch 4, make a shell, 1 d c in the end; turn.

7th row—Ch 3, make a shell, 3 ch, 1 d c making 1 ch between each of the eight d c, ch 3, make a shell, 3 d c and 1 ch between each of the d c in the scallop; turn.

8th row—Ch 5, catch with a slip stitch under the 1 ch in scallop, ch 5, catch with a slip stitch under the second ch 1, and so continue thro' the scallop, make a shell, ch 2, 3 d c under the 1 ch of last row, and so on until you have filled them all, ch 2, make a shell, 1 d c in end; turn.

9th row—Ch 3, make a shell, ch 5, 1 d c in middle fan, ch 3, 1 d c in same, ch 5, make a shell, ch 6, catch in the middle of ch 5 of last row with a slip stitch, and so on thro' the scallop; turn.

10th row—Chain 7 and catch in middle ch 6 of last row, and so on through the scallop; make a shell, ch 4, 8 d c under ch 3 of last row, ch 4, make a shell, 1 d c in the end; turn. This makes first scallop.

Second scallop: First row—Ch 3, make a shell, ch 3, 1 d c and ch 1 between the 8 d c of last row, ch 3, make a shell, ch 5, 1 single crochet in small loop next to shell of last row; turn.

2d row—Chain 3, 11 d c in ch 5, make a shell, ch 2, 3 d c under the ch 1 in last row, and so on until you have filled all the loops, ch 2, make a shell, 1 d c in end; turn.

3d row—Ch 3, make a shell, ch 5, 1 d c in middle of fan, ch 3, 1 d c in same place, ch 5, make a shell 1 d c between each of the d c in scallop, fasten with slip stitch in middle of first ch of 7 in first scallop; turn.

4th row—Ch 3, 1 d c, 1 ch between each of the d c in scallop, make a shell, ch 4, 8 d c in ch 3, ch 4, make a shell, 1 d c in end of row; turn.

5th row—Ch 3, make a shell, ch 3, 1 d c and 1 ch between the 8 d c of last row, ch 3, make a shell, ch 2, 1 d c and ch 2 between each d c of scallop, fasten with slip stitch in middle of second ch 7 of first scallop; turn.

6th row—3 ch and 1 d c between each of the d c in scallop, make a shell, ch 2, 3 d c under ch 1 in fan, and so on 'til all loops are filled up, ch 2, make a shell, 1 d c in end of row; turn.

7th row—Ch 3, make a shell, ch 5, 1 d c in middle of fan, ch 3, 1 d c in same, ch 5, make a shell, 3 d c and ch 1 between each d c of last row, fasten with slip stitch in middle of 7 chain.

8th row—Ch 5, fasten with slip stitch under the ch 1 in scallop, ch 5, fasten under next ch 1, and so on through the scallop, make a shell, ch 4, 8 d c in ch 3, ch 4, make a shell, 1 d c to end of row; turn.

9th row—Ch 3, make a shell, ch 3, 1 d c and ch 1 between 8 d c of last row, ch 3, make a shell, 6 d c, 6 ch, catch in middle of 5 ch, and so on through the scallop, fasten with slip stitch in ch 7; turn.

10th row—7 ch, catch in middle of ch 6, so on through the scallop, make a shell, ch 2, 3 d c under ch 1, so on until all loops are filled, ch 2, make a shell, 1 d c in end of row; repeat from 2d scallop.
MRS. E. B. C.

D C—Having a stitch on the needle, put the thread over the needle, put the needle through the work and draw the thread through, making three stitches on the needle; take up the thread and draw it through two, then take up the thread and draw it through the two remaining.

Knit Baby Shirt.

Materials: One ounce zephyr, 2 small bone knitting needles.

Cast on 112 stitches.

Knit one round plain, purl four rounds.

Fifth round—Narrow 2 knit one plain, widen 4, knit one plain, narrow 4, knit one plain, the same process continue the length of the needle, leaving two stitches to be narrowed at each end of the needle.

Sixth round—Plain.

Repeat fifth and sixth rounds eight times.

Twenty-second, twenty-third, twenty-fourth, twenty-fifth rounds—purl.

Repeat fifth and sixth rounds eight times.

Purl four rounds.

Repeat fifth and sixth rounds eight times.

This makes three rows of the pattern which finishes the bottom of the skirt.

The upper part of the skirt is knit 2 plain, 2 purl, for forty-eight rounds.

Forty-ninth round—Knit two together, make one the entire length of the needle.

Fiftieth round—Plain, and bind off. That is one-half of your skirt.

For the sleeve cast on 56 stitches. Knit one row of the pattern as for the bottom of the skirt.

The upper part of the sleeve 2 purl 2 plain for eight rounds.

Ninth round—Knit 2 together make 1.

Tenth round—Plain, and bind off.

For the gusset for the sleeve cast on 24 stitches.

Knit 2 rounds plain, 2 rounds purl for 24 rounds, then bind off.

Sew your gusset and sleeve together with a worsted needle and zephyr, then sew the sleeve to the body of the shirt, leaving one-third of the sleeve above the top of the body, then sew the skirt together.

Crochet a little shell edge around the neck Run a narrow satin ribbon in the neck.

Will some one give directions for crocheting a baby's sack? S.
KENNA, LINCOLN CO., GEORGIA.

Gentlemen's Undershirt.

I make them of Midnight yarn; use 10 skeins for a pair, or 6 skeins of Starlight Scotch yarn; 2 medium sized needles, one-half inch round, of wood. Commence at bottom of back by casting on 81 stitches, knit 30 rows of plain garter stitch. Then commence ribbing,* knit 3, seam 3;* repeat what comes between the stars, over and over, until you have 70 rows on right side. Now seam 3 rows all across on the wrong side; you are now ready for the blocks, which are made by* knitting 5 stitches and seaming 5 stitches;* repeat from star to star, do 4 more rows the same. (If one does not wish the fancy blocks you can rib the whole length.) Then do* 5 seam, and 5 plain;* repeat from star to star all across, and do 4 more rows like this. This finishes two rows of blocks; do 4 more rows of blocks, making in all 6 rows of blocks, of 5 rows each, knit 20 rows plain. Now form one shoulder; 5 plain, 5 seam, 5 plain, 5 seam, and so on until you have 40 stitches on each needle. Take the right hand 40 off on a string, or extra needle. Then narrow every time you knit across and get to the neck, until you have 30 stitches. Knit across ten times plain. Begin to widen around the neck every time across, until you have 40 stitches on the needle, then form the other shoulder like this one, until you have 40 stitches on both needles. If one wants an opening in the front, knit 36 plain rows down the front, after the neck is joined. Then join the stitches so they will all be on one needle. Now do 6 rows of blocks like those done in the back, then rib across 70 rows like back, then knit 30 rows garter stitch. Bind off loosely. Sew up the sides, leaving space open for sleeves.

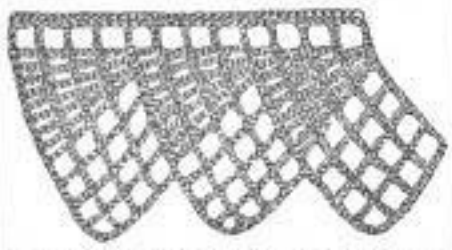
Sleeve: Commence at arm size, cast on 60 stitches, knit 10 rows plain garter stitch, then narrow one on each end of needle every other row, until you have only 45 stitches, knit 34 rows plain, without increase or decrease. Now narrow on last end of every row, until you have 39 stitches, then* knit 3 plain, and 3 seam;* repeat between the stars for 24 rows; bind off loosely; sew up the sleeves, and sew them in the armhole. Finish neck and bottom of shirt with a scallop; run ribbon in the neck. A. M. BEARSE.
HYANNIS PORT, MASS.

Crochet Point Edging.

Make a chain of 21 stitches.

1st row—1 d c in 4th and 5th stitches of chain, ch 2, 2 d c in 8th stitch of chain, 2 d c in next stitch, ch 2, 1 d c in 12th stitch, ch 2, 1 d c in 15th stitch, ch 2, 1 d c in 18th stitch, ch 2, 1 d c in last stitch; turn.

2d row—Ch 5, 1 d c over d c in last row, ch 2, 1 d c over d c in last row, ch 2, 1 d c over d c in last row, ch 2, 2 d c in top of first d c, 1 d c in top of next 2 d c, 2 d c in top of fourth d c, ch 2, 1 d c in each of 2 d c at end of row; turn.



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

3d row—Ch 3, 1 d c in 2d d c of row, ch 2, 2 d c in top of first d c, 1 d c in top of next 4 d c, 2 d c in next, *ch 2, 1 d c over d c of last row; repeat from * 3 times; turn.

4th row—Ch 5, 1 d c over d c in last row, ch 2, 1 d c over d c in last row, ch 2, 1 d c over d c in last row, ch 2, 2 d c in top of first d c, 1 d c in top of next 6 d c, 2 d c in next, ch 2, 1 d c in each of 2 d c at end of row. This makes one point.

1st row of second point—Ch 3, 1 d c in second d c of row, ch 2, 2 d c in top of first d c, 2 d c in next d c, ch 2, 1 d c in 4th d c, ch 2, 1 d c in 6th, ch 2, 1 d c in 8th, ch 2, 1 d c in 10th; turn.

Repeat from second row.
GERTIE CLEVE.

Ladies Knitted Undervest, High Neck and Long Sleeves.

Materials: Star Light Lady Grey wool; about 12 skeins will make a pair. I use the cream white, or you could use 4 skeins Star Light Scotch yarn. Two needles of wood, bone or rubber, measuring about one-half inch round.

Back: Commence at bottom of back by casting on 80 stitches, and on these stitches do 30 rows of plain knitting. Then next row do *3 plain, seam 3;* repeat from * to *, or what comes between stars, over and over until you can count 100 rows of ribbing. Now seam 3 rows all across on wrong side. Then commence block knitting. *Do 5 plain stitches, seam 5;* repeat from * to * all across the row, and do 4 more rows the same. Then do *5 seam, 5 plain;* repeat from * to * all across, and do 4 more rows the same. This finishes 2 rows of blocks. Do 6 more rows of blocks, making 8 rows of blocks of 5 rows each. Do 22 rows now of plain knitting. For one shoulder 5 plain, seam 5, 5 plain seam 5, 5 plain, and take these stitches off on a cord for future use, bind off loosely 30 stitches, then commence other shoulder, 5 plain, 5 seam, 5 plain 5 seam, 5 plain. On this row do 4 more rows the same, which furnishes 1 block. Do 3 more rows of blocks on this block. On last row of last block, when you get to end of row, cast on 30 stitches. Now on the stitches on the cord, do 4 rows of blocks (that is, finish block began, and do 3 more) to correspond with other shoulder. Now 8 rows of blocks all across shirt to match those on back; then do 100 rows of ribbing, 3 plain, seam 3 alternately, then 30 rows plain knitting, bind off loosely. Sew up the sides to middle of blocks on body, leaving place for sleeves.

Sleeve: Commence at arm size. Cast on 60 stitches, knit 10 plain rows, now narrow once on each end of needle every other row until you have only 45 stitches; on this row do 34 plain rows without narrowing. Now narrow every row on last end 'till you have 39 stitches, then *3 plain, seam 3* for 24 rows. Bind off loosely; sew up sleeves and sew into armholes. Finish neck with 2 rows of crocheted holes finished with shell edge. Then run in ribbon and tie in a bow on front. If wished, a crocheted finish may be added to bottom of shirt. Finer needles and finer yarn makes them right size for children.
E. GLOUCESTER, MASS. EVA M. NILES.

Directions for Making Four Balls at Once for Infants' Socks.

Take a box measuring three and a-half or four inches in circumference. Wind your worsted around it one hundred and six or ten times, loosely at first. If using a color with white, wind twenty-five times with white, then twice as much or more with colored, finishing with white.

With strong linen thread tie once around the worsted at one side of the box. If you make a square knot, *allowing it to slip*, you can push the knot as tight as you desire, alone.

Now, for cord to each sock, cut a piece about fifteen inches in length from the white and also from the colored worsted. Loop them together in the middle, that one end may be colored and one end white. Twist and double once. Tie the free ends, crossed in *opposite* directions, to the linen thread which you have tied around the worsted. After running the other end of the cord around the ankle of the sock, tie it snugly with the linen thread to the opposite side of the box. The other cord to be attached in like manner, the four spaces to be at equal distances apart. Slip out the box. Cut the worsted halfway between each tie. By deftly flattening the balls between the thumb and finger, the string being inside, most of the shaping can be done by shearing once in a circle. JENNY WALLIS.

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The Tidy given with this outfit is not a little remnant of felt like the one offered in other outfits, but a good-sized Tidy. The silk is the best quality. The articles in this outfit, bought singly, would amount to $7.50. See full discription on page 16. *Address Ladies' Home Journal, Phila.*

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Over 100 Beautiful Varieties of Silks for CRAZY Embroidery Silk, ass'd colors, 20c. a package. Send ten 2c. stamps for sampler and book of fancy stitches, designs, &c. for PATCHWORK Yale Silk Works, New Haven, Ct.

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(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

BRUSH STUDIES AND HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

NEW SERIES—NO. XII.

BY LIDA AND M. J. CLARKSON.

Christmas Gifts and Novelties, Work for the Brush and the Needle. Hints, Queries, etc.

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As the holidays draw near, Christmas gifts begin to engage the hearts and hands of busy workers and amongst the novelties this year are numberless pretty articles tasteful and artistic in design.

These sell at high prices in the fancy stores, but can be made at home at much less expense where one is willing to take a little extra time

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]
WHISK BROOM HOLDER.

and trouble. The ingenuity of design and the bewildering variety, might well astonish old Santa Claus himself if anything in these versatile days could give rise to astonishment. As hints for Christmas are the order of the day, a number are given. The first illustration shows a novel whisk-holder, for one of the flat brushes always a needful accessory of the toilet. The star and cresent foundations are first cut from heavy pasteboard and covered upon the face with silk plush of some very rich color, backed with satin. The edges are finished with a silk cord, or sewed neatly over and over pin ball fashion, by using a double lining of the paste-board, one for the plush, the other for the satin

When made in this way they answer the double purpose of pin cushion and broom holder, and are especially useful as gifts to gentlemen.

The pocket for broom is either pasteboard covered with satin, and decorated with painting, or embroidery, or Lincrusta Walton made to imitate hammered brass, or metal. The latter is newer, and more unique in style. Lincrusta will be much used for Christmas novelties this year as its capabilities of decoration are almost endless. To imitate hammered brass, a design of that character should be chosen, and either gilded or painted with the metallic bronzes. Apply first ordinary furniture varnish to the surface of the lincrusta, then when it has become quite tacky, with a piece of velvet, of plush, or rub on the dry gold, or bronze power. This will impart a much greater brilliancy than can be had by mixing the powder with a medium. A straw sleeve protector such as grocery men wear, can be substituted for the lincrusta if preferred, and after gilding in the same way, decorate with some pretty pattern either in painting, or embroidery. A ribbon to hang this dressy article finished with a bow completes the work.

The match stand and jewel box, is also a pretty gift, so simple, that the illustration shows very plainly how it is made.

[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]
WATCH STAND AND JEWEL BOX.

The decoration if the brush is used, can be done after the article is finished, the design being pounced on by using a peforated pattern, or if the worker sketches readily drawn in with Chinese white in water colors.

This beautiful as well as useful gift has also an exceedingly pretty effect when worked in rococo, or ribbon embroidery, so popular now. The raised floral design is formed of narrow ribbon of various shades, while the leaves are worked with arasene. To those unskilled in the use of the brush, or of the needle in fine embroidery, the silk appliques will be found very acceptable. Transfer decoration can also be used, or the plush or filagree flowers according to fancy. Allusion has been made quite frequently of late to the merits of Lincrusta-Walton for decorative purposes. This is shown in the design for waste paper box which combines both utility and beauty. The box which is of oblong shape can be made either of heavy mill board, or of wood. The latter is best and can be had by simply nailing on the cover of an ordinary soap or starch box, after removing one end. The lincrusta is then applied to the box in the following manner. A thick paste is made of one third glue to two thirds flour. This is laid upon the material thickly in the same way as for paper hanging, and the lincrusta then applied to the box, rubbing down with a stiff brush. The paste should be kept quite hot, and applied so to the material, as also the surface to be covered. The process is simple and the lincrusta so heavy that there is no danger of air bubbles, or blisters. The patterns are in every variety. The box can be made to imitate the most exquisite wood carving, if a design of that kind is chosen. In this case the lincrusta is stained to imitate wood, either cherry, antique oak, walnut or ebony, Repousse work is also finely imitated by using a repousse or hammered brass design, and then painting with the gold bronzes, or gilding with the leaf. The renaissance and Japanese patterns can be painted in oil colors, or with the lustra, or bronzes. One illustration shows a design of this description in bold relief, with a conventional border also in lincrusta. To obtain most charming metallic effects, the following directions given by the manufacturers of this beautiful material, can be followed with most satisfactory results. To imitate oxidized silver Cover in silver leaf, or if preferred, in one or both silver bronzes. When using bronze powders, a previous coating of brown dryer economizes the powder, and enhances the effect. Glaze the silvered surface with white shellac varnish; when dry, rub a brush, well charged with dark blue grey oil color, into all interclees of the ornament in relief, as well as upon the background, leaving the color thickest upon those portions of the background more immediately surrounding the raised ornament; now remove the color from highest points by rubbing with a soft cloth tightly folded, and pass a clean brush over those parts in lower relief that requires to be left in half tone. Duller, yet more artistic effects are produced by using "dry color" in powder for the deepest shades. It is of importance that these colors lie thickeston those parts of the design thrown most in the shade, and as in natural oxidation the flat surface forming background should have fewer and more subdued lights than the more prominent parts of the raised ornament.

For a bright green bronze paint over a first coating of brown dryer, a second of copper bronze in powder, mixed with bronzing liquid; (ordinary furniture varnish will answer) dry thoroughly.

Over this draw a brush laden with green bronze powder, mixed in the same way; clear all high lights by rubbing with a soft cloth, allowing tiny patches of copper to show through on back ground also. Dry well, and heighten effect by drawing a brush containing pale gold bronze, dampened with liquid, and held horizontally, rapidly backwards and forewards, touching light-

[Engraved expressly for The Ladies Home Journal.]
WASTE PAPER BOX.

ly the prominences. When dry coat once or twice in white glazing varnish. Umbrella stands, screens, mirror or picture frames over mantels, etc., are further purposes to which the lincrusta may be adapted. Our last suggestion is expressly for the benefit of ladies who inquire so anxiously after gifts for friends who smoke. Although deprecating this very injurious habit, we still suggest that as long as men continue it, and they doubtless will to the end of time, the need might as well be kept in a pretty bag, as to be tucked away in box, or other receptable, and so no serious qualms of conscience are felt in giving a suitable design for a handsome tobacco pouch. The material is bronze leather, in sections joined with a silken cord, and the lining is either wash leather or chamois. The upper part is of heavy brown plush with cord and tassels to match. The design of crossed pipes is worked in outline in old gold and brown silk and gold thread. On the reverse side is a bunch of poppies with the suggestive motto "*Lethe*" worked in gold. If preferred these designs can be painted in either oil, or lustra colors. Amongst other pretty novelties for the holidays may be mentioned the ornamental calendars, made by mounting one of the block almanacs upon velvet, or plush plaque or panel, an acceptable gift for library use. The panel or plaque is decorated with painting or embroidery, a vacant place being left for the calendar which is glued in position. Hassocks made of square boxes mounted upon castors, and covered with serge, crash, or Turkish toweling with a pretty design woked in crewels, or silks are also useful gifts. Some of these are made with a cover to open on hinges, and have a shelf inside making a most convenient receptacle for various articles. The top should be padded and if made to open thus, a metal ring or cord and tassel should be fastened for convenience upon the front of lid.

The little folks are not to be overlooked at this season, which is emphatically the children's own. The French bon bon paper cracker, the juvenile delight, is now imitated in satin, and instead of the original sugar plum, inside holds some pretty trinket. It is not made to go off torpedo fashion, but contains the useful motto which is in accord with the season.

The ends are raveled silk or satin, instead of fringed paper. A pretty Christmas motto and design can be added to the outside, by using the transfer decalcomania. These transfers are especially useful at this time when there are so many trifles to decorate, as they save time, and are remarkable for the neatness, especially as to lettering which requires the most skillful hand when done without their aid. Pocket handkerchief's and glove satchels can hardly be classed

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]
TOBACCO POUCH.

amongst novelties, but they are old time favorites, and always acceptable. These are now made in a variety of shapes, some of them covered with Bolton gauze and decorated in oil, or water color. A cushion and glove box combined makes a useful and handsome gift. The box is covered with plush, and lined with silk, or satin, while the lid is well padded with wool which by the way is one of the best stuffing for toilet cushions. Space forbids further description of gifts, but we trust the foregoing may prove really helpful to the many who are puzzled what to make, or to purchase for the holidays. Many a bright and happy Christmas attend all friends of the JOURNAL.

"The sweet song of Christmastide
'Peace and good will' for aye abide."

HINTS AND QUERIES.

"Mrs. A. A. W."—The books you inquire about may be had of almost any bookseller, or any art dealer will order them for you.

"M. J. S."—If you have used the French Retouching Varnish for your picture, you can paint over it at any time. If, however copal, or mastic varnish has been used, it would not be advisable to repaint any one portion. The whole picture would have to be repainted.

"Vandyke."—For your old-fashioned wooden mantel, with its high side panels and plain front you could hardly find a more suitable decoration than lincrusta so fully described in this, and previous numbers of "Brush Studies." You can divide into panels as you suggest, using the lincrusta moulding as a finish, and filling in with the same material, or leaving plain simple paint in oils. A pretty fancy would be to fill in the panels with a design which can be adapted to ceramic effects, or tile decoration. A very charming Japanese pattern with four square panels to the design, can be had, and is well suited to this style of decoration. If preferred the carved wood designs can be used, stained to imitate any kind of wood, or metal patterns can be chosen, and the whole over mantel made to represent solid bronze in high relief. Yes, the lincrusta makes durable and elegant frames for pictures, or screens.

It is flexible and can be carried around curves and corners which makes it superior to other decorative material. The moulding can be gilded easily and applied to ordinary pine frames, and is said to attain a hardness equal to wood. We shall experiment with this material in order to give hints as to its uses and capabilities for household decoration.

***

We have recently added some very choice hand painted studies to our collection which we rent to subscribers to the JOURNAL. Send stamps to our address for list and particulars.

For one full subscription to JOURNAL we will send our new illustrated pamphlet upon "Decorative Painting" full of useful information.

For two subscriptions "Brush Studies" neatly bound and illustrated. Premium offers previous to Nov. '86, are withdrawn.

Address all communications relating to this Department of the JOURNAL, to

L. AND M. J. CLARKSON,
"PLEASANT VALLEY, DUTCHESS CO., N. Y.
Money order office, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

Linen Traveling Bag.
(By request.)

Take a piece of linen 28 inches long and 19 inches wide. Cut a circular piece to fit in both ends. Make the handle 12 inches long and 4 inches wide. Stitch them together so they will be double. Make the hems one inch and a-half wide, lap one hem over the other at the ends, then stitch the circular pieces in. Button it with 3 buttons, one in the middle, the others 4 inches each side of middle one. Put the handles one each side of the hem in the center. Leave 6 inches between the two ends of handle. Trim with braid, or have it plain. Brown linen comes purposely for such articles. M. F. K.

Receptacle for Scraps.

Take an old paint keg, scrape the outside smooth, and paint it to harmonize with your room, gild the hoops or paint them black. Line it with sheets, first tacking it on the outside of the keg and then turn, gather the ends, and push down into the keg, just in the same way you line the crown of a hat.

Photograph Easel.

Take a small size wire bread toaster, which can be bought at any five cent store, bend back the long handle for a rest, gild the whole. Take a strip of plush a seam larger than the toaster, line it with satin, put a layer of sheet wadding between, sprinkled with sachet powder. This goes inside of the toaster, to hold photographs, catch it to the frame. Put a ribbon bow where the handle joins on the front, and another in center of front side. This easel is both useful and ornamental.—ED.

Penknife Case.

Cut two pieces of satin about four and a-half inches long and an inch and a-half wide, sew up to within an inch of the top; now cut two pieces of chamois same size as satin, and sew together in same way; then insert the chamois bag inside the satin one, of course having the seams of the satin bag on the inside, and *vice versa* with the chamois. Round the tops and sew the chamois and satin neatly together, about half an inch from the top make a drawing string, using filo floss to match satin. A monogram can be embroidered on the outside. DORCAS.

A Very Simple but Pretty Toilet Set.

Materials: Three-quarters of a yard of cardinal satin, one ball of old-gold knitting silk, 6 yards of cream lace two or three inches wide. Cut one piece one-half yard square, and two each a quarter of a yard square. Then stamp some pretty design (cluster of wheat heads is pretty) in one or four corners, as preferred, and embroider it in daisy stitch. Scallop the edges with the silk in buttonhole stitch. Sew on the lace under the scallop a little gathered, and finish by lining the set. A pincushion to match the set looks nicely without the lace, putting instead, a double box plaiting of satin about four inches wide, fringed on both edges.

KNITTING SILKS.

Prior to the year 1880 the only knitting silk in this country was that imported from Germany, which had a very limited sale in a few staple shades. It was made of spun stock and in a size especially adapted for hand knitting. About six years ago a brisk demand seemed to spring up for a good article at a lower price than the foreign goods, and in consequence several of our leading silk twist manufacturers turned their attention toward supplying the demand. The result was the more venturesome companies manufactured very largely an article made of spun stock, put up on a half-once ball, very similar in appearance to the German silk. This, having at the time no direct competition in quality, was very easily placed with all dealers in fancy dry goods and for a time had a satisfactory sale, until it was noticed by knitters that the silk (being of short fibre spun stock) would naturally rough up in working, and the article when completed look no better than fine Saxony yarn.

This fact was fully convincing that spun silk was not the proper stock to use, and M. Heminway & Sons' Silk Co. were the first to place a superior article on the market, made of the best Tsatlee pure thread stock, put up on a regular half-ounce spool. If met with a very ready sale at a price much higher than the low grade goods; but the other manufacturers were slow to follow the lead on the improved article, claiming to the trade that it was simply embroidery silk, put up in a different way, labled "knitting silk."

While they are still pondering over the matter the Heminway pure knitting silk was getting a firmer hold than ever, and generally displacing the spun goods.

The result at the present time is that every manufacturer, without a single exception, who started with the spun goods is making some grade of pure silk goods.

The Heminway Silk Co. seem to have an advantage over others, from their longer experience in manufacturing, and their goods are quite universally believed to be the best.

They are now giving particular attention to knitting and crochet silks, especially adapted for manufacturing machine-made silk mittens, wristlets and hosiery.—*Dry Goods Chronicle*

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YATISI CORSET
Owing to the diagonal elasticity of the cloth will fit perfectly first time worn. Requires no breaking in. Money returned by seller after being worn 30 days if not found the most PERFECT FITTING, Healthful & Comfortable Corsets ever worn. See that the Yatisi stamp is on inside of Corset. Sold by all dealers. Price by mail, prepaid, $1.35 and upwards. Mention this paper.
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Purchasing Office. Any kind of goods a lady may require will be purchased at lowest city prices; also gifts, birthday, Christmas presents, etc. All orders will be executed within 24 to 48 hours after their arrival. Circulars and Price Lists mailed free on application.

Send your name for PRAY large descriptive list is sent free. Name of fancy work, which embroidery silk, 30c. a box. Large ball of tinsel for 15 cts. By mail. W. P. PRAY Lynn, Mass.

Send stamps to T. E. PARKER, Lynn, Mass. for Instruction Book, How to Do Embroidery Stamping. Embroidery Silk, 25 Skeins, 15 cts. Other things just as cheap.

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AND

PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER.

A NATIONAL ILLUSTRATED FAMILY JOURNAL.

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MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT, ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

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Errors.—We make them so does every one, and we will cheerfully correct them if you will write to us. Try to write us good-naturedly, but if you cannot, then write to us any way. Do not complain to any one else or let it pass. We want an early opportunity to make right any injustice that we may do.

NEW YORK OFFICE, 180 BROADWAY;

W. S. NILES, MANAGER.

Our New York Office is for the transaction of business with New York advertisers.
Subscribers should not address any letters to that office.

Philadelphia, December, 1886.

A LARGE CIRCULATION.

THE LADIES HOME JOURNAL now claims the largest circulation of any newspaper or periodical of any kind published in the United States, *over four hundred thousand* (400,000) paid subscribers being on its books, and the number of copies printed each of the last three months exceeding 450,000.

We desire a round half million by January 1st and believe the special inducements offered on pages 16, 17, 18 and 19, will bring them. Our premiums are useful for holiday presents, and they are easily secured. Will you kindly show a copy of the JOURNAL to your neighbors and friends? If you have no time to raise a club, you can, at least, obtain one new subscriber to send with your own renewal, and thus secure yourself one of the numerous useful premiums offered for a holiday present for only two subscriptions. We suggest you make a present of a year's subscription, to some young wife who would appreciate, and be benefited, by such a paper as the JOURNAL; it will cost you but 50 cents more than your own single subscription, and the premium given you for two names will be of more value to you than the extra 50 cents. We enclose a club blank. We expect it to come back well filled with new names. NOW LET IT COME HOME. Will you help us

MAKE IT HALF A MILLION!

Some of the most popular premiums we have to offer will be found in the NOVEMBER number, on pages 14 and 15. Table Scarfs for four subscribers, Linen Splashers for only two subscribers, also Tidies stamped ready to be worked, for only two subscribers. The Paper Flower Outfit is now the rage, given for only two subscribers. Bracket Lambrequin for only two subscribers is one of our best premiums. Books on Knitting and Crocheting and Artistic Needle Work given for only two subscribers, go by the thousands. Lace Bar Pins are very pretty and popular, only two subscribers required to get them. Square Table Covers for 6 subscribers make very useful presents. These are all described in the November number. Look them up.

Josiah Allens Wife will contribute regularly to the JOURNAL during the coming year. Rose Terry Cooke will soon have a new story ready for us, as also will Mary Abbott Rand, whose "Doctor's Daughters," in our columns last Winter proved one of the most popular stories we have ever published. Ella Rodman Church will contribute a series of papers on Money Making occupations for women.

The attractions offered our readers for 1887 will far surpass anything we have ever yet given them. The illustrations will be increased in number and of the finest quality obtainable. These are very expensive, but we shall have the best of everything that this country and money can produce. The best, is the first consideration, the cost, second.

POSTAGE TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

A discrimination in the rates of postage to city subscribers is made between weekly and monthly periodicals, to the great disadvantage of the latter, for, while the weeklies can be mailed to city subscribers for one cent per pound, monthlies can not be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent for each two ounces, except where the subscribers go to the post-office for their mail. And, as the JOURNAL in its present form weighs over two ounces, we are, therefore, obliged to ask Philadelphia subscribers twenty-four cents extra for postage, unless the paper is addressed at the post-office to be called for, or to any P. O. box.

CORRESPONDENCE.

IF "Mrs. B. P. Smiley" will communicate with The Woman's Exchange, Broadway and 30th St., N. Y., she will probably find a customer for her jellies.—[ED. JOURNAL.]

"PLEASED SUBSCRIBER" will be obliged to subscribe every year as we do not take subscribers in the way she mentions.

"SUBSCRIBER," Michigan:—*The Household* is published at Brattleboro, Vermont.—[ED.]

"ADA" should have a Brown's English Grammar and a Rhetoric, by Quackenboes or by Hart.

"A FRIEND AND SUBSCRIBER" and "Carrie C."—Electricity is considered a safe, sure remedy.—[ED.]

BARDIN, COLES CO., ILL., Sept. 23d, 1886.

IF "M. A. B." will rub Mrs. Potts' cold handled and irons with Enoch Morgan's Sons' Sapollo Soap, it will render them bright as new.
S. A. C.

IF Mrs. A. S. Dunnigan, California, will kindly give her full address, she will oblige. We desire to address her personally.—[ED.]

IF "Lina S." will wet the iron rust with lemon juice and lay in the sun to dry, we think the spot will be removed.—[ED.]

I WISH to know if any of the readers of the L. H. J. can give me any information in regard to silk worm culture? and where can I get any books on the subject?
MRS. A. M.
BOSTON, MASS.

WE would advise "M. V." to consult a reliable hair dresser, (or still better, to let the hair remain the color nature made it.)

CAN any of the sisters tell me how to make stove polish stick to the stove? On several of our stoves the polish comes off when rubbed.
B.

[For stove polish to be effective, the stove must be absolutely free from grease. It is well to first wash the range or stove off with soap suds and then apply polish.—ED.]

EDITOR OF L. H. J.—I enclose several replies to the inquiries from correspondents.

To color black without crocking: Use 1 oz. vitriol to 4 oz. of extract of logwood—for 1 lb. goods use 1½ oz. extract. Dissolve the vitriol well, in water enough to cover the goods, and leave them in 1 hour, stirring well, to keep from spotting. Have the vitriol water quite hot, then after dissolving the extract in water, take the goods out of the vitriol and add the logwood strained through a cloth; stir it well, then replace the goods, and stir and air for one hour. Then remove, and add 1 pint each of soft soap and salt, and allow the goods to scald in the ooze, which will set the color after salt has been dissolved.
MRS. M. B.
MENDOTA.

MISS. LENORA PRAY:—My letter to you, addressed in accordance with yours to me. "Lexington, Mass." was returned this A. M. Please send street address in order that it may be forwarded.
MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

"INVALID," will find her question answered by "Humanity" in our next issue. The answer made warmly commended the preparation of the Health Food Company, of New York as adequate to the cure of dyspepsia and many bodily ills. She suggests that sufferers write for free circulars and advice to the office of the company, No. 74 4th Ave., New York City.

MUNNSVILLE, N. Y., Oct. 7, 1886.

DEAR EDITOR:—Can you tell me, through your columns, how to remove an oil painting so that the canvass can be used for another picture? Would also like to know of some pretty way to cover a piano stool, where the top has become faded and soiled. Answers to the above will greatly oblige a subscriber.
MRS. C. J. G.

MASONWELL, ONT., Sept. 29th.

DEAR EDITOR:—One of your readers asks for a recipe to cure stammering. A friend of mine has much improved her speaking, and nearly cured herself of stammering by keeping a pea or small pebble under her tongue while she talks. This would probably benefit the lady who wrote to the JOURNAL about it. Yours truly, L. STERLING.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—It has been a long time since I have written to the sisterly band, and solely for want of time; even now for this little chat the time is taken from necessary hours of sleep. The paper comes regularly every month, and I look for the old familiar names, "Helen Ayre" "John's Wife" and others.

I commenced to-night, for catch-up work, the pretty knitted lace "Lattice" pattern, by "Mrs. J. E. F.," North Adams, Mass. It looks hard to knit, but is really very simple, and exceedingly pretty, and thanks to the printer, is correct. I hope she will send another sample with directions.

North Adams has a bright spot in my memory. Returning from a trip to the White Mountains, one charming October morning, two years since, I remember how perfectly lovely was the foliage all the way, especially so in North Adams. The admiration of the passengers was outspoken, and we passed on all too quickly.

One really needs to visit the White Mountain region at three different times of the year, to take in of each season what cannot be had in either of the other two. First, go from the middle of June to a month onward; in the opening springtime of grass, bud and flower, when the streams are full of murmuring, musical gladness. And in October, to gaze upon the culmination of Nature's best work, in ripened foliage. And then, between these two, comes the season of "fuss and feathers," of fashion and gayety, of excursions and pleasurings.

Dear sisters, how did we ever get along without "Mildred's Conversation Class?" and while I sometimes feel my place to be at the foot, there is an expression too commonly used, that will not keep me there. Oh, no! I never transgress by saying "*I done it.*" The learning that lesson was followed by weeks of estrangement, or rather I should say, by weeks of absence.

I was calling on a neighbor, and during conversation said "I done it." On being rebuked by her mother for an outburst of laughter, the daughter replied: "She said 'I done it,' and I do not want any one to come to see me who uses bad grammar."

Again. I once said, "I bet the irons." A friend, with a pleasant smile, asked: "What kind of a word is 'bet?' I immediately noticed my mistake and have never since used the word. But what a difference in the manner of correction! One pleasantly drew my attention to the error, causing no offence; the other made me the butt of ridicule and stirred the "old Adam" within me. Poor girl! she has arrived to years of womanhood since then, an almost helpless invalid, weakened in body and mind; yet this same habit of unkindly criticism clings to her because of its indulgence in youth, and we, her friends, have learned not to get "stirred up" about it, wondering if faults of ours might not stand out more prominently, if like her, we were shut in from the outer world, with unutterable longings for health, yet not for one moment free from pain.

Now good-bye, sisters mine, until opportunity favors another chat.
RIVERSIDE.

DEAR EDITOR:—In the November issue of the JOURNAL, H. M. M. makes a well deserved criticism on the "Sister's" method of carrying on discussions. It is a common failing of our sex to make all arguments personal, and invest them with a bitterness and acidity that destroys the effect at which they aim. Really, Sisters, we ought to be large souled enough to allow others to differ from us in opinion without impugning their motives or saying those sharp little things that leave such a sting. "Susan Mann," in commenting upon the views of "Spinster" in regard to the "Summer Exodus," begins her communication in a calm and pleasant way that arouses one's sympathy, but alas! she soon falls into the too common error of personal bitterness, and makes insinuations that doubtless made "Spinster's" cheeks burn with indignation. I read "Spinster's" letter very carefully, and think she did a brave, good deed in calling the attention of wives to a subject they are apt to be thoughtless about. I think "Susan Mann" was unjust to her—probably without meaning to be so—in insinuating that she had an undue amount of sympathy for husband's.

"Susan Mann" says "a wife is not responsible for her husband's sins." I take issue with her there. Sometimes, and to some degree, wives *are* responsible, as parents are often responsible for the sins of their children. The Scripture says "Fathers, provoke not your children to wrath," and we all know of cases that are directly traceable to the unfortunate course pursued by the parents. If the wife goes about the home, slovenly and ill-tempered, welcoming her husband with complaints and abuse, is she not responsible if he seeks for society at the grocery or tavern, and make acquaintances that lead him into drinking habits? If she holds herself in cold, unsympathetic reserve, and looks down with virtuous scorn on what "Susan Mann" calls his "lower nature," is she not responsible if he seeks to gratify that nature where he will be met with sympathy instead of cold disdain?

It is strange that women will persist in judging men by themselves. The sexes are as unlike mentally as they are physically, and a woman must understand and accept this fact before she can find perfect happiness in her married life.

See what a vast difference between man's love and woman's love!

The wife's love for her husband is a tender, patient, motherly and enduring devotion. She sets up in her heart an ideal of the man, to which she clings long after the man himself has become, it may be, a mere brute.

Now man's love is of a different nature. With him love is a fierce, all-absorbing passion—not for an ideal—but for the woman herself, and his love concentrates itself not so much in devotion *to*, but possession *of*.

His love has not the enduring quality of woman's, but as a rule is true to its object as long as that object remains lovable and attractive, *and no longer.*

I have a husband who is the fondest of lovers, but I feel assured that upon *myself* depends his continued devotion and loyalty. It is in my power to hold him or to drive him from me. A wife in time will lose her youth, her beauty, her delicacy of form; but she need never lose her attractiveness. By entering with sympathy into his plans, his desires; by making his home bright with cheerful contentment and wifely attention to his little comforts; by taking a little pains to look neat and attractive as she did before marriage; and above all by keeping for him the sweet smiles and pleasant tones of lover days, she can hold him by far stronger ties than those of youth and beauty, or the fervor of early, untried love.

As man's affections differs from ours, so also do his passions. We may not be able to understand or sympathize with them, but at least we can refrain from despising them. They are a part of his nature as truly as is our fondness for ornament and the numberless little things that are so dear to us but so remote from the average masculine mind. A man's nature demands some things that ours often is indifferent to, and a good wife will cheerfully recognize such demands, instead of sneering at them as base and low.

"Susan Mann" says she is "not fond of babies." A sad confession for a mother to make, and one that I cannot understand, but it suggests to me a subject of great importance in married life. Why is it that so many mothers bear their children so unwillingly, and burden their husbands with reproaches and complaint, alike unjust and unwomanly. If a woman is unwilling to assume the responsibilities and burdens of maternity, she should not assume those of wifehood.

It is not so much child-bearing, as *fretting* over it, that makes mothers grow old. I confess that I tried the fretting plan for two weeks and I honestly believe that if I had continued it for two months I should be in my grave. Now Sisters, don't imagine that I speak in ignorance, for although I have been married but a dozen years, I am the mother of six children, and as may readily be seen my family, like the one "Susan Mann" had in mind, is one in which there are always babies to be stayed at home with. But because I must be kept at home, does it help me to have my husband stay also? He seldom does leave me except on business, but when he consents to go, it is my gain as well as his, for he comes back refreshed and stimulated, bringing with him facts, and fancies, pictures and lessons, from the great world which I am in a sense, withdrawn from. He becomes a medium through which I receive strength and knowledge and inspiration from great minds which come in personal contact with.

Would the mother bird sit on her nest more contentedly if her mate shared the close confinement which it is her lot to bear? Is it not a kind Providence that reserves liberty for one to flit about gathering to himself the sweetness and beauty of nature that he may return to his patient mate and rehearse in his love song the delights which await her in the world outside, when her little brood has been safely reared.

We who are wives and mothers, go often to our beds weary and depressed with the petty trials and never ending labor that falls to our lot. We sometimes rise in the morning with the weight of our burdens heavy upon us, but thank God! there are few of us who would exchange these burdens and the precious love which is underneath them all, for the ease and light heartedness of girlhood. There are those who feel and speak bitterly of marriage, having staked their all and lost it: and their are others who have ignorantly or wilfully thrown away the happiness which was within their grasp; but the belief which seems so prevalent, that most marriages are unhappy, I believe to be without foundation.

My experience and observation lead me to the conclusion that the happy marriages far outnumber the unhappy ones, and I regret that one who is herself a wife and mother should add to the general misunderstanding of the truth.

Those who have found—or made—their married life a failure, do not hestitate to proclaim it. Let it not be said of us, that by our silence we strengthen the loose idea which gain ground so rapidly against marriage.
A WIFE AND MOTHER.

Sept. 26, 1886.

DEAR EDITOR JOURNAL:—Helen Thompson says: "No heart is insensible to the kindly smile of approbation," and heads her article "Don't Find Fault." I want to say a few words to the ladies.

I think, if we poor men, whose attentions and gifts before marriage are received with so much ecstacy and so many prettily worded thanks, could know that after entering the blissful state, our efforts and gifts would be taken as a matter of course, and in a fault finding spirit, we would be less easily led into the matrimonial yoke, and there would be fewer husbands to spend their evenings at the clubs—the theme on which women so love to expatiate.

For example—one of my gentleman friends, fresh in experience, was in the city on business, and remembering the delight with which former presents were received, thought how nice it would be to take something home to the little wife. Man-like, he was at his wits end to know what to get, so appealed to a saleslady, who suggested, linen. Straight-way the husband hied him to the linen counter, and spent an hour, purchasing the daintiest of damask lunch cloths, with the attendant doylies, and thus was it received:—"Was *that* all you could find in the city? Just like a man to buy just what one has an over-stock of." Just as though a man is expected to know the extent of his wife's linen chest.

Another of the victims, by an accident, broke an imported vinegar cruet, a wedding present to his wife.

As he was going into the city soon after, he told his wife he would try and replace it. Thereupon she gave him a hundred admonitions concerning its purchase; it was to be tall, not green, etc. The poor man went away with a very hazy recollection of all she had said, only remembering that she *had* said something about green, and spent more time than he could really spare from his business, in searching the city over for green cruet bottles. Poor man! the look his wife gave him on showing his purchase, would have frozen an ice berg. Not a word of thanks for the weary search. How was *he* to know that green cruet bottles did not match with blue china?

I have seen a wife, after her husband had taken pains to empty his eleven pockets in search of a friend's wedding cards he was anxious she should see, curl her lips and say, "flotheration! I don't see what you wanted to show me those for. I *hate* to look at wedding cards, they're all alike." And the pretty face was all spoiled by the look of disgust thereon, as she tossed them scornfully back.

Ladies, be forebearing. *Don't* find fault. Cultivate the angelic. Remember "no heart is insensible to the kindly smile of approbation."
SETTS.

EDITOR L. H. J.—I have often thought I would like to write a few words to the sisters but never find time. Although I haven't been a subscriber very long, I have read a number of the JOURNAL's and I like them ever so much, and it has my best wishes for its future success. I have read several articles in regard to husbands and the way they treat their wives. Now, dear sisters, I know our husbands are a long way from perfection, but we have got these husbands, and it is better for us to make the best of a bad bargain than to fret and fume over it and so spoil the little happiness we might have.

I think if mothers would be more careful of the way they train their boys, the next generation of wives would have better husbands than we. If our boys are allowed to always depend on their mother or sisters to wait on them in the house and do all the many little tasks they are to be done, they will of course expect their wives to do the same.

My oldest boy is only eight years old, but if he loses a button off his clothes he can sew it on again, and when he is older I shall teach him to get a meal of victuals just as well as my girls; but if boys are never made to do such things they very soon learn to look upon such work as being very far beneath them. Indeed, there are men who would go hungry before they would get a meal.

So I say to all mothers, let us bring up our boys to feel that it is no disgrace to assist mother and sister in doing housework if their help be needed.
RAVEN.

ED. L. H. J.—In looking over the October issue I see requests for information on some topics with which I am familiar. "S. L. N." here is my way of bleaching with chloride of lime. I take about ¼ lb. to a large tub full of clothes. (The same process removes mildew.) Dissolve the lime in some water in a basin, then strain through a cloth into the boiler with enough water in it to cover the clothes. Scald and stir until they look white, which will be less than an hour. Rinse well and hang in the sun. If not strained there may be particles not dissolved and the clothes will be full of holes. I learned this by sad experience once, but have bleached successfully since.

If "M. B." will procure a package of Diamond Dyes and follow the printed directions, she will have a beautiful and lasting black which will not crock. I brighten up old cashmere dresses this way and they look almost like new at a trifling cost.

"Mrs. Frank Hansen" I see you are a JOURNAL sister as well as a *Household* sister. Here is my hand. I am pleased with your common sense doctrines.

To "John's Wife."—Your pleasant and sensible letters have been a great help to me. I expect to follow your method of weaning baby.
ELKO, NEVADA. MRS. W. O. VOHR.

"A CONSTANT READER:"—When bugs have once got into a bed, merely "getting rid" of them does not do. One must be vigilant and examine the bed every day or two. Brush every crack and crevice with corrosive sublimate, (which a druggist will mix for you) and then *watch* without ceasing. The remedy is a deadly poison, and must be handled and kept with greatest care.—[ED.]

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

FOR CHRISTMAS WEEK.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

As the Christmas season approaches, the thoughts of the housekeeper turn towards the preparation of those dainties which seem to belong par excellence to the holiday time. It is the period for social reunion, for unbending from the cares and dignities which cumber the rest of the year and yielding mind and body to the genial relaxations that restore even to the most blase something of the freshness of youth.

In view of the entertainments generally given during the holiday week, it has been thought best to depart from the usual order of "Cottage Dinners," and to present instead directions for the Christmas feast and hints as to the concoction of pretty dishes for the little gatherings that are apt to take place between Christmas and New Year's Day, with one or two suggestions as to such assemblies that may possibly prove useful.

In the rural districts, out-door sports are practicable in Winter as in Summer. Indeed, except in the centre of large cities, there are few places where coasting parties are impossible. Whether the sleds used are toboggans of the far North, the "double rippers" of New England, or the "bob" sleds of the Middle States, the fun and excitement are the same. Such expeditions should not be too large and their members should be judiciously chosen. Twenty is an ample number, and among these there should be none so tenacious of their dignity or so averse to frolic as to mind a tumble in the snow. From such assemblies should be rigorously excluded the practical joker, who is not happy unless he is making some of his fellow creatures uncomfortable by well directed snowballs or by upsetting a loaded sled.

The fun over, every one is usually supplied with a hearty appetite, demanding something more substantial than the coffee and cake that serve very well at a home reception. A delicious supper may be provided by those living near enough the sea coast to procure shell fish at reasonable rates, by having an oyster roast when the coasters return to the home of their host. The preparations for this are simple. An open fire-place and a bed of glowing coals, or a stove with the ovens well heated, are essentials. The shell oysters, carefully washed, are brought in by the basket full and laid among the coals or on the oven floor. When the heat opens the shell, the contents are done. The shell is wrenched in two by a stout knife, the oyster treated with a little pepper, salt and a dash of lemon juice and is ready for eating. A good plan is for each man to open the oysters for himself and his partner at the supper table. They must be eaten very hot, as soon as possible after they are drawn from the fire, and should be accompanied by crackers, or bread and butter, and coffee. Cake and fruit may finish the repast, if desired, but they are not absolutely necessary. Oysters must be provided in generous measure, for the exercise in the frosty air develope astonishing appetites and the tempting bivalves disappear with marvellous rapidity.

In the regions where sledding and skating frolics are out of the question, there may still be much amusement found within doors. The old-fashioned parties, where the elders played cards the juniors amused themselves with such games, as Twenty Questions, Dumb Crambo, and even Fox and Geese and Blind Man's Buff, winding up, perhaps, with a Virginia reel in which all took part, still have for their admirers those who do not care for round dances and who weary of whist and progressive euchre. At such a gathering as this, it is pleasant to have refreshments of a rather different variety from the stereotyped salads and ices or a more conventional assembly. Where there is an open fire, chestnuts may be roasted and corn popped, while cracked hickory nuts and butternuts, sandwiches, turnovers and gingerbread, doughnuts and crullers, apples and cider, with perhaps a pot of hot coffee or chocolate may make up the rest of the supper.

A pleasant and inexpensive form of entertainment is furnished by candy parties. These may be of two kinds. The first and time-honored method involves more work, but has its advantages. Nearly every one is familiar, by hearsay, at least, with the candy pull, where the molasses must be brought to the right consistency over the fire, then poured into great buttered platters and left to partially cool, and finally, by dint of dexterous and vigorous manipulations with greased or floured hands brought to a state of creamy white brittleness. Variety may be produced by converting some into taffy and stirring into this peanuts, walnuts, or hickory nuts. While the cooking is going on, chocolate caramels may be made in another vessel and, the sticky part of the fun over, the party may take themselves with what appetites they have left, to a pretty little supper of salad or croquettes, rolls, ice cream, cake and coffee.

The same style of supper is admirable for a French candy party, a much cooler form of entertainment. At this, the materials needed are confectioner's sugar mixed with white of egg and cold water in equal parts to a consistency that will permit the compound to be handled. Stoned dates and raisins, carefully shelled English walnuts, blanched almonds, and crystallized fruits of different kinds must also be provided. In making cream almonds, the sugar mixture is shaped by the fingers into oblong balls and each of these placed between two halves of the nut. Cream raisins, figs, dates and almonds may be prepared in the same manner and will be found delicious. An almost endless assortment of fancy candies may be made in this style, variety being gained by the use of different flavorings, colorings and fruits or nuts.

To secure real enjoyment at social gatherings of any sort, whether held in the holidays or at other times, the hostess should diligently guard against over-tasking her strength or her pocket. The simplest form of entertainment is preferable to an elaborate one which must be paid for later by worn nerves or an exhausted purse. With care and judgment, extravagance may be avoided and a pleasant result yet obtained. Make the house gay with Christmas greens, have a cordial welcome ready for guests, give them of the best of yourself and of your belongings, and it will be a difficult visitor who will not thoroughly enjoy the party be it what style it may.

This caution is especially necessary to young housekeepers who have planned family reunions for Christmas Day. In their desire to have everything as it should be, they are apt to wear themselves out. Let them avoid too much ambition and try only such dishes as they are sure of. A lengthy course dinner is not the ideal Christmas feast. Let there be an abundant supply of good food, including such traditional dainties as turkey, cranberry sauce and mince pie, and reserve fussy croquettes, uncertain jellies and anxiety provoking *entrees* for some other time. The table should be shining with the best china, glass and silver, and bright with flowers, evergreen or holly. The dishes should be garnished with parsley, and their contents served hot. After a hearty dinner of this kind, supper is a mere form and may consist of tea, bread and butter, and perhaps, a little cake or sweetmeats.

CHRISTMAS DINNER.

Oyster Soup.
Roast Turkey with Oyster Stuffing.
Baked Sweet Potatoes. Mashed Potato.
Cauliflower. Celery.
Cranberry Jelly.
Mince Pie. Cheese.
Fruit. Nuts. Coffee.

OYSTER SOUP:—Two quarts of oysters, one pint of water, one quart of milk, three dessertspoonfuls of butter, one dessertspoonful of corn starch, a pinch of mace, pepper and salt to taste.

Strain the oysters out of the liquor and place this over the fire with the water. Let it heat slowly to a boil. At this stage add the seasoning and the oysters. Cook these until the edges become crimped. Have ready in a double boiler the milk, into which has been stirred the butter, rubbed smooth with the corn starch. Pour this upon the stewed oysters, stir well and serve. Guard against over-cooking the oysters. Five minutes should bring them to the proper state, but a few minutes added cooking renders them tough and tasteless.

ROAST TURKEY:—In choosing your fowl, be careful that your poulterer does not palm off a last season's bird upon you instead of the tender yearling who should occupy the place of honor, at the Christmas feast. Wash out the inside of the turkey with soda and water before stuffing him. Prepare a dressing of bread crumbs, seasoned with pepper, salt and a little thyme and moistened with melted butter. Chop fine about twenty small oysters and add them to your stuffing. Stuff both body and breast with this. Bind the limbs of the fowl closely to the body with stout string, tucking the gizzard under one wing, the liver under the other. Lay the turkey in the dripping pan and pour a couple of teacupfuls of hot water around him. Roast slowly, but steadily, basting frequently with butter and water until a good gravy is formed and then using that. Allow from ten to twelve minutes a pound if the fowl is a young one, but fifteen if it is tough. Should it brown too rapidly, cover it with greased paper. When it is done, remove it to a hot platter, let the gravy in the pan boil up and thicken with browned flour. A pleasant addition may be made by adding half a can of mushrooms, chopped. Serve the gravy separately.

MASHED POTATO:—Prepare according to directions given in November issue of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

BAKED SWEET POTATOES:—Wash clean, wipe and bake in their jackets. Serve wrapped in a napkin.

CAULIFLOWER:—Pull off the outer leaves and cut the stalk off close. Tie up the cauliflower in a piece of mosquito net or thin cheese cloth, put into twice as much salted boiling water as will cover it, drop in a piece of charcoal to absorb the odor and boil fast until tender. Another excellent precaution against the cabbage smell that accompanies this delicious vegetable is that of placing a small tin of boiling vinegar upon the stove at the same time. One odor seems to neutralize the other. Cook the cauliflower uncovered. When done, remove the netting, lay in a deep dish and pour over it a sauce made of one good tablespoonful of butter rolled in two teaspoonfuls of flour and stirred into a cup of boiling milk. Cook in a double boiler until it thickens and add a little finely shredded parsley.

CELERY:—Wash and separate, laying aside the outer stalks and reserving only the blanched ones for present use. The others are very nice stewed or in soup, but are out of place for eating *au naturel*. Stand or lay the selected pieces in a celery glass or dish and place a few bits of cracked ice about them.

CRANBERRY JELLY:—One quart of cranberries, one teacupful of water, sugar to taste.

Cook the cranberries until tender, stirring often. When they are of the consistency of marmalade, take from the fire. Sweeten and strain *without squeezing* through a jelly bag. Set to form in a mould in a cold place, and turn out just before sending to table.

MINCE PIE—PASTRY:—One pound of flour, one quarter pound of lard, one half pound of butter, one half pint of ice water.

Chop the lard into the sifted flour until it is thoroughly incorporated. Add ice water to make a stiff dough that can be easily managed. Roll out thin with few strokes and dot the sheet thickly with bits of butter. Make into a close roll, flatten it a little on the board, roll out thin and repeat the buttering process. Continue this treatment until the butter is all used, handling the dough as little as possible. Butter the pie plates, fit each with a bottom crust, fill with mince meat and cover the top with strips of paste cut with a jigging iron and laid on in a lattice work pattern. Sift powdered sugar over each pie before sending to table. It is advisable to make the paste an hour or so before it is needed and leave it in the cold for a couple of hours before putting it into the plates.

CIDER MINCE MEAT:—Three pounds of peeled and chopped apples, one pound lean boiled beef, minced fine, one-half pound powdered suet, one pound seeded raisins, half pound sultana raisins, one pound currants. Both these and the sultana raisins must be carefully washed and picked over, the former being passed through three or four waters. One quarter pound shred citron, one tablespoonful cinnamon, one tablespoonful mace, half tablespoonful each of cloves, allspice and salt, one pound and a half sugar, one quart good cider. Make the mince meat several days before it is to be used. Add the cider last of all and set the crock containing the compound in a large kettle of hot water. Bring this to a boil at the side of the stove stirring the mince meat two or three times that it may become heated through. Keep the pot at a steady boil for four or five hours, renewing the hot water as it evaporates, and then let it cool gradually. It is a good plan to cook it in the afternoon and leave it on the range all night. By this means, the temperature is lowered gradually. When it is really cool, cover the crock closely and set it aside in a cold place. By this process, all danger of spoiling is avoided and the mince meat will, if properly prepared, keep all Winter.

Cheese is not only an agreeable accompaniment to mince pie, but is also said to assist in its digestion.

FRUIT.—NUTS:—A dish of apples, oranges, bananas and white grapes, and one of mixed filberts, almonds and pecans, or better still, cracked hickory nuts, walnuts and butternuts make a pleasant *finale* to the Christmas dinner.

COFFEE—Should be very strong, allowing half a pint of really good coffee to a quart of boiling water. It may be drunk black, or with cream, as preferred.

FOR CHRISTMAS PARTIES.

SALADS.

OYSTER SALAD:—One quart of oysters, one small bunch of celery, one raw egg, yolks of two hard boiled eggs, two tablespoonfuls best olive oil, one teaspoonful sugar, one saltspoonful each of pepper, salt, and made mustard, half cupful vinegar. Whip the raw eggs light with the sugar and the oil. Rub the yolks of the boiled eggs to a paste with the salt, pepper and mustard, add the beaten raw egg and oil and beat in the vinegar a few drops at a time. Drain the liquor from the oysters and cut them with a sharp knife into small pieces. Cut the celery into half inch lengths. Chopping bruises it. Put oysters and celery into a salad dish, mix with it half of the dressing and pour the rest over it. Garnish with celery tops and stoned olives.

MAYONNAISE DRESSING:—For a large party, provide at the rate of two eggs to every three persons. Free the yolks carefully from the whites, and set the latter aside to be used in *meringue*, icing, or ice-cream. Beat the oil into the yolks, in the proportion of a tablespoonful to each yolk, putting in at first, only a drop or two at a time. By diligent beating, the dressing will begin to thicken in about ten minutes. After this the oil may be added a little more rapidly, still taking care, however, to mix each addition of oil thoroughly into the egg before pouring in any more. When the dressing becomes so thick that it is difficult to beat, cut it with a little vinegar, and then proceed with the use of the oil. Great judgment must be observed in adding vinegar, as too much thins the dressing and deprives it of that creamy thickness which should be the distinguishing characteristic of mayonnaise. Many prefer to use lemon juice rather than vinegar. At the last add salt and a little red pepper cautiously. This dressing is delicious for nearly all kinds of salad.

CELERY SALAD:—Cut the celery into half inch lengths, moisten with a little vinegar, and pour over it mayonnaise dressing. Serve immediately as it withers soon in the vinegar.

CANNED CHICKEN SALAD:—When fowls are expensive, really good chicken salad may be made from the canned chicken or turkey that comes at fifty cents a box. Cut the chicken into small pieces, with a knife. *Never* chop it. Mix with this an equal quantity of cut celery. Moisten with vinegar, season with pepper and salt and stir into it a dozen olives, stoned and minced fine. Prepare a mayonnaise dressing and about half an hour before needed stir half of it into the salad. Arrange the salad in the dish from which it is to be served in the midst of a nest of lettuce leaves. Pour the remaining dressing over the top and garnish with celery tops and lettuce centres.

SHRIMP SALAD:—This may be made either of the canned or fresh shrimps. If the latter are used, the shells must be cracked and the meat picked out carefully. In either case they must be cut rather fine with a sharp knife. Heap upon crisp lettuce leaves and pour over them a mayonnaise dressing, made according to the receipt given above.

OYSTER CROQUETTES:—One quart small oysters, minced fine, one half pint cream, one large tablespoonful butter rolled in four teaspoonfuls cornstarch, pinch of salt added to the cream, pepper, salt and lemon juice to taste.

Heat the cream and soda to scalding in a double boiler and add the butter and cornstarch. While the sauce cooks stir constantly. When smooth and thick, put in the oysters and seasoning. Do not leave on the fire more than five minutes. Set the mixture aside to cool and when perfectly cold and stiff, form with floured hands into croquettes. Let these stand three or four hours before cooking, in a cool place, that they may be firm. At the last, dip into raw egg and roll in fine cracker crumbs. Fry in boiling fat, drain dry in a colander, and serve, laid on a napkin.

CRULLERS:—Half pound butter, three-quarters of a pound powdered sugar, six eggs, cinnamon and mace to taste, enough flour to make a stiff paste.

Cream butter and sugar, beat the eggs light, whites and yolks separately, and stir all together, add spices and flour. Roll out thin, and cut into fancy shapes. Have plenty of boiling lard ready in a deep frying pan and try it with a piece of the dough. It should rise from the bottom immediately and brown quickly. As each is done take it from the fat with a split spoon and lay it in a colander at the side of the stove. Sprinkle them with powdered sugar while still warm.

BANANA CAKE:—Three tablespoonfuls of butter, two cups of sugar, yolks of five eggs and the whites of three, one cup cold water, three cups prepared flour, one lemon, the grated peel and juice.

Cream the butter and sugar, add the yolks of the eggs, beaten light, the water, lemon juice and rind and last the whites and flour. Bake on jelly cake tins.

Filling:—Slices bananas, one cup of powdered sugar, whites of two eggs, juice and grated rind of a lemon.

Beat the whites and sugar together, and very light. Spread on each layer, and place over it the banana, cut in thin slices, the pieces joining each other closely. Sprinkle each layer with the lemon juice and a little of the grated peel. Ice the top of the cake.

COCOANUT CAKE:—This may be made in the same manner as the banana cake, only omitting the lemon juice altogether and substituting grated cocoanut for the sliced banana.

ICE CREAM:—In these days of many confectioners, it is often easier and cheaper in the city to buy ice cream than to make it. In country towns, however, or in families who have plenty of milk and ice at their disposal, this is not the case. The inexperienced are apt to shrink in dread from such an undertaking, but to those who have tried, it really involves very little more labor than the preparation of elaborate jellies, and is certainly less trouble than the making of really good pies. A freezer is necessary, of course, and there are many patents on the market from which one can choose. If one selects a good one, the work of freezing will not be heavy, provided the ice is broken sufficiently fine and the rock salt is used freely.

MACAROON ICE CREAM:—One quart of cream, one quart of fresh milk, half box of gelatine, four cups of sugar, one tablespoonful vanilla essence, one pound macaroons.

Soak the gelatine for two hours in barely enough water to cover it. Heat a pint of the milk scalding hot, but do not let it boil. Pour over the gelatine and dissolve it and then strain into the cream. Add the rest of the milk, the sugar and flavoring. When about two-thirds frozen, open the freezer and add the whites of the eggs beaten stiff and the macaroons, crushed to a powder with a rolling pin. Freeze solid and turn out.

TUTTI FRUTTI ICE CREAM:—One quart cream, two quarts fresh milk, eight eggs, four cups sugar, half pound mixed crystalized fruits cut very small, quarter pound raisins, stoned and halved, quarter pound of citron, mince fine, half pound almonds, cracked, blanched and minced, half cup sherry wine.

Make a rich custard of the milk, sugar, and yolks of eggs. When perfectly cold, add the cream and freeze partially. When nearly solid, add the whipped whites, the fruit and almonds and the wine. Freeze solid.

This will be found very delicious and not at all difficult to prepare.

QUERIES FOR RECEIPTS.

1. "How to keep raisins from going to the bottom of a cake."

The raisins should be dry, and must be thoroughly dredged with flour before being added to the batter. This must be done the very last thing and the cake then baked.

2. "How to make firm icing that will stay on a cake."

Stir powdered sugar into the white of egg in the proportion of one cupful to each egg. Beat hard as the sugar is added, as the whiteness of the icing depends upon this to a great extent. Add lemon juice for a white, orange juice for a yellow icing. Spread on the cake while fresh and smooth with a broad bladed knife dipped in cold water. Set in a warm place to dry. For icing small cakes it is a good plan to dip each bodily into the icing.

3. "How to make Snow Pudding."

Half box of gelatine, one cup and a half of sugar, juice of one lemon, whites of three eggs.

Soak the gelatine two hours in one cup cold water. Add one pint of boiling water at the end of the time, stir until dissolved, add the sugar and lemon juice. Strain through a thick cloth and set aside in a shallow dish to form. When partially stiff, beat a little at a time into the whites of the eggs, which must have been whipped to a standing froth. Between twenty minutes and half an hour's work with a large Dover egg beater will be required, and twice as much with an ordinary whisk. Pour into a mould wet in cold water and set in a cool place. If desired, a custard may be poured about the pudding when it is turned out.

4. "How to make an old fashioned Indian pudding."

One quart Indian meal, one quart milk, one cup butter, one cup molasses, one teaspoonful salt, one teaspoonful baking soda.

Heat the milk to boiling, and stir into the salted meal, little by little, beating smooth. Add the butter and molasses, mixing thoroughly. Dissolve the soda in a very little boiling water, beat it into the pudding and turn immediately into a buttered mould. Cover closely, set in a pot of boiling water and cook from three to four hours. Turn out and eat hot, with cream and sugar or a good hard sauce.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

WINTER FASHIONS.

Stylish and Serviceable Wraps. Handsome Long Cloaks, Graceful Mantles. Jaunty Jackets. Suitable Costumes for Various Occasions. Fashionable Bonnets and Useful Hats.

BY MRS. JAS. H. LAMBERT.

The new styles in all outside garments for winter wear are particularly attractive, and never before have wraps been created in such a wonderful variety of graceful and becoming shapes, illustrated in so many kinds and weights of materials. For the very cold weather of the winter months, the cloaks are very long, reaching indeed to the lower edge of the dress skirt. Some are half-fitting, some are loose, others are shaped to the figure, and all are made in the heavier weights, and more costly materials, such as plush, velvet, brocade, and the numerous fine cloths. Such cloaks are more or less elaborately trimmed with ornamental sections or applied pieces in bead or jet embroidery, velvet appliques, or figures in silk, surrounded by silk embroidery or braiding.

REDINGOTES AND RAGLANS.

A very elegant garment in black velvet, made to loosely fit the figure, is richly trimmed with a number of shaped ornamental pieces of jet embroidery in fanciful designs, and all the edges of the garment are bordered with a band of handsome black fur. In rich greenish-bronze velvet, one of the newest shaped redingotes is made. It has a plain long bodice to which is attached a plaited skirt, and is trimmed with epaulettes beaded with variously colored bronze beads, with other ornamental pieces to match, and cord brandenburghs in the same colors.

Of plain and frise plush in a superb long wrap trimmed with gold, bronze and colored beaded bands to simulate a jacket over skirt; this garment entirely covers dress from neck to hem, and forms in itself a graceful costume, with the neck and large full sleeves finished with black bear fur. Another specimen cloak, the same length, is made of the new elastic cloth, in an odd shade of dark brown. It is trimmed with a curiously effective design in medieval braiding, in two of the golden brown shades. The Edward III. sleeves show long hanging pouls, with a tassel at each end. Cord in the three shades of brown are carried round the armholes, and the tasselled ends are allowed to fall gracefully at the side. Brown velvet is introduced in Vandyke shape in the back, and gives finish to the odd wrap. For young ladies the latest ulster is of jersey cloth, it is glove-fitting, and tailor made, with small and jaunty coachman's cape, and pretty pockets.

MANTLES AND PELERINES.

The short wraps are by far more dressy than the long cloaks, and when not made of the decorative materials, such as fancy velvets, shaded flower plushes, and elegant brocades or damasks; they are richly trimmed, and often entirely covered with bead, silk, and chenille embroidery. A pretty little pelerine of telephone velvet, has sleeves finished with band of bead embroidery in steel, blue, and red beads, while parts of both back and front portions are embroidered en suite.

A most gorgeous dolman mantle is in a golden brown plush showing flowers in shaded gold over its surface, so that if held in certain lights, exquisite tulips can be seen. The wrap is trimmed with embroidery in beads the colors of the plush and flowers, while the edge finish consists of a curious fringe with chenille ends from which are suspended dainty tulips in the gold and brown shaded beads.

Many of the small mantles in velvet or plush have sling sleeves bordered with a single row of beads; others have short visite sleeves joining the back, which is finished off with a plaited basque, and many have hoods. The collar, sleeves and basque, are ornamented with passementerie enriched with blue, green and gold beads, or with Oriental silks and beads to match.

One of Pingat's visites fits closely into the waist, and has the high dolman arch of its sleeves outlined with massive jet embroidery, and is bordered with a deep fringe of flat jet having an admixture of handsomely carved jet balls. Ornaments and pendants to correspond complete the points ending the front of the mantle, and such ornaments finish the ends of the fur, which is shaped to take the curve of the neck, round which it is clasped with an ornament, and then it assumes the form of a long round boa, which reaches to the edge of the dress.

Gorgeous confections for full dress, and evening, opera or theatre, are in plain and brocaded velvets, and the magnificent plushes with shaded flower effects created in the weaving of the fabric. In one the ground of the plush is cream, while the flowers are in lovely pink and a richer cream color. It is trimmed with chenille fringe in three tints. Another charming mantle in silvery blue, shows flowers in a still lighter shade, with embroidery of pearl, silver and crystal beads, with fringe to match.

STREET AND HOUSE JACKETS.

Jackets are decidedly the wraps for young ladies and misses, and they are quite as popular for those of their elders as have good forms, and are neither too stout nor too slender to be ashamed of their figure. While jackets of velvet or plush are worn, the larger number are in the popular jersey cloths, or in heavier beaver, and other cloths which are lighter or warmer as may be desired for the special weather in which the jacket is to be worn.

As the fashionable jackets are nearly all fitted to the form, the seeming variety is caused by the method of decoration, and the arrangement of the jacket skirt, which is quite as often cut rather deep and round, with plaits in the back to give room for the tournure which gives style to the costume. With many of the suits worn by ladies the outside garment is a jacket made of the material of which the entire suit is composed, while for misses the jacket is of some one of the now fashionable plain, or fancy cloths, in a color that will do to wear with anything, the various browns, garnets, stones, greens and very dark blues, being most fancied.

A jacket novelty in plain cloth opens over a waistcoat of which the top part consists of a yoke of bead embroidered passementerie on faille; the front centre is a very full blouse with several rows of gathers at the top and waist, while the lower part ends in flat basques, enriched with embroidery like the yoke. The edges of the sleeves and the postillon basque are also ornamented with the embroidered passementerie, which is worked with beads in three shades of brown. A matinee jacket to be worn in place of a tea gown is of ruby velvet. It is made with a loose front, is handsomely trimmed with lace, and seems to draw its inspiration from the Louis XIV. coat.

Breakfast jackets are also in favor, and ladies who expect to visit in country houses during the coming holidays will do well to provide themselves with one or more of these pretty affairs, which can be made in cashmere, Henrietta, or any of the all-wool or silk and wool fabrics, in bright and delicate tints. Some of the imported specimens are dainty enough for any occasion. One is in pale blue surah, fitted in the back, and loose in the front, with white lace ruffle. Another is of brocatelle, showing a vine of flowers on a moire ground. It opens over a puffed out plastron of surah, with ribbons tied loosely across. Neck and sleeves are finished with lace.

PRACTICAL TOILETTES.

A very stylish costume which can be easily reproduced by a home dressmaker, is elegant and will be most serviceable, as it is made of velveteen in one of the new and handsome shades of brown. The velveteen skirt, which is just long enough to escape touching the ground, is trimmed round the edge with close, vertical rows of braid, about sixteen inches deep, each one ending at the top under a button in ornamental bronze in the various shades of the metal. The tunic and back drapery are of woolen material with a fancy border, and the right side of the tunic is turned back with a velvet revers striped with braid and buttons. For house wear a perfectly plain bodice of velveteen, closed with buttons covered with the material, is furnished, and in the street this neat bodice is worn under a pelerine or mantle of the velveteen, with sling sleeves, trimmed down the front and under the arm with two bias bands of silk, in a lighter shade of the brown, with bronze buttons where the sleeve is turned under the arm. The short pointed ends are of velveteen, ornamented with short transverse rows of light brown braid, each row terminating under an ornamental button. In the novel back the pelerine is open from the neck, and trimmed on each side with graduated transverse rows of braid, each ending with a button; the velveteen mantle portion underneath the pelerine terminates at the waist, and is ornamented with three bias bands of silk, forming brcteles, each one fastened down at the waist with a bronze button, and ending in two loops, the six loops forming a little postillion basque.

An elegant suit is in blue and gold hair-line cloth, and velvet in the two beautiful colors. This dress can be worn without extra wrap on warm days, and it is something like a redingote in its arrangement. The bodice is of the cloth, and open with large treble revers of velvet, in blue and gold, and is fastened at the waist-line, by one large gold button. This new style of redingote bodice is continued in two wide lapels of the velvet, slanted off and remaining apart in front. At the back there are two plaited lapels of the velvet, and a short drapery of the cloth fastened at the waist line with large buttons. The coat sleeves have wide, square facings of velvet, and the opening of bodice and skirt shows a plaited plastron and skirt front of velvet. The plastron is finished at the neck with a high up-standing collar in blue and gold velvet. This suit has been effectively produced in green with red lines.

PRETTY EVENING GOWNS.

Evening dresses are in a variety of styles, according to the occasion upon which they are to be worn, and the age and style of the prospective wearer. For balls or dances young ladies wear most charming little toilettes of silk and gauze, surah and tulle, with full skirt and cut low waist, or with the shaped neck portion filledin with lace or tulle. Cream Clairette, tinted crape, and the delicate veilings in all evening colors are approved, and soft silks are used in conjunction with the flowered moires and corded silks, in which the grounds are variously colored, and the stripes of flowers or sprays are in natural colors of the blossoms represented. India, China, and Japanese silks are also much used, and dresses of such materials are fancifully finished with loops of ribbon or velvet in contrasting color, or some desirable tone of the same hue. All such dresses are made with short skirt.

For elegant receptions the dresses are of more expensive materials, and generally they are made with train, and are either high neck or cut out, with space filled to suit the fancy, lace, crape, tulle, and embroidered sections being used for such purpose; and the sleeves of which are half long are always met by the handsome gloves, which are worn with such robes.

An æsthetic dress shows a skirt in a silken material, trimmed with half a dozen small plaited flounces. Over this a train, and graceful drapery of a soft Eastern fabric bordered with Oriental colors. Pointed waist of silk with fanciful decorative portions of the soft embroidered texture. Another lovely robe has front of skirt and train in blue and silver velvet brocade, with draperies of a silvery crepe or tissue. Corsage of brocade with finish to match that on skirt. Black velvet, and scarlet and black figured velvet, form a very grand reception toilette for a middle aged lady. The dress or skirt and corsage is elaborately trimmed with ornamental beading in cut jet, and handsome black Chantilly lace, and still another velvet toilette in heliotrope, has draperies of surah in lighter heliotrope tones, and quantities of embroidery in silk and beads in all the heliotrope shades.

[Continued on 11th Page.]

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WINTER FASHIONS.

[*Concluded from Opposite Page.*]

CHOICE MILLINERY NOVELTIES—ODD SHAPES IN BONNETS.

When looking at the untrimmed bonnets in plain or braided felt, in velvet, or in alternating strips of bead embroidery with velvet bands, or the uncovered frames, one would consider the shapes almost the same as those worn last season, but when these skeletons are clothed, and the bonnets trimmed, a decided difference is to be realized; for there is certainly more of a crown, and although the face finish or brim is about the same size as in the past, the formation is changed from the round or oval shape, to a kind of shell, or flower effect, which is odd, and very pretty and becoming.

Such bonnets are trimmed high in front with loops of velvet or ribbon, jet or bead flowers and aigrettes, or with ostrich tips, birds, wings, or made ornaments of the colored feathers of tropical birds, the brilliant plumage of the humming bird, and the impeyan, or the breast of the water duck, with the gorgeous eyes of the peacock feathers. Numerous fancy ornaments in pins with curious heads, in all kinds of metals are used as if to secure the high loops to the hat or bonnet, and many fancy novelties in combs, and in other designs, are stylishly placed alone or with other trimming. Black bonnets are fashionable worn upon any occasion in day or evening, for a suitable black bonnet can appropriately accompany a costume in any color, just as a bright hued bonnet may be worn put on a black dress.

The new colors in ribbons and velvets, used to trim handsome bonnets, are the various shades of green, brown, blue, red, and the purples, with gold and steel, and the bronze shadings. These colors are not only used alone in the different tones, but they are put on together in extreme contrasts, the light shades of one color with the brightest and darkest of another, as dark green with pale pink and cream, and dainty blue with green, red, and purple.

POPULAR HATS.

For walking purposes and daily use, rather plainly trimmed hats of velvet or felt are favored, and the new Derby in black or dark brown felt is very generally accepted by young ladies for practical service. This hat has the Derby crown, and front brim, but the back is cut short. It is sometimes finished with a band of braid, folds of velvet, or a ribbon, to which may be added a wing or a bird, or, if desirable, the new Derby may be trimmed after the more elaborate styles with ostrich plumes and tips, large bows and loops, and fancy ornaments, such as are used to trim hats in plain or fancy felt, or of velvet, in some one of the countless shapes.

An odd but elegant hat in rich blue velvet, has high crown in a new shape, with short brim except at left side, where a deep point is faced with velvet, turned up and secured on crown. The edges of the brim and side piece are finished with blue and gold beads, and the front of the hat is high trimmed with double bows of dark old-gold ribbon, and ornaments in blue and gold beads.

A dark drab felt hat has round brim, turned slightly down in front, and up in the back, is faced with dark blue velvet, and trimmed with loop bow of ribbon in the same shade, and grey ostrich plume, fastened amid the loops, the plume falling over the top of crown, and allowed to hang gracefully down the back.

For information thanks are due James McCreery & Co., New York, Sharpless Brothers, Strawbridge & Clothier, and Lewis S. Cox, Philadelphia.

AN ORIENTAL EMPORIUM.

Most luxurious, and entirely different in character from other mercantile establishments, is the lately opened store of Lewis S. Cox, at 1220 Chestnut St., Philadelphia. The passer by is first attracted by the curious glass front, and the windows filled with choice specimens of imported and domestic garments, in the latest styles and newest materials.

From the entrance hall the visitor is ushered into the handsomely furnished reception room, with brocade covered fauteils and tetes-a-tetes, also writing desk for the convenience of customers. Two fireplaces, inlaid with colored stones, with antique brass andirons, supporting boxes of luminous stones. The tiled floor is partly covered with Turkish carpet and Oriental rugs, an Egyptian chandelabra is suspended in centre of the chamber, and, as in the other rooms or booths, the ceilings here are beautifully frescoed, while the corners of the walls show wood work in mosaic designs.

Tall mirrors all around reflect every beauty, and Oriental tapestries are draped from many archways. The elevator and staircase, in an inside room, are surrounded by burnished brass in Egyptian conceit, and prove exceedingly ornamental, and nothing can exceed the beauty of the whole interior when the various chandelabras are lighted, and the center room beneath the glass dome, or the rotunda is illuminated with its five hundred or more gas jets, each one flashing out the color of the flower shaped globe with which the flame is protected, the various shades of all colors being represented.

The second floor is devoted to the artistic dressmaking, or costume department, and the entire establishment is under the control or judicious management of Mr. C. M. Fay, a gentleman well known in mercantile circles in Boston, New York and Philadelphia. It is said that over $50,000 were expended in artistically decorating and furnishing this magnificent Oriental Palace of Fashion, which is certainly one of the most attractive and unique stores in the world.

CHRISTMAS SUGGESTIONS.

Valuable Hints for Buyers of Holiday Gifts—Answers en masse to Correspondents of the Fashion Department.

In thousands of the happy homes of appreciative readers of our LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, loving hearts are prompting active minds to suggest some token of affection to be created by willing hands for the near-coming holiday season, hence comes the daily question: "Where can we purchase material to make into pretty decorative articles?" while those who are able to give made presents, ask at what stores certain desired articles can be found, or sent for, and it is really wonderful how many times the same question is asked in letters coming from California, Maine, Florida, and indeed from every part of the country.

In some of the entirely reliable stores in Philadelphia and New York, every made up article for dress, single or in outfits, from shoes to hats and bonnets, with underwear, and outside garments, all household goods, fancy goods, and fancy work materials can be procured, as in the house of Sharpless Brothers in this city. At James McCreery & Co.'s N. Y. establishment and that of Strawbridge & Clothier in Philadelphia, all the above mentioned goods can be procured except shoes and bonnets, while the new store of Lewis S. Cox is entirely different in character, and the stock consists of the peculiar lines of elastic or jersey cloths manufactured by that enterprising firm, and such outside ready made garments as handsome dresses, costumes, and wraps for ladies, misses and children, with a complete line of about the handsomest and cheapest suits and overcoats for small boys to be found anywhere.

While these large inclusive stores can fill orders for specialties in dress accessories, we want our advertisers to feel the influence of a word spoken in our good JOURNAL, so from time to time, as we deem best, in answers to actual correspondents, we give the names and addresses of such manufacturers as will supply their exclusive creations to consumers direct.

Two particular articles of the toilette are in general demand, and not a day passes, but what we are asked about corsets and bustles. The kinds we recommend are to be found in stores everywhere, for they are sold in unheard of quantities to the trade, however, for the benefit of friends who write they cannot get the desired articles in the near-by establishments, we give the names and addresses of manufacturers below, in reply to numbers of our correspondents.

"Mrs. C. B. R." of Kansas, and other mothers:—The best bustle for young girls or small ladies who wish a small, light and comfortable bustle, is of braided wire, hence it is cool and healthful. To procure the Cinderilla, as it is called, send 25c. to Weston & Wells, 1017 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa. The same firm will send two health Mikado hair rolls of braided wire for 25c. extra, also large health bustles of braided wire for 50c., 65c. and 75c. each. Weston & Wells are also the inventors of the new hygienic braided wire mattresses and pillows.

"Mrs. S. Haynes," "Effie's Big Sister," and dozens of mothers:—For children or young girls of from five to twelve years of age, you will find the Ferris new waists, with cords, and curious tape-secured buttons for fastening up drawers and skirts, about the best. You can get them in any desired size for 75c. each, from Sharpless Brothers, Phila. For larger girls or misses, Ball's elastic section or spring wire corsets, in white or drab are the best. You can get them for 90c. a pair from Chicago Corset Co., 462 Broadway, N. Y. To gain other information ask to have an illustrated catalogue and price list of elastic section corsets for ladies, sent in the box with misses corsets.

"Mrs. A. J. S.," Sammons Landing, Mich.—Yes, you can get the cloak from Sharpless Brothers by sending correct measures and the exact price you wish to pay. They will send samples of any reasonable priced dress fabric you may write for, and "Dora" can purchase through their mail order department, the velvet she wishes for fancy work at $1.25 a yard, and the plush in any color at $1.50 and $2.00, also silks, chenilles, and other materials.

"Mrs. R. B." of Norristown,—You live too near the city to trust to others to select your wedding outfit. You can surely please yourself better by personally selecting the articles. When you come bring pieces of your satin and brocade, also of cloth, and have your shoes made in late styles, to match your dresses, at the Day Sewed Shoe Manufacturing Co., 23 North Eighth St., Philadelphia, where you will also find a most desirable assortment of fancy slippers for ladies and gentlemen, suitable for Christmas presents.

"Mrs. Louise Talbot," Maine, who wears an extra heavy wrap, will like the unyielding but light bustle of Alaska down, which she can procure by sending 20c. to Alaska Down Co., No. 25, Waverly Place, N. Y.

"Constant Reader."—We sometimes execute commissions for friends, but we prefer to have our readers send direct to houses advertising the articles desired, as that method saves time and trouble.

It is not necessary that you should ever again wear Harsh, Stiff, Bones, or Steels. Ladies who are using Featherbone, in their Dresses, Waists, and Corsets, are delighted to find that it is soft and pliable, yielding readily to all the movements of the body. Featherbone is made from the most elastic substance in nature's Realm, viz.: Quills, and is absolutely Unbreakable, and can not be injured by Perspiration, or Boiling Water. It is made in White and all colors. Many ladies are making their own Waists, and fitting them with White Featherbones. Such waists can be Laundried as often as desired without removing the Featherbone, and are highly prized by ladies who cannot wear Corsets, Invalids, and Misses.

The new **Crochet and Embroidery Material.** Ladies should read all about it. Send 12 cents for copy new work published by J. B. LEESON & Co., 298 Devonshire St., Boston, Mass.

It is mistaken economy to buy a cheap indelible ink as a substitute for the ever reliable Payson's. Quality is more important than quantity. Sold by druggists.

ABOUT THE HEALTH BRAIDED WIRE BUSTLES,
Made only by the WESTON & WELLS M'F'G CO., Philadelphia, Pa.

Dealers who keep the following styles of Bustles are sure to suit every customer, because they are made to conform to all prevailing styles and tastes in dress. They are the lightest, strongest and most pliable bustles made. They yield to the slightest pressure, yet immediately return to their proper shape after the severest usage, and they properly sustain the heaviest drapery, so that the wearers are never mortified by their being crushed or bent into ridiculous shapes. This means a great deal to sensitive ladies who desire to be able to rise, in a car or at church, without that furtive attempt at "re-arrangement," which is so often disagreeably noticed.

Price, 75 cents.
Patented Aug. 25, 1885; Jan. 19, and Feb. 23, 1886.

THE LADY WASHINGTON.

This Bustle is made of plated steel wire of fine quality, braided into a torsion spring, which gives it great strength and elasticity. It can be so arranged by the wearer, that the drapery will hang in narrow or wide folds, or high in the back.

Patented Mar. 22, 1880; Aug. 25, 1881; Aug. 25, 1885, Jan. 19, 1886.

THE HEALTH BRAIDED WIRE BUSTLE, No. 3.

This is the "old reliable." It is perfect fitting; light and durable, made of blue tempered watch-spring steel, and also of fine steel wire plated. Its popularity is shown by its large sale during the past year, being more than twenty times that of any other bustle in the market.

Price, 75 cents.

The same Bustle is made with two rolls (No. 2), a little smaller, and lower in price, 65 cents.

Patented Aug. 25th, 1885.

THE PLATED BRAIDED WIRE BUSTLE, No. A.

This is an elegant Bustle, made in one braid. It is of good medium size, and the best that can be made for the money, 50 cents. It is reversible, making a different style, narrower, by simply turning it inside out.

Patented Aug. 25, 1885.

THE CINDERELLA BUSTLE.

This is something very nice for little misses, or for ladies who do not want the extreme of fashion, and yet like to dress somewhere near as others do. It is a very nice little bustle, just little enough—not too little—made of white wire; very durable, and sells everywhere, at 25 cents.

There are other special styles, but these are the leading ones. They are remodelled frequently from the best shapes adopted in the fashionable world, and ladies wearing them can be sure that while preserving health they are wearing the latest and most tasteful styles.

Price lists sent to the trade on application.

Goods sent on receipt of retail price if you do not find them where you trade.

4 Row Medium Large, $1.00 — Paris High Drapery, 75c. — 5 Row Large $1.25

The WESTON & WELLS M'F'G CO.
1017 Chestnut St., Philada., Pa.
We also manufacture at
64 Church Street, London, England, and
12 Rue L'Echiquier, Paris, France.

STATEN ISLAND FANCY DYEING ESTABLISHMENT.

Barrett Nephews & Co.,

47 N. EIGHTH ST., PHILADELPHIA.
5 AND 7 JOHN ST., NEW YORK.

1199 Broadway and 248 West 125th St., N. Y.
279 Fulton Street, Brooklyn.
43 North Charles Street, Baltimore.

DRESSES CLEANED AND DYED WITHOUT RIPPING.

Goods received and returned by mail and express. Send for Circular and Price List.

DRESSMAKING MADE EASY!

By Using the Celebrated **Wetterhall Self Instructing Actual Measure System,** which is considered to be the simplest and best used. Sample systems $5.00

PERFECT FIT GUARANTEED.

WARE & BROWN, Red Wing, Minn

SEND FOR ILLUSTRATED Catalogue.

Ladies' and Children's Underwear, on Dress Reform and Hygienic principles.

MRS. A. FLETCHER, 6 E. 14th St., New York.

Headquarters FOR LADIES' FANCY WORK

We have been in the FANCY WORK Business for years, and make it a point to keep up with the times. If you are interested in any kind of **Fancy Work** or **Art Painting**, send us your full address, and we will send *free* our **Large Illustrated Catalogue.**

INGALLS' Mammoth $1 Oufit.

This Stamping Outfit contains 125 PERFORATED STAMPING PATTERNS and Alphabet of 26 letters. Designs of *Daisies, Wild Roses, Autumn Leaves, Holly, Morning Glory, Wheat, Scallops, Stripes, Outline Designs, Braiding Patterns, Peaches, Tulips, Oats, Golden Rod, Bird, Rosebud, Cocoanut and Ferns*, etc.

This Outfit also contains *A FELT TIDY* and imported silk to work it. INGALLS' INSTRUCTION BOOK gives instructions for Indelible Stamping. Ingalls' Big Catalogue (a 256-page book), containing Thousands of Illustrations of Stamping Patterns, Box Powder, Pad, Book telling *How to Use Fancy Work Materials*, also samples of *Briggs' Transfer Patterns.* **This Outfit sent by Mail, postpaid for $1.**

Ingalls' New Outfit!!

ALL LARGE PATTERNS! Our customers have often called for a Stamping Outfit containing all large Patterns. To meet this demand, we offer this *New Outfit* containing the following *Perforated Stamping Patterns.* A large branch of OAK LEAVES, size 9x21 inches, used for EMBROIDERY, KENSINGTON or LUSTRA PAINTING. A beautiful spray of *Wild Roses*, 8x15, and a fine cluster of *Pond Lilies*, 8x15, for Table Scarfs, etc. Artistic Designs for *Tidies, Panels, etc.* Clusters of *Daisies*, 8x9; *Golden Rod*, 6x8; *Fuchsias*, 7x9; *Outline Head*, 9x17; Bunch of *Forget-me-Nots*, 7x9; Design for *Tinsel Embroidery*, 5x11; Vine of *Fig Leaves*, 2 1-2x10; Cluster of *Poppies*, 4 1-2x7; *Woodbine*, 4 1-2x9, for *Lustra or Embroidery*; Bouquet of *Roses, Daisies, Pansies, Golden Rod*, and *Ferns*, size 8x11 in. Box Powder, Pad, Ingalls' Instruction Book and Ingalls' Big Catalogue. This Outfit is actually worth over $1.00. We send this Outfit, postpaid, for $1.25. We will send all the Patterns in this **$1.25** Outfit, without Powder, Pad or Books, for **$1.00.**

SPECIAL OFFER!—We will send the INGALLS' MAMMOTH $1.00 OUTFIT, and all the Patterns in this $1.25 Outfit, by Mail, for **$2**

Fancy Work Materials.

25 SKEINS Imported Embroidery Silk, assorted colors, for 15 cts. 25 skeins Imported Floss, assorted colors, for 17 cts. 25 skeins Shaded Embroidery Silk, assorted colors, for 20 cts. A package of Florence Waste Embroidery Silk, assorted colors, for 25 cts. *Silk Shade Cards*, showing 300 shades to select colors from, price 15c. A package of Plush and Velvet Pieces for *Crazy Patchwork* for 30 cts. A package of Ribbon Remnants for 20c.

STAMPED GOODS!

FELT TIDIES, size 14x18 in., 15c. FRINGED LINEN TIDIES, 14c., FRINGED LINEN SPLASHERS, 25c.
Price of FANCY WORK BOOKS greatly reduced.
Address **J. F. INGALLS, Lynn, Mass.**

AUTOMATIC EMBROIDERING MACHINE

The ONLY Self-Adjusting & Self-Stitch Taking Machine in the market. Works rags or yarn, makes Turkish Rugs, Hoods, Mittens, Lap Robes, &c. Will be sent post paid with instructions and terms to agents, on receipt of retail price, $1. Rug Patterns and Yarn in stock. Address Automatic Rug Machine Co., Morenci, Mich. When you write mention this paper. Patented June 30, 1885.

LEWIS S. COX,
1220 Chestnut Street.

TO THE LADIES OF PHILADELPHIA AND THOSE PASSING THROUGH, OR SOJOURNING IN THIS CITY:

We cordially invite you to visit the New Store and to make yourselves at home in it. There is a Reception Room with Writing Desks, and easy chairs, for your convenience. You are at all times welcome and will not be importuned to buy. The Jersey world has its best representation here. You will be more than surprised to see into what a multitude of Garments the simple, plain Jersey of a few years ago has developed. The Jersey Suits, known to but few heretofore, have become very popular. The Cloths out of which they are made are most beautiful in effect and you would never know that they bore any relation to the old Jersey. And, in truth, they don't, except in the Elasticity of the cloths, and consequent comfort in wearing. There are Stripes on Mixed and Plain grounds, and Raised Corded effects. Prices range from $25.00 to $50.00.

The Wraps, Jackets and Newmarkets cover every conceivable variety in Plain and Bourette Cloths and in Plush. Plain Stockinet and Bourette Jackets range in price from $2.75 to $20.00. The Jersey Waist Department exhibits the greatest variety in this line ever before seen together. There are Jerseys in Plain, Bourette, Striped, Corded and Polka Dot cloths. Prices $1.00 to $15.00.

Quite a feature of the business is the Children's Jersey Dresses, Jersey Costumes and Jackets, Jersey Cloaks, in great variety of Cloth, all attractive as to style, durable and comfortable as to wear. Boys' Suits and Overcoats, all made from Stockinet, in Plain and Bourette effects. You won't have your Boy clothed in anything else after once trying these. In our Piece-Goods Department, we sell by the yard all cloths shown in the garments.

We are the largest manufacturers of Stockinet and Jersey Cloth in the world. We make our own Cloths into Garments. Goods not of our own manufacture are our own direct importation. We have dresses from Worth of Paris, and Suits and Wraps of every grade from all the celebrated European makers.

The point we make is, that we, being makers of the Cloth as well as the Garments, can sell at less price than the ordinary retailer. In buying of us, you buy of the maker.

LEWIS S. COX,
1220 Chestnut Street.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

One of the very best plants for winter-blooming in the sitting-room is the Chinese Primrose. The most desirable variety is the double white. The flowers are about the size of a silver quarter, and they are borne in clusters, and as there are many in a cluster, and they are very durable, one stalk of bloom lasts a long time, and when, as is almost always the case with a well-grown specimen during the winter months, there are several stalks on a plant, the effect is very fine. The foliage is fern-like in character, of rich dark green, and spreads out well over the top of the pot, and the flowers are borne above it, and are thus displayed to the best advantage possible. It is what might be called a constant bloomer for six months out of the year, and as it gives its flowers in the winter season its desirability for use in the sitting-room window can be well understood.

It likes a moderately rich soil to grow in, and wants it light with sand or turfy matter. It likes considerable water, but not too much, and the soil should be raised somewhat in the center of the pot and about the crown of the plant in order to enable the water to run off readily; for if it stands about the crown it induces rot. It is not a plant requiring much sunshine, but it likes a good light. It does better in a *moderately* warm room than in a *very* warm one, and though it seems to like a moist atmosphere, it does not like to have water in any quantity come in contact with its leaves. Therefore, when syringing your plants, it is well to remove your Primroses, or to cover them. As the leaves cannot be washed without injury when they become dusty, it is well to cover the plant when sweeping and dusting the room. The flowers should be removed as soon as they begin to fade. If this is not done, seed will form, and after that you will have but few flowers. The only insect that has ever given me any trouble is the green fly, or aphis, and he can be driven off by fumigating the plants with tobacco smoke. Fine plants for winter-blooming can be procured of all florists, as they make a point to grow them in large quantities for fall trade, and as they grow most of them from seed, they are stronger and healthier than those raised from cuttings or divisions of the roots. It is not worth while to try to keep over a plant which has bloomed in the house one season, for another, for it will generally exhaust itself so much as to be weak, and a summer's rest does not give it that strength which it needs in order to do a good winter's work. As it does not have very large roots it will not require large pots, and care must be taken to not over-pot it. Five and six-inch pots will be large enough for well-developed specimens. There are several varieties, both single and double, and you can have them in all shades of red and pink, but the most satisfactory kind is the double white.

CHINESE PRIMROSE.

A FINE NEW PLANT.

The Streptosolon Jamesonii is practically a new plant, though it was brought to England years ago, but, for some reason it did not attract the attention that has been given it of late. It seems to be a near relative of the Browallia, which it resembles very much in leaf, and somewhat in the shape of its flowers. It has a lobed flower of a rich orange yellow, when it first opens; after a day or two, it changes to a shade of red. These flowers are very freely produced on its many branches, and as it is a robust, and at the same time, a very compact grower when not forced too much, the effect of a large plant in full bloom can be imagined. It will grow to a height of three or four feet, and must have some support given it for its branches are slender. It is of the easiest cultivation. Any one who can grow Petunia in the house,—and whoever cannot, grow anything there satisfactorily,—can succeed with this plant. The red spider will attack it as he does the Browallia, if care is not taken to syringe it well all over at least every other day. The green fly does not seem to have any fondness for it, which is one strong point in its favor. It requires a good deal of sunshine to bring out the brightness of its flowers well. I think it will do better in a cool room than in a warm one, but it did very well with me last season in a sitting-room where the air was kept quite as warm as we usually have in our living-rooms, which is, as a general thing, considerably too warm to suit most plants which are not grown in hot-houses.

STREPTOSOLON JAMESONII.

ROCKERIES.

A correspondent asks for some instructions about making rockeries. There are rockeries, and rockeries. One kind is as prim as the old-style "Sacred to the Memory" of somebody picture, while the other kind,—the kind we very seldom see,—has more of a resemblance to the thing we seek to imitate, I take it, when we make a rockery, and that is, a pile of rocks as we come upon them in the fields or woods, with all kinds of wild plants running riot over them, and nothing prim or studied about it,—simply a piece of nature's work, which seems, always, to have been done from an instinct of what was the proper thing to do, without having to stop and plan it. Such a rockery is very difficult to build, because we always do things after a pattern of our own or somebody else' rather than nature's. The most satisfactory specimen of a rockery that I have ever seen was make without any intention of making it. A neighbor concluded to have one in a corner of his garden or yard, and had some stones drawn and thrown over the fence in the haphazard fashion characteristic of men when they unload anything of that sort. When he went to see the material for his rockery, he saw that the stones were piled up in such a careless way as to be very suggestive of the heaps of rocks one sees in the fields, and he very wisely made up his mind that if he undertook to arrange them the effect would be spoiled, and they were according left precisely as they were unloaded. He brought leaf-mold from the woods and worked it in among the crevices in the pile, washing it in well with water, until he was sure that there was soil enough to support and nourish plants. Then he went to the woods and pastures and took up such plants as he knew were fond of growing on rocks, and among them, and these and no other kinds were used. The result was all he could desire. He has a rockery which is the counterpart of many you can find in the fields and pastures in this vicinity, but entirely unlike any you can find in his friends' yards. His rockery "grew," like Topsy, and was not made to order. I would never advise any one with a love for natural effects to attempt to make a satisfactory rockery by building one of small stones and shells for such a one must be artificial, and therefore unsatisfactory. Better use them as edgings to beds, and make your rockery of large stones which cannot be laid up in any cut and-dried fashion, aim to put these into a heap without any plan or pattern in mind, simply to heap them up in a better-skelter way, and when you have done that, work in soil enough to give sustenance to the roots of such plants as you see fit to use there. The fundamental idea of a good rockery is an imitation of nature, and if you set out deliberately to produce a careless, unstudied effect, you will be sure to get something as prim as can well be imagined.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Jennie K roll"—You can get good plants of the Cyclamen of almost any florist, as they are so popular for winter-flowering that florists have found that it pays them to keep them in considerable quantities. You can get fine, large plants of all the best varieties of winter-flowering Carnation of Peter Henderson & Co., 35 Cortland St., N. Y. They make a specialty of growing all the best winter-blooming plants for fall orders, as many prefer to buy plants then rather than take care of them all through the summer.

"Mrs. P. M. M.":—The Bermuda Easter Lilly is all that the florists claim for it, except in one respect. It does not have as many flowers as it has been advertised to have, but when any plant comes as near to "filling the bill" as that, we have no reason to complain. It has enough, for too many flowers on a small plant would rather spoil the best effect of it. I had several pots of this plant last winter, and this season I have ordered a much larger quantity, and intend to plant the bulbs at different times, in order to have a succession of flowers from January to April. They should be potted in a rich soil, the bulb being pressed down into the earth until it is covered. Then water well, and set the pots in the open ground. (This method is for those designed for early flowering. Those for March and April should be potted in December, and be placed in a cellar, as it would not be convenient to get at them if placed out of doors, and the cold weather might injure the bulbs.) Leaves or litter to the depths of at least a foot should be thrown over them. If planted in September or October the pots will be filled with roots by the middle of November, in most cases, and when this is done they are ready to bring into the house. On no account should they be potted and placed at once in the room where you want them to flower, as they have no roots to support a top growth. Develop the roots first, and then the top will have something to support it. The largest size bulbs cost from 50 to 60 cents each, and they will produce strong plants, which will give from three to half a dozen flowers to each stalk, and there will nearly always be two or more stalks from each bulb. When the flower stalks begin to grow, tie them up to a neat stake, or they will be crooked. When the flowers open, move them out of the sun, and they will last much longer.

"Miss. W. R. D.":—You cannot do anything with the Verbena in the house, unless you are one of those persons who can "make anything grow." They would be a great acquisition to our list of house plants if they could be managed, but they can not, and a trial of them would soon convince you of this fact. They are sure to be attacked by the aphis and spider, and they mildew and blight, and are a vexation in all ways. The air of our rooms does not seem to suit them at all. As out-of-door plants in summer, they are unequalled.

"N. L. N.":—"Dodder" is a term in use among florists to indicate a disease which sometimes attacks the Geranium. It is a sort of fungus growth which looks like a thick tuft of leaves trying to grow out along the lower part of the stalks and roots. Break off the bunches.

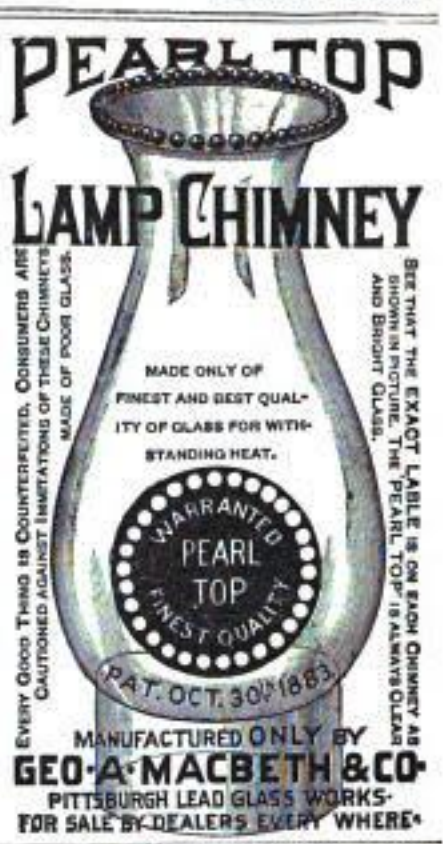
A subscriber has a quantity of poppy seed, gathered from very choice varieties, which she would like to exchange for other seed. Send address to Box 71, Clifton Springs, N. Y. Do not write to me about it as I have nothing to do with any exchanges that may be proposed. All correspondence on these matters should be directly with the party having the seed or plants to be exchanged.

"Mrs. Ada Gist, Letart, W. Va., writes":—"I was recently reading with much interest Mr. Eben Rexford's "Talks about flowers," when, to my surprise, I came upon this paragraph: "Uhlma:—I presume the Begonia you ask about can be grown from cuttings, but I have never tried to grow it in that way, finding it more satisfactory to buy my plants from some florist." "Perhaps Mr. Rexford made a mistake in regard to the name. If not, then it stands to reason that some ambitious person has stolen my name. I have never presumed to write to Mr. Rexford in regard to Begonias, or on any other kind of flowers, or on any subject whatever. I am not interested in Begonias, and seldom cultivate them and most certainly do not care to bother with cuttings." In reply to Mrs. Gist, I would say that no mistake was made. A correspondent using the name of Uhlma asked for information, and she had the same right to the use of that name that she would have had to the use of Mary, Susan, or Edith. Because Mrs. G. has used it does not make it her especial property, and the use of it by the lady who asked the question does not indicate any "ambition" on her part, as Mrs. G. seems to think, beyond the laudible one of wanting to inform herself about a matter of personal interest to herself. I cannot see that any harm has been done, or anybody's rights infringed on.

"Lu.":—The Tuberose can be kept through the winter by putting the bulbs in paper bags of dry bran or sawdust, and storing them in places where there is no danger of their freezing. But I would not advise you to bother with them, as after a bulb has given a crop of flowers it is good for nothing except to raise bulbs from.

They bloom but once with us. Florists offer them at such low figures nowadays, that it is cheaper to buy them than to take care of them through the winter, and if you patronize a reliable dealer, you will be quite sure of getting flowering bulbs each spring.

"Mrs. Ward.":—I think it is better to sow seed of the double Hollyhock every season, and raise young plants for next summer's flowering, than to depend on plants which have blossomed this year. Quite likely you may get some flowers from three-year-old plants, but this strain of Hollyhocks does not seem to be very vigorous, and one season's flowering exhausts them to such an extent that they seldom recover sufficiently to be worth much for another season. By sowing seed each summer, you can have a fresh supply of plants for the following year, and young plants which have been well wintered can be depended on for a good crop of flowers.



JUDSON'S "Indestructible" ENGLISH Marking INK BLACK BALL brand Price 25cts.
No Preparation. No Heat. Absolutely INDELIBLE. Cannot be washed out after it has once dried. A Stretcher goes with each bottle for holding the clothing while marking. Ask your storekeeper for it, or will be sent post paid on receipt of price from Am. Headquarters.
DANL. JUDSON & SON, LD., LONDON,
A. F. Freeman, 46 Murray St., N.Y. MANAGER.

FOR BAKINGS OF ALL KINDS
USE
FLEISCHMANN & Co.'s
UNRIVALED
Compressed Yeast.
SUPPLIED FRESH DAILY TO GROCERS EVERYWHERE.
Special attention is invited to our YELLOW LABEL, which is affixed to every cake of our Yeast and serves to distinguish our goods from worthless imitations.
Fleischmann & Co.'s
Compressed Yeast
is really the only leaven that will enable a cook to make first-class
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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL]

HINTS UPON ETIQUETTE AND GOOD MANNERS.

BY MRS. S. O. JOHNSTON.

NO. X.

How to Write Letters of Business, Friendship, etc.

Letters of business should be written concisely stating your wishes in as few words as can be employed. A letter of a few lines can be read, by a man of business, in a minute, and as quickly comprehended; while one of two or more pages will consume most valuable time, upon which you possess no draft.

Write your letters plainly, with wide spaces between each line. Commence every sentence with a capital letter, also every Christian name, every town, county, state and country, river, lake and mountain.

A well-written letter is as good a pass-port into general society as a good face, and a well-bred, courteous manner.

Upon it, also, depends much of your welfare in life, your settlement in business, and, also, your settlement in married life. Do you think that is too broad a statement?

I have known excellent marriage arrangements broken up by an ill-spelt, badly-written letter. Young women have lost excellent husbands, because their early education had been so neglected that they could neither write or spell decently. And young men have been rejected because they have been deficient in these all-important matters. And not, only young ladies and gentlemen are at fault in letter writing, but even those who have attained high eminence as authors in our land, are also deficient, both in spelling and grammar, and their *MSS.* are obliged to be given to those who possess a better education to be corrected, and revised before they can pass into the hands of the printers.

The pronoun *I* must always be written with a capital, yet there are many who give it no more prominence than a little 'i' in their letter writing, thereby spoiling its effect entirely. The holy word *God* should always be written with the capital letter *G*, also *Lord* and *Jesus Christ*, yet many persons write these supreme names with the little letters, *i*, *l*, *j*, and *c*. It hardly seems possible in this enlightened age, that such mistakes should occur. It would seem as if intuition alone would prompt one to write the capital letter in such instances, but alas! there is no road to learing but that of hard study from childhood unto manhood.

There are four essential rules for writing business letters, viz.: brevity, perspicuity, rigor and discretion.

"Rare old Ben. Johnson," tells us that "Brevity is attained in matter by avoiding idle compliments, prefaces, prostestations, parentheses, superfluous circuit of figures and digressions; in the composition, by writing conjunctions and such like idle particles, that have no business in a serious letter, but breaking of sentences, as oftimes a short journey is made long by unnecessary baits."

Perspicuity is also of the greatest importance in business affairs. Many a prolonged lawsuit has had its origin in an ambiguous word, or a careless phrase, which the writer perfectly understands; but the receiver could give an entirely different meaning to it.

A terse, incisive, compact style of writing is, therefore of great service to business men and women.

LETTERS OF FRIENDSHIP.

The ability to write a good letter, one that will both amuse, interest and instruct our relatives and friends, is one of the great accomplishments of social life, and also one of the greatest boons that education confers upon us. For a well-written letter is a source of great pleasure to its recipient, and nothing can be more acceptable and delightful to an invalid, shut in from social life, than a friendly, gossiping letter, telling all the news of the social circle, and lifting the mind out of the rut of inwardness into which it is so prone to fall.

Write soothing, agreeable letters to your invalid friends, my fair friends, and be sure, that thereby you are doing them a real good, giving them a tonic far superior to those contained in the *Materia Medica*. Many of the great minds of the earth have written directions about letter writing in many languages. *Erasmus*, the learned Dutchman wrote a treatise in Latin named *De Epistola Conscribenda*, or "*Concerning the Art of Letter-Writing*." Dr Johnson in "*The Rambler*" printed an admirable article upon this subject, which we recommend our readers to persue.

Burke and Howell's "*Letters*" are well worthy of consultation, as they were both eminent letter writers in their day. While "*Mad. de Sevigne Letters*" are always delightful reading both for young and old age.

Letter writing however should not be a formal, constrained task, with a desire for effect running through the pages.

Write exactly as you talk. When you spread out a sheet of paper, and take your pen up, ready to dip into the ink, think what you would say to your friend, if he or she sat beside you, and write it down as though you were talking, for a friendly letter should always be a transcript of the writer's feelings. Write easily just what springs up freshly in your mind. Write naturally, just as you think, and your letter will give pleasure. Howell, the ancient letter writer gives this advice to his readers,—"We should write as we speak, and that's a true familiar letter, which expresseth men's mind as if he were discoursing with the party to whom he writes in succinct and short terms."

If you are thinking more of yourself than of your friends, more of your mode of expression, than of your love for them, there cannot fail to be an air of constraint conveyed with the written words which you may not perceive. Write from the heart, heartily, and your letters will always convey the love you feel, the great interest you take in your friends and their surroundings. If you relate incidents, write them as though you were talking, giving to them verve and life.

"*Horace Walpole's Letters*" is an excellent book for those to read, who desire to possess a good style in letter writing. Also those of the English poets, Cowper, and Gray. These letters sparkle with wit, epigram, and sagacious commentaries upon the times in which they live.

It has been said that there are five important qualities needful for writing a good letter, viz.: "fluency, ease, simplicity, liveliness, and grace."

"Some of these qualities are hereditary possessions, and cannot be acquired by study," you will say, yet the old couplet runs thus:—

"True ease in writing comes from art, not chance,
As those move easiest who have learned to dance."

So practice and experience may be relied upon in perfecting the art of letter writing, as in all the other arts and accomplishments of life.

Don't fill up your letters to relatives and friends with exhortations and advice. None of us like to be preached a . Although parents must be allowed to give "*precept upon precept*" to their children, yet they should sandwich their advice with a little pleasant information, and a great deal of love, love from the heart, as well as exhortations from the mind is an essential for the well-being of absent children, be they young or old, single or married.

Serious, didectic letters are thrown into the waste basket, or the fire, as soon as read, while those that exhale love from every word may be treasured for a life time.

If you love deeply, you will write naturally, and you will not fall into an affected style of letter writing which may present to the acute reader, a different version between the lines, perhaps a truer one than your words express. Letter writing is a subtle art, and the mind-reader can tell of curious developements in the letters of his friends, as they come to him without the grace of a voice, or the laugh that would turn their phrases into a joke. And sometimes a whole family have been made uncomfortable by a bit of pleasantry, written by a son, which the cold bare words failed to convey, without the laugh that would have pointed the jest.

ANSWERING LETTERS.

As a rule letters of friendship and relationship should receive a prompt reply to it as soon as possible. An absent son or daughter cannot comprehend how much the loving mother depends upon their letters for her weekly comfort, and when two or more weeks have elapsed without any reply, how despondent she becomes, and what a heavy heart she carries about with her! While if a letter had come weekly or bi-weekly how happy she would be!

Home-letter-writing should be a part of a man and woman's weekly work and should no more be left undone, than any other necessary labor.

It does not take more than half an hour to write a letter of four pages or more and no time can be better spent.

If you are in the habit of neglecting yours correspondents, let us beg of you to conquer that habit at once, else it may prove of great discomfort, if not sorrow, to you, as :—

"Habits are soon assumed; but when we strive
To strip them, 'tis like being flayed alive."

It is as ill-bred not to answer a letter within a week, which demands a prompt reply. As it is to hand a person opens by taking hold of its bowl.

Of course, there are letters to which an immediate answer is not expected, letters which pass between friends, only at stated occasions, such as anniversaries, holidays, etc., but business letters and home letters should receive attention, if possible, by next mail. Strict etiquette demands it.

***

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Maud Leslie asks"—"Is it proper for a lady to accept a present of any great value from a gentlemac acquaintance, or merely a friend?"

Ans. It depends altogether upon the circumstances attending its presentation. As a general rule, young women cannot be too particular in accepting gifts from young men, for it places them under obligations which right-minded young women do not like to incur. If you do not desire an intimate relation with young men, refuse all gifts, and if you do desire it, be very chary of accepting gifts of much value from any one but a declared lover.

"Mabel asks:"—1st. If a gentleman wishes to call upon a lady, must he ask permission to do so or must he wait until the lady invites him to call? 2nd. A misunderstanding has arisen between a young gentleman friend and myself, and I hear he thinks I have "snubbed" him, and he evidently avoids me. How can I make known to him his mistake? Is it always a woman's place to be silent?"

Ans. 1st. A gentleman who wishes to call upon a lady, he does not know, ask a mutual friend to ask permission to bring him to her house. It is the place, however, of the lady of the house and the mother or perhaps the aunt, to invite young men to call, rather than that of her daughters or nieces, yet it is no breach of etiquette to say to a young man, who escorts you home, "come and see us some evening," as many young men are bashful and require an invitation to call.

2nd If a young man thinks he has been "snubbed" he is apt to be rather grouty about it. If you were "quite good friends" previously, you could show him that he misunderstood you by inviting him to dinner, or tea, with other friends, and when the opportunity occurs, say pleasantly, "Have you not misjudged me somewhat?" and then explain the situation. No! women should not always be silent and allow young men to believe them to be guilty of unladylike behavior.

"Hattie":—If you desire to return in a courteous manner the attention shown you by the "newly married couple" you will call in person. If you do not desire their adquaintance you will take no notice of them, but to send your card to them through the mail would be a discourteous return for the cards they sent you.

"Mrs. L. S. Packard asks:—"Is there any law in regard to a married lady's calling cards. For example. John E. Jones marries Mary A. Smith would it be correct to write Mrs. Mary A. Jones, or would that indicate that she is a widow?"

Married ladies visiting cards are always engraved with the husband's name or initals thus—"Mrs. John E. Jones." A widow can use her own name or her husband's upon her cards, but she usally prefers the latter.

"Edith." writes:—Kindly inform me upon which finger an engagement ring should be worn?"

Ans. It is the custom now to wear an engagement ring upon the third finger of the left hand, through which it is said, a vein runs connected with the heart, hence its use. Then when the wedding ring is placed upon the finger, the engagement ring answers for a guard for it.

"Mrs. H. R. L.":—A lady always furnishes the linen and silver for her house when she marries. And if it is desirable she, also, furnishes all the house in a manner according to her means. Her parents always provide the wedding cards. The bridegroom, if his circumstances permit, can pay his groomsmen's expenses to his wedding, but it is not obligatory. It would be impossible to send you a list of the articles a bride is expected to furnish for her house, and also, for a full dress wedding, as they vary greatly according to her position in life.

Answers to questions are not replied to by mail, but through this column. If answers are not given, it is the fault of the mail-bags, rather than of "THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL."

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A YOUNG WOMAN'S RIGHTS.

LECTURE I.—PART II.

BY REV. P. B. CLARK, BOSTON.

One whose name is a household word in two Continents by reason of her labors in the Temperance cause writes as follows: "The point that most needs strengthening in a young woman's character is a noble, cheery, helpful spirit of *self-help*. The individualism of Christ's Gospel needs development and application among our girls, and will enable them to save themselves and the Republic." Another, also well-known, and well-loved wherever known, writes: "Self reliance is a point of character to be emphasized. Marriage is the natural end in some cases the desirable and blessed ultimate; but I take it that the girls best qualified to enter this holy estate and hourly meet its duties and responsibilities are those for whom marriage was not the *one* aim of existence—who had a life to live outside of this—a plan of life it may be, at all events an earnest purpose." Another, whose daily life influences for good each day many young women, writes: "One way to strengthen character in young women, I think, is to make them realize that life is real and that *they have a niche* to fill somewhere, and that it is their business to be faithful in the performance of every little duty as it comes to them. Many a house would be in deep distress if the daughter who *thinks* she does nothing, but who fills in all the little insignificant places was taken from it."

How true that is, but such a daughter is never a parasite; however gentle and clinging and unobtrusive she is, she is a fruitful vine, with a root of her own.

"What I think needs strengthening in the young women" writes another is "Decision of character. A strong determination to please God, to know the right and to do it, regardless of the opinion of the world." "It sometimes seems to me," are the wise words of another, "that we are bringing up a set of intellectual babies if I may use such an expression—utterly without self reliance—unable to think for themselves or depend upon themselves. Life is made too easy—too smooth sailing, when the time of decision comes, the girls are frightened or indifferent and continue to do the easiest thing, to drift with the current."

We must revolutionize our whole notions that a young woman has nothing to do but to angle for and catch a husband. Fishing is good for a recreation, but it is not well for too many to take it up as the serious and only business of life. There is much poetry surrounding the rippling trout-stream on the summer morning, with the whispering woods and glimpses of blue sky overhead, and the romantic vistas of forest before and behind, but I imagine that the poor fellows on the Grand Banks who do nothing but fish for a living, find it dreary and often hopeless and unproductive toil. I am very sure that young women who have no resources within themselves, no independence of character and no other means of employment except fishing for a husband, in the whirlpool of society, must often be miserable and heartbroken. If they make this their sole business in life, too, they do not often succeed very well but while hoping to book a Leviathan they often catch a gudgeon or a very small sprat.

Timothy Titcomb has some wise advice on this point.

Says he: "Were I as rich as Cœsus my girls should have something to do regularly, just as soon as they should become old enough to do anything * * * * A woman helpless from any other cause than sickness is essentially a nuisance. There is nothing womanly and lady like in helplessness. * * * Young woman the glory of your life is to do something and be something. If you have the slightest desire to be loved; if you would be admired, respected, revered; if you would have all sweet, human sympathies clustering around you, while you live, and the tears of a multitude of friends shed upon your grave when you die, you must be a working woman—living and working for others and building up for yourself a character, strong symmetrical beautiful." Thus you will show the world the trueloveliness of woman's nature. Thus you will,

"Show us how divine a thing,
A woman may be made."

"Each young lady has a specialty" writes one of your friends.

"What is it?" You think at once of painting, music, embroidery or some of those nameless and wonderful things that are done with worsted and plenty of time. These things are well enough in their way, if there is talent and time for them, at your disposal, but there is one specialty in which you all have the right to indulge.—Nature fitted you for this specialty, God designed you for it, your own souls will never be satisfied unless you show the loveliness and divinely modest self forgetfulness of a true woman's nature.

"You can lighten your father's burdens" it has been well said. "You can restrain your brothers from vicious society. You can relieve your failing and faded mother of much care. You can gather the ragged and ignorant children at your knee and teach them something of a better life than they have seen. You can become angels of light and goodness to many stricken hearts. You can read to the aged. You can do so many things that will be changed to blessings upon your own soul. Florence Nightingale did her work in her own place; do your work in yours, and your Father who seeth in secret shall reward you openly."

And this leads me to say that your highest right and privilege is to show the world the supreme beauty of a Christian womanhood. This right ennobles and in a sense includes all others. You have a God-given right to be yourself but let it be a Christian individuality that you cultivate, or it will degenerate into freakishness and perverseness. You have a right to be independent and self reliant but let this independence be tempered with a loving dependence on the Son of God, or else this self reliance will become an unmaidenly manishness.

Many of your best friends send you such messages as these: "Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you." We all have in ourselves with the blessing of God to build up a true Christian womanhood.

"The safeguard that includes all the rest and is the essential of true noble womanhood is an earnest, humble, devoted Christian life; without this one can do nothing."

Says a distinguished author who has already spoken to you in this article:

"For my part I shrink with horror from a Godless woman. There seems to be no light in her—no glory proceeding from her. There is something monstrous about her. She is an unreasonable woman. She is an offensive woman. Even an utterly Godless man, unless he be debauched and debased to the position of an animal, deems such a woman without excuse. He looks on her with suspicion. He would not have such a one take care of his children. He would not trust her * * * * * It is a sad, sad thought to any son or daughter that his or her mother was not a woman of piety. The boy that feels that his name is mentioned in a good mother's prayers is comparatively safe from vice and the ruin to which it leads. The sweetest thought that N. P. Willis ever penned grew out of a reference to his pious mother's prayers for him. Tossed by the waves, in a vessel which was bearing him homeward he wrote:

"Sleep safe, O wave-worn mariner
Nor fear to-night, nor storm nor sea!
The ear of Heaven bends low to her
He comes to shore who sails with me."

For a moment before I close this subject let me call your attention to the fact that your highest right, young woman, is also your highest privilege. To you more than to any one class is committed the future of the Kingdom of God.

Our churches are made up of women in the proportion of three to one. Many of these are young women. Each one has not only her own influence to exert but very largely decides what the life of some father, brother, son or lover shall be; whether it shall be a Godly or Godless life.

Your highest right to show the beauty of Christliness is also your highest privilege and heaviest responsibility. By you and such as you the Kingdom of God may be established in all the land and for all time. Here is an old story but it is full of point.

"In a newly settled region of our land some men were raising the heavy framework of a mill. The united strength of all the men in the community was called into action. They raised the heavy frame work part way but could get it no further. Their utmost exertion could not raise it another inch. They could not let go or it would crush them. Their failing strength could not hold it where it was much longer. In their extremity a messenger was sent for the women of the little village. In urgent haste they flocked to the scene. A little stream flowed between them and the mill. 'Don't mind the water, come and help us!' cried the fathers and brothers. They dashed through the stream, they stood beside the men, they lifted with all their might, and the timbers rose upright and fitted into their place, and all were safe."

I believe this little story is prophetic. The Temple of Kingdom of God is being raised, but all must lend a willing hand inspired by a loving heart. The women are grandly coming to the front,—in Temperance effort, in church life, in Sunday school work, and above all by the uplifting influences of a lovely, chaste, Christian example the building is being raised and the capstone will surely be laid in God's good time.

Have you a part in this good work? Are you lending your heart and word and influence to the cause of Christ, for God and home and native land?

To do this is a young woman's noblest right.

Restoration of Hearing.

Do you hear well? If not it will be interesting to read what several patients have to say of how their hearing was improved:

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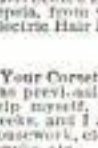

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Most Wonderful *Musical Instrument the world has ever seen.* Plays Hymn Tunes, Popular Airs, Quadrilles, Polkas, Waltzes, Reels, and Hornpipes, with a charmness, accuracy, and degree of execution which but few performers can equal. **A mere child can play it.** The MELODISTA, with its automatic music sheets, represents both organ and organist, music and musician, and so is adapted for Singing and Dancing Parties, and Evening Entertainments. Simply turning the little crank feeds the music strips, blows the bellows, and produces the music. The most exquisite trills are as easily produced as a single note, and the most difficult and complicated operatic air is played as perfectly as a simple hymn; and the music produced is as melodious and sweet as a cabinet organ. It has Two *Stops*, and *powerful organs* reeds that will last a lifetime. It is made as well as a first-class cabinet organ, and not like the rude instruments heretofore offered for sale.

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For Sunday Schools it will play all the sacred music, and as many verses as desired, without stopping to replace the music strip. *This great advantage no other instrument has.* It also has a TREMULO STOP which can be played loud or soft (like the rippling of water its music fills upon the ear in enchanting beauty, and echoes in the memory long after the magic thrill is hushed). 1000 popular tunes are ready; the music costs but a few cents per tune, and lasts for years. A selection of music goes free with each one. The MELODISTA is the handsomest, sweetest, and most interesting musical instrument yet produced, and will repay its cost in genuine enjoyment a hundred fold.

Price $10. Our object is to have it introduced without delay, so as to sell thousands at the regular price, and to this end I am willing to offer **First One at $5**, as every one sold sells others. We ask in return that you show the instrument to your friends, who are sure to order at the regular price. The instrument speaks for itself—it sings its own praises.

Read what the great papers say!—

"The music produced is superb, thrilling, sweet, and pure, and challenges comparison without any instrument ever manufactured at four times the price."—*Boston Herald.*

"The Melodista is indeed a musical wonder." *Montreal Gazette.*

"H. R. H. Princess Beatrice has purchased one of these wonderful instruments."—*Ill. London News.*

"The most perfect musical instrument yet invented."—*The Star.*

"The Melodista is certainly a Musical Wonder; there is nothing compared it cannot play, and the low price at which it is sold should fill every house in the land with the harmony of sweet sounds."—*New York Tribune.*

Satisfaction Guaranteed or Money Refunded.

SPECIAL THIRTY DAY OFFER. To introduce our $10 Melodista Organ AT ONCE, we will, on receipt of this advertisement and $5 within 30 days, box and ship the Organ, exactly the same as we sell for $10. You should order immediately, and in no case later than 30 days from the time you receive this paper. If you do not wish the instrument, you should avail yourself of this great offer AT ONCE, even if you are obliged to borrow the money, as you can easily sell the Organ and realize a good profit. No such offer was ever made or will be again. Take advantage of it while the opportunity is yours. OUR PROFIT must come from future sales. OUR CONFIDENCE in its Genuine Merits is so great, that we believe when one is introduced in a town or village it will sell a dozen or more at regular price. We desire to make each purchaser our agent. If you can help us to introduce them to your friends we shall esteem it a great favor. Enclose $5 with this notice, and we will ship the MELODISTA ORGAN, in elegant Piano-Polished Case, richly ornamented in gold, at once. Address, C. H. W. BATES & CO., 106 Sudbury St., Boston, Mass.

10,000 AGENTS WANTED!

DR. SCOTT'S ELECTRIC CORSETS AND BELTS.

Corsets, $1.00, $1.50, $2.00, $3.00. Belts, $3.00. Nursing Corset, Price, $1.50. Abdominal Corset, Price, $3.00.

Probably, never since the invention of Corsets, has so large a demand been created as now exists for Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets and Belts. Over three thousand families in the City of New York alone are now wearing them daily. Every Man and Woman, well or ill, should daily wear either the Corset or Belt.

OUR CORSETS ARE DOUBLE STITCHED AND WILL NOT RIP.

If you have *any* pain, ache, or ill-feeling from any cause, if you seem "pretty well," yet lack energy and do not "feel up to the mark," if you suffer from disease, we beg you to at once try these remarkable curatives. They cannot and do not injure like medicine. Always doing good, never harm. There is no shock or sensation felt in wearing them. There is no waiting a long time for results; electro-magnetism acts quickly; generally the first week, more frequently the first day, and often even during the first hour they are worn, their wonderful curative powers are felt. *Every mail brings us testimonials like the following:*

The mind becomes active, the nerves and sluggish circulation are stimulated, and all the old-time health and good feeling comes back. They are constructed on scientific principles, imparting an exhilarating, health-giving current to the whole system. Professional men assert that there is hardly a disease which Electricity or Magnetism may not benefit or cure, and they daily practise the same, as your own physician will inform you.

THE CELEBRATED DR. W. A. HAMMOND, of New York, formerly Surgeon-General of the U. S. Army, lately lectured upon this subject, and advised all medical men to make trial of these agencies, describing at the same time most remarkable cures he had made, even in cases which would seem hopeless.

The Corsets do not differ in appearance from those usually worn; we substitute our flat steel magnets in place of the ordinary corset steels. These Corsets are nearly all equally charged, differing chiefly in quality and design. They are elegant in shape and finish, made after the best French pattern, and warranted satisfactory in every respect. Our Belts for both gents and ladies are the genuine Dr. Scott's, and are reliable.

The prices are as follows: $1, $1.50, $2 and $3 for the Corsets and $3 each for the Belts. The accompanying cut represents our $3 Abdominal Sateen Corset. We have also a beautiful French shaped sateen Corset at $2 and a short sateen Corset at $2. The $1 and $1.50 goods are made of fine Jean, elegant in shape, strong and durable. Nursing Corset, $1.50; Misses, 75c. All are double stitched. Gent's and Ladies' Belts, $3 each; Ladies' Abdominal Supporter, an invaluable article, $12. We make all these Corsets in drab and white only. They are sent out in a handsome box, accompanied by a silver-plated compass, by which the Electro-Magnetic influence can be tested. We will send either kind to any address, post-paid, on receipt of price, with 30 cents added for packing and registration, and we guarantee safe delivery into your hands. Remit in Post-office Money-order, Draft, Check, or in Currency by Registered Letter at our risk. In ordering kindly mention JOURNAL, and state exact size of corset usually worn. Make all remittances payable to GEO. A. SCOTT, 842 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

N. B.—Each article is stamped with the English coat-of-arms, and the name of the Proprietors, THE PALL MALL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION.

NEWARK, N. Y. Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets have entirely cured me of muscular rheumatism, and also of a severe case of headache. MRS. L. C. SPENCER.

Hollis Centre, Me. I suffered severely from back trouble for years, and found no relief till I wore Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets. They cured me, and I would not be without them. MRS. H. D. BENSON.

Memphis, Tennessee. Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets have given me much relief. I suffered four years with bowel trouble, without finding any benefit from other remedies. They are invaluable. MRS. JAS. CAMPBELL.

De Witt, N. Y. I have an invalid sister who had not been dressed for a year. She has worn Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets for two weeks, and is now able to be dressed and sit up most of the time. MELVA J. DOE.

Chambersburg, Pa. I found Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets possessed miraculous power in stimulating and invigorating my enfeebled body, and the Hair Brush had a magic effect on my scalp. MRS. T. E. SNYDER, Fancy Goods Dealer.

South Abington, Mass. Dr. Scott—My sister and I are very much pleased with your Electric Corsets. They have given us great satisfaction. For weak stomach and nervousness they are unexcelled. I have felt uncommonly well since wearing them, and can confidently recommend them. FLORA E. COLE.

Niles, Mich. Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets have cured me of acute dyspepsia, from which I had suffered for eight years. His Electric Hair Brush cures my headache every time. MRS. WM. H. PEAK.

Princeton, Minn. Your Corsets have accomplished wonders in my case. I was previously thoroughly incapacitated, and could not help myself. I have worn your Corsets now for two weeks, and I am able to be up and around helping to do housework, etc. My friends are astonished. With many thanks, etc. JULIA J. MCFARLAND.

Streator, Ills. Dr. Scott—Your Electric Corsets are beautiful in appearance, wonderful in effect, and elegant in fit and finish. M. J. BURGER.

221 Henrietta St., Philadelphia, Pa. Dr. Scott—Your Corset has cured me of rheumatism of and around the kidneys. W. H. URSOHN.

Dr. Scott's Electric Hair Brushes, $1.00, $1.50, $2.00, $2.50, $3.00; Flesh Brushes, $3.00; Dr. Scott's Electric Tooth Brushes, 50 cents; Insoles, 50 cents; CHEST PROTECTOR, $5.00; ELECTRIC HAIR CURLER, 50 cents; LUNG AND NERVE INVIGORATORS, $5 & $10.

The Dry Goods Trade supplied by H. B. CLAFLIN & CO., New York, Sole Wholesale Agents. Remittances for single articles and applications for Canvassing Agents' Terms must be made ONLY to GEO. A. SCOTT, 842 Broadway, New York.

A GREAT SUCCESS A Good, Live Canvassing Agent WANTED in your town for these splendidly advertised and best selling goods in the market. LIBERAL PAY, QUICK SALES. Satisfaction guaranteed. Apply at once. GEO. A. SCOTT, 842 Broadway, N. Y.

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☞ Order early and have ample time to work your Christmas presents!

Our New 1887 Stamping Outfit.

100 CHOICE PATTERNS. **$1.25** PREPAID BY MAIL.

GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 6 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS EACH; Or given for only 4 Subscribers and 25 Cents extra; or given for only 2 Subscribers and 50 Cents extra.

☞ This Complete Outfit and One Year's Subscription to the Journal, Both for only $1.25.

WE WILL CHEERFULLY REFUND THE MONEY AND GIVE OUR PAPER ONE YEAR FREE! TO ANY ONE WHO IS IN THE LEAST DISSATISFIED WITH ONE OF OUR OUTFITS.

Description of a Few of the Patterns.

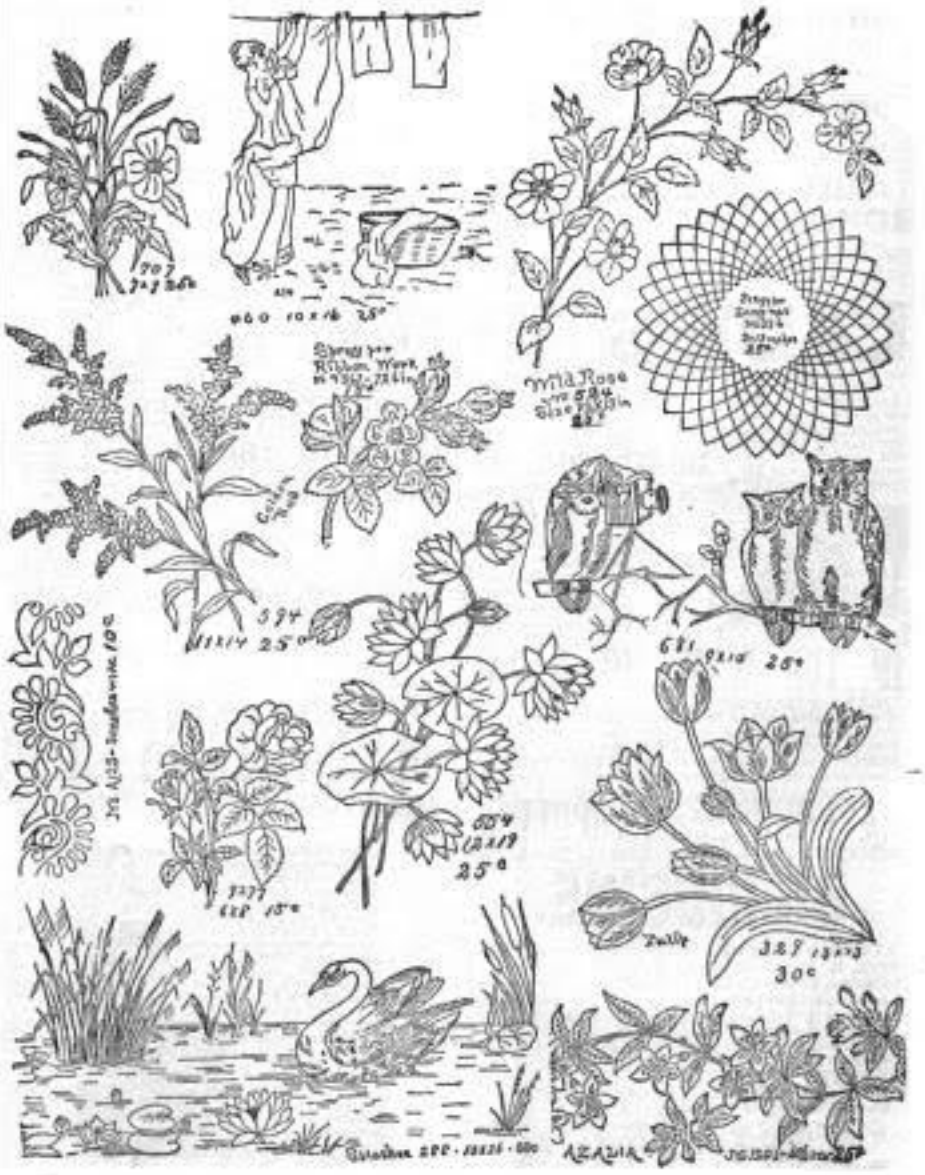
One set of initials for towels, hat ribbons, etc., worth 50c.
Two outlines for tidies, 25c. each.
One design for tinsel embroidery, 5 inches wide, for end of table scarf, 25c.
One tidy design for ribbon work, 20c.
One large clover design, 7x11, 25c.
One large thistle, 6x7, for Kensington painting, 25c.
One stork and one large butterfly, for lustre painting, 25c.
One pansy design for ladies bag, 10c.
One design for thermometer case, 20c.
One elegant spray of golden rod, 6x11, 25c.
One Martha Washington geranium for plush petals, 6x10, 25c.
One half wreath for hat crown, 15c.
One design for top of umbrella case, 15c.
One spider's web, and one new disk pattern, 25c.
One tidy design, owl's on a tree, 25c.
One vine of daises and ferns, for end of table scarf, 15c.
One wide braiding pattern, 25c. One large bunch of daises, 25c.

75 more other designs of roses, clematis, autumn leaves, outline designs, etc. *Besides* the patterns the outfit contains: One box black and one box white powder, two distributors, illustrated instruction book, teaching stamping all the stitches, etc., one tidy, all stamped and ready to be worked, with silk to work it.

Besides all the above, we shall continue to give away with each outfit, our book on KNITTING AND CROCHETING, giving instructions for knitting all the latest novelties. Our book on FANCY BRAID AND CROCHET, giving directions for making edgings of feather-edge and other braids.

NEW STAMPING OUTFIT NO. 2

All Large Patterns.



We have had so many thousand enquiries for patterns larger than those in the outfit we have been offering as a premium, that we have had a new outfit prepared, which we illustrate above. It will be noticed that the size and price are given with each pattern. They cannot be bought of any pattern maker for less than the prices given, so that the patterns bought separately would cost $3.30. The patterns are all popular designs adapted for the most popular kinds of Fancy work now in use. Nos. 524, 9867 and 9277 are beautiful designs for Kensington or Ribbon Embroidery, Nos. 554, 329 and 594 for Arrasene or Chenille, 554, 329, 1391 and A 123 for outline in silk or tinsel.

We will give this set of patterns complete with Powder Pad and instruction book for six new subscribers or we will give it with the L. H. J. 1 year for $1.25, we will give any 2 single 20c.-patterns for 2 new subscribers, or any 50c. worth for 2 new subscribers.

These Patterns can be used for thousands of uses besides those mentioned above, and with our regular No 1 outfit will make a better assortment of patterns than can be found in many stores.

☞ WE WILL GIVE BOTH OF OUR STAMPING OUTFITS, NOS. 1 and 2, FOR ONLY 10 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS PER YEAR EACH; or, for only 8 subscribers and 25 cts. extra; or, for only 6 subscribers and 50 cents extra: or, for only 4 subscribers and 75 cents extra.

Ruffled and Tucked Pillow Shams,

MADE OF FINE LONSDALE COTTON, SIZE, 36x36.

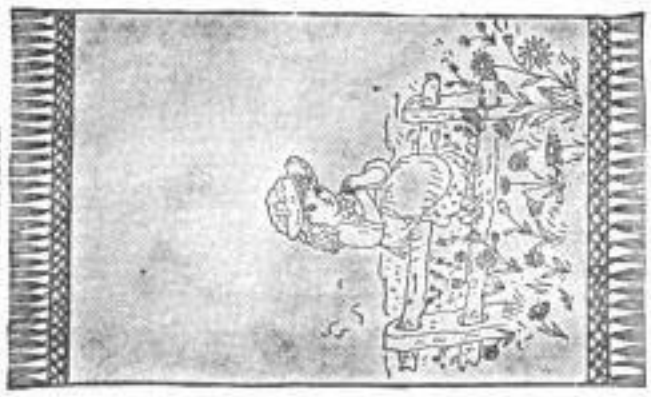
A Pair of these Pillow Shams given for a Club of only 12 Subscribers at 50 Cents each per year; or for only 8 Subscribers and 50 Cents extra, or for only 4 Subscribers and 75 Cents extra.

These Shams, besides being ruffled and tucked ready to be used, may be stamped with large Initial in the center, or with the accompanying beautiful designs: "Good Night" and "Good Morning." We will stamp these designs or, a large Initial on a pair of these shams described above, and send them to you for a club of 12 subscribers. Or we will send you a pair of plain Shams, 1 yard square, stamped ready to be worked but not finished, for only 4 Subscribers.

To those who wish to do their own stamping, we will send the Perforated Patterns: "Good Night" and "Good Morning," for 5 subscribers or 70 cents.

LINEN TIDIES, NO. 9.

Given for a Club of only 3 Subscribers at 50 Cents each; or for only 2 subscribers and 50 Cents extra.



These linen Tidies are a better quality than we have ever offered before. They are made of fine linen Crepe or Mosaic cloth, 15x18 inches in size, fringed on all four sides with heavy fringe two inches deep, and stamped as desired. We bought several cases of these tidies direct from the importing house, and procured them at a wonderful bargain. They are sold at the stores at 50c. to 75c. each, we will give you one of them if you will procure only 3 subscribers.

TIDY NO. 10 is the same as No. 9, but has a row of Drawn work on all sides. We will give you this tidy all stamped, for only 4 subscribers.

DAMASK TRAY CLOTHS.

GIVEN FOR ONLY 6 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS EACH PER YEAR, OR GIVEN FOR ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBERS AND 25 CENTS EXTRA IN CASH OR STAMPS.

These are designed to be placed on the tabel in front of the hostess, and is to be embroidered on the corners or ends. We will send one of these Tray Cloths of fine linen damask, with cup and saucer, sugar bowl, creamer, and teapot stamped in each corner. Given for a club of 6 subscribers, or 75 cents.

Corner's Cloths to match, stamped with knife and fork, dishes, &c. We will send at same price.

The editor of the JOURNAL particularly recommends the Tray Cloths as one of the best premiums we have ever offered. They are very fine and please our subscribers as well as anything we have for premiums.

DAMASK DOILY.

GIVEN FOR ONLY 8 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS PER YEAR EACH, OR FOR ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBERS AND 50 CENTS EXTRA.

Designed to match the tray cloths. These come stamped with beautiful and appropriate designs, similar to the illustration. We will send a set of 6 of these doilies all stamped for 8 subscribers, or we will give them for only 6 subscribers and 25 cents extra or for only 4 subscribers and 50 cents extra. For table ornamentation this premium, is one of the most popular as well as useful articles we have to offer. The subscribers can easily be secured, by simply showing a copy of the JOURNAL.

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Momie Cloth Splashers.

GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR ONLY 8 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS PER YEAR EACH; Or given for only 4 Subscribers and 50 Cents extra in cash or stamps; or given for only 2 Subscribers and 75 Cents extra.

The illustration above is of a Splasher of a very much better quality than the one we have heretofore offered as a premium. It is made of very fine Linen Momie Cloth, fringed on three sides, and has a row of beautiful drawn work all round, and could not be bought at the stores for less than $1.50.

We think every one of our subscribers will want this beautiful piece of work, and they can easily get it without cost of a cent, by simply showing this paper to eight of their friends.

We will give this elegant Splasher, with 2 skeins of Persian dyed wash Etching Silk, for a club of only 8 subscribers at 50c. each.

Bureau or Sideboard Scarf.

Given for a Club of only 10 Subscribers at 50 Cents per Year; or for only 4 subscriber and 75 cents extra.

This is a very popular, useful and pretty piece of fancy work to throw over the side-board or a dressing case or bureau. It is made of the finest quality of crepe linen, 16 inches wide and 65 inches long, with fancy woven border all round, and fringed ends. We send this scarf stamped on each end similar to the illustration, for a club of only 10 subscribers.

Felt Table Scarfs.

Given for only 4 subscribers, at 50 cts. each per year; or given for only 2 subscribers and 25 cts. extra.

Table covers, either square or scarf shaped, are among the indispensable articles of fancy work. It is an absolute necessity now to have a cover for every table, and they can be made very beautiful when artistically worked.

We send a felt scarf 18x50 inches, of any color desired, stamped on each end ready to be worked, with designs of your own choosing, either for Kensington, Ribbon or Tinsel embroidery.

Felt Bannerettes and Panels.

Given for only 2 Subscribers at 50 Cents per Year Each.

Long pieces of Felt or Satin, embroidered and trimmed top and bottom with plush and suspended from a brass banner rod, make handsome pieces to be hung in appropriate places upon the walls. Shorter pieces finished in the same way may be used as lamp shades, etc.

We send them at the following prices:

9 x 18 inches, any color felt, and stamped as desired, for 4 subscribers.

8½ x 24 inches, any color felt, and stamped to order, for 3 subscribers.

SLUMBER PILLOWS.

GIVEN FOR ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50C. PER YEAR, or for Only 2 Subscribers and 25 cts. Extra.

The latest craze in Fancy work and for Pillows Covered with a case of Pongee Silk embroidered with wash silk as shown in the cut, and filled with sprigs of the Odorous Hemlock, or Fir Balsam as it is called. These are used for sofa or chair Pillows &c., and it is also claimed that used as a slumber pillow, the medicinal qualities of the Fir Balsam afford relief and cure for sleeplessness, catarrh, and even consumption. The odor is certainly very soothing, delicious. We send the Pongee silk for a Pillow all stamped for 4 new subscribers. The Fir with which to fill the Pillows we will send prepaid to the nearest point reached by the Am. Ex., U. S. Ex., or Wells Fargo Ex., Cos., for 75 cts. extra.

FELT CLOCK SCARFS.

Given for a Club of Only 2 Subscribers at 50 Cents per Year Each.

These are designs to be placed upon the mantle for the clock to stand upon; the end hanging over to be embroidered. We will send one, any color, 6x11 in., stamped across the end with a handsome design for tinsel, or other embroidery, for 2 subscribers.

THE PEARL RUG MAKER.

GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 6 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS EACH PER YEAR; or given for only 4 Subscribers and 25 cents extra, or for only 2 Subscribers and 50 Cents extra.

LADIES!

Save Your Rags

DELIGHTFUL AND PROFITABLE EMPLOYMENT. FASCINATING AND EASY TO LEARN.

MATERIAL COSTS YOU NOTHING!

USE YOUR RAGS, YARN AND SCRAPS, AND MAKE THEM INTO HANDSOME RUGS. BEAUTIFY YOUR HOMES.

The *easiest* and most *economical* process ever invented for making *Rag* and *Turkish Rugs, Ottoman and Furniture Covers, Cloak Trimmings, etc.* Every lady has enough material in her rag-bag to make several handsome, durable rugs. *Any Cloth*, old or new, *Yarn, Carpet, Waste, etc.*, can be used. Small pieces of silk, too much worn for Patchwork, make pretty Stool or Ottoman covers. *THE PEARL RUG MAKER* is a set of *Steel Forms* and *Tines*, on which the material is wound as shown in Fig. 4, then sewed through the center to a cloth foundation—with *Any Sewing Machine*, or by *Hand*—forming loops which are readily cut open, making a *Soft, Close Pile* or *Tuft a Half Inch Thick*, all on the *Upper* side. Rags when used do not have to be sewed together. Small pieces, cut in stripes on the *Bias*. *Turkish* Designs, Conventional Flowers, etc., are readily made, from the printed directions, and a handsome Rug, 2x3 feet, with a border, can be made in a day. Folks who have talked *Hard Times* for years must have an abundance of old clothes.

THE PEARL RUG MAKER

is the *only* invention that will utilize them without being obliged to go to further expense than a *Spool of Thread*. *You are not obliged to buy Stamped Patterns, Frames, Hooks and Expensive Yarns, costing from Sixty Cents to a Dollar and a-Half a Pound.* Of course, for *Expensive* Rugs, this material is very nice—but with scraps of cloth, odds and ends that accumulate in every home, you can make Rugs that will adorn any parlor. *LADIES, DON'T BUY A CARPET.* If you wish to be *Economical* you can cover those worn places with *Home-made* Rugs. If you do not have enough *Bright Colored Pieces* in your rag bag, you can color them at a trivial expense. With the *PEARL RUG MAKER* many ladies make an *entire carpet.*

RUGS CAN BE MADE BY HAND

just as well as on a sewing machine, but any sewing machine can be used.

From Wheeler & Wilson Manufacturing Co.

"We find it to be a practical attachment to the Sewing Machine. The Rugs are handsome and durable. It is a decided success."

White Sewing Machine Co., Cleveland, writes:

"Our opening was a great success. Sold a quantity of Rug Makers and shall do well with them.

We consider the "Pearl Rug Maker" the only practical device for making Rugs on the Sewing Machine. From the work it produces, we commend it as a most useful labor-saving invention.

DOMESTIC SEWING MACHINE COMPANY.
WEED " " "
THE HOWE " " "
NEW HOME " " "
HOUSEHOLD " " "

THE PEARL RUG MAKER is made of Bessemer Steel, Silver Finish. It is put up in a handsome case, with explicit "Directions for making Rag and Tufted Rugs," containing illustrations, which will enable anyone to do the work.

Given as a premium for 6 subscribers to the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

Price, including one year's subscription to LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, $1.35.

Postage paid by us in each case.

Address all letters plainly to LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, Philadelphia, Pa.

FANCY WORK APRON

With Embroidered Corners.

GIVEN FOR 4 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS EACH PER YEAR; OR FOR 2 SUBSCRIBERS AND 25 CTS. EXTRA.

This apron is all made and beautifully finished. All except the embroidery for the corner, this is stamped ready to be worked with design shown in cut. Should you desire any other design for outline or other embroidery, send with your order description of what you want and we will have it stamped as you desire. This beautiful apron sells in city stores for 65 or 75c. We will send it all stamped for 4 new subscribers.

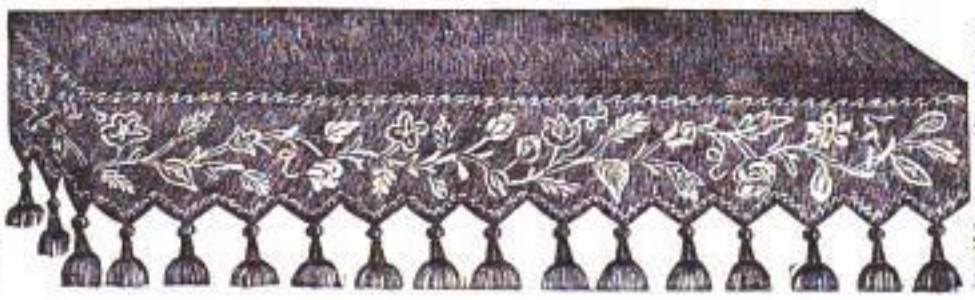
Child's Bib.

Given for a club of 2 subscribers at 50 cents each per year.

No. 12.—Made of fine linen Momie cloth, size, 13x18 inches, finished with fancy border, and fringe across the bottom, and stamped with appropriate designs. We will send one of these fine quality linen bibs for 2 subscribers.

MANTLE LAMBEQUINS.

GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 6 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS PER YEAR EACH; OR, GIVEN FOR ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBERS AND 25 CENTS EXTRA IN CASH OR STAMPS; OR, GIVEN FOR ONLY 2 SUBSCRIBERS AND 50 CENTS EXTRA.



For the past year or two it has been the fashion to cover the mantlepiece with an embroidery a foot or more in width in front. These draperies usually cost from $1.50 to $2.00, but we will send a lambequin made of the best quality of felt, 13½ inches wide and 2 yards long, of any color, and stamped as desired, for a club of only 6 subscribers, or $1.30.

This is one of our best premiums, and has pleased our subscribers, so well that almost every one sent out results in the sale of from 2 to 6 or more. As soon as your friends see it they all have the fever to secure one just like it.

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A GOOD WATCH FOR THE BOYS !

A GOOD, RELIABLE TIME KEEPER, WARRANTED BY US THOROUGHLY FIRST-CLASS IN EVERY RESPECT.

THIS WATCH WILL BE GIVEN AS A FREE PRESENT to any boy sending us 22 subscribers at 50 cents each per year; or we will give it for for 12 subscribers and $1.00 extra in cash.

[FACE.]

[ELEGANT NEW BACK.]

THE WATERBURY WATCH is a stem-winder, and will run 28 hours. The case is *Nickel-Silver*, and will always remain as bright as a new silver dollar. The watch has a heavy beveled edge, and crystal face. The works of the Watch are made with the finest automatic machinery. Every Watch is *Tested* in varying positions and is perfect before leaving the factory. Each watch is put up in a handsome new improved *Satin-lined* case, for safe transportation through the mail s.

So well known have these watches become, thousands buying them in preference to higher priced watches. The Company are now making 1,000 watches each day, an average of 1⅝ watches per minute.

This watch is thoroughly reliable, and will keep just as good time as any watch costing $40 or $50. If parents could only understand how this watch is made, and that it is really just as good a time keeper as any costly watch, the company would not be able to supply the demand. Boys, you will find this a valuable premium, well worth working for.

Any bright boy can secure 22 subscribers in a day. Just show the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL to the ladies, and no one will refuse you 50 cents to try it a year.

Begin at once; use this paper for a sample copy, and send us a postal card for as many more as you can use.

A SILK PLUSH ALBUM !

GIVEN FOR 25 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS EACH PER YEAR, OR GIVEN FOR ONLY 20 SUBSCRIBERS AND 50 CENTS EXTRA, OR FOR ONLY 15 SUBSCRIBERS AND $1.00 EXTRA, OR FOR ONLY 10 SUBSCRIBERS AND $1.50 EXTRA.

An elegant silk plush Photograph Album holding 28 cabinet, 2 panel, and 24 card portraits. Soft padded sides with round corners, openings for portraits beveled; fine nickle extension clasps, the word "Album" in fine nickle letters. The finest quality of silk plush is used, guaranteed to contain no cotton. Extra size, 9¼x11. Thoroughly well made in every way, and will wear for years. It takes 25 subscribers to get it, but it is something well worth working for to one who wishes the finest goods only. This is the best album made; regular price $5.25. Can be sent by mail for 75 cents extra.

We give this elegant Album for 25 subscribers at 50 cents each, or we give it for 20 subscribers and 50 cents extra in cash; or for 15 subscribers and $1.00 extra in cash; or for 10 subscribers and $1.50 extra in cash; or we will sell it at the regular price of the manufacturers, $5.25.

Mailing, 75 cents extra, or sent by express well packed, recipient to pay express charges.

For a holiday, birthday, or wedding present, nothing could be better than this splendid album. It is not too soon to commence getting things for Christmas. A club of 25 can easily secured in a few days.

A HANDSOME SCHOOL BAG !

GIVEN FOR ONLY 12 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS EACH; OR GIVEN FOR ONLY 6 SUBSCRIBERS AND 60 CENTS EXTRA.

Double School Bag, made of cloth with a bunch of daises on one end and initial on the other. They come in either dark green or blue and are very handsome and popular just now with all the boys and girls.

WE CAN GIVE a single bag for only 6 subscribers, or for only 4 subscribers and 25 cents extra. *Postage and packing always 15 cts. extra.*

MAGIC LANTERN !

GIVEN FOR 10 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS EACH; OR FOR ONLY 6 SUBSCRIBERS AND 50 CENTS EXTRA IN CASH.

Magic Lantern with fine lenses, coal oil lamp, 12 long Colored Slides containing 40 Views; Screen, Posters, Programmes and Tickets,

Home Entertainments.

The large picture suggests the pleasant evenings which may be in store for the boys and girls wh obtain this intrument. With this magic lantern very fine entertainments can be given to friends and neighbors.

A DELIGHTFUL AND PROFITABLE PASTIME FOR YOUNG AND OLD.

We can now send a Magic Lantern complete, for only 10 new subscribers; so small a club can be secured in half an hour by any bright boy. The lenses are fine and the same as used in high priced lanterns. We also send views, show-bills, tickets, and full instructions, enabling any person who gets a lantern to give delightful evening entertainments in churches, school rooms, and their own homes, charging an admission of 10 cents or more, and make $5 and upwards, on each exhibition.

How to Earn Money With It.

Become familiar with the lantern and views, select a convenient evening to give your exhibition, then announce it and sell the tickets to your neighbors and friends, or give an exhibition for the benefit of some church, Sunday-school, or charitable object, and thus enlist many others to sell tickets.

THE POLYOPTICON--A WONDER CAMERA.

No. 1 given for 15 subscribers and 30 cents extra for postage. No. 2—largest size—given for 30 subscribers. Sent by mail for 60 cents extra, to any address.

This is a wonderful invention whereby views from newspapers, magazines and book illustrations, portraits, comic cuts, photographs, chromo cards, IN ALL THEIR COLORS, flowers, etc., can be thrown on a screen in the parlor, enlarged about 400 times. Our little ones are wonderfully delighted with it, and must have it in use every evening.

POLYOPTICON PARTIES.

are all the go in social circles from New York to San Francisco. The San Francisco Morning Call reports that "Several Polyopticon parties have been arranged for the coming winter, when each guest will bring with him a few of the ordinary picture advertising cards and their photographs, or natural flowers, whereby an entire change of views can be seen every evening, which is impossible to do with the magic-lantern without a great expense in purchasing new slides for each evening."

OVER 200 FREE PICTURES,

Worth $20 if on glass, for use with a magic lantern, are given with each Polyopticon, thus affording a lot ready for immediate use, including:

Around the World in 80 Sights; Bible Pictures—Old and New Testament, Ancient and Modern Statues, Portraits of Prominent Persons, Illustrations from Robinson Crusoe, Illustrations of a Temperance lesson: Over 100 Comic German Figures in Procession, and Silhouettes.

PRICES:—No. 1, Lamp Shade Polyopticon and Pictures, $2.50. No. 2, Complete, $5.00. Sent by mail or express, prepaid, on receipt of price. If sent as premium for clubs, send 30 cts. extra for postage on No. 1, or 60 cents extra for postage on No. 2.

DECORATED TEA SET AND TRAY.

GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY SIX SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS EACH PER YEAR Or given for only 4 subscribers and 25 cents extra; or for 2 subscribers and 50 cents extra.

A SPLENDID PREMIUM FOR THE GIRLS !

This is a beautiful China Tea Set consisting of 13 pieces, richly decorated with gold and floral designs; and also has a handsome Japanned tea tray, as shown in illustration. It will please any parents to see how delighted their child will be to get one of these lovely China Sets. Large enough for three little girls and boys to have a stylish party and each to have a separate cup and saucer, or, the saucers (which are quite large) can be used as plates. 6 Subscribers can easily be secured in half an hour by simply showing a copy of the paper to your mother's friends. *Postage 35 Cents Extra.* Sent to any address by mail.

BEAUTIFUL DOLLS

GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF 10 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS EACH.

These dolls will delight the little girls. Their hair and eyes are beautiful, and their complexion indicates perfect health. Any little girl would be happy with one of these dolls to care for and educate. The face, neck and shoulders are bisque. The eyes open and shut, and the arms and legs can be moved in any position. It has a Jointed Kid Body of the finest workmanship. The head is movable, and can be turned in natural positions. The long flaxen hair, the "human" eyes, the rosy cheeks and beautiful expression of this pretty Doll will captivate any little girl's heart. It has Stockings and Slippers with bright buckles. You can easily get 10 of your mothers friends and the neighbors to subscribe for the JOURNAL by simply showing a copy. Try it and see.

Photograph Album.

Given for 10 Subscribers at 50c. Each.

This Album is bound in fine leather, has beveled edges and is ornamented in black and gold, as seen in the cut.

It contains places for 40 pictures; part of the openings are oval and part square. The pages are lined with gold. The book has gilt edges and nickle-clasp. Size 6¼ x5¾ inches.

Given for ten subscribers at 50c. each. Or given for 4 subscribers and 75 cents extra.

Splended Premium for Boys !

A COMPLETE PRINTING OFFICE.

given free of charge to any boy who will send us 15 subscribers at 50 cents each, or for 6 subscribers and $1.00 extra in cash.

The Daisy Printing Press, Type and Complete Outfit is the newest and only really practical printers' equipment for beginners. It affords pleasure and remunerative employment to boys or girls, who can print with this press Visiting and Business Cards as perfect as can be done on presses costing many times the extremely low price of the DAISY. The very first order you get for printing may amount to two or three times the cost of this valuable outfit, so that in reality you will only have executed a little pleasant labor and have the source of considerable profit in the end.

This outfit is provided with Ink Table, Screw Chase, Adjustable Metal Card Gauge, and Patent Composing Pallet, with Screw Attachment, by the aid of which ingenious little device the amateur quickly learns to "set up" and "distribute" type, besides being a wonderful improvement over any other method for adjusting the form for Visiting Cards. It also includes the Composition Ink Roller; Can of best Card Ink, and a full, regular font of Fancy Card Type, with Spaces and Quads. The whole put up in a neat sliding-cover wooden box, with full directions to amateurs, How to Print, How to set Type.

Price $2.50, sent postpaid to any address.

This PRINTING PRESS, 1 Composition Ink Roller, 1 Can best Card Ink, 1 Composing Pallet, and a full, regular font of Fancy Card Type, including Quads and Spaces.

The whole put up in a neat wooden box, with full directions to amateurs—How to Print, How to Set Type, etc., delivered to any point in the United States.

Furthermore we will give free a Package of Cards to begin with.

CRESCENT LACE PIN.

Given as a Premium for a Club of Only Two Subscribers at 50 Cents Each.

A little beauty, of the latest style with crescent of Oxidized Silver and sprig of Forget-me-nots in frosted silver. These pins are exceedingly neat and pretty, and are very easy to secure. Given for only two subscribers at fifty cents each. We sell them, postpaid, to any address for only 50 cents.

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Good Books for Only Four Subscribers!

And 10 Cents Extra for Postage.

A MOST EXTRAORDINARY OFFER!

We will send any address, any one of the following books, for a club of only 4 subscribers at 50 cts. per year,—provided 10 cts. extra in sent to prepay postage on the books.

We have before offered these books for 6 subscribers, we make this offer as a special inducement.

DICKENS' WORKS:

The books are all handsomely bound, good print and good paper, and are sold in all book-stores for $1.50 and $1.75 per volume.

Pickwick Papers.
Martin Chuzzlewit.
Oliver Twist. Pictures from Italy, and American Notes.
Nicholas Nickleby.
David Copperfield.
Child's History of England. By Charles Dickens. New edition, large type.

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Arabian Nights Entertainment.
Swiss Family Robinson.
Orange Blossoms. By T. S. Arthur.
Bar Room at Brantly. By T. S. Arthur.
Cook's Voyages Round the World.
Vicar of Wakefield. By Oliver Goldsmith.
Pilgrim's Progress. By John Bunyan.
Gulliver's Travels. By Jonathan Swift.
Ivanhoe. By Sir Walter Scott.
Waverly. By Sir Walter Scott.
Guy Mannering. By Sir Walter Scott.
Tom Brown's School Days at Rugby. By Thomas Hughes.
Scottish Chiefs. By Jane Porter.
Thaddeus of Warsaw. By Jane Porter.
Children of the Abbey. By Regina Maria Roche.
Don Quixote. By Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra.
Paul and Virginia. By Bernardin de St. Pierre
Æsop's Fables. With over 500 illustrations.
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Gorilla Hunters. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Wild Men of the West. By R. M. Ballantyne

We have recently added the following books to the list. Any one given for only 4 subscribers and 10 cents extra for postage.

We will mail the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL one year, and give any one of these books, for only **$1:25.**

Daniel Webster. Life of. By F. Teft.
Napoleon. Life of. By M. A. Arnault.
George Washington. Life of. By Bancroft.
Daniel Boone. Life of. By Edw. S. Ellis.
David Crockett. Life of. By Edw. S. Ellis.
Henry Clay. Life of. By Epes Sargent and Horace Greeley.
Andrew Jackson. Life of. By John S. Jenkins.
Zachary Taylor. Life of. By H. Montgomery.
Henry VIII and His Six Wives. Life of. By Henry William Herbert.
Oliver Cromwell. Life of. By Henry William Herbert.
Empress Josephine. Life of. By Cecil B. Hartley.
Duchess of Orleans. Life of. By Marquis de H——.
Catherine II, Empress of Russia. Life of. By Samuel M. Schmucker.
Joan of Arc, Maid of Orleans. Life of. By David W. Bartlett.
Lady Jane Grey. Life of. By David W. Bartlett.
John Quincy Adams. Life of. By William H. Seward.
William H. Harrison. Life of. By H. Montgomery.
Patrick Henry. Life of. By William Wirt.
Travelers in Africa. By Charles Williams.
In the Arctic Seas. By Captain McClintock.
Children's Bible Stories. By Mrs. Gilespie Smith.
Lady of the Lake. By Sir Walter Scott.
Queens of American Society. By Mrs. Ellet.
Complete Letter Writer.
Evening Amusements. By Frederic D'Arros Planche.
Gavroche, the Gamin of Paris. By Victor Hugo.
A Million Too Much. A Temperance Tale. By Julia McNair Wright.
Gascoyne, the Sandlewood Trader. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Freaks on the Fells. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Shifting Winds. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Floating Light. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Bear Hunters. By Anne Bowman.
Kangaroo Hunters. By Anne Bowman.
American Family Robinson. By D. W. Belisle
Pique. A Tale of the English Aristocracy.

KENSINGTON PAINTING OUTFIT.

GIVEN FOR 8 SUBSCRIBERS, OR 6 SUBSCRIBERS AND 25 CENTS EXTRA IN CASH, OR FOR 4 SUBSCRIBERS AND 50 CENTS EXTRA IN CASH.

This delightful new branch of fancy work is very fascinating. By this process ladies can do the most elegant painting on plush, velvet, or other materials. No previous knowledge of painting is necessary. The book accompanying the outfit teaches the exact method of doing the work so plainly that a child can understand it. No other teacher is needed.

The outfit contains ten Stamping Patterns, of elegant designs, suitabe for painting, as follows: 1 elegant bunch of Clover, 7x10 inches; 1 branch of Thistle, 6x10. These are two of the handsomest flowers for Kensington painting. 1 Moss Rose; 1 Daisy design, 1 Poppy design, with two large full blown flowers, with buds, leaves, etc.; 1 spray of Forget-me-not; 1 bunch of Pansies; 1 branch of Apple-blossoms; Fuchsias, Rosebuds, etc., These patterns, together with Powder Pad, Instruction Book, etc., make a complete Stamping Outfit of Large Patterns, worth at least $2.00. Besides the patterns this outfit contains all the implements with which to do the work, and Patent Composition Tube Paints, sufficient to paint all the designs in the outfit. The book teaches how to mix these paints to procure the shades and tints needed for all kinds of flowers, and all other needed information.

The outfit is put up in a nice box, and will be sent by Express, prepaid, for a club of 8 subscribers, PROVIDED 25c. EXTRA IS SENT TO PAY EXPRESS CHARGES.

Silver Plated Butter Knife,

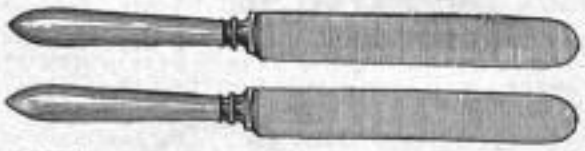
GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 2 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS PER YEAR EACH

A new, handsome, neat and stylish pattern, tripple-plated, on finest English white steel. Will wear for years. Almost as good as solid silver. All the objectionable qualities of German Silver and brass, which are known to have a disagreeable taste, and are, when a little worn, poisonous, will be avoided in the use of these goods. They are also stronger, and of greater durability than any goods produced.

Butter Knife given for only 2 subscribers. Price, 50 cents.
Set of Six Tea Spoons given for 6 subscribers. Price, $1.00.
Set of Six Table Forks given for 10 subscribers. Price, $2.00.

For a club of 15 subscribers at 50 cents each, we will send the Sugar Shell, Butter Knife, Tea Spoons and Forks, a good, serviceable present for a young housekeeper. Price, $3.00 for the set.

ROGERS' SILVER-PLATED STEEL KNIVES!



Set of six given for a club of 15 subscribers, at 50 cents per year.

These knives are steel, and heavily plated with pure coin silver. They are the best made, and will last for years. Price $1.50 post paid.

These are Rogers & Bros. best tripple plate. A very good quality of other makes can be given for 10 subscribers.

☞ Twenty-five cents extra must be sent for postage and registering. Then they are sure to reach you safe and sound. We will give these knives for a club of 15 subscribers, or for a club of only 10 subscribers and 50 cents extra in cash; or for a club of only 6 subscribers and $1.00 extra in cash; or for only 4 subscribers and $1.50 extra in cash. A good premium for housekeepers.

SILVER PLATED FORKS

GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 10 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS EACH PER YEAR OR FOR ONLY 5 SUBSCRIBERS AND 75 CENTS EXTRA.

We give a set of six table Forks for only 10 subscribers. They are heavily plated with pure coin silver on white steel, and will wear for years. They are new and handsome patterns. Price $2.00. We use only the very best quality of silver-plated goods, on the finest English white steel. We will give these forks for only 5 subscribers and 75 cents extra in cash, if you cannot secure 10 subscribers, or for 3 subscribers and $1.00 extra in cash.

A CHATELAINE WATCH

A Good and Reliable Watch for the Girls.

GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF 40 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS PER YEAR EACH; or given for only 20 subscribers and $2.00 extra in cash; or given for only 10 subscribers, and $3.00 extra in cash. Regular price $6.00.

These chatelaine watches are now very popular and fashionable. Every lady wants one. They are nickle silver of the best quality, stem winders and stem setters, nickle movement, covered by an extra glass cap over the movement. They are good time-keepers, and first-class in every respect. They are furnished to us by one of the largest and leading manufacturing firms in this country, whose reputation is well known for the best quality of work. 40 subscribers can easily be secured. Send for sample copies to distribute, and get your friends to help you. Send subscriptions as fast as received, for which we will give you credit, until the full number is obtained.

LADIES' SHOPPING BAGS.

This is a very popular shopping bag with ladies, and is a very convenient arrangement for carrying purse, handkerchief, and other such small articles when on the street or shopping. It has nickel trimmings and is made of fine leather. The style in shape is constantly changing, and we will send the best shape or style at time it is ordered.

Given as a premium for 10 subscribers at 50 cents each.

Price, including one year's subscription, $1.50.

Given for a club of 6 subscribers and 75 cents extra.

COOKERY FOR BEGINNERS BY MARION HARLAND

FREE!

For only 2 Subscribers at 50 cts. per year each.

A Book Heretofore Sold for ONE DOLLAR.

The greatest inducement ever offered!

Cookery FOR Beginners,

By Marion Harland,
Author of "Common Sense in the Household" Etc.

The book, "Cookery for Beginners," has always been catalogued and sold in cloth binding at the low price of $1.00. But we have made a new edition in oiled, waterproof covers, containing the same number of pages as the previous editions. It consists of plain, practical lessons for girls and young housekeepers of small means. Its directions are to be relied upon, and its results are invariably delicate, wholesome and delicious. It possesses the advantage of being perfectly adapted to the needs of beginners. Mothers cannot give their daughters a more sensible and useful present than this volume. It is a most valuable addition to the home library.

A copy of the JOURNAL will be given for a club of only 4 subscribers at 50c. each, per year, instead of a premium, if so desired.

HANDSOME

Silver-Plated Sugar Shell

Or Butter-Knife

Given for Two New Subscribers at 50 Cents Each per Year.

A new, handsome, neat and stylish pattern, tripple-plated, on finest English white steel. Will wear for years. Almost as good as solid silver. All the objectionable qualities of German Silver and brass, which are known to have a disagreeable taste, and are, when a little worn, poisonous, will be avoided in the use of these goods. They are also stronger, and of greater durability than any goods produced.

A Butter Knife will be given instead of the Sugar Shell, if prefered.

For 6 subscribers we will give a set of Tea Spoons, same quality, and for a club of 10, a set of forks.

At 50 cents per year, in clubs of two or more, every lady in the land can afford the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. Send for sample copies to distribute among your friends and neighbors. Address:

LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, Phila., Pa.

Usages of the Best Society.

The Usages of the Best Society: A manual of social etiquette. By FRANCES STEVENS. Nothing is given in this book that has not the sanction of observance by the best society. Contains 21 chapters. Introduction and Salutation—Visiting Cards and Visiting—Strangers and New-comers—Engagements and Weddings—Receptions and Debuts—Private Balls and Germans—Fancy Dress and Masquerade Balls and Costumes—Opera and Theatre Parties—Dinner and Dinner Giving—Table Decorations and Etiquette—Luncheons, Breakfast and Teas. The Art of Entertaining—Letter Writing and Invitations—Musical "At Homes" and Garden Parties—Traveling Manners and Mourning Etiquette—Wedding and Birthday Anniversaries and Presents—New Year's Day Receptions—Important General Considerations—Brief Hints for every day use. This book is indispensable to all who wish to obtain the most enjoyment from daily intercourse with their fellow beings. Handsome cloth binding.

Will be found useful by all who wish to obtain instruction on matters relating to social usage and society.—Demorest's Magazine.

Given for a club of only 3 subscribers at 50 cents each. Price, 50 cents when sold alone.

Talks with Homely Girls.

Talks with Homely Girls: On Health and Beauty, their Preservation and Cultivation. By Frances Smith.

A manual of advice and instruction upon the general care of the health, exercise, bathing, the care of the head, hair, teeth, hands, feet, and the complexion, with chapters upon dress, manners, conversation, and all topics pertaining to a young lady's appearance and deportment. The twenty chapters are replete with information on Grace and Beauty of Form, Bathing Exercise, Care of the Head, Hair, Teeth, Face, Hands, Complexion, Carriage of the Body, Dress, Department, Conversation, and General Care of the Health. A very useful book for every lady. Handsome cloth binding.

Given for a club of only 3 subscribers at 50 cents each. Price, 50 cents when sold alone.

DECORATIVE ART COLOR BOX AT HOME!

MOIST WATER COLORS.

Given for only 4 Subscribers at 50 cents each per year; or, for only 2 Subscribers and 25 cents extra in cash.

We offer as a premium the box of English Moist Water Colors, of which we give a representation above, to any one desiring a reliable set of water colors, with box, brushes, etc., for a low price. The box is of tin, japanned black on outside and white on inside. It has two covers which, when open, affords ample room for mixing the paints. It has a thumb-hole in the bottom, so that it can be used as a palette. The colors are ten in number, each enclosed in a tin tray. Three good brushes of different sizes complete the set. Moist colors are far superior to the dry. This box of colors is the one recommended by the Society of Arts in England for popular use in that country.

Price, 50 cents, postpaid.

Given as a premium for 4 new subscribers, and mailed, postage paid, to any address.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MILDRED'S CONVERSATION CLASS.

NO. XIV.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

The five girls met on Wednesday afternoon in Mildred's pleasant parlor, to "sit at the feet of Wisdom."

"Is there anything you would like to ask me, girls? I shall be glad to answer any questions you may choose to ask.

"Well, Miss Wilson," answered Sara, in a hesitating manner, "I'd like to ask you one thing. Edith Stocker and I had quite a discussion coming here. Yesterday, a lady who had been staying here several months, called on my mother to say good-bye before she goes to New York."

"Your mother goes to New York?"

"No, the lady. What should I have said? Did I say it wrong?"

"You could have arranged it a little differently, but we will not stop to discuss that question now. I merely inquired for information, as I thought the knowledge might be necessary to an intelligent reply on my part."

"Well, then, let me see! Where was I? O yes! the lady called, and as mother was not home, she left her card, and down in one corner were these letters: P. P. C. Now, will you be kind enough to tell me exactly what that means? Edith says it means 'Paying Parting Calls,' that her cousin in the city told her so, but somebody, someone, I mean ('someone' is better than 'somebody' isn't it?') A nod of assent from Miss Wilson and Sara proceded. "Someone told me that P. P. C. stood for three French words, and you cannot twist 'Paying Parting Calls' into French that *I* can see, and yet she *did* come (the lady, I mean) to pay a parting call, and it really seems as if Sara might be right."

Miss Wilson smiled as Sara finished her long speech.

"Edith is wrong," she replied gently, "and yet she is in a degree right, too. P. P. C. means in effect, 'Paying Parting Calls,' but in reality the initials stand for three French words: '*Pour Prendre Conge*,' meaning '*Pour*, for,' '*Prendre*, to take,' '*Conge*, leave.' 'For Leave Taking,' freely translated."

"Now, while we are about it, Miss Wilson, will you tell me what R. S. V. P. or R. V. S. V. P. means on an invitation card?"

"Those initials likewise stand for French words: '*Repondez*, reply,' '*S'il*, if it,' '*vous*, you,' '*plait*, please,' '*Repondez s'il vous plait*,' 'Reply, if it please you,' or, 'Reply, if you please.'

"But what is the other 'V.' for?"

"The first 'V.' is for '*vitement*, quickly.' This is only used when a case of pressing necessity, as it is generally supposed that politeness will lead one to acknowledge an invitation as soon as possible."

"Now I have something to ask," said Georgia Garrett. "The same lady that Sara spoke of ——"

"Of whom Sara spoke," interpolated Miss Wilson.

"O yes?" smiled Georgia, blushing brightly.

"Girls, stop one moment! Pray do not imagine that I correct everyone to whom I happen to be talking, nor that I cannot enjoy any conversation that is not perfect as to Rhetoric and Grammar. I merely correct you in this unceremonious manner because you have desired that I should do so."

"O, I know!" said Georgia. "That's all right. I'm glad you did it. I want you to. Now I will start again. The lady of whom Sara was speaking had occasion to write a note to Mamma yesterday, and on the outside was 'E. V.' Now what did that mean, please?"

"Have you ever received a letter marked 'Addressed?'"

"Yes, often. I frequently send notes marked so."

"So marked," corrected Miss Wilson, again.

"Yes, I frequently send notes so marked."

"Well, what do you mean by it?"

"Why, honestly, I don't know," replied Georgia, frankly. "I do it because other people do it and it is the fashion, I suppose."

"The real meaning of 'Addressed' is that the person thus written to, is so well known as to make all other addresses than the mere name, useless. 'E. V.,' really '*En ville*' and meaning, '*En*, in '*ville*, the city,' is used in precisely the same way. 'Miss Mary Jones, E. V.' means that Miss Mary Jones is so well known in the town in which she lives, that letters equivalent to 'in this city' are all that is necessary to indicate her residence."

"Miss Wilson," asked Ida Gleason, "is it right to abbreviate 'pantaloons' into 'pants?' Perhaps it is all right but it jars on me very much, and my brother always will say it."

"'Pants,' is not only an error but it is a positive vulgarism," answered Miss Wilson, "and yet not long ago I saw an advertisement of a reputable business house, which read: 'Gents' Pants.' 'Gents,' for 'gentlemen,' is even more vulgar than 'pants' for 'pantaloons.'"

"Now it is my turn, Miss Wilson. I notice that you say 'pronunseation.' You taught me to say 'pronunseation' when I went to school to you, years and years ago when I was a little girl."

"Well," answered Miss Wilson, smiling at the 'years and years' which had elapsed since Mildred was a little girl, "'years and years ago when you were a little girl' 'pronunseation' was correct, but the pronunciation of that word has changed within a few years, and now it is 'pronunsheation.' Is there any other question before the meeting?"

"I have one more I would like to ask about," said Sara Tasker, "if your patience is not entirely exhausted. I want to ask about the word 'fuchsia.'"

"One moment, please, Miss Tasker," interrupted Miss Wilson. "I feared that I might forget it later. 'Wish' is always a better word than 'want' when wishing to express a desire. 'I wish to ask a question.' 'Wish' should be used to express mere desire, 'want' to express need, or combination of need and desire."

"Well then, I wish, or would like (will that do?) to ask you a question in regard to the word 'fuchsia.'"

"I am all attention."

"The story is this, for there is a story connected with it. I have an aunt who will persist in calling the word as if it were spelled 'fookshia,' and it just sets my teeth on edge. I don't know of any little things that sets me bristling as that does. She persists that she is right but she cannot give any reason except that it is German. I tell her it isn't German, it is English. We are always at daggers' points about it."

"She is right and you are right. The word in its origin and construction is pure German. The plant is named for a German by the name of Fuchs, which fact would give us 'fookshia.'"

Sara looked disconsolate. "But," continued Miss Wilson, "this is one of those cases where custom makes the law, because the custom is one which attains among those who have a right to alter the pronunciation of this word. The general public has no right to change a term belonging to any particular science. Botanists and florists have elected to call the word in question 'few-shia' and 'few-shia' it is, spite of its origin, until it shall be changed by those who have the right to make it different."

"Now," said Edith Stocker, "I had a very uncomfortable time with Father the other night."

"Night?" questioned Miss Wilson.

"Evening, I mean. I was reading aloud and said 'Terp-sick-or-e' and 'Peg-a-sus.' Father said it was '*Terpsichore*,' like the core of an apple, you know, and '*Pe-gas-us*.' I had no dictionary by me at the time, but I know that is the way I was taught."

"Yes, doubtless you were so taught, and so are these names pronounced at present. But when I was a little girl going to school, we were taught to pronounce these words as does your father. But the curious part of it all is, that if you will examine a Webster's dictionary, published fifty years ago, you will find this *late* pronunciation given. It is doubtless correct, as all Latin or Greek words are divided into syllables according to the number of vowels contained."

"There! I knew I was right, and I'm going upstairs the minute I get home, (reach home I mean,) I'm going to resurrect our old Webster and show Father that if he said '*Terp*-sich-ore' and '*Pe*-gas-us' when he was young that he was wrong, even *then*."

"Do you have discussions at home?" asked Georgia Gleason. "I wish we did. One learns so much that way."

"Yes, we learn a good deal, but we get pretty well provoked sometimes. Discussions! I should think so! Father says something and then I jump up from the table and get a grammar book; then I say something and brother John runs for a dictionary; then John says something and Father reaches out for the rhetoric, (which he always keeps on a little table behind him,) and by the time we are done any one meal, mother says the room looks more like a school-room than a dining or breakf t room."

At this point the clock struck, and the girls looked at each other in consternation.

"But our time is all gone!" exclaimed Mildred.

"But it has been well spent," answered Miss Wilson, consolingly.

"I think, however, we have time for one little thing to which I should like to call your attention. I have written to you several times in regard to what rhetoric calls, 'squinting clauses.' I have here in Hart's book a paragraph which I would like you to examine."

"Dean Alford, in his 'Plea for Queen's English,' has this sentence: 'Two other words occur to me which are very commonly mangled by our clergy. One of *these* [words, or clergy!] is 'covetous,' and its substantive 'covetousness.' I hope some who read these lines, will be induced to leave off pronouncing *thew* [lines, clergy, or words!] 'covetious' and 'covetious-ness.' I can assure *thew* [lines, readers, clergy, or words!] that when *they* [lines, readers, clergy, or words!] do thus call *thew* [lines, readers, clergy, or words!], one at least of *their* [!] hearers has his appreciation of *their* [!] teaching disturbed.' Mr. Moon has shown mathematically that this sentence is capable of ten thousand two hundred and forty different meanings!"

Time pressing, the girls took a speedy departure.

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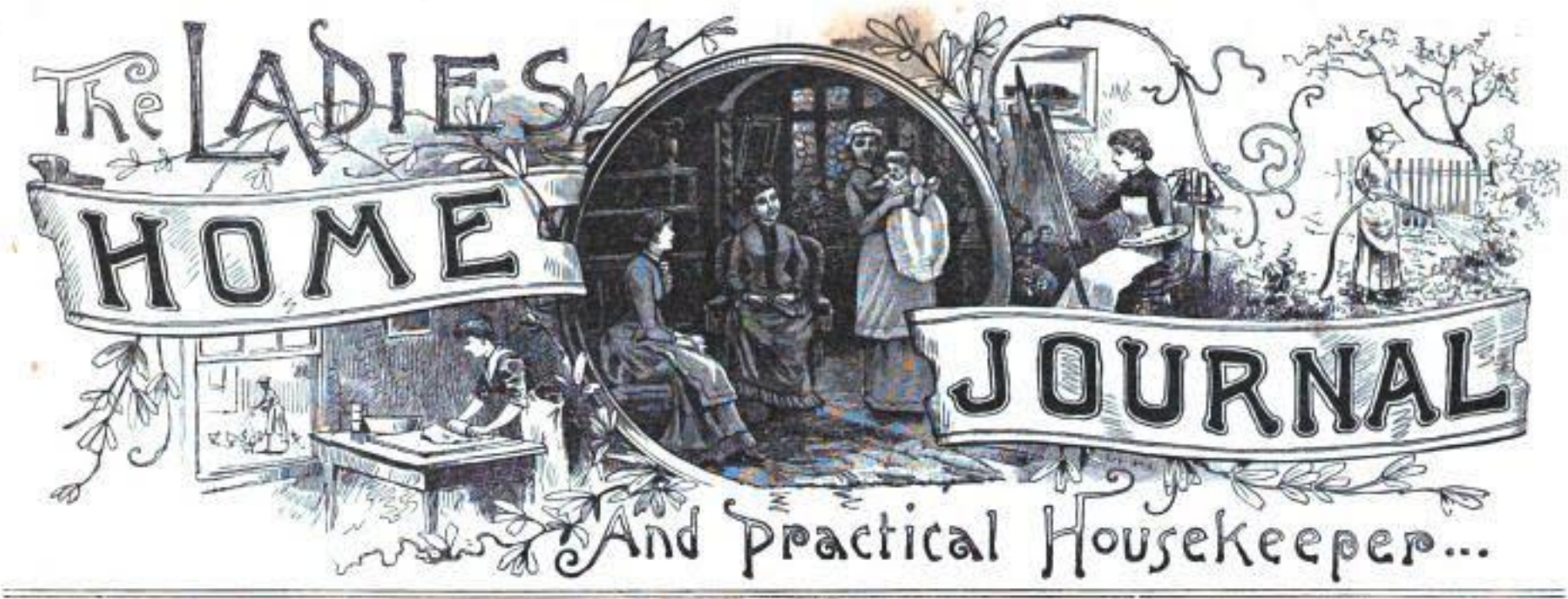

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

AN OLD-FASHIONED MOTHER.

BY ELIZABETH STUART PHELPS.

"And he is the most fastidious man I know," said Joy aloud; as if she knew hundreds. Would Dick be ashamed of her mother? Would she marry a man who was ashamed of her mother? Was it she who was ashamed of her mother?

Joy turned pale. Her head whirled. Only one thing was clear to her. After the Garden Party—anything that must be, might be. Until the Garden Party——

"How can I? How can I let her come?"

The little velvet and Honiton cousin ran up and pounded (with a terrible thump for so cultivated a child,) upon her door, crying out that Mr. Dick and mummer wanted her to go to whist and wanted sumpin else but he'd forgotten. Joy seized her pen and wrote:

"MY DARLING MOTHER:—I am so sorry you are not very well! I will come home week after next and look after you. It seems to me if I were you I wouldn't come to Auntie's just now. The house is pretty full—she's expecting more company Saturday. And there's a Garden Party coming off next week which keeps her very busy. I thought I wouldn't say anything to her about your visit—unless you think best of course—till that is over. It would be a very exciting affair and would tire you. I really think it would be better for you to wait awhile. If you choose you might come after that and we will go home together. Or I will come home and you can come another time—just as you like. Let me hear if this seems to you a good plan.

"I write in a hateful hurry—with the carriage at the door. I am having a splendid time. I hope to hear that you are better.

"Your loving daughter, "JOY."

This was not the worst of daughters—I do not say that she was the best—only that she wrote the letter.

The old lady did not reply at once. What she felt who shall know. Mothers do not say: "I am hurt." When her answer came it was rather a brief little letter; she wrote cheerfully; but said she was not much better; she did not refer to the question of visiting Brookline. The days were whirling like dervishes. The girl's heart had the vertigo. Till the Garden Party—Till the Garden Party—then what would, might come. She thought of her mother dreamily. It cannot be said that her thoughts gave her either comfort or reproach; her very soul seemed giddy. She said: "When he has told me, I will go to my mother. After the Garden Party! If he does not tell me, it will kill me, it will kill me. After Friday—After Friday!"

It was on Thursday morning that the other letter came. The old lady wrote tremulously, and only said:

"MY DEAR CHILD:—I am afraid I must ask you to come. I am really sick.

"MOTHER."

"Impossible!" cried Dick; for Joy, in her shock and misery, handed him the letter. The two young things looked into each others' eyes. Both turned pale.

"I can't *let* you go till after the Garden Party," said Dick.

"Oh do you think it would *do*?" Joy panted. "I musn't be wicked to my mother because you—because I want"—she stopped.

"She can't be dangerously sick," urged the young man, with a young man's specious selfishness. "See—she wouldn't write herself, if she were. I wouldn't tell your Aunt if I were you. It will only worry her. Telegraph that you'll come Saturday. I have very particular reasons. I can't *have* you go to-day. Stay, Miss Joy—to please me—stay!"

She was not the worst of daughters—she was not, alas!—the best; but she did; she stayed.

Into the lonely sick room at East Pontawassett there entered that afternoon, Mandy Wholly, with a yellow envelope in her hand.

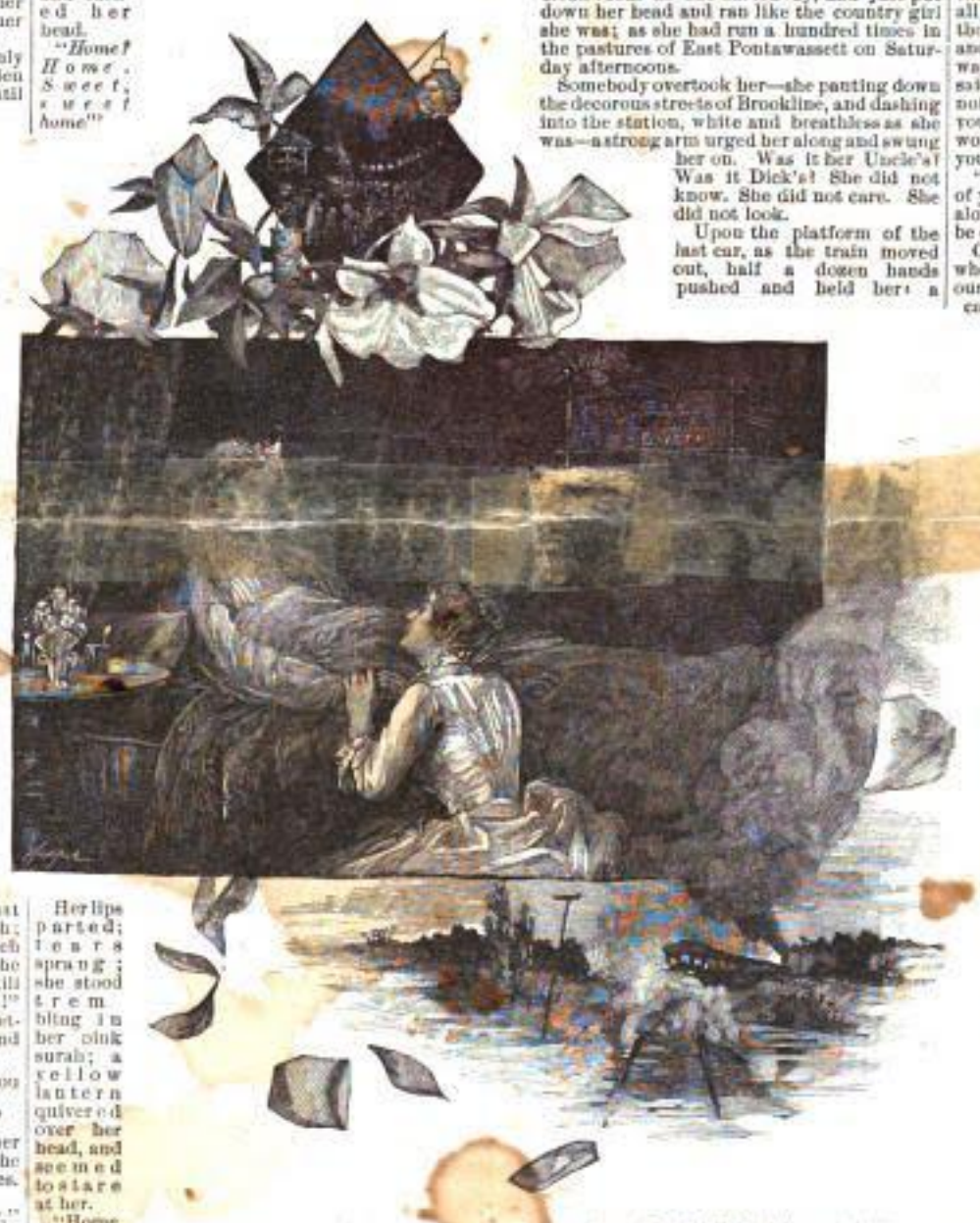
"Has Joy come! Oh,—I thought it was Joy! I thought I heard wheels, Mandy. Isn't it time for the afternoon train? She would be sure to take the first train she could, to get to me."

"*Coming early Saturday morning, unless needed before.* "JOY."

"You may put away the telegram, Mandy," said the old lady wearily. She had not had a telegram more than once or twice before in all her life. She asked Mandy to put it into the drawer with Mr. Hathaway's letters; as if it had been a memento of something dead; and turned her face away.

Dick and Joy, drifting down the flecked and flickering walks to the linden arbor, did not speak. It was Friday. It was the Garden Party. It was moonlight. It was the time. It was the beginning, and the end—but they could not speak. Into their gay young hearts there fell a sudden awe of themselves and of each other. A sweet terror of this that they were going to do, to be, overwrapt them. Under the mellow lanterns that trembled on the trees, they passed like figures on old tapestry—so silent, and so dim. All the people seemed strangers to them. All the world itself turned strange. They walked between new heavens and a new earth. The musicians, hidden in the arbor vitae were playing from their green shelter, in an undertone: What? Joy stirred—and turned her head.

"*Home! Home, Sweet, sweet home!*"



Her lips parted; tears sprang; she stood trembling in her pink surah; a yellow lantern quivered over her head, and seemed to stare at her.

"Home—Home—Sweet, sweet" ——

"Oh come!" murmured the young man, "never mind the music. Come away a few steps with me. I know a place by the pond" ——

Resisting, she was led; weeping, she smiled. He took her hand upon his arm again, and drew her gently on.

"Joy," he said, "Joy" ——

This was the moment when the interruption came. There was a movement of the people—a flashing of the tremulous lanterns—a quiver of the black-green shadows beneath the shrubbery—the voice of a child in lace and velvet; then the rustle of silken skirts, and something thrust into Joy's shaking hand. Her tall and elegant Aunt stood there—dead-white. "Had I not better read it for you, Joy?"

But Joy had already snatched and torn off the yellow envelope, and blindly read:

"*If you want to see your mother alive don't stop for nothing nor nobody.* "MANDY WHOLLY."

All the people parted for her, right and left. Through the maze of merry makers, under the golden, red, and purple lanterns that quivered in the disturbed air, through the soft spaces of moonlight and shadow, up the broad steps, and wildly into the brilliant house—with outstretched hands pushing everybody from her; with eyes that saw nothing, with ears that heard nothing—a little pink silk figure fled.

"*Be it ever so humble, there's no place like*"——

but the startled music stopped. A whisper grew to a murmur; the murmur into a pitying, low outcry; from lip to lip,—for gay guests have kind hearts—they passed it on.

"Her mother is dying. She has ten minutes to catch the midnight train."

She caught it. Heaven knows how. Older Aunt Mary missed it; praying that the next might not be too late. But the wings of remorse and a daughter's love bore the young girl on. She waited for nothing, for nobody. All her soul seemed to clench itself and say: "I will get that train. Before they can harness the horses—I could run. There is nothing, only to get the train." She snatched something from the cloak-room as she darted by, and just put down her head and ran like the country girl she was; as she had run a hundred times in the pastures of East Pontawassett on Saturday afternoons.

Somebody overtook her—she panting down the decorous streets of Brookline, and dashing into the station, white and breathless as she was—a strong arm urged her along and swung her on. Was it her Uncle's? Was it Dick's? She did not know. She did not care. She did not look.

Upon the platform of the last car, as the train moved out, half a dozen hands pushed and held her; a brakeseman leaped and clutched her, crying:

"Keep away, sir! I'm used to it. You can't get aboard now. Keep off! You'll get drawed under—I'll see to her"—and the deed was done. Love and a breaking heart had wrought that miracle and caught that train. Nothing else could have done it; as every train-man knew.

They spoke to her, some of them; but she stared at them confusedly; an elderly woman passenger came and sat beside her and whispered to the conductor:

"Let her be. I'll watch her. I'll take care of her. They say her mother is dying. It won't help her any to talk to her. Let her alone."

"She seems to me like she'd lose her senses," said the conductor with a keen look. "I'll put on all the steam I can. The road is pretty clear. We'll get her there on time. I'll make my schedule anyhow. Tell her we shall be in Pontawassett at three minutes to seven o'clock a. m."

But Joy, sitting up straight and stiff stared at them both like a girl gone mad. It is doubtful if she understood a word they said. She sat there in the dark and dusky car, a strange little figure, clad in pink surah, with the white roses of the Garden Party fading on her breast and hair. They were Dick's roses. She tried to tear them off; but they clung, and she felt weak, and then forgot them. The woman passenger wrapped the waterproof cloak that the child had snatched, about the gay dress; and gently asked her if she would not have the veil tied about her bare head. Joy looked at her oddly, and said nothing at all. She seemed not to see, she seemed not to hear.

What she saw, what she heard, that long night through, who shall say! An old lady in a black silk apron, with a cap pushed too far forward over her white hair; narrow purple ribbon looped up; an old-fashioned, old lady with Miss Manilla's lace bonnet and a dear, thin neck—oh, the poor girl would have given her life that minute to fall upon that aged neck and kiss her anguish out!

"You were ashamed of her—You were ashamed of your mother."

Up-stairs—up-stairs—up-stairs on errands for Miss Pincher; how hot it was; how short her breath came; how pale—how tired. She sewed till midnight on this pink surah. She gave up all her little notions;—all those things people thought in her day about economy, and taste; and one dress a year; she let you have it all your way, any way to make you happy. She never said she should be lonely. She never asked you not to stay too long. She never complained when you did not write to her. She never said another word about coming on when you—Oh what did you do? What have you done?

"You were afraid that boy would be ashamed of your old mother. She is dying. You left her alone. You left her to die without you. She'll be dead before you get there."

Clear above the roar and rush of the flying train whose officers were putting on full steam to get our little passenger to a dying mother, whence came those low, sweet words?

"*Go Thou with this dear child and remain Thou in her empty place until we meet again around this board.*"

"She is dead. She is dead, and in this car saying grace for you. You would not let her come to Brookline. You did not go—two days ago you could have got to her; you could have seen her, kissed her, held her, called her:—Mother, mother, mother! Oh, you were ashamed of your mother. You left her to die without you. You left her for a Garden Party. You'll [illegible] old woman; the seventy-sixth old maid in Pontawassett; every lady will hate you; you will die of shame and grief and go on living; you'll never see her face again—you let her die without you for a Garden Party—your mother, your *mother*, your MOTHER!" . . . . .

At three minutes of seven o'clock a. m. the panting train rushed in. A little haggard figure in a pink silk party-dress with a waterproof dragging from her arms leaped off and started as if she would run. The old Pontawassett station-master—she had known him since she was a baby—stopped her and put her gently into the old stage. The girl stared at him and painfully opened her white lips; they seemed frozen.

"How is my ——"

"Hain't nobody told ye?" said the old station-master compassionately.

"Wall"—for he had no answer, and nothing happened to help him out, "I heard it uptown from a man who heard it from the butcher boy, who said he had it from Snow Joe, that your Ma passed away at quarter to six this mornin'!"

———

"'Set up and have yer senses, Joy!"

"What! Oh—what did you say?"

"Set up and git yer senses. Tain't so."

"Oh Mandy Wholly! Mother is ——"

"She ain't nuther."

"WHAT! I don't understand you Mandy."

"I don't know's folks brought home in faintin' spells have any call to understand. What I says is: She ain't nuther."

"Isn't dead? My mother isn't *dead*, Mandy?"

"Nigh enough to't. But she's come to. She had a paralilcious stroke; and come to. And here you be—down on my hands in a genteel faintin' fit—in that there pink surah—peppered with cinders—at such a time as this here. Git up and have yer senses and go to her—but if you take on before her, you'll kill her and the doctor he'll kill you. If he didn't, I should. Don't you darst to whimper before her now—if you do, you shan't go one livin' step."

"Joy!"

At the threshold of the sick-room Joy turned back obediently; Mandy Wholly had brought her up.

"If you're goin' in lookin' like that I'll carry you back and shet you in your own room and turn the key on you!"

"Oh I won't look like anything, Mandy, if you'll let me go!"

So Mandy Wholly let her go.

She went straight in, as if nothing had happened and knelt down by the bed and took the old lady's hand and laid her cheek upon it. She dared not kiss it, dared not speak, and must not cry. Kneeling in the spoiled pink surah with the dead roses falling from her breast—so strange a little figure for that solemn sick-room—all she could do, to pour her breaking heart out, was to keep her cheek upon her mother's hand. She knelt there just so, a long time; hours they said. Some one tried to make her move and swallow something but she lifted her shaking hand, and warned them off. Aunt Mary, when she came, tried herself, but Joy shrank and shuddered away from her. In the afternoon the old lady spoke a word or two; they were the first she had uttered, and her voice was quite distinct.

"It isn't any matter, Joy," she said. "Don't mind it, dear."

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She turned her face and smiled, with the old, old fashion,—the young, new fashion, the earthly fashion, the heavenly fashion—which has been given to a mother's love.

All those days after, before Dick came, it seemed to Joy as if she could never look upon his face again. When he came she went down into the parlor to tell him so.

He sprang to meet her, but the girl stood still and made a little gesture with one hand which held him back, like a wall of glass.

"You kept me from my mother!" she said directly. "When I got here they told me she was dead."

"I ought to have known better!" cried he.

"I *did* know better," said she.

"But I came to tell you that I love you," Dick began.

"And I came to tell you that I hate you. You kept me from my mother!"

"*Do* you hate me, Joy?"

"I—thought I—yes; I did, when I came down stairs."

"I am ashamed of myself," said Dick.

"And I'm ashamed of you! And I'm ashamed—Oh I'm so ashamed of myself and of us both, I don't think we're fit to speak to each other again as long as we live!"

"It seems to me," said Dick, gently, "as if we might *get* fit. (How you look! As if it were *you* who had paralysis.) Come! Ask your mother, won't you? I'll be willing to tell her and leave it all to her. I wouldn't keep back anything," urged Dick, manfully.

"Oh if you were to ask my *mother*!"——

The girl's face shone divinely. Then all the sobs of all those weeks broke out.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

RELATIONS-IN-LAW.

BY MARION HARLAND.

"Beware of the wrath of a patient man!" Dazed and excited as she was the proverb passed through Nellie's mind. No man had ever spoken harshly to her before her marriage. From her easy-tempered, courteous husband such language sounded incredibly brutal. A breach so wide and deep could have had no healing save in silent submission, and of this she was incapable. As Everard heated, she grew outwardly cool. When the last word was shaken from his thick tongue, she was standing at the corner of the hearth, her elbows on the low draped mantle, the spirited grace of pose and gesture, repeated by the mirror behind her; a mocking smile glinted her eyes and curved her lips.

"When I was a little girl playing on our Mississippi plantation"—she began the Southern accent, deprecated by her mother-in-law as "indolent," musically apparent in her deliberate articulation,—"I found a pretty shell, red-and-yellow-spotted. An odd thing, heavy and shut up all around. My brother told me that it was a terrapin, and to prove it, he put a coal of fire on its back. When, behold! it stretched out four horrible legs, a tail and such a wicked-looking head that I ran screaming to my mother, believing I had seen the devil. I felt just so while you were talking. I do not defend myself against your charges. You only take the cue from your mother and sisters in believing me capable of all manner of impropriety and iniquity such as they would never dispatch one of their set indulged in their "set," and it would seem there is nothing in the code of our best circles to prevent you from saying what you please to a woman when that woman is your wife. I am at your mercy, and you have showed how completely you appreciate the fact."

They faced each other thus for a half-minute before he turned on his heel and went out. In another half-minute she heard the dull clang of the front door.

"Your visitor stayed late last night," Miss Wilhelmina observed to her sister-in-law next morning at breakfast.

Nellie raised her eye-brows mutely in cool impertinence, and went on with her breakfast.

"Of whom do you speak?" inquired Madam, wheezingly, but with authority.

"I do not know, Mamma. I was in the music-room until a quarter of eleven, and passing by the small parlor, not knowing it was occupied, I saw Jerusha talking with a gentleman—a stranger to me. Half an hour afterward I went downstairs for a letter I had left on the piano, and they were still there."

The mother turned to her son.

"Do not you help entertain your wife's evening visitors?"

Nellie answered for him in blithe unconcern:

"He went off to the club at half-past eight, and did not return until after midnight. I was rather glad of it, for I dearly enjoyed a tete-a-tete with my old admirer. You have heard me speak of Jack Tyler, Ev? He has just come back from San Francisco, stunningly handsome, and with more millions than he knows what to do with. I haven't had so charming an evening for two years. He was quite low about my marriage, but I succeeded in convincing him that it was not so serious a matter as he had supposed."

Had she been less madly bent on mischief and hurt, she must have quailed at the effect produced by her words. Madam's complexion was ashy-purple, her daughters whitened and trembled. Four pairs of horrified eyes stared upon her. Everard, she could not see in his seat beside her, but she felt him hold his breath, then let it escape painfully.

"Another muffin, if you please!" said the dauntless little rebel to the butler.

When the official had served her, his mistress dismissed him with an imperative wave of the hand.

"I really must insist Jerusha, that you refrain from unseemly jesting in the hearing of domestics. It is sufficient reprehensible when there are unmarried young persons of your own sex present. When servants are by, such folly verges on the scandalous.

"I don't understand!" Nellie pretended to stammer and looked the picture of bewildered innocence. "I was never in dearer earnest. I can't remember when Jack and I weren't in love with one another, and I was awfully sorry for him last night when I saw how cut up he was at seeing me the "Bride of Another," as the song says. Where is the harm in telling the truth?"

A dread silence reigned while she buttered her muffin, bit by bit, and ate it placidly.

"Don't wait for me, please!" she begged, seeing that the rest had laid down knives and forks. "The sight of my friend, and the jolly, chummy-time we had together have given me strength and appetite. And, without flattering your cook, Mother Vroom, I may say that these muffins are almost equal to those we had at home when I was there at Christmas."

"Mother" Vroom, to whom the provincial address was especially odious, arose majestically severe:—

"We will avail ourselves of Jerusha's permission to withdraw, my daughters!"

"Thanks, awfully, you know!" said Nellie, sweetly, as the dame led the way from the apartment,—"like a temple-of-Juno-goose at the head of a line of overgrown goslings," commented Nellie to Jack Tyler, later in the day.

"Don't let me detain you, Ev!" was her next attack. "I am hungry, and you are not, you see."

He was no master of fence, as we have seen. The fall of his hand on her arm was heavy, if not hard.

"What is the meaning of this tomfoolery?" he almost hissed. "Have you taken leave of your senses?"

"*Au contraire*, I am finding them as fast as I can. You threw off the mask last night"—she laughed—"that is, put feet and head out of the shell. So did I, and I don't mean to draw them in again until I have had my run on the turf. It doesn't pay to cramp oneself in such close quarters forever. Hereafter, I shall be myself—independent Nellie Jones, as the Lord and her parents made her. The Roosevelt-Vroom stamp won't take on such material. I shall not interfere with you, and it will be wise for you to let me alone. I can take care of my own morals and manners."

He seldom came home to luncheon, but Mrs. Grimes had joined the home-group when Nellie entered ten minutes behind time, radiant and pretty, most becomingly and exquisitely attired.

"How'd'ye do, Helen?" nodding gayly to the visitor. "I know I am awfully late—you'll excuse me, Mother Vroom for not going up stairs to lay off my bonnet and wraps. I am just famished—but I have had a perfectly gorgeous drive with Jack Tyler in the park. Cold chicken! yes, thank you, Bennett, bring me a good deal of everything there is for lunch, please! Jack is trying no end of splendid horses before buying a span, so I am booked for a spin every fine forenoon. He has tickets for the opera to-night. To-morrow evening we go to see Irving and Terry in "Much Ado about Nothing." He used to call me "Beatrice" in our courting days. I never dreamed until now, how delightful life is New York could be. I wonder I ever found it the quintessence of stupidity."

"What does Everard say to your pretty little arrangements with your former lover?" queried Mrs. Grimes, in amusement her family considered indecorous.

"Haven't consulted him. For his sake it is to be hoped he won't be so absurd as to be jealous of poor, dear old Jack, whom I have known for untold ages. That would be *too* thin!"

He was so nearly absurd as to refuse to go into the drawing-room to be introduced to his wife's "best friend" that evening, after remonstrating strenuously against her "making herself the town-talk by going out twice in one day with the same fellow."

"I am sorry you won't go down. It is your loss," rejoined Nellie, adjusting a captivating opera-hat above her "bang." Mother Vroom did not approve of bangs, and Nellie had taken the modified form of bandeaux for some months past. To-night, it had come fluffily to the front with a mutinous dare-devil kink in every hair. "If you are bent upon self-denial, good-bye!"

She stooped to kiss him, and when he turned his face away, laughed, and patted him on the head.

"How so silly, Ev! Just women we are worth even in a well-bred man-servant. You needn't sit up for me!"

He stayed at his club until one o'clock A. M. and did not see her until they met at breakfast. She was fresh-eyed and rosy, he haggard with late hours or care.

"Who is this Mr. Tyler?" asked heroic Madam by the time all were seated. "From his ignorance of the rules governing polite society, I concluded that he has been long absent from civilized communities."

"He is my brother's business partner in San Francisco," replied Nellie, in perfect temper. "A Virginian by birth, and a thorough gentleman. By the way, Wilhelmina, he is a musical critic, and a fine pianist. He remarked upon your playing night before last. He considered it really creditable for a young lady amateur."

"I am flattered!" The exigency incited Wilhelmina to what she meant for withering sarcasm.

"Not at all!" insufferably patronizing. "He really meant it. Jack is the sincerest darling in the universe. I wished for you last night, Ev. Did I tell you that we supped at The Brunswick after the opera? We had a salmi of quails and truffles that was like angel's food and the oyster pates were simply heavenly—just what would have gone to your heart. We go to the Academy of Design this morning and lunch afterward at Delmonico's. It is such larks! running about with one who appreciates everything as Jack does."

Madam asked audience of her son before he went down town. She was honestly frightened by Nellie's triumphant revolt from lawful rule.

"Where will it end?" she asked. "Have you no influence with her?"

"None!" he said, hollowly. He was pitiably changed from the complacent, handsome bridegroom of three days ago. "This is a phase of character and action entirely new to you and to me. We went the wrong way to work with her from the first. Too much drilling and repression from you, and too much carping and cold disapproval from the girls have made her feel like an alien,—a hopeless heretic. No woman of spirit will submit to be put always in the wrong, or to suspicious espionage. As for me, I *insulted* her night before last, and she broke bounds, as she ought to have done. No matter what happens, I am helpless."

Madam looked after him, as he quitted the room. Her lip curled, the steady, round eyes clouded.

"He has no more stamina than his father had!" she muttered. "If he thinks I will succumb, he has studied me to little purpose all these years."

She rang the bell and sent a summons to Mrs. Everardus Vroom.

Nellie kept her waiting twenty minutes, appearing then in walking costume.

"My friend will call for me at eleven," she represented, breezily. "I thought I should save time by getting ready before coming to you."

"Be seated, if you please!"

Nellie slipped her fur cloak down to her waist, with the air of one who did not mean to be detained long, raised a sunshiny face to the stern one bent upon her.

Offended dignity and delay had made Madam tremendous. If she chose her words in the ensuing lecture, it was that they might be the more weighty and powerful.

Nellie glanced at the clock as the finale was reached.

"I have just ten minutes left, I see, and Jack is a model of punctuality. When I accepted your son's hand, I hoped, in my ignorance, to be one with his relatives in heart and thought. In the letter acknowledging the receipt of the news of his engagement, you said much of what was due to his family and himself, not one word of, or for me. When I left the shelter of my father's roof and my mother's arms to become an inmate of this house, you received me as an upstart and an interloper. From that hour your behavior has been consistent with the idea that I am an adventuress who, having ensnared the scion of a noble line, must be brow-beaten and schooled into outward conformity to your standard of breeding. Since you could not cut off the parasite without injuring the branch on which it has fastened itself, you have tried to prune it at your will, without thought of the pain you give. I have strong individuality, and it will assert itself. I am not a vassal of the house of Roosevelt-Vroom, to cringe and lick your hands for daily bit and sup, but your son's wife whose claims on him are superior to your own. I would not say this if you had not forced me to do it. During the year I have spent in your home, I have tried, honestly, to win your toleration, since I could not hope for affection. I have submitted to constraint, to contradiction, to innendoes and lectures, until patience is worn out. If I cannot lead the life of a free woman under this roof, I will seek liberty elsewhere in my own way."

"Yes, Bennett?" as that functionary knocked at the door. "Say to Mr. Tyler that I will be down at once."

On the threshold, she glanced back at the gray-visaged, benumbed woman, bolt upright in the tribunal chair. Nellie had a tender heart, but this was the moment of victory, and her mother-in-law had been pitiless to her youth and strangerhood.

"Good-morning, Mother Vroom," she said in her most Southern intonation, linking the soft cadences together as with satin threads, "Thank you *ever* so much for our *lovely* talk! I shan't be in to lunch, you know. Ta-ta!"

She had silenced the battery, but not spiked the guns. Four days subsequent to this interview as the family were taking after-dinner coffee in the library, a card was brought in to Madam. A flush suffused the strong old face, a warlike gleam kindled her eyes. Her "Show him in!" had a martial ring.

Nellie uttered a little scream as a tall man, with silvery hair and moustache, was ushered into The Presence. Close on his heels was a gallant figure all knew by sight as the evil genius of the mansion, Mr. Jack Tyler.

Madam arose to this occasion, as to every other.

"Mr. Jones, I believe?" courtesying with distant civility.

Neither did the visitor offer to shake hands. His bow was as dignified as hers.

"In obedience to the summons contained in your letter, Mrs. Vroom, I have come for my daughter!"

His mien changed as Nellie flew over to him and clung to his neck, laughing and crying together.

"Nellie! you monkey! you deserve to have your ears boxed, my darling!"

"Papa! Papa! you never *could* do it, since I was born, and you are too old to learn new tricks!"

He stooped to kiss her before again confronting Madam.

"Mrs. Vroom! Mr. Vroom! young ladies! Allow me to present my son, Mr. John Tyler Jones of San Francisco, his sister's harem-scarum accomplice in the comedy she has been playing for a week or so. He was born during a visit his parents paid to Virginia so long ago that he ought to have known better than to abet this madcap in her practical joke."

His own appreciation of which was so apparent despite his effort to look stern, his prideful love of his daughter spoke so plainly in look and tone that Nellie's gleeful laugh was echoed by her brother, and Everard's gloomy misery cleared suddenly before a gleam of unspeakable relief, blent with an odd sort of admiration for one who had conceived and executed the clever prank which had cost him so dear. He tried to frown and smiled instead, Nellie crept close to him, pulled his arm about her.

"You dear, egregiously-stupid old—*bat*," she said, careless of who heard her. "You deserved all you got *for daring* to think that I could, or would compromise your honor or my own. You might have known the key to the riddle was somewhere I introduced "my brother" to the half-dozen acquaintances we chanced to meet in our round of "larks"—only you never happened to hear of it. And everybody, of course, will know, in time, who my swell escort is."

Unable, or unwilling to speak before them all, he drew her away with him into the small parlor.

The Everardus Vrooms are the contented possessors of a pretty house not three blocks away from the maternal abode. Madam still reigns supreme in the latter, supported loyally by the twins. An intrepid Knickerbocker married Wilhelmina last year.

"The Mater and I are on inconceivably amicable terms since one roof-tree no longer covers us both," says Nellie to her sister. "'She still thinks her son might have done better,' but every woman whose boy has preferred a wife to his mother, thinks the same of *her* incomparable. When Papa's present to us was ready for our occupancy I begged her pardon for my naughtiness, especially in the matter of my last escapade, and 'hoped we should be friends for Everard's sake.'

"Whereupon, she deigned to inform me that 'while she had little sympathy with certain of my habits views, and opinions, she was disposed to regard my caprices rather as youthful eccentricities than as indices of a depraved nature.'

"Which is a great concession for a mother-in law to make, you know!"

HOW TO BE AN AGREEABLE GUEST.

What a difference there is in visitors! Some are so agreeable and unobtrusive that their presence produces no friction in the domestic machinery of their friends' households—others so fussy and finical, that the only pleasant feature of their visit is the day of their departure.

Of course some are so compounded or put together, that all the rules and hints one might give cannot make them agreeable—they are cut on the bias and will always be a little askew. But the person of average good-nature and intelligence, can, by observing certain rules, at least avoid being positively tedious.

Where it is possible, write your friends of your intended visit, asking if it will be convenient and agreeable—surprises are often disastrous and unsatisfactory—also intimate the probable length of your stay, whether over a train, a week or a month, that your friends may plan accordingly.

When expecting to be met at the station, be sure and state the day of the week as well as month, and the train on which you will arrive. Be sure to send the letter several days in advance, especially if to the country—it may say, you a day's weary waiting at some out-of-the-way place.

While a guest make yourself amenable in a certain degree to the habits of your friends' household. Do not attempt to ride your hobbies or air your special *fads* on such occasions—it is not in good taste. One should adjust their taste, sight, smell, etc., to the different conditions of the homes she visits. It is far from pleasant to feel that our guest has, with the plummet-line of her superior wisdom fathomed our shallows in domestic economy or family government—found a disagreeable odor or discovered the "skeleton" in our closet.

Again, make it a point to eat breakfast with the family, no matter how early the hour. Though your hostess insist that you "need not do it." You have ample time for an afternoon nap.

While your friend is busy doing up the morning work or cooking, do not follow her about chattering like a magpie—in nine cases out of ten it will be very troublesome and result in burnt nick-nacks or biscuit without shortening.

Try and be of some service. Though an invalid you can quietly take upon yourself some light task that will greatly relieve your friend and add materially to the agreeableness of your stay—such as darning the stockings, brushing up and dusting the sitting-room, taking care of the baby, or whatever may not be irksome to you.

Be sure to care for your own room, unless a second girl is kept for this purpose. Keep your room tidy—do not have your things strewn all over it or over the house. Some visitors who are very notional about their apartments when at home, still act as though they had special license to keep their friends' spare room in a pandemonic state. When leaving be sure the room is in perfect order—swept, dusted, crockery clean, and bed made.

Do not put your clothes into the family wash unless certain it will not incommode—even then always pay your friend or the servant if one is kept.

It is only the ignorant who attempt to entertain their friends the entire day—it is very annoying. Leave them awhile each afternoon for their private reflections and duties, and amuse yourself with book or work in your own room.

A truly polite guest will try to be equally agreeable to each member of the family, and by noticing some awkward or shy child may do much towards developing her. Never allow an aged, infirm or otherwise unfortunate person to feel that you are not interested in them.

Remember it is very disagreeable to have your guest constantly expatiating on her aches and pains, her sleepless nights, domestic infelicities and like gloomy topics; and equally so to have her always speaking of her rich relatives, how they do in the city, her trip to a foreign land, etc. Modesty suggests subjects with a small I.

People visiting in the city should endeavor to dress tastily though their means may dictate extreme simplicity. It will add materially to their enjoyment as well as that of their friends. A neat, stylish traveling suit; a wrapper for morning, and an afternoon dress, with a choice variety of neck garniture, will make one presentable in almost any society for a short visit. Those visiting in the country should be careful not to make a foolish display of their finery.

Tokens of love and remembrance however simple are always pleasant; and it is well to remember the servants.

Lastly, if you desire your stay an agreeable visit rather than a visitation, do not stay too long. Take your departure while your friends are still anxious for you to remain. E. MENDELL.

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Grandmother Graham's Hobby.

BY FANNIE L. FANCHER.

"Well Hanner, I saw a sad sight, afore I started fur hum tu-night."

"Du tell, father! I was gettin' a little oneasy about ye; feared ye was a goin' tu leave me in my old age, fur them are grog-shops—they make 'em so oncommon enticin' nowadays."

"Well, well, Hanner! 'Twas quite a coincidence thet your mind run thar; fur thar's where I was fur a fact."

The look of alarm increased on the old woman's placid features, as she breathlessly asked: "Why father! what upon arth made ye enter such a den of iniquity?"

"Don't be alarmed, wife, 'pon my account. I only went in to help Deacon Strong get his boys. Two on 'em were so beastly drunk that several of us had to help git 'em into the wagon. They was whiskey mad, I tell ye. The youngest, George, would hev done murder, ef thar warn't enough on us to overpower him. I tell ye, I felt sorry fur the deacon. His face fairly blazed with shame an' mortification. Yet I can't see es he's to blame. He's been a purty good father in the main, allers made his boys come tu meetin' long's he controlled 'em. It's been purty well known, howsomever, 'at they drunk some. Hev seen 'em myself when I thought they was a leetle 'sot up.' But this is the fust time they ever made such a public show o' their evil habits. I'm sorry, sorry fur the deacon," continued the old man. "Thar are troubles, Hanner, in this world thet are wuss an' *death*. Bad as I felt, when John, our fust born died—he was jest three years old, warn't he, mother?"

"E'en-a-most four," replied the old lady with quavering voice.

"Well, mother, bad as I felt then, I can now think on his little grave, down in old 'York State,' with joy, compared with the thought of these ruined boys."

"You're reckelin' so cut up fur the deacon, father; but think o' their poor mother. *She'll* take it tu heart the most, fur she's got more of a heart tu suffer. I'm not taken back at this; fur I allus thought 'a deacon a stern, hard man, earin' more fur dollars an' cents 'an a good christian oughter. Now, there's his nighest neighbor, Benson, a member o' the same church; but jest for a minit compare their respective homes. Their children are 'bout the same ages, only the second one's a girl—an' I used to think thet she, Sarah Benson, an' Will Strong, the oldest, would make a match on it; but proobly not now, he's sunk so low. Years ago, Benson went an' bought a melodian, which they've sence traded off fur a splendid organ. Sarah plays it beautifully, an' I don't know how we'd get along at church 'thout her playin' and singin'. They've also got a big library o' books, an' I don't bleeve Squire Taylor, down to the village, has got purtier pictures on his walls, an' Bensons folks have on theirs. But all thet hangs on Strong's parlor walls—a stiff cold room at best—is his Bible s'cloty c'tificate, their marriage c'tificate, an' a family record; which can't be a pleasure 'nuff to view, sence his boys turn out so bad. I tell you, father, Benson hain't got as much money in the bank, as has Deacon Strong, on account of this 'tomoolery'—as Strong would doubtless call it—but has got a peaceful an' happy hum, an' lies trouble in store fur him, in his old age; fur *his* children hev all turned out likely; not a black sheep among 'em. They do say, Fred, the oldest'll graduate at Beloit college next year 'ith the highest honors."

"Well mother, this does, I confess, prove purty well the truth o' your hobby. Shouldn't hev thought it, though. But why didn't the deacon's wife, their mother, hev these beautifiers of hum, these magnets thet you speak on; ain't she okaly tu blame fur their absence?"

"Ah! you didn't know Mary Week. She, as a girl, was allus too yieldin' fur the sake o' peace. But I happen tu know, as long ago as when Bensons folks got their melodian, she felt terribly, cause the deacon wouldn't buy one too—she bein' a woman, couldn't control the purse strings, ye know. She's a broken-spirited woman, a body can see at a glance, an' I fear *this'll* be the death o' her. Oh how I pity her, or any other mother, when her son, or sons, come home in such a plight! Their sufferin' an' heart-breakin' ag-ony, must be wuss an' death. Yes father," continued the old lady after a little revery, "I'm sure that two-thirds o' the trouble in families, boys an' girls a turnin' out bad, is caused by unattractive homes."

"Yes, yes Hanner! I know very well your hobby," said he, from his easy chair near the fireplace, where he was indulging in a quiet doze.

"But father, see fur a minit, how pleasant an' enticin' they make them grog-shops. Why, I often hear fine music in 'em when I go by down the village."

"They do make 'em oncommon pleasant, that's a fact," said the old gentleman, arousing from his nap. "It was real jolly down at Kreigs, to-night. They hed a brass band thar, to play fur 'em. Though most evenings they hire some fellow tu play on their parlor grand pianer. It cost a pile o' money, an' they like to get a good player tu finger of it."

"I'd like tu know how anybody kin take their sin-ful money fur their playin'," said the old lady indignantly. "Should think 'twould burn their fingers."

"Their throats, or stomachs, you'd better say," interrupted her husband; as its generally some poor devil of a fellow who likes a drink atween his tunes."

"He plays jest fur drinks, then?" asked his wife.

"Mostly, an' he feels purty well paid; as well as the saloon keeper, who hes been enabled tu draw in a crowd from the music. Well mother, I never thought of it afore; but these sons o' men du pay out a pile o' money fur music. You remember when I took that fust trip to Chicago, a few years ago, 'ith a car-load o' cattle. I saw tu one o' those grand places an' instrument o' music tu beat all, an' it cost up into the thousands. A sort o' music-box, as it were, on a big scale. A mammoth brass band, 'thout any blowers, I thought, at the time on't. 'Twould play een-a-most every tune under the sun. Cur'osity led me in tu see, an' hear it."

"A cur'osity that leads many to ruin," interrupted his wife.

"Well yes, wife! ef they'd never frequent such places, they'd be all right. 'Ef they don't go near the fire, they'll not get burned,'" laughed the old gentleman, at his original joke. "But, seriously, mother," said he, "'tis not every one thet has such a passion for music, as you've allus had," said her husband in his love for argument. "You see, 'twas my cur'osity, that led me tu go in tu see this wonderful instrument, more than my love fur the music itself."

"O, ho!" laughed the old lady. "Then you'll admit that men hev some cur'osity about 'em. But in *this* instance, I'll venture tu say, thet you staid till the music was clean run down, an' your *cur'osity* must ha' been gratified afore then."

"Guess you're right, mother. I was there longer'n I thought; was surprised to find the stores were all shet up when I come out."

"Jes so! Well, there are few 'at won't go where they can hear good music. An' that's where the wily saloon man shows a better knowledge o' human kind than most men. But I was jest readin' a cur'us story from our *Herald*, showin' purty well the power o' music on the human soul. It's 'bout a little deaf an' dumb girl, an' passin' strange. It must be true, cause it's in the paper. I've heard you say, however, the papers print lots o' stuff now-a-days thet ain't true. But, father, *I* can't bleeve the newspaper men'd make up lies out'n the whole cloth a deceivin' of the public in sech a manner. There, here 'tis, in the fourth column, on third page; was a goin' to cut it out fur my scrap book: 'The following incident,' read the old lady, 'illustrates how music might seem to any of us, had we not been accustomed to it from infancy. A little deaf mute, whose parents were wealthy; hence they were in the habit of taking her with them to the theatre and opera; as the scenery, dress, etc., seemed to please the poor child, who, alas! was deprived of so many pleasures. One night, they went as usual, and the prima donna (don't see why they don't put in plain English there, commented the old lady) sung. The child, in great excitement, stretched out her arms, quickly spelling with her fingers. "O mamma! I hear, I hear it!" The next piece was an orchestral arrangement of Trovatore. The tears streamed down the child's cheeks, and she seemed so affected that it was deemed prudent to return home. The family physician was called; but he gravely said, nothing could be done for her. Her sudden restoration to the sense of sound, was but the premonition of death. Shortly before her death, she wrote on the slate: "Papa and mamma, I think heaven must be music."' An' really, father, I think she wan't fur from right. There's no other earthly pleasure an' enjoyment we're sure o' takin' along tu heaven 'ith us. An' as I was sayin', the wily saloon keeper exhibits a keener insight into human nater than most fathers o' growin' children do. Jest look about us, an' see the rich farmers, abundantly able to hev music o' some kind in their homes; but they'll keep a buyin' land, an' machinery, an' goodness knows what, but think it foolishness tu spend money in sech a manner. In the meantime, their boys go to the pleasant an' enticin' grog-shop tu listen tu it. An' their girls go tu the public dance tu dance tu it, (du you think they'd care tu dance 'thout the music?) an' God knows, the public dance too often is the ruin' o' them both; fur drink flows freely there, an' the libertines caress is also there, stimulated up with wine. Now father, hobby or no hobby, did you ever know anybody tu regret spendin' of their money fur music in their homes?" asked the old lady, earnestly.

"No, mother, I don't think any one ever did, leastways 'twan't me that did. Think I never spent a merrier Christmas than we did tu daughter Mariers. It seemed een-a-most like heaven when she played 'Sweet Bye an' Bye,' 'Rock o' Ages,' 'Over There,' an' other ekally good tunes, with those little ones o' hers jinin' in an' singin' so sweetly ——"

"Yes father, 'twas better 'an any concert *I* ever went tu," interrupted the old lady. "Mariers children are fine singers, they'll du wonders some day."

"Her Nelly is a right smart player, now," said the old man proudly.

"Yes father, they are, owin' to her trainin'; but we gave *her* the chance fust." (Then the good old lady refrained from telling him how, in former days, she had to plead, and beg, for their only daughter's music lessons. He, in common with many other fathers, thinking it a needless expense; but now, man fashion, he was ready to take *all* the glory.)

"Yes mother, I'm glad *I* gave her the chance, fur more reason's an' one. Think her knowledge o' music helped her tu find such a good matrimonial catch," said the practical man. "I don't lay nothin' again him as is my son-in-law, fur bein' a lawyer, an' a rich one at that."

"Why father, don't be so boastful. Now I don't think 'twas her music alone, that struck Arthur Poindexter. Mariar was always a purty an' comely lass; but I'll low the accomplishment o' music is quite an attraction, an' may therefore give a girl a better chance in the matrimonial market; but I'd hate myself if I ever thought of such a motive. I'm aware lots o' folks think it won't pay to give a girl a chance; expectin' she'll settle down an' then its all lost. But thet's not the case. They're more cap'ble o' bringin' up a family refined, an' cultivated like, if they are educated an' refined themselves. What wouldn't I ha' been willin' tu give fur the chance we give Mariar; but there's some difference atween bein' one out o' seven gurls an' four boys an' one gurl an' four boys. I know I hed a talent fur music; but law! its an exploded idee that talent alone is necessary; perseverance is more so; fur 'thout that in any one's make up, talent won't amount to a row o' pins."

"Tootsie is a splendid new pianer o' Mariars."

"Yes father, its one o' the best make an' very sweet in tone; but I'll never like it es I do our organ."

"Expect Deacon Strong would be horrified at our hevin' an' organ."

"But don't we need it when the childern come hum tu fathers? An' ain't it a master thing at entertainin' other company? I've picked out 'Old Hundred,' 'Balerma,' 'Bethany,' an' other good old tunes, so the enjoyment *I* get from it is worth more 'an the interest on the money."

"You're right, mother! I'd rather part with a horse. It saves somethin' too in the way of furniture," said the practical old man, casting his eyes over the room. "But I'm rather tired; can't turn off the work I could once. Let us sing the Doxology an' go tu bed. I must haul another load o' wood to the village to-morrer."

A MODEL WIFE.

BY SYBIL WARREN.

Several years ago, my home was in a pleasant country village, and directly opposite my own home, lived the family of Dr. Brag.

The doctor was a strong robust man, but his wife was a frail delicate woman; yet he would leave work for her to do that had ought to make any man blush.

When he wished to start out to visit his patients, he would harness his horse, in the barn, and then drive through the lane, to a large gate opening into the street, and if his wife didn't happen to see him, and run out to open it for him, he would commence calling, "Marion, Marion, come and open the gate;" and there the great lazy fellow would sit, until his wife would come and open it. Then he would drive through, and she would have to close it again, though it was large and heavy, and all she could do to move it.

And many a time, I have seen him drive up to the gate on his return home, when the rain was falling, but instead of opening it himself, the old song of, "Marion, Marion, come and open the gate," would fall upon my ears, until the poor, feeble woman, would come out in the rain, and tug at the gate until she succeeded in opening it; while he would sit in his buggy, with an umbrella over his head to shelter him from the driving storm.

Then she must do all the housework, feed and milk the cow, carry her own wood and water, and when the holy Sabbath came, the day of rest given to poor weary mortals, there was no rest or enjoyment for her, as her husband said he couldn't afford to pay pew rent in a church, and she had an extra amount of work to do on that day.

First, her housework must be finished, and three meals must be cooked, for the doctor said he didn't feel well, and he was afraid if he didn't have his regular meals, he would be troubled with indigestion.

Then she had her three little children to attend to, and after that, her hus and had to be washed, his hair brushed, and his clothes all laid out, ready for him to put on. But I suppose he was tired, for he always lay in bed until breakfast was ready, and then sat and read, after finishing his breakfast, until his wife had her work finished, and was ready to scrub him.

Now perhaps "Spinster" will say this was a true wife, a model woman for others to pattern after.

Perhaps she was, but such a model wife, that in a few short years, there was another mound in the cemetery on the hillside, three little children left to mourn the loss of a tender, loving mother, and a husband, with a band of crape around his hat, so wide that it nearly covered the crown.

And I thought, as I saw her laid in her last resting place, that it was only the gate to the Unseen City, where she would never again be called upon to open the gate, or be a perfect drudge for a selfish, indolent husband.

While the poor woman lived, he always opposed her attending any place of pleasure or amusement, as he thought she was not strong enough to bear the excitement.

But he was always present on such occasions, until after the death of his wife, when there came a change; for he soon married again, and this time he found his match; and if it were not for making this article too long I would like to add the sequel, for he received a just reward, and reaped as he had sown.

I had always thought, until I read "The Summer Exodus" in the August number of THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, that man was considered the "strong and sturdy oak," while woman was only the "frail and clinging vine."

But this is a world of change, and lo! it appears that the man is the "frail and clinging vine," to be upheld by the "strong, sturdy oak," which is now the woman.

I believe "Spinster" is sincere, and I for one thank her for the kindness she intended, when she gave us her views on a summer outing. But I think if she were a married woman, she would view the subject in a different light.

If she, like a great many of her wedded sisters, was obliged to do her own housework, and sewing, and then attend to the thousand and one things which fall to the lot of every housekeeper, besides often having to rack her brains to contrive some way to make one dollar do the work of five, then, I think she too, perhaps might be thankful for a summer outing, even though her John might be unable, or unwilling, to accompany her; and she would be quite likely to agree with "Josiah Allen's Wife," that when she had "to get meals, and wash the dishes three times three hundred and sixty-five every year she had no time for billing and cooing."

For nearly every woman, will agree with me, that what Samantha says on this subject is only too true.

Many things which look easy and pleasant when we never have tried them, wear a different aspect, when we undertake them ourselves.

But those who from experience, thoroughly understand the matter, will be more lenient I think towards the erring sisters, who have committed the grave offence of taking a rest for a few weeks, from the cares and perplexities and work, which keeps many of them busy, from early morn until bed time, from one years end to another.

A woman who always stays at home and attends to everything necessary to be done, has no chance for improvement, and the husband soon tires of her because she is dull, an' is apt to seek more entertaining company away from home.

And he wonders why his wife is not the same light-hearted agreeable person he used to admire, in the happy days before their marriage.

But he seldom pauses to think that the heavy burdens she has borne, have crushed the proud spirit, enfeebled the body, and that it is out of the very depth of the love she has cherished for him, that this change in her has been wrought. Yet her reward is often cold neglect, until the weary eyes close upon the scenes of earth, the tired hands are folded upon her breast, and her spirit is borne to that unseen land where the weary find peace and rest.

A woman should do what is really her duty, at whatever cost, yet I do not believe in her foregoing all pleasures, and becoming a perfect slave, to retain the fidelity of her husband any more than I believe that a man should give up all pleasure, and remain at home, so as to continually keep an eye upon his wife. How few happy people there would be if this were always the case.

Few of us doubt there being good and true men, as well as women, and it is paying them a very doubtful compliment, to say that their wives should always stay by their sides, to keep them from going astray; and "sticking closer than a brother" would be more than most of them would appreciate.

If "Spinster" is right, I am at a loss to see what will become of the husbands who are obliged to be absent from home without their wives, to keep an eye on them, some for weeks, some for months, and some even years.

My opinion is, that if a man's disposition is to do right, he will take care of himself in any place, and if he is inclined to do wrong, no amount of watching, or "cooing drinks," or "tempting viands," will keep him in the straight and narrow way.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

The Charity of The Jonesvillians.

BY JOSIAH ALLEN'S WIFE.

Wall, from Miss Bombus'es I went to Miss Petingill's, a beggin' for the Smedleys—a hopin' sore to get up a big pound party for 'em—and enough money to get a decent home for 'em to stay in through the winter.

Miss Petingill is a awful high-headed creeter,—she come to the door herself—and she said "I must excuse her answerin' the door herself"—

(I never heard the door say anything and don't believe she did, it wuz jest one of her ways.) But she said "I must excuse her as her girl wuz busy at the time."

She never mistrusted that I knew her hired girl had left, and she wuz doin' her work herself. She had ketched off her apron I knew, as she come through the hall, for I see it a layin' behind the door, all covered with flour. And after she had took me into the parlor, and we had set down, she discovered some spots of flour on her dress, and she said she "had been pastin' some flowers into a scrap book to pass away the time." But I knew she had been bakin', for she looked tired, tired to death almost, and it wuz her bakin' day. But she would sooner have had her head took right off than to own up that she had been doin' housework—why, they say that once when she wuz doin' her work herself, and wuz ketched lookin' awful, by a strange minister, that she passed herself off for a hired girl—and said "Miss Petingell wasn't to home," and when pressed hard she said "she hadn't the least idee where Miss Petingill wuz."

Jest think on't once—and there she wuz, herself. The idee!

Wall, the minute I sot down before I begun my business, or anything, Miss Petingill took me to do about puttin' in Miss Bibbins' President of our Missionary Society for the Relief of Indignent Heathen.

The Bibbins'es are good, very good, but poor. Says Miss Petingill: "It seems to me as if there might be some other women put in, that would have had more influence on the church."

Says I, "Hain't Miss Bibbin's a good Christian sister, and a great worker?"

"Why yes, she wuz good, good in her place. But," she said, "the Petingills hadn't never associated with the Bibbins'es."

And I asked her "if she s'posed that would make any difference with the heathen, if the heathen would be apt to think less of Miss Bibbin's because she hadn't associated with the Petingill's?"

And she said "she didn't s'pose the heathens would ever know it, it might make some difference to 'em if they did," she thought, "for it couldn't be denied," she said, "that Miss Bibbin's did not move in the first circles of Jonesville."

It had been my doin's a puttin' Miss Bibbin's in, and I took it right to home, she meant to have me, and I asked her "if she thought the Lord would condemn Miss Bibbin's on the last day, because she hadn't moved in the first circles of Jonesville?"

And Miss Petingill tosted her head a little, but had to own up, that she thought "He wouldn't."

"Wall then," says I, "Do you s'pose the Lord has any objections to her workin' for Him now?"

"Why no, she didn't know as the *Lord* would object."

"Wall," says I, "we call this work the Lord's work, and if He is satisfied with Miss Bibbin's, we ort to be."

But she kinder restled round, and I see she wuzn't satisfied, but I couldn't stop to argue, and I tackled her then and there about the Smedleys. I asked her to give a parcel, or pound, as she felt disposed.

But she answered me firmly—"that she couldn't give one cent to the Smedleys, she wuz principled against it."

And I asked her "why?"

And she said "Because the old lady was proud and wanted a home, and she thought that pride wuz so wicked, that it ort to be put down."

Wall, Miss Huff, Miss Cephas Huff, wouldn't give anything because one of the little Smedleys had lied to her; she wouldn't encourage lyin'."

And I told her "I didn't believe she would be half so apt to reform him on an empty stomach, as after he wuz fed up." But she wouldn't yield.

Wall, Miss Daggett said "she would give, and give abundant, only she didn't consider it a worthy object."

But it wuzn't nothin' only a excuse, for the object has never been found that she thought wuz a worthy one. Why, she wouldn't give a cent towards paintin' the Methodist steeple, and if that hain't a high and worthy object, I don't know what is. Why, our steeple is over seventy feet from the ground. But she wouldn't help us a mite—not a single cent.

Take such folks as them, and the object never suits 'em. They won't come right out and tell the truth, that they are too stingy and mean to give away a cent, but they will always put the excuse onto the object—the *object* don't suit 'em.

Why I do believe it is the livin' truth that if the angel Gabriel wuz the object, if he wuz in need and we wuz gittin' up a pound party for him—she would find fault with Gabriel, and wouldn't give him a ounce of provisions.

Yes, I believe it—I believe they would toss their heads and say: "They always had had their thoughts about anybody that tooted so loud—it might be all right, but it didn't *look* well, and would be apt to make talk. Or they would say that he wuz shiftless and extravagant a loafin' round in the clouds, when he might go to work—or that he might raise the money himself by sellin' the feathers offen his wings for down pillers—or some of the best of the Gabriel family might help him—or something, or other—anyway they would propose some way of gittin' out of givin' a cent to Gabriel. I believe it as much as I believe I live and breathe, and so does Josiah.

Wall, Miss Moony wouldn't give anything "because she thought Jane Smedley wuzn't so sick as she thought she wuz," she said "she wuz spleeny."

And I told Miss Mooney "that when a woman was sick enough to die, I thought she ort to be called sick."

But Miss Mooney wouldn't give up, and insisted to the very last that Miss Smedley wuz hypoy and spleeny—and thought she wuz sicker than she really wuz." And she held her head and her nose up in a very disagreeable and haughty way, and said as I left, "that she never could bear to help spleeny people."

Wall, all that forenoon did I traipse through the street and not one cent did I get for the Smedleys, only Miss Gowdey said she would bring a cabbage—and Miss Deacon Poedick—and Miss Ingledue partly promised a squash apiece. And I mistrusted that they give 'em more to please me than anything else.

Wall, I wuz clean discouraged and beat out, and so I told Josiah. But he encouraged me some by sayin':

"Wall, I could have told you jest how it would be," and, "You would have done better, Samantha, to have been to home a cookin' for your own famishin' family." And several more jest such inspirin' remarks as men will give to the females of their families when they are engaged in charitable enterprises.

But I got a good, a very good dinner, and it made me feel some better, and then I hain't one to give up to discouragements, anyway.

So I put on a little better dress for afternoons, and my best bonnet and shawl, and set sail again in the afternoon.

And if I ever had a lesson in not givin' up to discouragements in the first place, I had it then. For whether it wuz, on account of the more dressy look of my bonnet and shawl—or whether it wuz, that folks felt cleverer in the afternoon—or whether it wuz, that I had gone to the more discouragin' places in the forenoon, and the better ones in the afternoon—or whether it wuz, that I tackled on the subject in a better way than I had tackled 'em—whether it wuz, for any of these reasons, or all of 'em, or somethin'—anyway, my luck turned at noon, 12 M., and all that afternoon I had one triumph after another—place after place did I collect pound or pounds as the case may be (or collected the promises of 'em, I mean.) I did *spleendid*, and wuz prospered perfectly amazin'—and I went home feelin' as happy and proud as a king or a czar.

And the next Tuesday evenin' we had the pound party. They concluded to have it to our house. And Thomas Jefferson and Maggie, and Tirzah Ann and Whitfield came home early in the afternoon to help trim the parlor and settin' room with evergreens and everlastin' posies, and fern leaves.

They made the room look perfectly beautiful. And they each of 'em, the two childern and their companions, brought home a motto framed in nice plush and gilt frames, which they put up on each side of the settin' room, and left 'em there as a present to their Pa and me. They think a sight of us, the childern do—and visey versey, and the same.

One of 'em wuz worked in gold letters on a rich dark ground—"Bear Ye One Another's Burdens." And the other wuz "Feed my Lambs."

They think a sight on us, the childern do—they knew them mottoes would highly tickle their Pa and me. And they did seem to kinder invigorate up all the folks that come to the party.

And they wuz seemingly *legions*. Why, they come, and they kept a comin'. And it did seem as if every one of 'em had tried to see who could bring the most. Why, they brought enough to keep the Smedleys comfortable all winter long. It wuz a sight to see 'em.

It wuz a curious sight, too, to set and watch what some of the folks said and done as they brought their pounds in.

I had to be to the table all the time a'most for I wuz appointed a committee, or a board—(I s'pose it would be more proper to call myself a board, more business like.) Wall, I wuz the board appointed to lay the things on—to see that they wuz all took care of, and put where they couldn't get cut up or any casuality happen to 'em.

And I declare if some of the queerest lookin' creters didn't come up to the table and talk to me. There wuz lots on 'em there that I didn't know, folks that come from Zoar, Jim Smedleys' old neighborhood.

There wuz a long table stretched across one end of the settin' room, and I stood behind it same as if I wuz a dry goods merchant or grocery, and some like a preacher.

And the women would come up to me and talk. There wuz one woman who got real talkative to me before the evenin' wuz out. She said her home wuz over two miles beyond Zoar.

She had a young babe with her, a dark complexioned bate, with a little round black head, that looked some like a cannon ball. She said she had shingled the child that day about 8 o'clock in the forenoon, she talked real confidential to me.

She said the babe had sights of hair, and she told her husband that day that if he would shingle the babe she would come to the party and if he wouldn't shingle it she wouldn't come.

It seemed they had had a altercation on the subject, she wanted it shingled and he didn't. But it seemed that rather than stay away from the party—he consented, and shingled it. So they come.

They brought a eight pound loaf of maple sugar and two dozen eggs. They did well. Then there wuz another woman who would walk her little girl into the bedroom every few minutes, and wet her hair, and comb it over, and curl it on her fingers.

The child had a little blue flannel dress on, with a long plain waist, and a long skirt gathered on full all round.

Her hair lay jest as smooth and slick as glass all the time, but five times did she walk her off, and go through with that performance.

She brought ten yards of factory cloth, and a good woolen petticoat for the old grandma. She did first-rate.

And then there wuz another woman who stayed by the table most all the evenin'. She would gently but firmly ask everybody who brought anything, what the price of the article wuz—and then she would tackle the different women who come up to the table for patterns. I do believe she got the pattern of ever, bask waist there wuz there, and every mantilly.

But we had a splendid good time after the things wuz all brought in—of course bein' a board the fore part of the evenin' I naturally had a harder time than I did the latter part, after I had got over it.

The childern, Thomas J, and Tirzah Ann and their companions, sung and played some beautiful pieces, and they had 4 tablows, which wuz perfectly beautiful.

And then we passed good nice light biscuit and butter, and hot coffee, and pop corn, and apples. And it did seem, and all the neighbors said so that it wuz the very best party they had ever attended to.

And before they went away they made a motion some of the responsable men did—some made the motions and some seconded 'em—that they would adjourn till just one year from that night, when if the Smedleys was still alive and in need—we would have just such a party agin.

And at the last on't Elder Minkley made a prayer—a very thankful and good prayer, but short. And then they went home.

Wall, the next mornin' we started to carry the things to the Smedleys. It wuz very early, for Josiah had got to go clear to Loentown on business, and I wuz goin' to stay with the childern till he got back.

It wuz a very cold mornin'. We hadn't heard from the Smedleys for two or three days, because we wanted to surprise 'em, so we didn't want to give 'em a hint beforehand of what we wuz a doin'. So, as I say, it wuz a number of days sense we had heard from 'em, and the weather wuz cold.

When we got to the door it seemed to be dretful still there inside. And there wuz some white frost on the latch jest as if a lew, white hand had onlatched the door, and had laid on it fast.

We rapped, but nobody answered. And then we opened the door and went in, and there they all lay asleep. The childern waked up. But the old Grandma didn't.

There wuzn't any fire in the room, and you could see by the freezing coldness of the air, that there hadn't been any for a day or two.

Grandma Smedley had took the poor old coverings all off from herself, and put 'em round the youngest baby, little Jim. And he lay there all huddled up tight to his Grandma, with his red cheek close to her white one, for he loved her.

Josiah cried and wept, and wept and cried onto his bandana—but I didn't.

The tears run down my face some, to see the childern feel so bad when Grandma couldn't speak to 'em.

But I knew that the childern would be took care of now, I knew the Jonesvillians would be all roasted up and sorry enough for 'em, and would be willin' to do anything now, when it wuz some too late.

And I felt that I couldn't cry nor weep (and told Josiah so) the tears jest dripped down my face in a stream, but I wouldn't weep—for as I said to myself:

"While the Jonesvillians had been a disputin' back and forth, and wrestin' Scripter, and the meanin' of Providence in regard to helpin' Grandma Smedley and gittin' her a comfortable place to stay in, and somethin' to eat, the Lord Himself, had took the case in hand, and had gin her a home, and the bread that satisfies.

WOMEN AS SLAVES.

We are inclined to look upon slavery as a relic of barbarism—as indeed it is. But many women in our enlightened country are as truly slaves as if they had been bought and sold; indeed some of them are bought and sold—bought from their unwise, selfish parents by the wealthy though undesirable men whom they marry.

A loveless marriage must be one of the worst forms of slavery, and as proof that the wearer of such bonds are struggling to be free we have only to read the colums of the daily papers.

Some women have such veneration for the opposite sex that no amount of self sacrifice is too great for them to practice. I have known women who looked upon husbands as gods, and worshipped them accordingly, and those husband's were well satisfied to receive such homage; indeed they regarded themselves as beings superior to the women who adored them.

Every kind of menial service was performed by their wives, even to the blacking of their boots. A woman who will do such work for her husband deserves to be looked upon as an inferior being. A wife should train her husband to wait not only upon himself but upon her. I have seen men who were either too indolent or too dependent to make the slightest change in their toilet without the assistance of their wives.

A woman should see that her husband's clothing is in repair and in its place, and there her duty as regards his toilet, ends. If he cannot array himself or pack his satchel, he should employ a valet.

Such women bring up their sons and daughters with the same ideas, thereby spoiling them both.

Some women of my acquaintance always request their daughters to vacate the rocking chairs when the sons enter the room, and the sons never fail to take them; they, of course, regard their mother and sisters as inferior beings, fitted only for drudges, as indeed they are. These men never think of showing the women of their families the slightest courtesy, indeed with such bringing up, it would be strange if they did. One weak-minded, hero-worshipping woman will bring misery upon many families by bringing up her boys to be tyrants and her girls to be slaves.

The old fashion of leaving the bulk of the property to the sons and a mere pittance to the daughters, is, I am glad to say, dying out. By the old method, if the daughters married, they had homes, but if they lived single, they formed a part of the brothers' families, much to their own discomfort and that of their sisters-in-law.

It was only the other day that I heard a specimen of the genus tyrant, express the opinion that the property of a family should all be left to the boys.

But the slavery of women, that is, of single women, is fast being abolished; their energy, quickness and perseverance, are leading them into the various channels now opening for the independence of women; many of them not only support themselves, but their aged parents, and although they may not earn as much as their favored brothers, they accomplish more, having no temptations to throw away their money on the foolish and harmful purchases which men make.

Women are not naturally spendthrifts; it is only when they do not understand the state of finances—when they spend blindly that they are extravagant; and such ignorance is the fault of their husbands whose duty it is to enlighten them.

It is to be hoped that the day will dawn when married women will be more independent—when they will dare to spend the money honestly earned by them without rendering a strict account to their liege lords; when they will dare to express their own opinions without first asking permission of their husbands.

Let no woman cringe and fawn, imagining that she will thus keep the regard of her husband, for there is nothing a man of sense admires so much in the woman he marries, as independence of spirit combined with all the womanly graces.

In nine cases out of ten the women bring slavery upon themselves. LILLIAN MAYNE.

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EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I have read with considerable care the opinions of mothers who speak through your columns. Having kindly been once heard, myself, I venture again. When I read of the mother who had profited in the use of some patent prepared food for her infant, I recalled a case in which it has been the reverse of beneficial. By the advice of a physician a mother kept her child on prepared food, finding it losing constantly in health and strength and several times at death's door. A change of physicians resulted in a change of treatment. The food was dropped and pure milk substituted, and the change was marvellous. The child whose life was thought just ready to go out, is vigorous and hearty. In my JOURNAL, received to-day, a mother asks advice as to the washing of an infants head. The editors ideas are mine. What is more repulsive than a baby otherwise attractive, with a sore, scabby head? There is no necessity for it. Constant washing just as often as you do its face, and watching the slightest formation of scurf. Remove the latter by rubbing with a soft flannel dipped in sweet oil.

MOTHER OF FIVE.

DEAR EDITOR:—The October and November numbers of the JOURNAL was duly received. I have taken your paper only three months, and can say without doubt it is the best paper I have ever seen of the kind, and it is worth *double* its price. When I receive my paper I begin at the first and read every page, and I read it through several times before I lay it aside with the rest. As "M. A. T." said, I too turn to the Mother's Corner first. I am not a mother, although I am passionately fond of children, and take a great interest in reading and learning anything about them. I noticed in one number of the JOURNAL some lady said, "Don't disturb the baby when it is asleep." I want to know if it is right when a child is asleep, to disturb or wake it when you think it has slept as long as it ought to? I know a lady who has a little girl 6 or 7 years old. Last summer the mother made the child sleep one hour every afternoon. And when the time was up she would make her get up. Sometimes the child would not sleep an hour and then again she would want to sleep over the time. I noticed that when she awoke from a sound sleep she would be cross and feel drowsy, and would not want to sing and play as she would when she awoke of her own accord. I know that I feel a great deal better when I wake myself, than when some one calls me up. And how must the little babies and children feel, that needs as much sleep if not more than we do? I thought at the time it was not right, and I told the mother so, and she said she did not want her child to get into the habit of sleeping all the afternoon and learn to be so lazy. I think that babies and little children should have a regular hour to take their nap, but when it comes to waking them, don't do it, let them wake themselves.

I enjoy reading "John's wife's" letters so much, and wish I was better acquainted with her. Is she is a Yankee. I am not exactly one myself, for I was born in Illinois, but my father and mother are Yankees and of course I am just the *least little* bit of a Yankee.

JUDIE.

ED. LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Since receiving the September number of the JOURNAL, I have been much interested in the article by "M. A. T." I also am an auntie, but not a mother, and would like to say a word on a subject which has caused me much thinking. I may not be right, but I sometimes think we aunties have full as good an opportunity to judge about what is best for the little one, as the tender-hearted and indulgent mother. We were at the dinner table one warm day in August, (this summer and had for guests a lady and two children, the latter a niece of four, and nephew of two of mine. We had, among other things, green corn on the ear, for dinner. The dear children, especially the younger, were allowed to eat their fill of this delicious but rather indigestible food. After dinner the children were playing together, and the little two-year-old, Charlie *bit* his little sister on the cheek. Of course he was punished for it, but his auntie kept up considerable thinking all the afternoon whenever Charlie's fretfulness was commented on, and she came to the conclusion that *that corn* had more to do with Charlie's temper than original sin. Subsequent developments showed that she was right, for that poor child aroused his mother in the night with a wail of anguish, and after copious doses of castoria revealed the fact that the corn was swallowed whole, and had been irritating his little "interior" as Mrs. Carlyle used to say, ever since dinner-time. No wonder he felt like biting! Who of us "grown-uppers" would feel very amiable with such a condition of things inside. He could not chew the corn, for he had no back teeth. I looked on in amazement to see such an article of food given to a child who could not chew it. "He had eaten it before and it had not injured him," his mother said. I could not agree with her. Because it had not made him ill was no proof it had not injured the child. Sometimes indigestible food will irritate the lining of the stomach and bowels, and prepare the way, by weakening the system, for disease, when the evil done is imperceptible. When will these kind but mistaken mothers learn to feed their children with simple, easily digested food. It will be when they first learn to feed themselves with it. I tried to induce the above mother to take the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, thinking she would learn a different way from the many valuable articles in its pages, but she said they took three papers now, and could not afford another. As if she could afford afford to lose her children's health! From an appreciative auntie,

FANNY PERRY.

NORWOOD, MASS.

THE MOTHERS' MEETING.

It was not meant as a mothers' meeting, but when pretty Mrs. Garth looked around the circle and said: "Why, we are all mothers here except mother, and she's a grandmother!" the rest of the party while they laughed at the double "bull," also looked and assented.

It was simply a quiet "evening," as one of the ladies was in mourning, and all, except the "grandmother," of nearly the same age.

The gentlemen had retired to the "seclusion that the smoking room grants," and the ladies were left to their united efforts at amusement, without the aid of a single member of the so-called stronger sex.

It is one of the peculiarities of Belleville, that no one gossips but the gentlemen, so, presumably, they were "hard at it;" at any rate, the ladies were not, and oddly enough, *servants* were not even mentioned. But babies ——!

"Well," continued Mrs. Garth, "if you all have as cute babies as mine, it is a very blessed thing to be a mother. My little Daisy brings out all her odd little sayings with such a ——"

"Yes, I know *just* how you mean," broke in Mrs. Gale. "The dreamy, far-away look, when they are thinking over something you have said, and you know in a moment, you will have a question hurled at you, that all the wise men of Gotham might find it difficult to answer. At least that is the way my little Elsie does; as to-day, when I had told her ——"

"Oh! I must tell you what my little Hattie said to-day," said Mrs. Lowther.

Mrs. Gale glared at her for a moment, in astonishment, that any one could think of interrupting one of Esie's smart sayings, then with a shrug of her shoulders, she resigned herself to listen to an account of some of Hattie's "foolishness," as she termed it, to herself.

"I had just been to the pantry for some jam for their early supper," continued Mrs. Lowther, "and when I came back to the table with it, what do you think that child had done?"

Most of the ladies shook their heads, as if to say, they "gave it up:" in reality, each one was trying to recall one of the cutest and brightest sayings of their own little ones, and were paying very little attention to what Mrs. Lowther was saying. Indeed, so inattentive was Mrs. Ammon, that she supposed Mrs. Lowther had finished her story, and said:

"That was almost as good as something my little Mabel said to me to-day, when I caught her in the pantry. 'Why, mamma,' said she, with that sweet little pucker of the lips, though there was a droll twinkle in her eye, that told me she *knew* she had done wrong, and expected to be punished ——"

"So few children are punished judiciously, now-a-days," said Mrs. Darling, "that it loses its proper effect. Either they are punished too often or not at the proper time. My Fred ——"

"I don't agree with you about that," said Mrs. Ammon, who looked a little flushed. "My father always said 'Spare the rod and spoil the child,' and acted up to it. For the slightest deviation from any of his rules, we were what I would now call *outrageously* punished. The consequence is, that with my children,—I suppose some might think me too lax,—but I *never* punish them. Only the other day Charlie had done something which, while he deserved punishment, was so cutely settled that I could not help laughing outright, and so spoiled the effect. He has some little pet rabbits and ——"

"My Flossie has a little kitten that she thinks the world of," said Mrs. Gale, "and yet what do you think the little mischief did with it the other day? I heard the poor little animal crying, and ran out, and saw ——"

"A tramp gave my Mabel a tiny dog, a few days ago; I suppose he must have stolen it, laughed Mrs. Ammon; and the children quarreled over it, all the time, till Charlie said, his eyes twinkling ——"

"I have always believed that cats are very bad to keep near children," Mrs. Darling said, "and I thought so more than ever last week when I discovered Fred and Jack fast asleep, and ——"

"But don't you think that *dogs* are a great deal worse!" exclaimed Mrs. Gale. "Why, there's that Sam of Mrs. Ferguson's; I never pass their place without a feeling of terror, myself; and as for my children, I always tell them ——"

"Oh! everybody keeps dogs now-a-days," said Mrs. Ammon, (who keeps four) "so we can't find fault with our neighbors. *You* had a little black-and-tan, last year, Mrs. Gale, that my Charlie played a very good trick upon, that was very bright for a six-years-old, I think. He had on a new collar, and was very proud of it ——"

"O! talking of cute tricks,—excuse me, Mrs. Ammon," said Mrs. Lowther, who had detected a cross look on Mrs. Ammons usually sweet face. "but I *must* tell this story while I remember it. I have so many times said that the most impossible stories of children in books, were excelled often by our everyday babies. My children are not precociously bright, I suppose, but their witty speeches, bright thoughts, and smart tricks might fill a good sized volume. Hattie and Belle had a couple of oranges, and went to the play room with them, to play tea party, as I supposed. When I called to them, to see why they were so very quiet ——"

"Don't you always imagine," said Mrs. Garth, "when they are quiet, that they are in some dreadful mischief? Frank often ——"

"Yes, indeed!" hurriedly replied Mrs. Lowther. "Well, as I was saying, I called and received no answer, so I ——"

"But," said Mrs. Gale, in a rather 'preceptorial' way, "I don't think children should be allowed to remain silent when they are called, *whatever* they are doing. My sweet little Elsie ——"

"So," continued Mrs. Lowther, "I came in quietly, to see what was the reason of this most unusual silence, ——"

"My Charlie had a great habit of keeping quiet when I called him, just for mischief." It was Mrs. Ammon this time. "He would say, with a saucy smile, ——"

"and when I came in, Hattie was playing at feeding her dog, and Belle ——"

"I never allow dogs in the house at all," said Mrs. Garth. "My little baby Rob is just beginning to talk, and ——"

"Bosh!"

It seemed as if Mrs. Lowther *must* have said it; she had thrown herself back in her chair, with a disgusted as well as a resigned look.

"Did—did you speak to *me*? Mrs. Lowther, inquired Mrs. Garth.

"O no, indeed! dear Mrs. Garth. But I really must hunt up Mr. Lowther, and get back to the little ones. Hattie, especially, is so restless. As I was saying," ——

"O, I must go, too. That reminds me that dear little Mabel ——"

"We've had *such* a pleasant evening! You must call on me some day, and see and hear some of my dear little lassie's sayings. She ——"

"Thank you for my part. I'll bring my little Mabel with me. She loves ——"

"Have you wraps enough, Mrs. Garth?" My Charlie says he thinks Mrs. Garth is ——"

"Well, we've spent nearly the entire evening telling baby stories. It's an inexhaustible subject when we get started, isn't it? Good-night, all, good-night!"

None of the ladies had meant to be at all rude, indeed, never imagined that they had interrupted any one.

When the "grandmother" told her daughter the next day, that she had tried to recall one, even, of the "baby stories," and had *failed;* and that she did not believe that there had been even one told, Mrs. Garth emphatically denied it. Nor would any one of the mothers ever have believed it.

ALL WELL AND ALL ASLEEP.

Some one has said, "the happiest hours a mother ever sees, are when her children are all well, and all asleep;" and there is a good deal of *truth* in it; but still, as we look at the rosy little sleepers, as they lie in their beds worn out with their play, and their troubles, they look almost pathetic, in their helpless innocence. No matter how much they may have tried our patience through the day just past, it is all forgotten as we look at them, lying in whatever attitude sleep overtook them, full of mischief to the last, and smiling still, over some intended freak they were powerless to carry out.

Of all that has been said about putting children to bed, the subject is still endless; for every one has her own opinions. I don't see why any mother should think the sooner they can leave this work to other hands, the better, for it should be the most pleasant hour of the day; disrobing the little forms, dressing them in their night clothes, and teaching them their prayers, for in my humble opinion the proper time for that is, while they are small; for things learned at mother's knee, are not soon forgotten; and have often proved the only anchor that held them from going wrong in after life.

But the baby of the fold; who has the right to say when we shall give up rocking him to sleep? Our precious *babies*, who all too soon grow too large to be petted! Even now, our little two year old boy thinks it is so nice to go to bed with his little sister, he will scarcely ever let me rock him to sleep, but I must sit down by the bed, and lay my face on the pillow, where he can pat my cheek with his little hands, and "kissee mamma" as long as he can hold his eyes open. Could I miss one single night of putting him to bed? mis his little cooing voice, and chuckle of delight, as he lays his soft cheek against my own, and so goes off to sleep? Never! The evening work may not be done quite so well as it *should* be, the dishes may, on some occasions, even go unwashed, and we may be seized with early repentance, as we behold the extra work in the morning; but, never mind, that feeling never lasts long, and we can work better with baby good and happy, and after the rest we ourselves have had, after a day of watching the little ones out of all sorts of mischief, and danger. I often think of the words of Holy Writ, where "He gives His angels charge concerning us," else, what protects our little ones, sometimes, when we, from some cause or other, are powerless to protect them. Let me illustrate my meaning: One day recently I had been very busy, and just after the dinner work was over, sat down to the machine to finish up some sewing that I needed; the children were playing outside the window, and presently I could only distinguish one little voice, and laying down my work was just starting out to hunt the missing chatterbox, when he came rushing around the corner of the house with a bottle in each hand, and saying, as he saw me: "Oh mamma, *taee meddy, dood* meddy, mamma!" At the first glance I had recognized the bottles as belonging to a lot of medicine, my husband kept for his horses, and which had hitherto always been kept in a place of safety; but during the moving, some careless hand had placed in an empty jar, and set away in an outbuilding, with a number of others, and as they had not been needed, had been forgotten, till busy fingers had pried them out. One of the bottles contained *deadly aconite*, the other, *carbolic acid*—either of which—oh horror! and knowing baby's love for medicine as well as I did! I neither screamed or fainted, perhaps because I am not that sort of a person, but for one brief second, everything whirled around me and grew black, then clasping baby in my arms, I snatched the bottle from his clinging fingers, and said, "Put out your tongue, baby." I looked at his tongue, which he kept pointing at, smelled his breath, and tried by every means in my power, to find out whether he had taken any of the aconite, for of course I should have known instantly, if he had swallowed any of the *acid*. I could see the cork of the bottle of aconite had been loosened, and when I would ask him if he had taken any he would put out his tongue and say, "Tase it mamma, *dood meddy*." Oh mothers, can you imagine my feelings? Alone on the farm, with only the two little ones, and knowing if anything was needed at all, it was needed instantly; while 8 drops was a dose for a horse, how much or how little had my precious baby taken, if any at all. I hurried to a book containing antidotes for poison, found antidote for aconite—nux vomica—*stimulate*. Of course had no nux vomica; as for stimulating, the minute I had put him down, he had made a rush for a sand pile out in the yard, and was busy pouring sand down on a section of stove pipe, with a tin cup, so the stimulation was evidently not needed. Well I could do nothing but watch and wait, for some dreadful symptom, I knew not what; and for two mortal hours I watched him, fearing every instant that something would occur to show that baby *had* swallowed the poison; but as time wore on, and he seemed as well and playful as ever, I finally concluded that he had only touched his tongue to the bottle, and had not *swallowed any*; but as I put them to bed *that night* and watched the tired lids close over the laughing eyes in healthful slumber, I drew a long breath of relief, and said: "All well and all asleep," thank God.

THORNY POPPY.

It takes a little time, patience and courage, but the successful mother will try to interest herself in that which interests her children, as well as try to interest her children in that which interests herself. She will play the old games with them and invent new ones. She will help them in their studies and help them in their play. In short, she will make home *house*, and she will try by *this* means, and not by forbidding and fault-finding, to keep her children out of the street.

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

MARY F. KNAPP, EDITOR.
No. 30 Linden St., S. Boston, Mass.

Terms Used in Knitting.

K—Knit plain. P—Purl, or as it is sometimes called, Seam. N or K 2 tog—Narrow, by knitting 2 together. Over—Throw the thread over the needle before inserting in the next stitch. This makes a loop which is always to be considered a stitch, in the succeeding rows or rounds. Tw—Twist stitch. Insert the needle in the back of the stitch to be knitted, and knit as usual. Sl—Slip a stitch from the left hand to the right hand needle without knitting it. Sl and B—Slip and bind—slip one stitch, knit the next; pass the slipped one over it, exactly as in binding off a piece of work at the end. * indicates a repetition, and is used merely to save words. "Sl 1, k 1, p 1, repeat from * 3 times"—would be equivalent to saying sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1. Tog means together.

Terms in Crochet.

Ch—Chain; a straight series of loops, each drawn with the hook through the preceding one. Sl st—Slip stitch; put hook through the work, thread over the hook, draw it through the stitch on the hook. S c—Single Crochet; having a stitch on the needle (or hook) put the needle through the work, draw the thread through the work, and the stitch on the needle. D c—double crochet; having the stitch on the needle, put the needle through the work, and draw a stitch through, making two on the needle. Take up the thread again, and draw it through both these stitches. T c or Tr—Treble Crochet; having a stitch on the needle, take up the thread as if for a stitch, put the needle through the work, and draw the thread through, making three on the needle. Take up the thread and draw through two, then take up the thread and draw it through the two remaining. S t c—Short Treble Crochet; like treble, except that when the three stitches are on the needle, instead of drawing the thread through two stitches twice, it is drawn through all three at once. L t c—Long Treble Crochet; like treble, except that the thread is thrown twice over the needle before inserting the latter in the work. The stitches are worked off two at a time, as in treble. Extra Long Stitch—Twine the cotton three times round the needle, work as the treble stitch, bringing the cotton through two loops four times. P—or picot; made by working three chain, and one single crochet in first stitch of the chain.

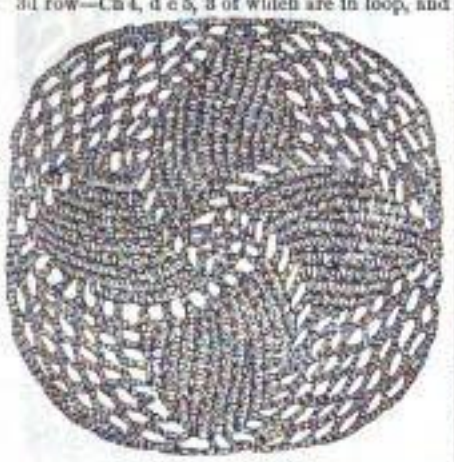
Horn of Plenty Tidy.

Chain 6, and join to form a ring.

1st row—Chain 4, d c 1 in ring, repeat until 4 loops are formed.

2d row—Chain 4, d c 3 in first loop, ch 4, d c 3 in second loop, so on round the circle.

3d row—Ch 4, d c 5, 3 of which are in loop, and



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

2 over the first 2 d c in group of 3 in the preceding row. Repeat round the circle.

4th row—Ch 4, d c 7, (3 in loop, and 4 over the first 4 in group of 5;) repeat.

5th row—Ch 4, d c 9, 3 in loop, and the rest over preceding groupes.

6th row—Ch 4, d c 11, 3 in loop, etc.

7th row—Ch 4, d c 13, 3 in loop, etc.

8th row— Ch 4, d c 15, 3 in loop, etc.

9th row—Ch 4, d c 1 in loop, ch 4, d c 13 over the 15, leaving 1 at each end; repeat.

10th row—Ch 4, d c 1 in first loop, ch 4, d c 1 in next loop, ch 4, d c 11 over the 13.

11th row—Make 4 loops and 9 d c.

12th row—Make 5 loops and 7 d c.

13th row—Make 6 loops and 5 d c.

14th row—Make 7 loops and 3 d c.

15th row—Make 8 loops and 1 d c.

This completes the wheel.

Join the wheels by the middle of the three loops each side of the horn. This leaves a square between the wheels which may be filled with a star. Chain 6, join.

1st row—Ch 8, d c 1 in first loop on one side of square, ch 8, d c 1 in ch of 6.

2d row—Ch 8, d c 1 in next loop, ch 8, d c 1 in ch of 6.

Repeat from the 4 sides of the square. The horns may be rubbed with thumb and finger to make them appear raised. Use coarse spool thread. MRS. F. L. REYNOLDS.

512 W. MONTELLO ST., BROCKTON, MASS.

Baby Boot.

Crochet in Saxony. Material, Saxony yarn and afghan needle.

Stitch—Crochet tricotee or afghan row, means to take up stitches and work them off.

Narrow, means take up two or three loops as one stitch.

Leg.—Make loosely a chain of 46 stitches. Raise all the stitches and work back.

2d row—This varies a little from ordinary crochet tricotee. *Keep the wool before the needle, then take up the chain at the top of the long loop, bring the wool through, repeat from * and work back in the usual manner. Work this row 10 times.

Work in plain crochet tricotee 10 rows. Sew up the leg.

Heel.—Plain tricotee.

On each side of the leg seam take up 9 stitches, making 18 stitches for the heel.

Crochet 4 rows, then narrow every row on each side of the centre, the 8th and 9th together, and 10th and 11th together, until only 6 stitches remain. Break the yarn.

Gusset and Sole—Plain tricotee.

On the right side of the heel take up 11 stitches, and 4 stitches on the centre of heel, take up 11 stitches on the left side—26 8. Work these stitches off, then narrow every row on each end 2 and 3 stitches as one the 24 and 25 as one until only 16 stitches remain. Knit 12 plain rows. Narrow every row by taking 2 and 3 stitches as one the 14 and 15 stitches as one until only 8 stitches remain. Break off the yarn.

Instep—Plain tricotee.

Take up the 28 stitches on the instep.

Next row—Narrow by taking 2, 3, and 4 stitches as one, the 25, 26, 27 as one, leaving 24 stitches.

Crochet 18 plain rows.

Narrow every row by taking 2, 3, and 4 stitches as one, the 21, 22, 23 as one, until only 8 stitches remain. Break off the yarn and sew up the boot.

To finish the top—Single crochet in first hole, miss two holes, 2 treble, 2 chain, 2 treble in the third hole, miss two holes, single crochet in third hole; repeat. E. W. H.

Roman Key, or Greek Pattern.

Make a chain of 36 stitches.

1st row—Tr c in 8th stitch, 3 tr c in next 3 stitches, ch 2, tr c in 3d stitch, ch 2, tr c in 3d stitch, ch 2, tr c in 3d stitch, ch 2, tr c in 3d stitch, ch 2, tr c in 3d stitch, 3 tr c in next 3 stitches, ch 2, tr c in 3d stitch, ch 2, tr c in 3d stitch; turn.

2d row—Ch 6, tr c in last tr c of first row, ch 2, tr c in next tr c of last row, ch 2, 4 tr c in 4th tr c

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]

of last row, ch 2, tr c in next tr c, 15 tr c in next 15 stitches, ch 2, tr c in 3d stitch of ch; turn.

3d row—Ch 5, 4 tr c in 4 tr c of last row, ch 2, tr c in 3d stitch, ch 2, tr c in 3d stitch, ch 2, tr c in 3d stitch, 3 tr c in next 3 stitches, ch 2, 4 tr c in 4 tr c of last row, ch 2, tr c in next tr c, ch 2, tr c in next tr c, 12 tr c in ch of 6; turn.

4th row—Ch 2, tr c between first 2 tr c, ch, 2, tr c between 3rd and 4th tr c, ch 2, tr c between 5th and 6th tr c, ch 2, tr c between 7 and 8th tr c, ch 2, tr c between 9th and 10th tr c, ch 2, tr c between 11th and 12th tr c, ch 2, tr c on last tr c of group, ch 2, tr c in next tr c, ch 2, 4 tr c in next 4 tr c, ch 2, 4 tr c in next 4 tr c, ch 2, tr c in next tr c, 3 tr c in next 3 stitches, ch 2, 4 tr c in next 4 tr c, ch 2, tr c in 3d stitch of ch; turn.

5th row—Ch 5, 4 tr c in 4 tr c, ch 2, 4 tr c in next 4 tr c, ch 2, tr c in first tr c, ch 2, tr c in 4th tr c, ch 2, 4 tr c in next 4 tr c, ch 2, tr c in next tr c, 2 tr c under 2 ch, ch 2, 2 tr c under 2 ch; repeat to end of row; turn.

6th row—Ch 4, single crochet in top of last tr c, 3 tr c under 2 ch, *ch 4, single crochet in top of last tr c, 3 tr c under 2 ch,* repeat what comes between the stars, 3 times, 3 tr c under 2 ch, 3 tr c under next 2 ch, ch 2, tr c in 3d stitch, ch 2, tr c in next tr c, 15 tr c in next 15 stitches, ch 2, 4 tr c in next 4 tr c, ch 2, tr c in 3d stitch of ch. This finishes one scallop. Join the 3d and 5th rows with single crochet in spaces between the groups of 3 treble crochet.

C. M. B. and S. J. T.

Diamond Normandy Lace.

Cast on 31 stitches; knit across plain.

1st row—Knit 8, narrow, over 1, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 9, narrow, over, knit 3, purl 1, over, knit 1.

2d row—Knit 2, over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 7, narrow, over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 7.

3d row—Knit 6, narrow, over, knit 7, over, narrow, knit 5, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, purl 1, over, knit 1.

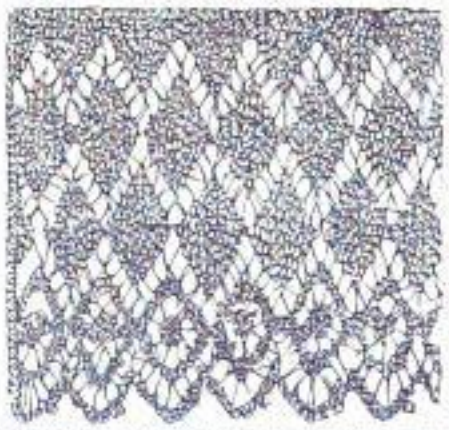
4th row—Knit 2, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 3, narrow, over, knit 9, over, narrow, knit 5.

5th row—Knit 4, narrow, over, knit 11, over narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 1, purl 1, over, knit 1.

6th row—Knit 2, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 1, over, knit 3 together, over, knit 13, over, narrow, knit 3.

7th row—Knit 5, over, narrow, knit 9, narrow, over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 3, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow.

8th row—Bind off 1, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 7, narrow,



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

over, knit 6.

9th row—Knit 7, over, narrow, knit 5, narrow, over, knit 7, over, narrow, knit 1, over, slip 1, narrow, throw the slipped stitched over the narrowed one, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow.

10th row—Bind off 1, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 3, narrow, over, knit 9, over, narrow, knit 3, narrow, over, knit 8.

11th row—Knit 9, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 11, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow.

12th row—Bind off 1, knit 1, over, knit 3 together, over, knit 13, over, knit 3 together, over, knit 10.

Repeat from 1st row.

HARWICH, MASS. MRS. H. C. B.

Crochet Shoulder Cape.

(By request.)

Materials: two skeins of Scotch yarn, and a bone crochet hook.

1st—Make a foundation chain of 83 stitches.

2d row—1 double crochet in every stitch of chain.

3d row—Thread over, skip first stitch,* 1 d c in each of next 2 stitches, 3 d c in next stitch, 1 d c in each of next 2 stitches, skip 2 stitches, repeat from * to end of row.

4th row—Skip first stitch,* 1 d c in each of next 2 stitches, 5 d c in next stitch, 1 d c in each of next 2 stitches, skip 2 stitches, repeat from * to end of row.

The 5th, 7th, 9th, 11th, 13th, 15th, 17th and 19th rows, put 3 d c in the middle stitch, as in the third row, making an extra stitch on each side of the middle stitch, taking up the extra stitch as you go along. Be sure and count, so as to have the same number of stitches each side of the middle stitch.

The 6th, 8th, 10th, 12th, 14th, 16th, 18th and 20th rows, put 5 d c in the middle stitch.

21st row—*1 d c in each of 12 stitches, 3 d c in next, or middle stitch, 1 d c in each of 12 stitches, skip 2 stitches, repeat from *.

The next 5 rows, the same as the 21st row.

In crocheting the above, put the hook in the back loop of the stitch, instead of through.

Border—Turn, and make a chain of 4, skip 2 stitches, 6 d c in 3d stitch, chain 1, skip 2, 1 d c in next stitch, ch 1, skip 3, 6 d c in next stitch, making 4 shells, and 3 bars, in each large scallop, and 1 bar to come in the loop between the large scallop, and so on through the row. Do 5 more rows just the same, carrying the last row round the sides and neck. For a finish, make a chain of 4 stitches, and put 1 single crochet between each stitch of scallop, catch with a single crochet in the bar between the scallops. Run a yard and a half of ribbon, or cord and tassel of the wool, through the 2d row.

By the term d c I mean for you to put the wool over the hook, then put the hook in the stitch, wool over the hook, draw it through two loops, then over the hook, and draw it through the 2 remaining loops. A. S. K.

Paper Flowers.

For these lovely flowers, it requires one sheet of each, dark red, rose color, pink, cream white, tinted pink, and pure white. These make one large bouquet of roses, for a bracket or vase. Cut a strip across the sheet two inches wide, cut one edge of the strip down half an inch, and a half inch apart, not cutting the blocks too deep. Draw the corners of each block over the shears, to curl them, and wind the strip around the finger until all rolled up, then slip it from the finger and wind with a wire, which also serves as stem, wind a piece of green wax on to cover the place, and wind the stem with green paper; green ribbon cut lengthwise, and ravelled one edge and the wire wound with the same, gives a mossy appearance. Buds may be made, and loops, of wire covered with the ribbon. Wax natural rose leaves and wire them, they look well, and last a long time. Or leaves from old artificial flowers can be used. Other flowers are lovely made of the French tissue paper. Ferns are made of wire wound with fringed green ribbon, and joined to a central wire wound with threads drawn from the ribbon. MRS. H. D. TAFT.

STURBRIDGE, MASS.

Sweet Pea Lamp Lighters.

Cut a strip of white paper half an inch wide, and eight inches long; roll or twist in the usual way—between the thumb and finger. Cut two pieces of tissue paper, one red and one white, in shape of a heart, but left half an inch wide at the point. Crimp down the center with a pin, paste or gum on the lighter, first the white, and then the red one. Bend in shape. When in a vase, they look like a bouquet of sweet peas, and are very pretty. H. D. TAFT.

Satin Duster Case.

Take a piece of satin 27 and one-half inches long, 9 inches and one-quarter of an inch wide, line it with silesia, or farmers satin. Turn up one end 6 and three-quarters inches for the pocket. Turn the other end to form a point, put this end through a brass ring (such as come on curtain poles) 9 inches from point, catch with a stitch or two each side close to the ring. The pointed end covers the bracket; put a ribbon bow of contrasting color on the pointed end. Hang it up by a ring, on a door knob. ELIZA.

Ladies Jersey Mitten.

These mittens are very elastic, and fit the hand and wrist nicely. They are made in single crochet stitch, with the hook put under the side of stitch nearest the worker, and up through the center of stitch instead of the usual way. Take knitting silk or Saxony yarn, and rather a large hook, crochet loosely. Make a chain of 53 stitches and join in a ring. 1st round, 1 single crochet in every chain. 2d round, 1 single crochet in every stitch; repeat the 2d round 40 times. 43d round; make 11 chain, miss 11, join in 12th stitch, (to start the thumb) 41 single crochet. 44th round; 1 single crochet in every stitch; repeat this round to end of 49th round. 50th round; (narrow by missing 1 stitch,) 52 single crochet in every stitch. 51st round; narrow 1, 51 single crochet. 54th and 55th round; 1 single crochet in every stitch. 56th round; narrow 1, 50 single crochet. 57th round; 1 single crochet in every stitch; repeat this round to end of 70th round. 71st round; narrow 1, 10 single crochets, narrow 1, 13 single crochets, narrow 1, 10 single crochets, narrow 1, 13 single crochets. 72d round; narrow 1, 10 single crochets, narrow 1, 11 single crochets, narrow 1, 10 single crochets, narrow 1, 11 single crochets. 73d round; narrow 1, 9 single crochets, narrow 1, 10 single crochets, narrow 1, 9 single crochets, narrow 1, 10 single crochets. 74th round, narrow 1, 8 single crochets, narrow 1, 9 single crochets, narrow 1, 8 single crochets, narrow 1, 9 single crochets. 75th round; narrow each alternate stitch to end of round; repeat this last round to end of mitten, and fasten thread. For the thumb: 1st round; 22 single crochets. Repeat till there are 18 rounds, then narrow every alternate stitch in three successive rounds, and fasten thread. Finish at wrist with a single row of shells. G. E. W.

Crochet Bead Watch Chain.

Spool of black silk—B. String a lot of beads on the silk without breaking it from the spool, (wind it on the spool) make a chain of eight or ten stitches, then put the hook through the first stitch of chain, and pull the thread through, then slip one bead up to the work and take up the thread again, and pull it through both stitches you have on the hook; every stitch and round are alike. Hold inside of chain toward you.

Knitted Wristers.

Cast on 40 stitches on 2 needles, and 30 on 1; knit around once plain, then knit 1, make 1, knit 3, slip 1, narrow, bind over the slipped one, knit 3, make 1, knit 1, make 1, knit 3, slip 1, narrow and bind as before, and so continue; make one stitch at end of each needle. If you want a larger size, cast on 10 more stitches for each scallop that you add. Cast up loosely, and bind off loosely. JENNIE D.

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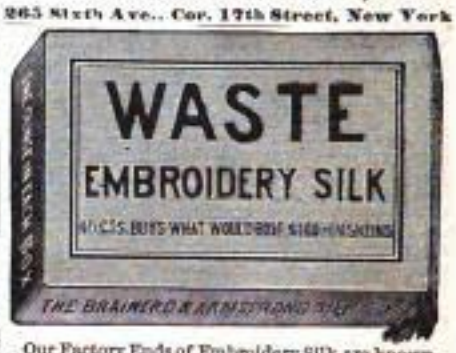

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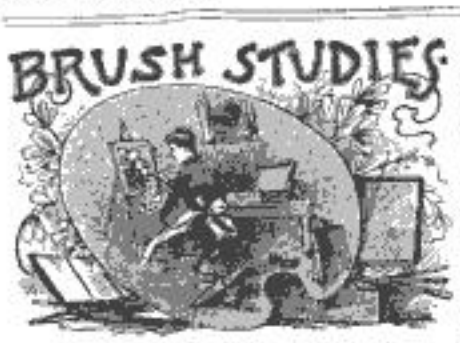

(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

BRUSH STUDIES AND HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

NEW SERIES—NO. XIV.

BY LIDA AND M. J. CLARKSON.

Study of Owls—A Novel Winter Scene—Shells in Decoration—How to Paint Heron and Iris—etc., etc.

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The sketch entitled "Study of Owls" will be fou d a very charming companion to the decorative panel "Flamingoes" which met with so warm a reception a few months ago.

These sage looking birds furnish a quaint and striking, yet by no means difficult subject for screen or panel decoration. Painted as a winter scene it forms a strong and effective contrast to "Flamingoes" for a two-leaved screen, or door panel. We purpose to give a series of these designs which are now greatly in demand.

For those inexperienced in landscape painting a simple back ground may be chosen and all the difficult details of a landscape avoided.

But for others familiar with landscapes, a

(Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.)
STUDY OF OWLS FOR SCREEN OR PANEL.

scheme can be followed yet more elaborate than that suggested by our sketch. An aerial perspective can be given, with shadowy foliage suggestive of a winter's twilight, the nearer trees and fence laden with snow; just enough detail in fact to give the characteristic features of a landscape.

The following directions can be followed by those who prefer the simpler treatment of panel. Before beginning to paint, draw in the owls and old fence with charcoal pencils well sharpened.

Make this sketch carefully, yet without giving it too much detail.

The pricipal outlines should be given and the masses of light and shadow indicated. A good sketch at the start is always a great help, and more apt to give satisfaction than a hurried imperfect drawing. This completed, it may be fixed by floating sweet milk over it, or by using the fixatif and atomizer described in a previous paper.

A ter the sketch is thus secured, begin by putting in the back ground. For this use silver white, yellow ochre, raw umber, Antwerp blue, and a little light red, toned with a trifle black.

Lay this ground in broadly using large bristle brushes, and taking free, yet firm strokes. Let the blue and yellow ochre predominate in the palette, until a rather greenish tone is had, gradually deepening as it nears the owls.

These are laid in next in one general tone of warm, delicate gray, the palette for which is white, yellow ochre, and burnt sienna.

Now observe carefully the deeper accents and paint in same way using raw umber, burnt sienna and yellow ochre.

For the breast, which is a warm, yellowish gray almost white in the lighter tones, use white and yellow ochre, with a trifle cobalt in the half tints. For the high lights white, yellow ochre and a trifle black will be needed. The pupil of the eye is black, with a clear yellow circle, or iris surrounding it. Use ivory black and cobalt in the centre, and for the iris light cadmium, yellow ochre and ivory black.

Touch in the lights seen in the eye with white and the least trifle yellow ochre. The palette for old fence is white, burnt sienna, Vandyke brown, and ivory black, or bitumen, if in the color box.

This is a useful color and gives rich, transparent browns but unless combined with other paints is liable to crack badly in drying. When it is desired to give this panel the effect of a winter twilight the paleste will be different.

The upper portion of back ground will need white, light red, Prussian, or Antwerp blue and towards the horizon, cadmium, orange, and more white. For the shadowy foliage use black, orange, and burnt sienna. The foreground foliage will need terre vert, orange, burnt sienna and cadmium yellow. The distant snow white, a trifle cobalt and yellow ochre.

For the snow in foreground which is the brightest feature of the picture, use white, yellow ochre, a trifle cobalt, or Antwerp blue, and a trifle black. In the shadows burnt sienna will be needed. The touches of snow upon distant foliage need to be grayer than those in foreground. A little raw umber can be added to palette and less white used. This is a subject which calls for broad, free handling.

Do not be sparing of paint or attempt useless detail, which will only detract from its effect as a whole.

Especially is this the case when the object is screen decoration. The brushes required will be flat pointed, from medium, to large size bristles, with sables 6 to 11 for finishing, or details.

Shells are beginning to be used, not only to enrich the cabinet of the naturalist as specimens, but for decorative purposes, and their graceful forms and delicate tints make them attractive receptacles for the beautiful mosses which many have gathered in summer rambles on the mountain or by the seaside. Dried ferns and grasses, bright berries, thistle pompons and feathery milk weed, grouped in these natural shell baskets present as pretty a picture as one could wish.

But this is not our sole purpose in the illustration of shells and grasses. It is intended to serve also as a design for lustra, or bronze painting, and for such work is both unique and appropriate. Take a piece of myrtle green, Burgundy red, or gendarme blue plush, or velvet, and sketch upon it this design, either with a chalk pencil, or better yet white paint mixed with a few drops of Mrs. Willard's opaque mixer. Now paint the shell, using an entirely different method from that generally advised for plush painting; that is, pile the paint on freely until it fairly projects from the surface of the fabric, mixing with a trifle white copal varnish to give a gloss. The spiral curves of the shell can be indicated in this way, one being raised a trifle higher than the next, until the cone-like point is reached. Next put in the mosses with peacock blue lustra color, touching up the lights with green gold, and deepening the shadows with dark dull green. At the last a few brilliant touches of iridescent grass green metallics in the lightest parts, give a pretty effect. A few forget-me-nots nestling in the mosses is a quaint fancy, and when used in decoration of a New Year, or birthday souvenir, a pretty addition.

In response to numerous requests we give here a fuller description of design for umbrella stand illustrated in Oct. No. of JOURNAL. To paint the stand: If a glazed drain pipe is used cover first with ordinary house paint. A color as near the general tone of background as possible is the best to use. When the first coat is well dried the sketch can be made and then a second painting of the ground. A very effective one for the subject is a yellowish brown, growing richer and deeper in tone towards the bottom of jar. For this, light cadmium, or chrome yellow, burnt sienna and yellow ochre, will be needed in the lighter parts, and burnt sienna, orange cadmium and bitumen in the deeper tones. A little ivory black can be added in the deepest accents. Use large bristle brushes in laying in this ground with a generous supply of paint, and no attempt at smoothness or blending. For the purple iris use mauve, a trifle cobalt, madder lake and silver white, toned with black. For the shadows, burnt sienna and raw umber will be required. For the lights, white, a trifle cobalt, madder lake and yellow ochre. The rich yellow accents of the centre are painted with cadmium yellow and orange. The yellow flowers are painted with light cadmium, yellow ochre, ivory black and white, shaded with burnt sienna and raw umber. The centres are the same as given for purple flowers, and the peculiar marking observable on petals can be painted with Vandyke brown and burnt sienna. The long sword-like leaves are a cool green with grayish lights.

For these use Antwerp blue, light cadmium, white, raw umber and burnt sienna toned with a little black. In the shadows more blue will be needed, with raw umber, burnt sienna and black. For the gray lights use yellow ochre, white, rose madder and a trifle cobalt, and where inclined to a yellowish tone light cadmium, burnt sienna and yellow ochre. The heron, which is of a chestnut and gray color mottled, or barred with deeper brown, and having a whitish breast, is not so remarkable for its color, as for its graceful form, the curve of its slender neck, and its glossy black crest.

The palette for the general tone is white, burnt sienna, a trifle Prussian or Antwerp blue, and black. The darker shading of back and wings, is painted with black, burnt sienna and a little yellow ochre. The breast needs more white, with raw umber in the shadows.

For the legs and bill, use yellow ochre, burnt sienna, a trifle raw umber and black.

The crest is painted with black and cobalt, with a

(Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.)
SHELL AND GRASSES.

little shading of the local tint. We have added a few cat-tails to our design, which contrast well with the other features of the subject. For the brown spikes burnt sienna, black and a little yellow ochre are needed.

The palettte for leaves, which are a cool green, is Antwerp blue, cadmium, or chrome yellow, light red, yellow ochre and black. In the lights Kings's yellow can be used to advantage, or cadmium and white. Give some of the leaves more prominence than others, sharper lights, and greater distinctness of outline; whereas others may be blended in with the ground so as to partake somewhat of its color, and partly lose form.

This gives effectiveness and pleasing contrast. This design is not only suitable for umbrella stand, but for panel, or other decoration.

***

HINTS AND QUERIES.

"Anna B." asks:—"How can frames be gilded and burnished to look like those you buy?"

The process of gilding is not so difficult a matter as is generally supposed. The materials needed are: First, a book of gold leaf, which can be obtained of most art dealers, then a gilder's knife, some cotton-wool, or batting, a few cents worth of gilder's varnish, sometimes called gold size, a little yellow ochre oil paint, and a large flat bristle brush.

The frame to be gilded is first covered with a coat of the size, to which is added enough of the ochre to color it a good yellow. This is then allowed to stand until it is what is termed "tacky," that is, slightly sticky to the touch.

Gilders generally use what is called a cushion to hold the leaf in working. This want is easily supplied by a large soft pad, covered with paper, cambric, or linen. The operation of transferring the gold leaf to the frame is one requiring delicate handling.

The worker is advised to proceed cautiously, much in the way which Dickens has described in his directions "how to catch your hat when it has blown away."

The leaf is laid carefully upon the pad, then taking a piece of the cotton-wool in the left hand between the thumb and fore finger, insert the long thin blade of the knife underneath the leaf, pressing lightly with the cotton. Gently lift it thus, and transfer it to the frame, patting softly with the cotton until it adheres well. Proceed in this way until a corner is reached, when a piece of the leaf will have to be cut off. Lay this aside for future use, and continue until the frame is covered. Afterwards the little pieces which have been thus trimmed off, can be worked up on any portion which may have missed being covered properly.

The point to be observed in order to succeed, is to apply the leaf at the right moment; that is to say, when the varnish has just the desired tack. If too moist it will dull the gold, and if too dry the leaf will not adhere to it well. Now, to burnish the plain parts, which adds so much to the beauty of gilding, the knife must be heated; and here is another important point.

The heat must not be such as to scorch the leaf, and yet it should be tempered in a way to accomplish the work successfully. As near as can be explained, it should be about as hot as the iron which flutes cloth without scorching it, or crimps hair without burning. When thus heated it is drawn smoothly over the plain portions of frame leaving in its wake a brilliantly polished surface which contrasts richly with the less brilliant surface.

The whole process requires a little practice and a good stock of patience and perseverance, but as a matter of economy it is worth all this to many. No other gilding can compare with it in brilliancy or durability. There is a special gold paint which can be applied with a brush, and will take burnishing very well, but no such results need be expected as can be had by following the given directions.

"Amateur:"—If your silver white paint is lumpy, it must be either an unreliable make, or very old. Schoenfeld's silver white never fails to give entire satisfaction. We should discard the carmine and scarlet lake as they are untrustworthy colors, and use madder lake and vermillion instead. The palette given in BRUSH STUDIES is very simple and entirely reliable. With it all necessary combinations can be made.

No, we do not wait until the first paintings dry before putting in other colors unless it be in exceptional cases, as in glazing, scumbling, etc.; processes sometimes resorted to in some styles of work. Of this we shall have more to say in future numbers.

"S. R. P.:"—Fowler's "Drawing in Charcoal and Crayon" will doubtless answer your purpose better than any other book with which we are acquainted.

"Elvie."—Directions for lustra painting have been frequently given, but will doubtless be supplemented by still fuller instructions as time and opportunity permit. It is not practicable to publish a list of our studies in these columns, but we will mail you one upon receipt of your full address and stamp.

"B. F."—The book "Brush Studies" will give you the required information, which has been too often repeated to be given again.

"Several Inquirers:"—The best varnish to use for oil paintings is Soehnees French Retouching Varnish. Apply after the picture is thoroughly dry, using a large flat bristle brush. If too thick, thin with a little alcohol. This is better than any oil, megilp, or other preparation, and can be renewed as often as necessary.

"Reader:"—Try ivory soap and pure soft water to remove the stain from your brass plaque. If this will not do, a little kerosene or alcohol may answer. Polish afterward with a dry, soft chamois.

"Mrs. S. A. R."—We shall bear in mind your requests, and hope to comply with them at an early date.

"E. C. M."—Persian embroidery is a variety of cross stitch, but differs essentially from the old-fashioned Berlin wool-work, which has lost its popularity of late years. In Persian embroidery there is a marked irregularity as to the stitches, which are taken up in groups and masses in any direction which suits the design. In working upon canvas the thread is carried over two holes, and then in beginning the next stitch, the needle is brought up through the intervening hole, which gives it the irregularity which is an artistic feature of the work. Much of the Eastern embroidery is done in this stitch.

The following letter from "Ray" will doubtless prove of interest to readers. She says: "I have taken great pleasure in reading your department of the JOURNAL and have received a good many useful hints for which I feel indebted. I have been making a very pretty thing in the way of fancy work. It is in the shape of a stand. Take a wooden bowl, a pretty size, not too large and rather shallow. Take three broom handles and fasten them together so as to form the legs, crossing in the centre. Then in the centre of the bowl, leaving a margin of two, or three inches paint a pretty winter scene, using diamond dust. (We should dispense with the diamond dust.) Gild the remaining surface of the stand, legs under bowl and all, and fasten from leg to leg at the top, a little brass chain, letting it hang loosely so as to swing. At the top of each leg, and where the three cross fasten a bow, either some pretty color of ribbon or a crazy bow. I tilted my bowl a trifle, the back being higher, which shows off the painting to advantage. Do not tilt it however so much that it will not hold things readily."

In reply to "Ray's" queries would say that the milk weed pods need no special treatment. Pick them when ripe and put in a warm place and they will burst open of themselves. Our space will not admit of directions for paper flower making at present.

***

We have a choice assortment of hand painted studies which we rent to subscribers to JOURNAL. "Study of Owls" now ready, also "Heron and Iris." Send stamp for list and particulars.

For one subscription to JOURNAL we will send our illustrated pamphlet upon "Decorative Painting;" full of interest to art workers.

For two subscriptions, hand book upon Kensington, Lustra Painting, etc.

For three subscriptions, "Brush Studies" neatly bound.

Address all communications relative to this department of the JOURNAL to

L. and M. J. CLARKSON.
PLEASANT VALLEY, DUTCHESS CO., N. Y.
N. B. Money Order Office, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

To Make Pretty and Inexpensive Picture Frames.

Take autumn leaves and press them with a warm iron. Then take a piece of pasteboard an inch larger all round than the picture you are to frame, have a bottle of prepared glue, paste the picture on the pasteboard, (be sure to have it even,) then paste the leaves on the frame. You must lap them over each other, in order to cover all the pasteboard. When covered, varnish the leaves, and it is done. It will be pretty to hang in a sleeping room, or sitting room where there a scarcity of pictures. K. SOMMERS.
SPRING HILL, ILL.

Knitted Afghan.

Use Germantown wool, two colors, a pound of each, and coarse steel needles. Cast on 43 stitches, knit across plain.

1st row. Slip 1, thread over, knit 19, slip 1, narrow, pass the slipped one over the narrow, knit 19, thread over, knit 1.

2d row. Knit plain, repeat these two rows until you have 35 purls, then join in the other color, knit 7 of the blocks (alternate in color) in a strip, and have 9 strips. If your colors are red and drab, commence 5 strips with red, and 4 with drab. The 7th block in the strip must be narrowed off to a point, to match the commencement of strip; crochet round each strip with single crochet, then crochet the strips together: finish one end of afghan with a scallop, and fringe the other end. M. F. K.

THE MIKADO:

For ten cents in stamps we will send a book containing, *First:* the complete words of the Mikado. *Second:* the music of all the best songs. *Third:* etchings of all the characters in the opera. These facts make it the best Mikado book published, but we send with it ten beautiful chromo cards besides, not defaced by having advertisements printed on the pictures. MACK PUBLISHING COMPANY, 528 & 530 Washington St., New York.

FOOD FOR INVALIDS.

EDITOR HOME DEPARTMENT:—I have read, with true sympathy, the request of "Invalid," and, though I have never become one o the Home family by contributing my mite toward sustaining the Home circle, I wait—not as a stranger waiteth—but as one who has long shared the things, in hopes to find a welcome.

To "Invalid" I would say: I am a constant sufferer, and have made the question of food my study for years. A grain of wheat is said to contain all the qualities for nutriment that the body requires; but to select only the *starch or fine flour* so generally used for food is to deprive our bodies of all sustenance. It is said two years would be the limit of life under such a regimen. But select other parts of the kernel and you have the real germ of health and strength. I live upon the gluten of wheat combined with barley, and find it very nutritious; seldom eat any meat. Gluten is a remedy for sleeplessness, if taken when retiring for the night. If I am permitted to inform you where to obtain the "Health Food," with full instructions how and what to use, I would like to direct you to send a description of your disease, inquiring what you need, to the "Health Food Co.," No. 74 Fourth Avenue, New York. You will receive advice and circulars free. Hoping and praying that the blessing of God may attend you, bringing peace to your household, and joy to your home, I write in the cause of

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THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL

AND

PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER.

A NATIONAL ILLUSTRATED FAMILY JOURNAL.

MRS. LOUISA KNAPP, EDITOR.

MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT, MRS. J. H. LAMBERT, } ASSOCIATE EDITORS.

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Receipts.—The fact that you receive the paper is a proof that we have received your remittance correctly. If you do not receive the paper promptly, write us that we may see that your address is correct.

Errors.—We make them so does every one, and we will cheerfully correct them if you will write to us. Try to write us good-naturedly, but if you cannot, then write to us any way. Do not complain to any one else or let it pass. We want an early opportunity to make right any injustice that we may do.

NEW YORK OFFICE: Potter Building, 38 Park Row, Room No. 1.

W. S. NILES, MANAGER.

Our New York Office is for the transaction of business with New York advertisers.
Subscribers should not address any letters to that office.

Philadelphia, January, 1887.

Watch the children carefully at this season and guard them from draughts. Put on winter underwear too early rather than too late. A cold caught now may prove obstinate and will be more than liable to last through the winter.

Did you ever try to take from a shelf higher than your head a bottle? And did you notice at the time that if you walked away from it you could see the pottle in its true position so that if you could reach it from where you were then standing you could put your hand on it without difficulty, while when you have again reached the shelf you are again obliged to grope blindly for the object so plainly visible from afar?

It is precisely this law of nature that speaks advice from a disinterested party often so valuable, and he who goes wilfully on his own course, without seeking counsel from one who, from another position, can take an "outside view" knows not what he misses.

It is the boatman who "sees from afar," that makes it possible for the engineer to send the boat upon its way.

Did you ever, at the imminent risk of your neck, walk along the street on a slippery day, and view with lofty contempt the full grown, nay, even middle-aged, people who were *sliding?*

It seemed very silly doubtless, but there really was not quite so much skittishness in the action, as good, sound, common sense.

Those who slide, on a slippery pavement, have learned one of the most profound principles of life.

For when we come to a slippery place in our daily path, if, instead of trying to tread firmly as common (looking round the while in apparent unconsciousness of our precarious footing) we acknowledge, with as much good humor as may be, that our footing is uncertain, and that we are not only obliged to step carefully, but even to *slide* a little in the direction of circumstances, we will not only be more likely to prevent a downfall, but, in the event of that disaster, the fall will be much more good-naturedly received by those around us, and helping hands to set us on our feet again, will be more readily outstretched.

Many people object to their children reading fiction, maintaining that such reading is injurious and that only the true, as in history, should be read.

But is fiction untrue? Truly, it deals with characters that seem to exist only in the authors brain, but are these characters any the less true for all that?

Do you never in reading a work of fiction, pick out a character here or there and say "That is just like so and so." If *you* have met in life, one or two of the characters mentioned, may not some one else have met the rest? And is the grouping together of these same life-like characters and the fastening of them together with a chain of natural circumstances to be regarded as writing that which is untrue?

But there is an advantage as well, in dealing with fictitious characters.

In real life, all that we know of a man, is *himself as he shows himself*. In fiction, the author knows every minutest spring of action, every thought, every turn, and he can play upon the character, if he be skilled, as an organist upon the keys.

In history we have the fact—the result; in fiction we have the thought which produced the result—each result can be traced back to its incipiency in the hero's brain. The motive is often quite as important as the action itself, only in real life and true history we cannot reach it.

All honor then to the writers who record, not only noble deeds but the thoughts from which those deeds have sprung, and all the innermost workings of a noble mind.

POSTAGE TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

A discrimination in the rates of postage to city subscribers is made between weekly and monthly periodicals, to the great disadvantage of the latter, for, while the weeklies can be mailed to city subscribers for one cent per pound, monthlies cannot be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent for each two ounces, except where the subscribers go to the post-office for their mail. And, as the JOURNAL in its present form weighs over two ounces, we are, therefore, obliged to ask Philadelphia subscribers twenty-four cents extra, for postage, unless the paper is addressed at the post-office to be called for, or to any P. O. box.

A FEW WORDS TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

OCTOBER, 18, '86.

"LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.—Your "ad" in to-day's *Boston Herald* has been in for the past three seasons just at this time of year. I and several others have answered it, and sent the Ten Cents (10c.) in money and stamps, but never heard after from you. It is time your Post-Office looked after your mail."

Above we quote in the letter, one out of many communications which we receive.

We would like our readers to note this quotation well, as we intend to draw several morals therefrom.

First, there is no *city* named upon the card and the stamp is so illegible that deciphering is impossible. Moral one—always write the City clearly, either at the beginning or end of any communication.

Second, there is no *state* named so that even *had* the city been distinct, we would still be at a great loss as there might be a city of the same name in every State in the Union as is the fact in some cases.

Moral *two*—always write the *state clearly*.

Third, there is no *name signed* so that having both city and state at our command we would be powerless to right a wrong, if the fault lay with us.

Moral three—always sign your name in full if you desire your business attended to.

In all probability had the writer of this postal complied with these three simple conditions, at the *first* sending, the second sending would not have been necessary.

We receive letters from all parts of the country (many of them demanding an answer by return of mail) signed in the most ridiculous manner. Suppose that we have the state and town in full how can we answer letters signed "Nellie" "Pansy" X. Y. Z—and above all that most common of all *nom de plumes* "A Subscriber."

We have lying in our desk now two letters which we greatly regret having had returned to us. They were directed precisely according to letters sent us and the replies were of importance to those sending. But as one comes from Salem, Mass. another from Boston, Mass. we presume the absence of street address is the cause of their non delivery. But we cannot help it. We did our best in writing at once—in the most kindly way we knew how. But we presume that the writers of those letters are this moment, away down in their hearts, regarding us as heartless if not absolutely "a delusion and a snare."

We would like also to say a few words to our subscribers about another matter which, perhaps, will do as well in this connection, as in any other.

We are in receipt of various complaints in regard to non-receipt of the JOURNAL. These complaints are always *willingly*, nay, *cheerfully* attended to. But this very attention, shows us the fact that, in ninety nine cases out of one hundred, *the names are upon our books, correctly entered, in every way.*

We are likewise in receipt of many *other* letters, two specimens of which, given below, will be sufficient, and will perhaps clear our shoulders of much of the blame which the non-receiving subscribers have been hitherto inclined to attach to us.

No 1.

"DEAR SIRS:—I sent you a notice yesterday that Mrs. Susan Brown has moved away—but she is here. Somebody of her name moved away a few months ago and I thought it was the same person. So please send her papers." This, signed by a postmaster—and one of many. Only a little while back, we received a notice of "not found" with these words "This is the *second* time I have notified you and I won't do it again." In the same mail fortunately we received a complaint from the subscriber in question. We immediately enclosed to her the P. M.'s notice. In a day or two we received from him—"You may send Mrs. ——'s paper right along I have found her" (no doubt he *had*, if one might judge by the tone of her complaint to us.)

To-day some one writes:—"By mere accident, my husband discovered at the Post Office, six months papers directed to me. I have received none since June and have been wondering where they were. But this clears both you and me of all blame."

There! we have done. We do not think much more need be said. When you find your paper missing *please be sure* that the trouble is *not* in your own post office. For we are holding now about two hundred notices from Post-masters, "removed" "changed" "no such person known" —"gone, don't know where"—"no such number" and in *every case* the address is according to the original letter sent in. We keep these notices to send to the complainants, for an owner is pretty sure to turn up. The Postal Service, in its present form, is anything but a credit to the United States, and in some cities it is so exceptionally bad that many business men employ special messengers and telegraph altogether, to carry any important business. Again we ask you to be sure that the trouble does not lie in your own town.

Pleased as a parent must be, to see a child happy, the parting between parent and child, at time of marriage must necessarily be accompanied by much that is bitter.

Is it pleasant to see the child for whom one has toiled and striven from its babyhood up, desert the parent nest to start out in life with an alien, just as soon as he or she has sufficiently matured to be companionable?

Natural, surely, but not pleasant.

Why then should parents be called upon to endure the "congratulations" that usually accompany such occasions?

Think about it! what is there to congratulate a bride upon? Upon safely landing the husband for whom she has been so long angling?

Indeed, it seems like it. We "congratulate" upon the achievement of some great effort.

When a friend leaves us for foreign shores do we congratulate him upon leaving all his landmarks behind him? No—we wish him well,—we bid him God-speed.

The whole matter seems to be covered by the reply of a loving, whole-hearted mother, who would have willingly given her life for her child.

"Congratulate me?" she asked, "and upon what? That I shall so soon lose my daughter? I do not consider it a subject for congratulation, even though her husband is the man of all the world I should have chosen for her. Wish *her* well, but do not "congratulate" her—or *me*.

Protect the children's knees well. Some physician asserts that many of the cases of lameness now extant arise from the absurd fashion in vogue but a comparatively little while ago, keeping short stockings on children during winter time and thus allowing the knees to be exposed to the cold. Women with their long skirs, and men with their thick pantaloons can hardly compute the discomfort suffered by the little ones in their curtailed garments.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"MRS. K. G.," CHICAGO.—Home dyed silk dresses are seldom a success. Try Diamond Dyes according to directions.—[ED.

IF "J." will use Babbitt's 1776 on her flour sacks, it will take the letters out.

MARIE GREENE.

TANGERINE, FLA., Nov. 1st., '86.

ED. L. H. J.—Will you please let me know where I can get leaves for artificial flowers? And oblige T. T. W.

[Denison, Chestnut below 8th St., Philadelphia, Pa.—ED.

WILL "L. C. R." please send me a pieced block called the "Tree of Paradise?" and oblige

Yours truly, MANILLA A. CURTIS.
N. NEWBURGH, ME.

"MRS. G. D. C.," Eugene City.—Answered by mail to above place. No street address given. Letter postmarked Albany, Oregon.—[ED.

CAN some of the sisters tell me through the L. H. J. what will take choke cherry stain out of a linen lap spread? and greatly oblige

MRS. J. L. EDGERTON.

HACKENSACK, N. J., Nov. 12, '86.

DEAR EDITOR.—Can you inform one of your subscribers how I can remove lemonade stains from an ingrain carpet? LILLIE.

[Try application of ammonia-water.—ED.]

PLEASE answer through paper where I can get Wells & Richardson's butter coloring.

SUBSCRIBER.

[Send to Wells & Richardson, Burlington, VT. —ED. JOUR.

PHILA., Nov. 15th, 1886.

ED. L. H. J.—I would like to know if there is any way to freshen up old hair cloth. Please answer through paper, and oblige VIRGINIA.

[We are inclined to think "old hair cloth" hopeless.—ED.

LIME RIDGE, PA., Nov. 16, 1886.

ED. LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.—Please let me know, through columns of the JOURNAL, how to ebonize maple or cedar wood. Resp't.

ALICE NEUKELMAN.

[Apply to any art store for preparation which is manufactured for the purpose.—ED.

STAFFORD POINT, CATAHOULA PARISH, LA., Nov. 11th, 1886.

EDITOR JOURNAL.—Will you kindly inform me, through your paper, where I can obtain "Sylvia, or The Discarded Wife?" I am greatly pleased with your paper; think it splendid.

Yours respectfully, MISS M. C. HERRIFF.

WILL some of the ladies who have used Diamond Dyes please tell me if the goods are to be scoured upon taking from the dye, or dried and then washed? I have not been successful with them.

MRS. G. D. L.

[Use Diamond Dyes *exactly* according to directions on package and you will be successful.—ED.

SOME readers of the JOURNAL may be pleased to learn that real thread lace may be cleaned and prevented from turning dark by laying away in a box with a mixture of pulverized magnesia and French chalk, equal parts, sprinkled plentifully in the folds. A lace maker told me that in this mixture they kept laces awaiting sale. E. E. S.

CAN any of the sisters tell me how to make a hair watch chain? I do not think "Subscriber" could get any idea of hair flowers from written directions, but as I learned from a teacher how to make them, will send her as plain directions as possible if she will send her address to

MRS. VILLIE VAN,
LENTEN, LIME SPRINGS, IOWA.

KINGSTON, Nov. 15, '86.

TO THE EDITOR OF LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.—Dear Madam:—If "Mrs. A. M." will write to the Agricultural Department at Washington, she can procure a manuel of silk culture published by the government, and sent free upon application. She can also gain considerable information by writing to the Women's Silk Culture Association, Nos. 1234 and 1236 Arch St., Phila.

"Mrs. P. D. Dooly."—Cannot make out your address, and the post mark on your letter only shows the "Miss" a "C." and part of an "E.," so you must write direct for a circular of Hard Water Soap to Ardis Soap Co., Pier 65 South Wharves, Philadelphia, Pa. Do wish our friends would write their names and addresses distinctly. Sometimes they forget to give the address, and then are indignant because their letters are not answered.

"Mrs. N. M.," Binghampton, N. Y., "Mrs. A. P.," "Worked to Death" and others:—All that boiling and scalding clothes is injurious to the health, besides being time thrown away. Get Frank Siddall's soap, and wash your clothes according to directions on wrapper, and you will be better off in purse body, and mind.

LEAMINGTON, ONTARIO, Nov. 3, 1886.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.—Will you please tell me, through the columns of your valuable paper, where I can get J. H. Green's genuine improved ink eraser and paper cleaner? and you will oblige Yours truly,

A SUBSCRIBER.

[Any reliable stationer can provide you with the above article or will obtain it for you.—ED.

NORWOOD, MASS., Sept. 24, '86.

EDITOR L. H. J.—A subscriber who signs herself "Novice," asks, in the October number, the lady who furnished the recipe for cream of tartar bread, if it was ready for baking immediately after mixing. As I am the person referred to, I would say to her, certainly, your bread is ready for baking as soon as mixed. One of my mother's first lessons in baking was, that any mixture containing cream of tartar and soda, or baking powder, should be put into the oven as soon as possible. I trust "Novice" will also try our recipe for Raised Graham Bread—Two qts. graham meal, ½ compressed yeast cake, (a quarter of a cake or third will contain sufficient rising power, as Graham meal is raised more easily than flour,) ½ cup sugar, or molasses if preferred. If yeast is used, ½ of a cup is sufficient. Mix with milk or water to a *stiff* batter, adding a little soda and salt. Mixed at night it will be ready in the morning to be put in pans, after a brisk stirring. Let it rise half an hour, and then bake.

FANNIE PERRY.

CASTELL, LLANO CO., TEXAS, Oct. 20th, 1886.

EDITOR L. H. J.—If you'll only look at the map of Texas, you'll see I am one of the sisters who surely appreciates your valuable paper. I feel that I've lost a great deal, not subscribing before this. I think we can take it up and find everything, or any information necessary, about housekeeping, etc.

In answer to the inquiry of "O. M. C." in regard to crystallizing grasses: Put into an earthen vessel or porcelain kettle, one pound of alum in small lumps, pour nearly a gallon of water upon it, and let it boil; tie up the grasses in very small bunches, and then shake the heads apart; pour the alum water into an open jar, place sticks across the top, from which suspend the grasses into the liquid. Set the jar in a cool place, let it remain twenty-four hours. Remove the grasses very carefully, hang them up separately until thoroughly dry, before putting them in vases.

"Mrs. C. J. Mosher, Colchita, Kan." can teach her parrot to talk or sing, by taking it at night into a dark room and cover the cage with a large towel or anything that will keep it from seeing her; then whisper to it, very distinctly. I taught one to sing the first line of "Am I a Soldier of the Cross," and I taught it to say a great many little sentences: "Begone, dogs," "Polly wants cracker and coffee," and ever so many little sentences. I am always so anxious to get my JOURNAL and think I'll get several subscribers. I hope you will succeed in reading this letter. I have very sore eyes, and would like some of the sisters to tell me something or some remedy, as it is prevalent in this country. Resp't. MRS. C. L. H. D.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—

One of the most mistaken of the many fallacious tenets held at the present day, is, that ignorance is innocence. Upon this rock of ignorance thousands of young lives have been wrecked because those on whom devolved the sacred duty, failed to teach the victims to read the danger signals.

Home education alone can protect our youth from the pitfalls on every side; and upon parent and guardian does it devolve to see that their charges are made to know and appreciate that they possess passions to be controlled—appetites to be watched.

Either from false modesty or from neglect, instruction in regard to many of the functions of a divinely constructed physical nature, is entirely witheld; and from pure ignorance our growing boys and girls, fall into habits of vice which ruin the body and blast the soul.

It is the duty of every minister from the pulpit; of every judge from the bench; and of the press from its position as an educator of the public taste, to strip of all their glittering attractions, the evils of the day and to present them as they are, that they may receive the condemnation and detestation that they deserve.

But a few months ago, society at large was startled by the horrible disclosures made in one of the English papers; and people stared and asked each other "Can this barter of souls exist in our midst?" Yet it *did*, and still does to a degree, in all the larger cities on both sides of the water. You only need to hear the reports from the various societies formed for the repression of vice to be convinced of the truth of this statement.

Why not *your* children or *mine*, if we leave them unwarned—unguarded?

"Forewarned is forearmed." Woman! a great power has been given you; an influence so subtle that it can only be felt, not seen. But it lies with you whether this influence shall be exerted for good or ill; it lies with you whether you shall keep your original purity unsullied or shall trail it in the dust.

If this beautiful world is ever made pure and better, it will certainly be through your influence.

Preserving hearts and homes
And thus, the state.

HENRY LONGCOPE.

NOV. 5th., 1886.

DEAR JOURNAL:—I was glad to see "H. M. M.'s" letter in the November number. It seemed to me it was time for some one to remind the sisters of the spirit of retaliation some of them were showing. We must follow her advice and "strive to exchange ideas in a Christian spirit."

While I agree with her in thinking that "Bell" criticised "Thorny Poppy" somewhat severely, I think we should not overlook the merit of "Bell's" article. It certainly shows that the writer possesses a very good understanding of the subject. I know that dear "Poppy" is thoroughly in earnest, and means well, but isn't there danger of leading some young mothers astray by advocating the use of butter, beans and coffee for children less than a year old? While many children survive when given the food of older persons, a great many are killed by it, especially in the summer time.

If "Poppy" and any of the rest of the sisters are not acquainted with some of "our modern writers," they, and their children would be greatly benefitted by carefully reading some of them.

One of them says: "Milk for babes, mush and milk for children under six years of age; and during this period all wholesome vegetables may be permitted, but no stronger animal food than milk. Passing the sixth year, butter, eggs and fish may be allowed to enter sparingly into the diet of the child; and from the twelfth year,—poultry, broths and the soups of other meats."

In the October number "Lulu" wishes to know a cure for stammering. The following is from the *Phrenological Journal*, and I should think, is reliable. "The pupil is first taught to make full, long inspiration, and follow it by regular, forcible expiration. Then the respiratory movements are made with various rythms until they become full, regular, and easy, instead of being jerky, labored and fatiguing. In the second stage of treatment, exercises with vowel sounds are substituted for the previous mute breathings, giving to each vowel the various modifications of tone, pitch, duration, etc., heard in conversation. The third stage comprises exercises on consonants alone, and in combination with vowels; at first slowly, then rapidly, varying the duration and pitch of each syllable, and passing from words of one syllable to those of two and more syllables. Prepared by these exercises, the pupil learns to articulate slowly, and methodically short sentences, and always beginning with a deep inspiration. Twenty days of this treatment usually suffice for a perfect cure."

In answer to an inquiry, I would recommend greasing the letters on flour sacks before washing, to remove them. I have not tried it, but intend to do so.

What is the address of the author of "Economy" in the March number? I fell in love with her and her article.

I, too, think our JOURNAL a most excellent paper. May success attend it. IONE.

There is a winding staircase in every heart and the little door at the top opens on a spot where an instinctive love of truth and goodness is enshrined. It may be hard to reach, but it is there

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(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

COTTAGE DINNERS.

NO. III.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

In the life of a busy and conscientious housewife, it is often difficult to tell what to slight,—or rather,—what to leave undone. The wife must see that her husband's home is bright and cheerful, the mother, that her children are carefully trained physically, mentally and spiritually. The peculiarly feminine side of a woman's nature is tempted by the desire to make her rooms pretty with needlework, while her intellectual part craves books, art and music. Among these pressing claims there is little wonder that one duty jostles another, and that in the effort to reconcile them all, the poor housekeeper comes to consider many of them as burdens. Nor is it a marvel if she slips a weight from the galled shoulders occasionally and lets matters go as they will for awhile. Still, it is dangerous for a woman to lower her standard even temporarily. It is harder to raise it again.

In no department of the home are constant care and a high ideal more necessary than in what pertains to the eating room and hours of the family. In many households the meals are the only times when all the members are assembled, and the endeavor should be to make such seasons the bright spots of the day. Pleasant faces, an attractive table, neat serving and well prepared food all bear their part in accomplishing this result. The waiting may be of the simplest, but even if the cook must change the courses, she may don a white apron and cap for the task. When the work devolves upon members of the family, it should be performed as carefully as by professionals. Such experience will stand in good stead to sons and daughters when they have homes of their own. The routine may seem irksome at first, but in the end it will prove easier than the "higgledy-piggledy" style of serving common in some homes.

A few leading points should be clearly understood, both by professional and amateur waiters. Dishes must be passed on the left side, as the guest's right hand is then free to help himself. In clearing the table, the large dishes should first be removed, next the plates, and last the smaller pieces, such as salt-cellars, cruets, etc. A folded napkin is better for crumbing the cloth than a brush, as the latter soon becomes unpleasantly soiled. Every vestige of the earlier courses should be banished before the dessert is placed on the table. The sweets of the meal will be enjoyed far better if there are no remnants of the preceding viands in the shape of crumbs and scraps, or worst of all, soiled knives, forks and plates.

SUNDAY.

Tomato Bisque.
Pot Roast of Beef.
Mashed Potatoes.
Cold Slaw.
Stewed Celery.
Lemon Jelly. Nut Cakes.

TOMATO BISQUE.—One can tomatoes, one quart milk, one tablespoonful butter, one tablespoonful cornstarch, one teaspoonful white sugar, salt and pepper to taste.

Strain the juice from the tomatoes, setting aside the pulp for future use. Put the liquor over the fire in a saucepan and add the sugar. Heat the milk in a double boiler and thicken with the cornstarch rubbed smoothly with the butter. Stir in a pinch of soda and just before taking from the stove, pour the tomato into the milk. Season and serve at once. If left on the fire more than a minute after adding the tomato, the milk is apt to curdle. This will be found a simple and delicious soup.

POT ROAST OF BEEF.—Lay in a broad pot a boneless piece of beef, cut from the round. It should be between three and four inches in thickness, a solid "chunk" bound and skewered into compact shape. A piece weighing from five to six pounds is enough for a family of ordinary size. Pour over it about a pint of boiling water, sprinkle with a few fine shreds of onion and a little salt and cook over a slow fire. Turn the beef once or twice. Allow about fifteen minutes to the pound for cooking. When it is done transfer it to a dripping pan and brown slightly in the oven while the gravy is cooling sufficiently to allow the grease to be skimmed from it. Thicken the gravy with browned flour, boil up once and add a dash of catsup. Pour part over the meat in the dish, the rest into a gravy boat.

MASHED POTATOES.—Prepare as previously directed.

COLD SLAW WITH EGG DRESSING.—Cut the heart of a white cabbage fine with a sharp knife and just before sending to table pour over it the following dressing.

Yolks of two eggs, two tablespoonfuls of oil, four tablespoonfuls of vinegar, one teaspoonful salt, one teaspoonful sugar, one saltspoonful each of pepper and mustard.

Beat the oil by degrees into the yolks of the eggs until the mixture is thick and smooth. Add the seasoning and the vinegar beating all together thoroughly. Both the dressing and the cabbage may be prepared on Saturday and will keep perfectly in a cold place.

STEWED CELERY.—Take the outer and unblanched stalks of celery for this dish, reserving the firm white pieces for Monday's dinner. Cut into nice lengths, stew tender in a little boiling water, drain this off and supply its place with half a cup'l of hot milk. Simmer five minutes and thicken with a teaspoonful of butter rolled in a tablespoonful of flour. Pepper and salt to taste.

LEMON JELLY.—Half package of gelatine soaked in a cupful of cold water for an hour, two cupfuls boiling water, one cupful sugar, two lemons, juice and rind, half teaspoonful of cinnamon.

Stir the sugar, cinnamon, lemon-juice and grated peel into the soaked gelatine and pour over this the boiling water. Strain through a thick cloth into moulds wet with cold water. Set in a cold place to form. Eat with cream.

NUT CAKES.—Half cup of sugar, half cup of butter, two eggs, half cup of water, one and a-half cups *prepared* flour, one cupful hickory nut kernels freed from all bits of shell and dredged in flour.

Cream the butter and sugar, add the yolks of the eggs the water and flour and the whites. Last of all, stir in the nuts. Bake in small tins and ice if desired.

MONDAY.

Beef *a la jardiniere.*
Baked Sweet Potatoes Celery.
Fruit.

BEEF A LA JARDINIERE.—Slice three carrots, two turnips and two beets, and cut into inch lengths the contents of a pint can of string beans. Stew these until tender and drain dry. Pour over them whatever gravy you have left from the day before and add the residue of the can of tomatoes. Heat your beef in a steamer. If you have none, one may easily be improvised by placing a gridiron or toasting rack over a pan of boiling water set in the oven, laying the meat on the bars and turning another pan over it. When it is heated through lay it in a platter, arrange your vegetables about it and pour the gravy around it. This will prove an easy and appetizing method of serving the beef for the "wash day dinner" that is a bug-bear in numberless households.

BROWNED POTATOES.—Boil potatoes and peel them. Lay them in a pan and pour over them a cupful of the gravy reserved from your beef. Set in the oven uncovered and turn them occasionally, watching closely to see that they do not scorch. Let them brown nicely before taking from the oven.

CELERY.—Serve the fresh white pieces reserved from yesterday's supply and arrange in a dish or a glass as before directed.

FRUIT.—When possible, have a set of fruit plates. Pretty ones may be bought for from five to eight dollars a dozen and sometimes for even less. There are few housemothers who would not prefer something of this kind, to add to the beauty of their homes, for a Christmas or birthday gift, rather than any article of personal adornment. Dainty plates, arranged with such doilies and finger bowls as were described in the November issue of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL and furnished with small silver fruit knives add an air of elegance to a prettily piled dish of bright apples or Winter pears that makes the simple dessert doubly tempting.

TUESDAY.

Potato Soup.
Boiled Ham.
Mashed Potatoes. Boiled Squash.
Crackers and Cheese.

POTATO SOUP.—A dozen potatoes, one cup milk, two quarts cold water, bunch of soup herbs and celery tops, half onion, minced, one tablespoonful of butter, one tablespoonful of flour.

Peel and slice the potatoes, and boil ten minutes. Drain off the water and return the saucepan to the fire with the two quarts of cold water, onion, herbs and celery. Boil for an hour, then rub through the colander and reheat the strained contents of the soup pot to the fire. Bring to a boil, and stir in the butter, rubbed smooth with the flour. Season and pour into the tureen. After this is done add the cup of milk which should have been heated in a separate vessel. Mix well.

This is a palatable and nourishing soup and is little trouble to prepare. At this time of year soups are to be especially recommended as much more wholesome than pastry and rich puddings and costing far less trouble. It is well to let them supersede desserts occasionally and to place the extra course at the beginning of the meal instead of at the end.

BOILED HAM.—Get a corned ham in preference to a smoked one, as the latter are less digestible than the former. Soak over night, and put on to boil early in the morning in cold water. Cook steadily, but not too fast, allowing fifteen minutes to the pound. Skin, sprinkle over thickly with cracker crumbs, dot with "dabs" of pepper, and garnish with parsley.

MASHED POTATOES.—Prepare as before directed, cooking enough to have a supply for next day's dinner.

BOILED SQUASH.—Peel and slice the squash, removing the seeds. Lay in cold water half an hour, then put on the stove in enough boiling water, slightly salted, to cover it. Boil for an hour, drain dry in a colander, and mash and beat smooth in a wooden bowl. Heat again, stirring in a lump of butter the size of an egg and quarter of a cupful of milk. Season to taste and serve very hot.

CRACKERS AND CHEESE.—Clear the table as though for dessert, have the crackers heated in the oven and eat with the cheese. Neufchatel and Philadelphia cream cheese, or the home made "pot cheese" are very nice, or when these are not available, good English or American cheese. A cup of coffee or tea is a pleasant addition.

WEDNESDAY.

Mutton Stew with Dumplings.
Potato Cones. Scalloped Squash.
Baked Sweet Potatoes.
Cottage Pudding.

MUTTON STEW WITH DUMPLINGS.—Two pounds lean mutton, two cups cold water, one tablespoonful of browned flour wet up in cold water, herbs, chopped onion, etc., for seasoning.

Have the meat cut into inch squares by your butcher, put on the fire in cold water with the onion. Stew slowly until tender, and add the herbs and seasoning. Cook ten minutes longer, remove the meat with a split spoon and set aside in a hot place. Thicken the gravy with the flour and cook the dumplings.

DUMPLINGS.—One cup prepared flour, one small tablespoonful of lard, a little salt, milk enough to make a moderately stiff dough.

Rub the lard and salt into the flour until they are thoroughly mixed, add the milk and roll the paste into a sheet a quarter of an inch thick, handling as little as possible. Cut into strips about the length and width of the finger, and drop these into the boiling gravy. Cook about ten minutes and arrange around the meat on a hot dish. Pour the gravy over all.

The business of making dumplings can be greatly simplified by using Creamery Buttered Flour, manufactured by the Martha Washington Flour Co., 384 Hudson St., New York. By the help of this, the work may be done in half the time and with half the exertion.

POTATO CONES.—Beat the whipped yolk of an egg, a teaspoonful of butter and a little salt and pepper into two cupfuls of cold mashed potato. Form with the hands into cones, leaving a little hollow in the top of each. Place the cones in a greased pan and brown in the oven. Two minutes before removing them put a little of the whipped white of an egg into the hollow on top.

SCALLOPED SQUASH.—Heat a quarter cupful of milk almost, but not quite, to scalding. Stir into it a lump of butter half the size of an egg rolled in a tablespoonful of flour, remove from the fire and add a beaten egg. Whip this into a cupful of cold boiled squash, season to taste, put into a buttered pudding dish, sift crumbs over the top and brown in a quick oven.

BAKED SWEET POTATOES.—Directions previously given.

COTTAGE PUDDING.—One cup of sugar, one tablespoonful of butter, one cup of milk, two eggs, two cups prepared flour.

Cream the butter and sugar, add the whipped yolks of the eggs, the milk, the flour and the beaten whites. Bake in a brick shaped mould well greased, and slice cross-wise. Eat with either hard or liquid sauce.

THURSDAY.

Mutton Broth.
Barbecued Ham.
Corn Pudding. Cream Turnips.
"Brown Betty."

MUTTON BROTH.—One pound lean mutton, cut small, two pounds mutton bones, well cracked, two quarts cold water, chopped onion and parsley, salt and pepper.

Let the meat, bones and onion simmer slowly several hours. Season and set aside until cold. Remove all the fat and strain out the bones and meat, squeezing out every drop of soup. Have ready half a cupful of rice, which has been soaked in a little cold water for two hours. Add this to the soup, put them on the stove and let them simmer until the rice is soft and broken. Add the chopped parsley and the milk, which should have been heated to scalding in another vessel.

A little foresight will enable the housekeeper to prepare the stock for this soup, the day before the broth is to be used.

BARBECUED HAM.—Cut large slices of cold ham and fry them in their own fat. Prepare a sauce of three tablespoonfuls of vinegar, half a teaspoonful of sugar, the same of made mustard and a little pepper. Lay the ham in a hot dish, stir the sauce into the fat left in the pan, boil up once and pour all over the meat.

CORN PUDDING.—Drain the liquor from a can of corn and chop the kernels very fine. Rub together a tablespoonful of butter and sugar, add a beaten egg and two cupfuls of milk. Stir the chopped corn into this, salt slightly and bake in a good oven for about half an hour. A delicious dish.

CREAM TURNIPS.—Peel, slice and stew the turnips until tender. Make a sauce of a cupful of milk thickened with a tablespoonful of butter rolled in half as much cornstarch and seasoned with pepper and salt. Drain the turnips, pour the sauce over them and let them stand over the fire in a double boiler for ten minutes. Do not let them come to a boil.

BROWN BETTY.—Six large apples, sliced, cored and chopped, two cups fine bread crumbs, half cup of sugar, one tablespoonful of butter, a little cinnamon.

In the bottom of a greased pudding dish place a thin layer of the crumbs, follow this by one of apples, well dotted with bits of butter and sprinkled with sugar and spice. Repeat the layer of crumbs, and continue in the same order until all the materials are exhausted, making the top stratum of the crumbs and laying bits of butter on it. Bake covered fifteen or twenty minutes, then uncover and brown. Eat with sauce or with butter and sugar.

FRIDAY.

Boiled Cod with Tomato Sauce.
Mashed Potato, browned. Rice with Cheese.
Plain Macaroni Pudding.

BOILED COD WITH TOMATO SAUCE.—Order a good solid piece of cod. Lay it in cold water, salted, for fifteen minutes, sew it up in a piece of cheese cloth or white mosquito netting and put on the fire in boiling water. Cook twenty minutes to the pound. Prepare the sauce by draining the liquor from a can of tomatoes, heating over the fire, seasoning and thickening with browned flour wet up with a little of the cold juice. Lay the piece of cod, released from the netting, upon a hot dish and pour the sauce over and around it.

MASHED POTATO, BROWNED.—Prepare the mashed potato as usual, stir a beaten egg into it, mound on a pie plate, and brown in a quick oven.

BOILED RICE WITH CHEESE.—Wash a cupful of raw rice in cold water, picking it over carefully. Put over the fire in two quarts of water that is boiling hard at the time. Salt slightly and cook twenty minutes, shaking the saucepan occasionally, but never stirring it. Ascertain if the rice is soft enough by pinching a grain between the thumb and finger. Drain off the water through a colander and set this with the rice in it over an empty pot on the stove, to dry off. Just before sending to table mix into it with a fork a teaspoonful of butter and a tablespoonful of grated cheese, with salt to taste.

PLAIN MACARONI PUDDING.—Break half a pound of macaroni or spaghetti into inch lengths, and cook soft in boiling water. Scald three cups of milk, adding a pinch of soda, stir in a little salt and a tablespoonful of butter, and add the macaroni, first draining it dry. Cook ten minutes in a double boiler, and eat hot with butter and sugar.

SATURDAY.

Rolled Steak.
Fried Potatoes Scalloped Tomatoes.
Crullers.
Coffee.

ROLLED STEAK.—Order a round steak, less than an inch thick. Have your butcher beat it hard with the flat of his cleaver and score it yourself across both ways with a sharp knife. Spread it thickly with a forcemeat made of chopped salt pork and bread crumbs, seasoned with pepper, salt, thyme, sweet marjoram and parsley with a little finely minced onion. This done, roll up the steak as you would a piece of music, and bind it firmly into shape with stout string. Lay in a dripping pan half filled with boiling water, cover it closely and cook two hours, turning two or three times. Serve with the thickened gravy poured around it. Remove the strings before sending to table and in carving slice across the end.

FRIED POTATOES.—Peel your potatoes, and slice them very thin. Throw into cold water, salted, and leave them there for half an hour. Then dry them carefully between two cloths and drop them into boiling lard or dripping. They should brown quickly. Take them from the frying pan with a perforated spoon and lay them in a hot colander. Send them to table in a napkin.

SCALLOPED TOMATOES.—Receipt previously given.

COFFEE AND CRULLERS—Make according to directions given in December number of LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

QUERIES FOR RECIPES.

1. "How to make Pork Cake."
(Mrs. G. O. Dodge.)

One pound fat salt pork, chopped fine.
Three cups strong coffee.
Two cups molasses.
Two cups sugar.
One pound raisins, stoned and chopped.
One pound currants, carefully washed and dried.
One tablespoonful allspice.
" " cinnamon.
" " ginger.
One tablespoonful Royal Baking Powder.
Flour enough to make batter of ordinary stiffness for cake.

Pour the boiling coffee over the chopped pork and stir well together. Add the sugar, molasses and spices, beat hard, stir in the flour and last the fruit, well dredged. Bake in one large loaf in a well greased pan. The oven must be slow and steady.

2. "How to make good strong vinegar."
(Mrs. G. O. Dodge.)

The best way to procure good vinegar is to buy a keg or barrel of cider in the Fall and let it stand in the cellar with the bung open. Some housekeepers always add the drainings of the teapot to the vinegar barrel and claim that its contents are much improved thereby. The vinegar made from cider kept at home is usually much better and sharper than that purchased from grocers.

3. "How to make puff paste."
(Ella M. Perrine.)

One pound flour.
Three-quarters pound butter.
Yolk of one egg.
Ice-water to make stiff dough.

Chop or rub half the butter into the flour. Mix the beaten egg with the ice-water and work this into the flour until you have a stiff paste. Roll this out very thin, with as few strokes as possible, and dot thickly with bits of butter. Roll this up tight, flatten with the rolling pin, and convert it once more into a thin sheet. Repeat the process until the butter is used up, which should be in about three applications. Set aside in a cold place an hour before making out crust. Brush over with beaten egg just before taking from the oven.

4. "Is there any way to stop the leaking of Mason's or other fruit jars?"

Various methods are recommended but the only reliable course is to purchase new rubber rings for the jars. It is claimed that these rubbers can be renovated, but success in such an attempt is so uncertain that it proves more economical in the long run to purchase the new rings. The expense is slight and soon pays for itself.

5. "How is French mustard prepared?"
(Mrs. C. S. Stokes.)

The regular French mustard paste cannot be prepared from English mustard. The latter is too sharp. French mustard is said to be largely adulterated with flour. The paste comes ready put up in small jars, at a low price. The best home made substitute is English "Made Mustard" for which a recipe can be given, if desired.

6. "How to make sweet apple pickle."

Seven pounds firm apples, pared.
Four pounds white sugar.
One quart vinegar.
Mace, cinnamon and cloves to taste.

Pare, core and quarter the apples, dropping each piece in cold water to prevent discoloration. Stick two cloves in each piece. Dry between two cloths when all are ready and put into the kettle with the sugar. Mix thoroughly, bring to a gentle boil, and cook until the apples begin to grow tender. Add the vinegar and the spices (these, if ground, must be tied in small bags of muslin), and simmer five minutes. Take out with a skimmer and boil the syrup down thick. Pour the syrup boiling hot upon the fruit in the jars, and seal at once.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

NOTES BY THE WAY.

Modern Domestic Economy. How to Save Time, Strength and Money. A Day in the Shops About Town. General Marking Down of Prices in Dress Goods, and Made up Articles. A Novel Idea in Box Costumes.

BY MRS. JAMES H. LAMBERT.

In this age of innovation, some one labor saving invention at least, has been perfected and tested in each and every department of household, and out of door industry, so that the results once attained by physical strength and personal skill, can now be quite as fully and satisfactorily realized by machinery, or the accomplishment of a task can be greatly aided, and the work lightened by using some inexpensive article, which enables one to do more in a moment, than the most willing hand alone can perform in an hour; for example, the chain dish cloth of steel or iron, costs 10c. or 15c. and saves untold knife scraping, and nail breaking, for it speedily removes burnt or caked food from the pots or pans in daily use.

The mechanical cotton picker, lately introduced, cleans out the snow flakes from the open bolls, with lightning rapidity, in the day or at night, for it feels its way, doing in a few hours, what fifty hands would accomplish in as many days; and street cars are run by cable, at less expense than when the feed and care of horses formed items in the bills.

Through modern enlightenment work of all kinds is made easy. Prepared foods have only to be warmed, and perhaps seasoned; in the new steam cooking utensils foods "cook themselves" for they cannot burn, and the heavy family wash which once took two women a day and a half to hang out, is now often finished by one pair of hands, by noon on Monday.

In other branches of housekeeping there are valuable helpers; there are patent sweepers that clean carpets most beautifully, and gather the dust with litter and lint; and sewing machines in countless makes, run by foot at home and by steam in manufactories, and in the work-rooms of our leading stores, so that the work has only to be guided by a careful hand of a correct eyed worker.

Homes are very different from what they used to be; rooms are prettier and more comfortable, and as a rule we dress better, but all that does not increase the labor of a modern housewife, or home mother, for if she knows anything about shopping, and she must always does, she can buy ready for use, each and every article she requires for table service, bed furnishing, upholstery, interior decorations, and for dress, or if more desirable, she may purchase partly made articles, which will have greater value, if industrious fingers of wife, sister or daughter, give the finishing touches.

In days past we often read of a man's being ruined by an extravagant wife, but lately those dear little moral essays have been less frequently published, for the average wife of this age, is really the help-mate, and partner of her husband, and having an equal interest in his prosperity, with a thorough knowledge of the means to be commanded, she very rarely exceeds prudential bounds in her household expenses.

To righteously distribute money all classes of industry must be sustained, for every dollar spent for work, or for a single article of dress, supplies bread and clothing to some human being, hence true economy does not consist in doing without necessaries, and even luxuries, but simply in confining our expenditures to such a sum, as we know we are entirely able to pay,—not going in debt, because by so doing we may wrong others, and not wasting what we already have, thereby wronging ourselves, or those we look to for support.

In the February number of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL our readers will find an illustrated Fashion Article by Mrs. Jennie June Croly, one of the most successful and the best writer on such topics, of to-day, and from her facile pen adaptive styles will monthly appear, in such form that they can be clearly understood and copied, and while Mrs. Croly is giving faithful delineations of fashions in dress, your old friend, the writer of this screed, will be on the outlook in stores and manufactories everywhere, for materials, made up articles for the house or for dress, and labor saving conveniences for the farm and for the home, all of which will be carefully described, and located when possible, for the benefit of our appreciative patrons, who have from time to time asked for just such information.

Upon second thought, we realize that every reader of this LADIES' HOME JOURNAL can aid us in this work of spreading useful knowledge, for no doubt every man or woman has found some one article of dress, materials, or for household uses, that is superior to what they have before tried, a cloth that will wear longer, a silk that does not get glossy or break, a better churn, a more cheerful parlor or sitting-room stove, or in truth any and everything to wear, or use. If so we will sincerely thank each individual to write us a line, telling us the qualifications of the favored article, its price, and where it can be procured, or give us the name and address of the manufacturers. Tell us about anything in the line of household conveniences, dress materials and dress improvers, toilette accessories, articles of personal comfort, made up wearing apparel, and all kinds of labor saving inventions. Address all letters asking questions or giving information of this character to Mrs. J. H. Lambert, Associate Editor, LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, 441 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa., and they will be promptly responded to in this Department, organized to be of mutual aid, to society ladies and home mothers.

USEFUL DRESS GOODS.

Usually about the second week in December the high priced fancy dress fabrics, which were opened, and considered novelties in the fall and early winter, have been culled over, and only short lengths and remnants remain, and these are now offered at one-third less than their original price, and sometimes at one-half value, hence ladies living near large cities will do well, just before, during, and after the Holidays, to visit the large stores and gather in such useful odds and ends of stylish goods, as they may need, for the novelty of now will be standard next year, if it proves itself worthy, by wearing satisfactorily, and hence will be quite as fashionable then as now, and the new specimens of the same kinds of goods will be higher in price, when accepted, and placed among the fabrics that are destined to put in an appearance year after year, such as cashmeres, Henriettas, poplins, serges, and the curious elastic weaves, that are now so popular not only for jackets and corsages, but as well for entire costumes.

A novel and very convenient idea has been lately illustrated in a leading Philadelphia house, by the introduction of made up waists of this peculiar cloth, put up in boxes, with enough of the fabric to form stylish skirt en suite; the perfect fitting bodice, with the accompanying material, being sold for about the same price the desired quantity of uncut cloth, in similar grade, would cost in stores not connected with the elastic cloth manufactory. These box waists with skirt fabric, will create quite a revolution in home dressmaking, for it is a much easier matter to make a graceful skirt, than it is to fashion a perfect body. These suits are in mixed, corded, lustre striped, and gauged elastic cloths, in black, grey, navy blue, and brown, at $10, $12, $14, $15, and on up to $21 each dress pattern with made waist, and these neat, stylish, and splendid wearing toilettes can be worn with heavy wraps in the cold weather, and in the spring will serve as complete costumes, with no other outside garment than the jaunty corsage.

With such suits fur hats may be worn in mid winter, but leading millinery houses show fancy felts in hats and bonnets in the color of the cloth, for instance in dark brown and leather color, blue and cream, grey and brown, and in solid colors and black. They are stylishly trimmed with folds of velvet, picot edged ribbon, birds and feathers, and cost from $6 to $12 each.

One more hint to our readers may prove of service. Our stores are literally packed with handsome furs, beautiful dress goods, made up garments, merino underwear, and everything one can wish for personal and family use—with articles suitable for the Holiday Gifts, which should not be given or accepted according to value, or money price, but because their bestowal is prompted by the divine spirit of love, which should influence us all not only during this joyous festival season, but as well at all times and in all the changeful months of the beautiful year.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENCE.

"Miss M. M.," Hackettstown, N. J.—Either corduroy or *Cord de La Reine* will make you a stylish suit. If for the house get the new blue, if for street wear, brown or navy blue. Make plain round skirt, with short tunic in front, and drapery in the back. Have tight or half-fitting jacket, with no trimming but the handsome buttons. Get a corded felt bonnet in two shades of brown, and trim with folds of the material and loops of ribbon in two shades of blue or brown.

"Miss M. C. McCullough," Mt. Pleasant, Iowa., writes: "I want an American silk, Cheney's make, can you give me the name of a firm where I can get the *true* article and know that I am getting it? What price ought I to pay per yard for a good wearing quality of the silk? I want a good article, one that will look well, and wear well." Have taken your letter direct to Cheney Brothers, silk manufacturers, 477 to 481 Broome St., New York, who will see that you get samples with prices from a reliable agent. Their $1.00, $1.25, $1.50 and $2.00 silks all look well, and wear magnificently. Have been wearing one of their $2.00 black silks for over five years, and it is good yet. Their Tri otines and striped Surah's are also reliable, they retail for $1.25 and $1.50 a yard. She also asks: "Can you give me the address of firms to be relied upon for winter wraps?" James McCreery & Co., Cor. 11th St. and Broadway, New York, and Sharpless Brothers, Chestnut and Eighth Sts., Philadelphia, Pa. In writing to either of the above firms, or to any house mentioned in our answers, please say that you were directed to do so by THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. We request this in order to have our earnest efforts to serve our subscribers, recognized.

"Young Mother" and "Worn Out Housekeeper."—If you do not care to use soap in bathing your babies, put a little powdered borax in the water, and something very fine for such purpose is the Royal Cleanser, a perfumed liquid which softens hard water, and is delightful for cleaning teeth, washing heads, and other toilette purposes. You can get circular by writing to Dr. R. H. Bussier, Williamsport, Pa.

"Miss H. R. L.," Lewes, Del.—German and Irish brides usually furnish their bed and table linen, but our American girls are only expected to be provided with personal outfits, that is, plenty of underclothing, and all necessary articles of dress, with as neat or handsome toilette accessories as you can afford.

"Western Wife and Mother."—The compliment is appreciated, but really you will do better by taking your boys to Chicago, and getting their suits there. If you are so anxious to patronize a Philadelphia firm, call at Wanamaker & Brown's clothing store, Nos. 79 and 81 State St., Chicago. You will find there splendid assortments of suits and overcoats for men and boys.

"Mrs. Lester," Elmira, N. Y.—You can get a very stylish overcoat for your little boy aged 5 years, in stockinett, or elastic cloth from Lewis S. Cox, 1230 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa. Handsome suits in the same kind of cloth for boys from four to seven, $3.50, $4.00, $5.00 and $6.00. The suit for yourself of Jersey cloth, with made waist and enough of the material for skirt will cost you $12.00.

"Bereaved One."—You can get some of the goods in Philadelphia, but you will do better in New York. For best dress Priestley's Henrietta is what you want. Then there are silk-warp camel's hair goods, serges and crape cloths, which you will like. You can get samples of these varnished board black goods by sending to Lord & Taylor, 20th St. and Broadway, New York. Please mention LADIES' HOME JOURNAL in letter of advice.

"Maine Girl."—The only book about furs is published by C. C. Shayne 108 Prince St. New York. It contains all the desired information. In writing for it say you were directed to do so, by THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

Sharpless Brothers

Invite Correspondence each month in the year concerning SEASONABLE SPECIALTIES, and call attention to their constantly renewed Lines and Elegant assortments of Novelties and Standard High-Class Woolen Dress Goods, Medium-Priced Woolen and Camel's Hair Fabrics, Gentlemen's Cloths and Ladies' Cloakings, Velvets and Plushes, Black Silks, Black Dress Goods, Colored Silks and Satins, Flannels, Cotton Goods, Sheetings, Shirtings, Linings, Quilted Linings, Table and Bed Linen, Towels, Blankets, Coverlets, Laces and Rochings, Ribbons, Gloves, Fans, Shell and Fancy Hair-Pins, Perfumery, Leather Goods, Notions, Hosiery, Merino Underwear, Men's Furnishing Goods, Umbrellas, Dress Trimmings and Fishings, Buttons, Furs, Shoes, Shawls, Decorative Fancy Goods, with Materials for Needlework; Ready-Made Costumes, Dresses, Cloaks and Wraps of all kinds for Ladies Misses and Children, Gossamers, Jerseys, Infants' Outfits and everything for small children, Corsets and Busties, Upholstery Goods, Bed Furnishings, Choice Trimmed Hats and Bonnets, Millinery Materials, Frames, Shapes and Trimmings, Made-up Woolen Underskirts and Muslin Undergarments.

Articles suitable for Christmas Presents in each and every Department. Samples of Fabrics sent, Estimates and Information given, and Orders promptly Executed upon application to

Mail Order Department.

SHARPLESS BROTHERS

CHESTNUT AND EIGHTH STREETS,

Philadelphia, Pa.

Fall and Winter Dress Goods.

JAMES McCREERY & CO

Offer among their large assortment of Fall and Winter Dress Goods the following special lines:

A large stock of Wool Serges, 42 inches wide, at 65 cents per yard.

Two lines of Stripe and Check Cheviots, at 80 cents per yard, well worth $1.25.

ORDERS BY MAIL | From any part of the country will receive careful and prompt attention.

JAMES McCREERY & Co.,

Broadway and Eleventh Street,

NEW YORK CITY.

The Flynt Waist or True Corset

Is universally indorsed by eminent physicians as the most SCIENTIFIC WAIST or CORSET known. Pat. Jan. 6, 1874.

No. 1 represents a high-necked garment. No. 2, a low necked one, which admits of being high in the back and low front. No. 3 is to illustrate our mode of adjusting the "Flynt Hose Support" each side of the hip, also, the most correct way to apply the waistbands for the drawers under and outside petticoats and dress skirt. No. 4 shows the Flynt Extension and Nursing Waist, appreciated by mothers. No. 5, the Misses' Waist, with Hose Supports attached. No. 6, how we dress very little people. No. 7 illustrates how the warp threads of the fabric cross at right angles in the back, thereby insuring in every waist, THE MOST SUCCESSFUL SHOULDER-BRACE EVER CONSTRUCTED.

☞ Our "Manual," containing 46 pages of reading matter, relating to the subject of Hygienic Modes of Underdressing, sent free to any physician or lady, on application to MRS. O. P. FLYNT, 359 Columbus ave. Boston, Mass. Columbus ave. cars pass all Depots.

A complete garment in itself worn under corset or flannels, protecting all the clothing from perspiration. Cheaper than Dress Shields, one pair doing the work of six.

No. 1.—Misses Bust Measure, 32 to 35, $ .80
No. 2.—Ladies Bust Measure, 34 to 39, 1.00
No. 3.—Ladies Bust Measure, 40 to 46, 1.25

AGENTS WANTED.

M. DEWEY, Manf'r, 214 Ogden ave., Chicago.

THE LARGEST FASHION BOOK

1,000 Illustrations. 120 Pages. FASHION; MUSIC; LITERATURE; and a new NOVELETTE by Harriet Prescott Spofford. ☞ Send **15 Cents** in stamps, to STRAWBRIDGE & CLOTHIER, 8th & Market Sts., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

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It pays to buy Dry Goods in New York. You get the lowest prices, the latest styles and largest stock to select from. New York prices are 20 to 40 per cent. lower than those of any other city in the United States.

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LABEL FOR SOFT FINISH. FOR GLACE FINISH.

MACHINE COTTON,

50 CENTS PER DOZEN.

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THE BEST THREAD FOR MACHINE OR HAND SEWING AND CROCHET WORK.

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Is the easiest feeling, and longest wearing shoe made. It has flexible sole, and inside is free from Welt, Tacks and Wax Threads.

Now ready—Full lines of **Day Sewed Shoes** and Slippers, for Ladies, Gent omen, and Children.

Easy shoes for crippled and tender feet, made to order by measurement. Every day during December, there will be special Holiday sales of Shoes, Leather Satchels, Hand Bags, Rubber Goods and Gossamers.

Wholesale and retail buyers desiring Day Sewed Shoes, can obtain information, prices, and directions for self-measurement, by applying to W. W. APSLEY, President

The Day Sewed Shoe Manufacturing Co.,

No. 23 NORTH 8TH STREET,

Philadelphia, Pa.

REMNANT SILKS, SATINS, PLUSHES, VELVETS.

Cheney Bros' **AMERICAN SILKS.**

DRESS SILKS, all colors at Manufacturers' prices. Samples free. Send $1.00 for fifty pieces of Remnants (six inches square), for patchwork. Money refunded if not satisfactory. Write early for choice selections.

W. H. CHENEY, SOUTH MANCHESTER, CONN.

SEND FOR ILLUSTRATED Catalogue. Ladies' and Children's Underwear, on Dress Reform and Hygienic principles.

MRS. A. FLETCHER, 6 E. 14th St., New York.

FREE By return mail. **Full Description Moody's New Tailor System of Dress Cutting. MOODY & CO., Cincinnati, O.**

Shopping

Twenty Years' Business Experience selecting and buying goods. Without extra charge send for Book of Instruction. Madame A. S. Olmsted, Dress Making Establishment, 187 West 23d St., New York.

WARREN'S FEATHERBONE FOR **Dressmaking.**

During the past two years, thousands of ladies have tested "**Featherbone**" and found it superior to Whalebone in every respect. For sale everywhere.

LADIES' BOOTS ONLY $2.00.

Best on Earth for the Money. Retail everywhere for $3.00.

On receipt of Two Dollars we will send you by mail, POSTAGE PAID, a pair of these Elegant Button Boots, worked button holes, in either kid or goat, or glove-top kid-faced, any size you want. Give us a trial. Address

CONSUMERS' BOOT AND SHOE CO.

Box 3305, Boston, Mass.

Please mention this paper.

PRIESTLEY'S CAMEL-HAIR FABRICS

Include a complete line of *Camel-Hair Goods*, for both costumes and wraps, of extra quality, the *Real India Cloth*, uniting the Camel-Hair effects with the graceful folds of Indian draperies; and new *silk-warp diagonals* and *serges*, the softest and most luxurious of fabrics, yet firm in texture, and equally suitable in and out of mourning. None genuine unless rolled on a yellow "*Varnished Board*," showing the grain of the wood, which is the Priestley Trade-Mark.

They are for sale by all the principal dealers in the large cities.

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FESTIVAL FASHIONS.

Artistic Styles, and Their Correct Adaptations. Magnificent Reception Robes. Fancy Dresses for Holiday Balls and Parties. Charming Accessories for Day and Evening Toilettes.

Any popular style may be rendered graceful, becoming or grotesque, simply by the method of its adoption, and as tact oils the machinery of social life, so good taste or judgment must be exercised in matters appertaining to fashionable dress, for while one lady may accept an extreme style, just as it is presented, for another it must be modified, and the third should decline it entirely, as she is differently shaped from her friends, and would appear eccentric, in garments which are becoming to either of them.

Age, form, complexion, means and social position, are all conditions which should influence a lady in her choice of articles of dress, and now there are so many grades, styles and colors in materials, and such a variety of fancies in making them up, that surely everyone can be suitably and becomingly attired, and although very few of the modest home mothers who read the JOURNAL aspire to the, brilliant and costly raiment of the society belle, the knowledge of what really is worn in large cities on New Year's day, and during the festival season, to balls and parties, may not prove objectionable, particularly as the most elaborate toilette can be reproduced in reasonable priced materials, by an expert home dressmaker.

RECEPTION ROBES AND DINNER DRESSES.

A number of dresses created in the heavier and more costly fabrics, and intended for select winter entertainments are en train, but Queen Fashion is indulgent, and quite as many exceedingly elegant robes are made with short round skirts, falling in heavy pleats at the back, and draped in front, the graceful folds being caught up on the left side by drooping bows of ribbon, or clusters or sprays of flowers, while on the right side, the plaits are finished and divided from the drapery by a narrow panel of brocade, velvet, plush, or embroidery.

The bodice to wear with skirt made after the above suggestion is in a variety of styles; a popular fancy is to have it curved over the hips, pointed in front, and with a notched out basque at the back. The corsage opens in front over a full chemisette of embroidered silk gauze, is trimmed on the right side with a lace ruffling, and on the left with a series of small bows matching the color of the skirt panel. Elbow sleeves open, and slashed with panel material. When the skirt is en train it is cut the usual length in front, and in the back is formed into a sweeping square cut train, which may or may not be of the same material as the dress.

To one who has $50 or less to buy a year's clothing, the fact that dozens of the elegant robes worn on New Year's day cost $1000, while others are worth from $100 to $500 each, may indicate an unequal division of wealth, but a consoling knowledge is that every dollar spent on articles of dress and housefurnishing by the rich, passes through the hands of the manufacturer and his employes, also of the merchant, the artist, the sales people, the cutter, fitter, draper, seamstress, and finisher, and from them to the grocer and the farmer.

A superb reception robe has a long square train in white, blue, and gold brocade; the front of the skirt is in blue crepe gauze exquisitely embroidered in white silk and gold thread; a gauze flounce surrounds the skirt, and is slightly draped at the side with flat of pale blue ribbon. The low pointed bodice of gold and blue brocade, has the shoulders surrounded by folds of plain gauze, and small puffs orn the short sleeves.

For a matron a handsome gown has the front of bronze velvet, worked in an odd pattern, shaded from gold to black. It is draped with a rich amber satin, and has side pockets formed by the drapery, but defined by the embroidery. The open jacket fronts, fully display the handsome, long pointed, embroidered bodice.

Pretty and really inexpensive is an evening toilette of lichen French faille, and plush in the same shade. In the back the skirt is gathered and puffed. Draped up on the right side is an apron of cream lace, which falls in ample folds down to the edge of the skirt; on the left side it is arranged in bias pouts. The bodice of the lichen plush, is made open in heart shape, with narrow revers, and is trimmed with a lace drapery commencing from the shoulders, fastened with a rose in the middle of the breast, and then draped across to the left hip, where it is lost under the bodice. A pink rose is placed on the left shoulder, and other roses are found among the lace folds on the skirt.

One of the half dress toilettes in velvet is neat and elegant. The plain skirt is formed entirely of embroidered velvet. The jacket bodice with small basque, is ornamented with embroidery. A velvet plastron is fastened below the waist with a beaded motif, and terminates as two sash ends gathered into rich jetted tassels.

The round skirt of a dinner dress of chestnut colored corded silk, is embroidered in open work designs, in brown and green, with iridescent beads, in bright colors. The chenille embroidery and beading also ornament the front and back in polonaise, forming a double bib round the neck, cuffs for the sleeves, and a detached motif at the point of the right side panel, which is caught up with the skirt and slightly raises it. The left front is draped panier style, and carried to the back, where the fulness is allowed to fall over the tournure, describing a curious hood; the edges are turned in to simulate a shawl point. A thickly beaded girdle of chenille is placed about the waist. Ball fringe edges the tunic portion of drapery, and small iridescent buttons secure the front of corsage.

For a miss of 15 is an evening dress is of pink surah, and delicate cream lace which has been painted in dainty shades of blue, pink, and other Oriental colors, with wonderfully charming effect. The surah skirt is put on in gathers, and is trimmed with a flounce of the painted lace. The tunic, which is entirely of lace, forms a light puff at the back, and short drapery in front fastened here and there, by gold flowers in the colors of the painted lace. Low bodice of surah, finished with a lace fichu, and lace plastron in front. A dainty trimming of galoon embroidered in field flowers is put on its braces over the bodice and round its lower edge, and the short lace sleeves are lined with surah. Field flowers are worn in the hair.

Another girlish toilette is of bright rose colored velvet, with flounce of cream lace. Long jacket of golden brown plush, with full vest of cream lace, and waist band of rose colored ribbon, deep collar and cuffs of lace. Wonderfully pretty dresses for misses are made of surah, stamped moire, and velveteen; each and all costing $1.00 a yard.

FANCY DRESSES FOR YOUNG FOLKS.

"It is too much trouble to prepare for fancy dress parties," is the excuse given by many mothers, "and then after the festivals are over the dresses are useless." Yes it is trouble, but then they create so much enjoyment, not only in the realization, but in the preparation, and then the dresses can be put away for next year, or such characters may be chosen, that the dress can be worn upon almost any festival occasion, as for instance the costume of Marguerite, as worn in the French opera. The dress is entirely of cream-white cashmere, trimmed with rows of narrow satin ribbon; sachet of white silk, with white cord girdle. The cap is of silk, trimmed with bands of the same corded at the edges.

The dress of the Japanese maiden can be made of Oriental cretain material, in cotton, if silk is considered too expensive. Our model maiden has skirt of gold colored brocade; the bodice and drapery are in blue Indian silk, embroidered with blue silk, and gold thread; the sleeves are long, and lined with gold brocade; sash of rose-colored Indian silk; blue silk stockings, and gold colored Japanese shoes; hair dressed very high, and ornamented with gold pins; Japanese umbrella in one hand, and fan in the other.

Harvest wears a very pretty dress. It has skirt of poppy red satin, dotted with gold ears of corn; bodice and drapery of corn-colored, gold-spangled gauze ornamented with bouquets of poppies, corn, and corn flowers; a gold sickle fastens up the drapery at the side, and a wreath of corn and corn flowers is placed at the foot of the skirt. For the Dutch Child there is a cunning dress of black velveteen, trimmed with a row of wide gold braid on the skirt, chemisette and apron of white muslin, and sash and cap of blue brocbe.

A FEW DRESS FANCIES.

Pinked out ruches are again very fashionable for evening toilettes and walking costumes; they are however cutefly used for trimming dresses of velvet, brocade and thick plain silk and satin.

Pretty shoulder capes are made of crimped silk, or tinselled chenille. A warm cape is of white fur, lined with blue silk.

A fan in scarlet gauze is worked with luminous or incandescent beads, and is bordered with marabout feathers.

Sable, and golden beaver furs are much used to trim dresses and wraps of handsome materials.

New mantles are trimmed with much gold embroidery and gold beaded balls, the foundation being rich, dark, many toned brocade.

A wide striped moire and satin is the novelty for wedding gowns. It is in pure white, and makes up most effectively.

A long sable boa clasps around the throat with a spring, and is finished off with tails of the sable.

Combs of chased tortoise shell are most popular, as are those mounted with brilliants. These amber colored combs come in various sizes, and often three or more are worn in the hair at the same time.

Bands of leather well stitched on, adorn some of the newest tailor made jackets, and also entire suits.

$25 is the price of some of the dainty cambric handkerchiefs, which are exquisitely embroidered in lovely designs in leaves and flowers.

Ladies who dress elegantly are selecting Oriental shawls to swell the list of their handsome winter wraps.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Mrs. E. J.," Chicago.—By all means put your baby in short clothes at once. You say the little darling is now nearly four months old, and you propose keeping her in long garments until next summer. How can the poor little thing sit alone, which she should do in less than two months, or learn to walk, with all that cloth and flannel about her little legs and feet? Go to work at once, and cut them every one off. Put little stockings and shoes on her, and when very cold throw a little flannel shawl over her legs and feet.

"Mrs. E. G. M.," New Haven, Conn.—You neglected to mention the color of the brocaded plush, but any contrasting or complemental color will do. For $1.50, $2.00, or $2.50, you can get good fancy work plush—however you can buy table and piano scarfs in plush, cloth or felt, or in the new Vienna cloth imitation tapestry, in lovely shades of various colors, much cheaper than you can make them. To see just what they are send six cents or 3 2c. postage stamps with your name and address in full, to Kursheedt Manufacturing Co., 190-196 South Fifth Ave., New York. Ask for Kursheedt's Fashion Sheet. It also contains illustrations of lambrequins and other household furnishings, suitable for Holiday Gifts.

"Mrs S. R.," Camden.—Sorry we cannot give you prices of Day Sewed Shoes and Slippers for Christmas and New Year's presents. You can find all you want to know by writing to or calling on W. W. Apsley, President Day Sewed Shoe Manufacturing Co., No. 23 North 8th St., Phila.

"Mrs. Kate L.," Hampton, N. H.—You have mixed information just a little. Don't wonder they laughed at your letter. No. Weston & Wells, No. 1017 Chestnut St., keep only their own specialties in braided wire, consisting of bustles, dress forms, or elastic busts, Mikado rolls for the hair, wire pillows, and they have lately introduced wire mattresses which prove the most comfortable sleeping beds one can possibly have. Do not know prices of braided wire mattresses. You must write to the manufacturers, Weston & Wells, for further information.

"Mrs. Lydia Elliott," Providence.—Thank you for information and suggestion. Will certainly call when in Boston, and if the articles are satisfactory will mention them for the benefit of our readers. No, we are not influenced by advertisements, although we naturally favor the worthy specialties of our patrons, we also mention good articles of every kind, when answering letters from our correspondents.

BROOKLYN'S "MECCA."

WECHSLER & ABRAHAM'S PLACE IN BROOKLYN

In size their store is a colossus.—51 distinct depts.—200,000 square feet of shopping space.—By far the Biggest Retail Dry Goods Store in the entire State of New York. Their number of employees is upwards of 1,400. Their uniform standard of a high grade of goods and low prices have won for them the title of "the Mecca of Brooklyn." Folks faraway, South, North, West, East, intrust their mail orders to them because of their accuracy and despatch—Postage free all over the United States.—Direct, "Mail Order Dept.," WECHSLER & ABRAHAM, Brooklyn, N. Y.

LEWIS S. COX,
1220 Chestnut Street.

This is THE Cloak Store of the city, and the place where the Cloak business is done. It is true that some of the stores who keep a little of everything mix in some Cloaks along with the general conglomeration: But here it is exclusively Cloaks and Cloakings: A Cloak Centre or sort of Headquarters for Cloaks, if we may so express it. The people look upon us as an authority in this line of business, and don't venture to buy without first coming here.

This explains why The New Store is always crowded. Why we are doing the Cloak business of the town. People understand that we know the Cloak business as no mere shopkeeper can know it, because we are the manufacturers from the beginning to the ending, not only of the Garments but the Cloth as well.

At one end of the city we are busy making, at this end busy selling. The business is peculiarly Philadelphian: Philadelphia-made Yarn, Philadelphia-made Cloth, Philadelphia-made Garments—all done by Philadelphia work-people. You had no idea before what Philadelphia could do in this line. You are astonished as well as pleased at what you see. It gives you a better opinion of your own city.

We have the Berlin garments if you want them. Paris garments, too, if you incline that way. All the best foreign makers are represented in our stock in large variety and complete assortment. We are just as pleased to sell you the foreign goods as we are our own. Don't know but that we are more pleased. The reason why? Our own have outsold the foreign. If any are left at the end of the season it will most likely be the foreign.

We don't wonder that the Mixed Stores who pinned their faith exclusively to Berlin are experiencing such a dull time. There will be more American next year. More Philadelphia, too, perhaps.

LEWIS S. COX,
1220 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

A FREE CRAZY PATCHWORK BOOK

containing over 100 new stitches, 12 large full page transferable designs, and full instructions for this popular and fascinating needlework GIVEN FREE to every subscriber to the Fashion Quarterly, a Ladies' Magazine, each number containing 120 quarto pages, over 1000 illustrations, colored fashion plate, a complete and original novelette by one of the best writers and numerous articles on fashion, art, and domestic economy. **Price, 50 cents per year.** (stamps taken).

Strawbridge & Clothier,
Eighth and Market Sts., Philadelphia.

OLDEST AND BEST!

CORTICELLI SEWING SILK
(ON SPOOLS)

The Best Sewing Silk Made.

Every Spool warranted unequalled for Hand or Machine Sewing.

SMOOTH, STRONG, FULL LENGTH.

Ladies, ask your Storekeeper for "CORTICELLI" Spool Silk.

Our Latest Book on Knitting (288), sent on receipt of three 2-cent stamps.

NONOTUCK SILK COMPANY, Florence, Mass.
Sole Manufacturers.

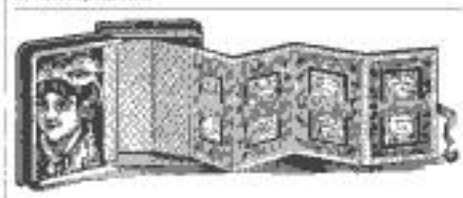
Bridal Outfits.
Infant Wardrobes.
Ladies' Suits
and Underwear.

LADIES who are unable to examine our stock of these goods personally, would find it to their advantage to correspond with us. The most complete information furnished, and careful attention given to special orders.

Lord & Taylor,
Broadway and Twentieth St., N. Y

THE NOVELTY
RUG MACHINE!
Patented Dec. 27, 1881.

Makes Rugs, Tidies, Hoods, Mittens, etc., with ease and rapidity. Price, only one dollar, single machine, with full directions, sent by mail on receipt of price. Agents wanted. Apply for circulars to E. ROSS & CO., Patentees and Sole Manufacturers, Toledo, O.; Box 184. Also, Manufacturers of Rug Patterns. Beware of infringement.



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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

When *Lilium Harrisii*, or the Bermuda Lily was introduced, I, in common with most others who had learned by sad experience that a plant is not always—or often—what the introducer of it advertises it to be, was rather skeptical about it. Such a Lily was what we had all been wanting for forcing purposes, and we were afraid some one was taking advantage of our desires in this direction, and that, were he to sell us a bulb, we would be sold. But acting on the principle that in order to discover a humbug, someone must be humbugged, we all invested, *hoping* we had got something desirable and valuable. I am happy to say that I have never bought a plant that has given me greater satisfaction than this Lily has. Instead of being a humbug, it is a great acquisition to our collection of spring-blooming plants. Last fall, in November, I potted half a dozen large, healthy bulbs in eight inch pots, filling the pot two-thirds full of well-decomposed manure. On top of this I placed a layer of sand, and on this the bulb. I put sand about the bulb, filling in between that and the pot with the soil used in the bottom, and covering the bulb about an inch deep. Then I placed the pots in the cellar, in a dark, cold corner, and left them there until the latter part of December. On examining them after they had been in the cellar nearly seven weeks, I found the soil full of roots, and concluded it was time to bring the pots to the light. I did so, putting them in a cool corner of the conservatory. In a short time the bulbs sent up a stalk each. In March they came into bloom, two of the plants having five flowers, three seven, and one nine. The engraving shows the habit of the plant, and the shape of the flowers, but fails to give the beautiful waxen effect of them. I have never seen any Lily that excels them in delicacy of texture and purity of color. And they are delightfully fragrant. At night, the conservatory and the rooms opening off it were filled with the perfume they yielded. Each flower kept its freshness for a week, and it was over a month from the time the first one opened to the fading of the last flower.

THE BERMUDA OR EASTER LILLY.

Now other Lilies can be forced into bloom in the house sometimes, but they cannot be depended on with the certainty that this variety can. This I am sure of from my experience with it, and the experience of several friends who grew it last season. They tell me they gave the plants the same care they gave their Geraniums, and every plant blossomed. Now another merit that it has to recommend it is, that, unlike any other kind I have ever grown, it has a second period of bloom. Every one of my plants sent up stalks about the first one, and gave a second crop of flowers, thus extending the season of its beauty into May. Next fall I shall pot a dozen of them, so you may know that I like them. The best bulb to use are those you can buy of the large dealers in bulbs, who grow them on purpose for the fall trade. On no account must you pot them and put them in the window at once. The light and warmth will start the top-growth before the roots have had a chance to form, and the consequence will be that you will have a poor development of the plant because there are no roots to furnish proper nutriment to the top. If you set the pots in the cellar or some other cool, dark place and let the roots form first, then have something to support the growth of the top. This is the most important item in the culture of all kinds of bulbs in the house.

A GOOD VARIEGATED ABUTILON

Most variegated leaved plants are rather delicate, and require special treatment in order to secure satisfactory results. But some are sufficiently robust in habit to entitle them to the consideration of the amateur. Such a plant is the Abutilon *Thompsonii*, a leaf of which is illustrated above. This variety has a leaf shaped almost exactly like that of the sugar Maple. The entire surface of it is covered with a wonderfully effective variegation of light and dark green and bright yellow. Most plants of this class have their variegation in irregular blotches, or distributed along the center or edge of the leaf. With this Abutilon it is entirely different. The colors are distributed all over the leaf and have the appearance of mosaic-work. The colors do not blend into each other, but are sharply defined, and generally are bounded by the veins which form angular divisions. This plant grows well, retains its variegation well, and blooms well and is one of the best variegated plants for the window.

VARIEGATED ABUTILION.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"To Several Who Have Found Fault:"—I am in receipt of several communications from readers of the JOURNAL who are very indignant at what they term "inexcusable delay," "neglect," etc., in regard to the answering of their queries. "I wrote to you in August," writes on one of these fault-finders, "and have had no answer yet. If you answer others, why not me?" In reply to this correspondent and all the others who are "in the same boat," let me say that matter is made up for the JOURNAL weeks,—yes, months,—before the paper is received by the subscriber. To illustrate this I have only to say that this article is being written on the 21 day of November for the January number of the paper. It will be readily seen, then, that when inquiries are received it is impossible to give them an immediate reply. If you want an answer promptly, send a stamped, addressed envelope to me with your questions, and I will answer at once, by mail.

The "Chinese Lily.:"—I said something in the Sept. No. of the JOURNAL about the Chinese Lily concerning which several inquiries have been made, and gave it as my opinion that there was some humbug about it. I have received the following letter from a lady who has grown the Lily:

"I see by my LADIES' HOME JOURNAL for Sept. that you conclude that the Chinese Lily is a humbug, but would like to have a description of it. We have reared it in our family, and it is one of the most exquisitely fragrant flowers that ever opened its petals to the sun. A brother in California sent us several bulbs some years ago, as a matter of curiosity. He had secured them from the Chinese themselves, who always try to have them in bloom by the date of their New Year. We planted them just as the Chinese do, following the specific directions given by my brother. We took a bulb and placed it in a bowl, filling the bowl with small stones and pebbles, and then filling the bowl with water. In three weeks the Lilies had grown and were in bloom, much to our delight. The leaf is like that of the Jonquil or Narcissus, and the flower something between a Snowdrop and a single white Jonquil. They are in clusters on a stalk about a foot in height, rising from the center of the leaves. Their fragrance is indescribably sweet, completely filling the room. The flowers last for several days. When they had faded, we took out the bulb and laid it away to rest, for another year. We have had several sent us from the Pacific slope at different times, but have now lost them all on account of cold weather. This was owing to thoughtlessness, as we left the bulbs exposed to the changes of our peculiar weather, forgetting about them until it was too late to save them. They do not seem to be able to stand much cold. The Chinese grow them in great quantites in the West. They are delightful winter flowers, I assure you. For the interest of other readers you may insert what I have written if you see fit to do so." I thank this correspondent for her pleasant letter, and wish some reader of the JOURNAL who knows where some of these bulbs can be obtained would give me the address of the parties having them.

"A. D. B.:"—The Amarylis is not as difficult a plant to grow successfully as you seem to think. I have half a dozen varieties, and I have no trouble with them in a house where Geraniums and similar plants are grown. The secret of Amarylis culture,—though it is really no secret at all,—is, to give the plants alternate periods of rest and excitement. By the term "excitement" I mean growth. When growth begins, the flowers are most generally produced, and the developement of the plant takes place after flowering. Water in considerable quantities, and a good degree of warmth should be given them, and when the leaf-growth seems to have come to a standstill and some of the leaves turn yellow, then withold water, and let the soil become quite dry, but still have it moist enough to keep the bulbs from shriveling. The first indication of a new growth, which will not take place for months, often, is the showing of the flower stalk. When this is seen, give more water, and let the plant have a weekly application of manure-water, if possible. The great mistake in growing Amaryllises is in not allowing them to rest after each new growth has been made. Instead of allowing them to get dry, water is given the same as when the new growth was being made, and they are kept in a warm place, and the plant is, in a measure, forced to constant activity, and it is not allowed to follow out its natural instincts. As a natural consequence, it often refuses to bloom, and for this reason persons conclude that it is a difficult plant to manage well. When the signs go to show that the plants have a desire to rest by stopping growth, and a show of yellow on the leaves, it is always well to set them in a dark and cool place where they can be perfectly quiet. They ought to be given at least three months' rest after each season of flowering. As to the best varieties, I give it as my opinion that the following will come as near to being the "best" as any this correspondent can select. Certainly it would be a difficult matter to get finer ones:

Aulica, (Lily of the Palace,) crimson tipped with green; a very large and fine flower, and one that is generally produced in winter.

Defiance, carmine with white throat, flowers very large, and a most profuse bloomer.

Greviana, orange red striped with white, large and free.

Johnsonii, crimson feathered with white, an old and magnificent variety.

These four, if not the very best, are among the best, and if you succeed in getting them to bloom you will be satisfied that it is hard to find any more beautiful flowers.

"L. B. GEIST:"—In reply to inquiry about the "Cinnamon Vine" I would say that it is perfectly hardy and does not need to be taken up, as suggested in Mr. Rexford's reply. He admits that he does not know anything about it. I have wintered mine in the ground, and Maine winters are very severe. It is tardy about starting in the spring, but grows very rapidly, and is very beautiful.

MRS. WELLCOME.

Catarrh in Children.

"My children have used the Compound Oxygen and are very much better; the cough has left them entirely. The little girl is better from the catarrh, but bad enough yet. At one time it was terrible to be near her, there was such an offensive odor; but she is so much better that she will be able to attend school to-morrow morning. She has been troubled for about three years with nasal catarrh."

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HINTS UPON ETIQUETTE AND GOOD MANNERS.

BY MRS. S. O. JOHNSTON.

NO. XI.

How to Address Letters, Etc.

The address of letters is an all-important part of letter writing, because upon its legibility depends its safe arrival at its destination. Postal clerks are often greatly puzzled to decipher ill-written addresses, and any one who visits the Dead Letter Office at Washington, will be shown letters so addressed that no one could possibly read them. The bags of uncalled for mail matter increase yearly; and especially after the holidays of Christmas and New Year's they become very weighty, as many do not comprehend that no saleable articles are sent out of the country through the mail bags. Therefore they accumulate at the Dead Letter Office, and are sold at auction, in due season. Write the address directly in the middle of your letters, in larger letters than you employ for common script.

Thus:—

MRS. JOHN H. SMITH,
OLDTOWN,
MASS.

The first line should extend nearly across the envelope, while the town, and state, are written nearly in the centre, so that one glance of the eye can take in the whole superscription. But many persons will write it thus, on the fartherest end of the envelope:

MRS. JOHN E. JONES
OLDTOWN
MASS.

in a cramped hand, and all in a bunch, as it were.

If the town is a place of little size, always write the County after the town. In the United States there are numerous towns of the same name, and if the County is not given, the letter is often sent to the largest town, especially if initials are employed for the State, instead of the whole name. Thus, N. Y. for New York, is often taken for N. H.—New Hampshire, and letters and packages are sent to the largest State.

If a man has a military title, such as Captain, Major, Colonel or General, it should always be given to his name, and if he belongs to the navy, the title of Captain, or Commander, or Commodore, or Admiral, should be written U. S. A., for United States Army, and U. S. N. for United States Navy, must follow the name which the title precedes.

As Lieutenants hold the lowest grade, their title is dropped in addressing letters to them.

The President of the United States, should have precedence over all other titles, and be addressed as His Excellency, President of the United States. His name being sandwiched as it were between his titles. The abbreviation Hon. should always be given to Supreme Court Judges, members of the Cabinet, members of Congress, Governors of States, Judges, Mayors of cities, and even to Aldermen and Common Councilmen, when in office. Although we profess to be a democratic nation, yet we do dearly love titles, and their frequency in our midst often provokes our risibles.

When holding office, these titles, however, should never be omitted in the superscription of letters. But afterwards, good taste is shown in dropping them.

Professional titles, such as Doctor for a Doctor of Medicine—abbreviated to M. D.—should never be omitted. And Doctors of Divinity should not be shorn of their D. D.'s, as they are fruits of long labor in the Master's vineyard.

Right Reverend is the correct address for a Bishop of any denomination, and Reverend, (written Rev'd.) is the distinction of every clergyman.

You should not write Rev'd. Mr. Creamcheese, but, Rev'd Charles Creamcheese, giving the Christian name. If he is a D. D., those letters should follow the name, thus:

Rev. Charles Creamcheese, D. D.

Esquire abbreviated to Esq., belongs of right to all Lawyers and Justices of the Peace, and to no one else. Yet it is a common habit to write it after a man's name thus:

JOHN H. SMITH, Esq.

The term Esquire was given in the feudal times of England, when it was the custom to send the sons of the poorer nobility to the castles of the rich lords, to be educated in all the duties of a gentleman; and at the age of fourteen, they were styled Esquires, and it enabled them to bear arms—holding a commission from the king to that effect. So it is a very inappropriate term for democrats or republicans to use; unless they are in the legal profession, or have a commission from the Governor of the State, as a Justice of the Peace.

It is also bad form to write Present below the address of a note or letter, and it is never written by those who understand the rules of addressing letters.

General Rules for Letter Writing.

Always commence a letter with the most important subject that you desire to communicate, and write all that you desire to write concerning it, before you proceed to any other subject.

Leave a good margin at the left edge of the paper, and try to keep it straight.

Paragraph each subject upon which you write, as that will make it easier for the receiver to read the letter quickly.

Strive not to write unmeaning phrases, such as "So you see," or "You see," or "You know," but use good, expressive words, avoiding many adjectives, which will make a letter ponderous, yet poor.

Lavater tells us:—

"Learn the value of a man's words and expressions and you know him. Each man has a measure of his own for everything. This he offers you inadvertently in his words. He who has a superlative for everything, wants a measure for the great or small."

Always bear in mind that written words are a very different affair from spoken words, as the manner which attends the speech alters their precise meaning. Many a sentence can be said with a laugh, that takes away its sting, while if written only the bare words will appear. And what you have written you are held answerable for. Therefore it is very needful to exercise much more caution in writing than in speaking, even to your nearest relations, and dearest friends.

If you request a correspondent to burn your letter, it is a sure confession that you are ashamed of what you have written. And frequently, merely because the request to destroy the letter has been made, the reader will consider it of importance enough to preserve.

When you write to some one asking information, with whom you are not in regular correspondence, be sure to enclose a stamp, and it is not amiss to enclose a stamped envelope directed to yourself.

Use good paper, and envelopes that fit it neatly, and fold the paper exactly straight. Sealing wax is now in universal use, and few ladies close their letters without it, using either a seal with their initials, or monogram, or a heraldic device. Gentlemen use plain red or green, or brown wax. Ladies may use any fancy colored wax they prefer.

When there are several of the same surname in a family, the wives rarely have their letters addressed with their own Christian names, but by those of their husbands, thus: Mrs. John Jones, Mrs. William Jones, Mrs. Sam Jones. And frequently, they are addressed in the family circle as Mrs. John, Mrs. William, Mrs. Sam.

Whenever a doubt is in the mind concerning the rank or title of the person addressed, it is best to err on the safest side, and give the higher rank, as deep offence has been taken by addressing a major as a captain.

The familiar style of closing a letter is "Ever thine," or "Yours truly," or "Yours devotedly."

The business style is "Yours respectfully."

The friendly style is "Yours cordially," or "Yours faithfully."

The old style, "Your humble servant," or "Your most obedient servant" is obsolete. If desirous of being very respectful, you may write: "I have the honor to be yours most respectfully."

Many sticklers for etiquette, in writing letters think that the name of the person addressed, should always be mentioned at the close of a letter. Thus: "I am, my dear Mary, yours most faithfully, John Jones."

But that is as the writer prefers, and not obligatory.

Few persons can write as well as they can converse, for the latter act is spontaneous, while the former is constrained; but therein lies the secret of good letter writing—*i. e.*, the more naturally you write, the better will your letter read.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

"A Constant Reader" asks:—"If there is only one daughter in the family, what is the proper way for her cards to be written, simply Miss Brown, or Miss Ada Brown?"

Answer:—If there is only one daughter in the family Miss Brown is the most correct.

"Bess" asks:—"If in shaking hands with a gentleman friend is it the lady's place to extend her hand first, or *vice versa*?"

Answer:—The lady always offers her hand if desirous of shaking hands. But often the action is simultaneous.

"A Subscriber" asks:—"If a gentleman should send his photograph to a lady of his acquaintance would it be proper for her to send him an invitation to call upon her? Also, in case of a flirtation, if the gentleman should send a paper with his name signed to it, what should she do? What is signified by it?"

Answer:—1st, If a gentleman is intimate enough in the family to send his photograph to the lady, of course he could be invited to call. But avoid receiving photographs from young men whom you do not know.

In a case of flirtation, our advice would be—*stop it at once*. Unless a young man has been introduced by a mutual friend, his acquaintance is not desirable. Do not notice the sending of the newspaper. Young girls who will flirt with young men they do not know, often live to regret it with bitter tears. A manlenly reserve cannot be too highly recommended.

"Lillian Granger, asks:"—Is it proper for a young lady to give a gentleman (with whom she is acquainted, though not engaged) a present? Please mention a few things which would be appropriate to give as a Christmas present, not being too expensive."

Ans.—Yes, it is quite the custom for young ladies to give presents to their intimate friends of the opposite sex. It is not, however good form to give expensive presents, unless both parties are very wealthy, because it would make the receiver feel that he must return the gift with one of the same intrinsic value.

You could crochet a tennis cap in *filloselle* silks or wools; or knit a pair of silk mittens, hose, or embroidery the initals of his name on half a dozen handkerchiefs of white silk or linen. If you paint in water colors or oils, you might paint a blotting-book, or a plaque, etc. Handkerchief cases, slippers, broom cases, et al., are also acceptable presents for young men.

"Miss M. asks:"—1st. When a gentleman takes leave of a lady or when he has called, should she ask him to call again? 2nd. Is it proper for a lady to ask a gentleman to accompany her home, if she is afraid to go alone? 3rd. If a gentleman should ask a lady her name, (in business affairs,) should she tell him Miss ——or just the surname without adding Miss.

Ans. 1st. It would be more proper for her mother to say, "*We shall be pleased to see you again.*" But if the young lady receives calls alone, she can say the same, or simply "come again whenever you please." 2nd. "No, it would not be advisable to do so. If the lady has no reason to believe that she will have an invitation from a friend to accompany her home at night, she should provide an escort for herself, making arrangements for it before she goes out. Of course there may be circumstances that would warrant the request, such as a relative, or an elderly person going her way, but it is not well to take such liberties with young men. 3rd. She should tell him Miss.—— or Mrs.——, or else he would not know her position in life. If she simply gave her surname, he might ask "Mrs. or Miss?" with propriety.

"A New Subscriber asks:"—What are cards sent after a wedding to denote? I am a new subscriber to your excellent JOURNAL and like it very much. May it live long and prosper!"

Ans.—"After cards" as they are designated, are sent to all acquaintances of the newly married couple, whom they desire to retain, in their married life. All those who receive them, are expected to call upon the lady, whenever they are in her vicinity. Those living in the same town call upon one of the reception days that are announced.

ATTENTION!!!

The long looked for Second Edition of Barnett's Broom Brigade Tactics is at last ready. In addition to the Manual of the Broom for young ladies it contains Arms for Dances, If in School of Tactics Company, Broom Drill Manual, Fan the thing for Social, or Military. Ask your bookseller for it, or send 25c. in stamps to Liest. Broom Illustrated contains 20 Manual of Guys, and also extracts from the Military School of the Manual of the Cane Drill, Short Hint, etc. Social Church, School, Entertainments for the second edition stamps to Liest. 10 copies $2.00

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A YOUNG WOMAN'S WRONGS.

LECTURE NO. II.

BY REV. F. E. CLARK.

If you desire an education you can get as good a one at Smith or Wellesley or Vassar as your brothers can get at Amherst or Dartmouth or Harvard. If you have artistic tastes there is no picture or sculpture gallery in the world that will reject your productions, because you are a woman. If you are of a literary turn the magazines and the publishers will take a good thing from you, and pay you as much for it, as if you were a man. Charles Egbert Craddock became at once twice the lion she was before, when it was found that she was an attractive young woman, instead of, as had been supposed, a merely masculine product of the Tennessee mountains.

To be sure there are some kinds of business from which you are still debarred. You would hardly find it easy to obtain a situation as horse car driver or coal heaver or blacksmith; but I do not suppose you greatly hanker after such positions, at any rate you have an equal advantage of the other sex, since for the most part men are rigidly excluded from dressmakers' establishments and sick rooms, where the gentle hand and light foot of a nurse are required.

No, you need not groan over any imaginary wrongs in this year of grace 1886. Whatever may have been true in the past, you, like your brother, may be the architect of your own fortune to-day.

Your wrongs, like his, are those which you will inflict upon yourself. Let me faithfully call your attention to some of them.

The first of a young woman's wrongs that I would mention is an *inordinate love of admiration*. This wrong is one of woman's rights perverted, to be sure; but it nevertheless becomes one of her chief wrongs, just as most of the evils of the world are perverted virtues. A young man is not subject to this perverted right to the same extent by any means. He very early finds that his success in the word depends upon sterling qualities of heart and brain, and not upon his good looks or upon his powers of cajolery or flattery, or his ability to excite admiration.

He finds that the boy from the country, with the cow hide boots and homespun jacket and uncouth manners, if he has integrity, good habits and a strong will on his side, is far more likely to succeed than the city-bred boy who lacks these qualities. The dude with his arms akimbo and ivory headed cane, even if he plasters his hair upon his forehead in the most approved style, finds very soon that these graces are not the open sesame of business prosperity; and the rougher, sterner, more manly virtues are thus often developed at the expense of the gentleman.

But with the girl it is different. She finds that she can wheedle an extra five dollars out of her father's pocket by looking pretty; and with hug and kiss and coaxing manner more easily than in any other way. As she grows older she finds that these same blandishments, many of them exceedingly superficial, are her chief stock in trade. Personal attractions command a premium, while real, sterling worth of heart or brain fall below par, and very soon efforts to catch the passing applause of an admiring glance absorb all the attention.

I am very far from implying that the proper desire to please and attract is not most praiseworthy. What one of your friends writes to you is very true: "A great art is the art of pleasing. Let a young woman be lavish of her gifts and graces in this direction. Let her use all her wit and fascination in voice, manner and dress to please, that she may elevate and regenerate not in society only but in the home." But, when we have said all this, it still remains true that this pleasant road, if pursued too far, runs always into a trap and snare. "One danger that seems to belong especially to girls and which attacks them in childhood, is the love of flattery," writes one, "and higher praise than they earn for every little thing they do. When this is withheld or a reproof administered for neglect of duties a flood of tears is apt to be the *immediate* result and a general inability to meet the stern realities of life the ultimate result." "One of the greatest dangers lying in the path of a young woman," writes another, "is the great desire to obtain the approbation of the world. How often she seeks to have her vanity gratified, by trying to excel in worldly affairs."

And just here we come very close to a wrong that is more specific and more widespread than almost any other: the inordinate love of admiration *as indicated by the undue attention to dress*. It is a subject which a man may well hesitate to attack, and had I simply my own words to bring I should certainly hesitate long before speaking, but scores of warning have been sent me for you on this point, and, after what your mothers and teachers have written, I cannot but feel that it is a most important matter.

We are not anchorites and we believe in no sumptuary laws to regulate the cut of your gown or the color of the ribbon in your bonnet, and I am sure that all your friends would agree with me when I say that it is a young woman's duty to dress attractively and as well as she can afford, but we also believe that there is something of vastly more importance than the cut of your gown and the color of your bonnet strings. You are committing a grievous wrong to a nature that was meant to be angelic, nay rather Godlike, when you centre all attention on the feathers that bedeck and the flounces that will go out of fashion to-morrow.

To seek admiration in this way only is the surest way in the long run to lose respect and love.

The peacock can spread the most gorgeous tail of any bird I know, but, as he goes strutting about, endeavoring to display every individual feather he excites laughter rather than admiration, while the modest little ground sparrow, in delicate, unobtrusive suit of modest brown, we love and rejoice in, as he pours forth his song, so full of springtime melody.

Let me quote a few of the messages that have come to you on this point. Says one: "I think I never go about the stores of Boston without being distressed at seeing girls of moderate circumstances (judging by appearances) hanging about counters where are displayed the elegant laces, satins and velvets, for the reason that not more than one girl out of a hundred can afford to wear such costumes.

"I think the same thing is shown in that we constantly see bent counters and in the street, young women wearing velveteen and tawdry jewelry, where the same money would buy soft cloths which would be more ladylike and appropriate."

"First, among the dangers," writes another, "I should put inordinate love of dress. I personally know some who curtail their charities and more who go without suitable food that they may be as well dressed as their neighbors, and I very much fear that in many cases temptation assumes a darker guise."

Another faithful Sabbath school teacher writes: "In my own class in Sabbath school one of my great troubles Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter, has been to make the girls forget their new clothes.

"I have always been thankful when the season of new clothes was over, for lessons were at a discount until the new clothes had been inspected. So many, too, buy poor, cheap stuff, that won't last, and make it up in some flashy kind of a way, simply that they may look stylish. Style is enough to spoil any girl."

Here are some stirring words:

"One great danger is an overpowering desire to keep up appearances, prompting to wrong doing.

"In one of the largest dry goods stores in Boston is a young lady clerk who receives but $5 per week. She is pretty and enjoys society. What then? Every cent of the $5 goes to pay for room and food. Clothing is supplied by a good father living in the country who would be glad to have his daughter at home, but she likes the stir of Boston. She is led by her love of display to flatter her friends—ladies and gentlemen, that they may invite her to entertainments and give her pretty things to wear. Her acquaintances outside of Boston are led to believe that she has a very lucrative position. The result of her desire to appear better off than she really is is a lowering of her standard of moral right leading to flattery and deception." I have time for but one more message on this point: "In my opinion the great, even almost absorbing love of dress and display which young women cherish and the time given for the ministering to their personal vanity leads very many into recklessness and heartlessness and to an utter distaste for the things which would profit their spiritual, intellectual, and moral nature.

"This love for showy raiment and straining for its effect leads very many into some pitfall of immorality." I believe that there is a world of trouble in this last sentence. I have talked with some who know the seamy side of a great city's street life and they all assure me that love of dress has thousands of victims in the brothels, or among the street walkers of every large city. "What brought you here?" we ask of the degraded, fallen man, and in nine cases out of ten the reply would be: "Rum did it." "What brought you here?" Ask this of his companion, the degraded, fallen woman, and almost as often the answer would come back: "Dress did it." "Love of finery, the gewgaw, the ribbon, the flash jewelry the desire to keep up appearances did it. That took me the first step towards dishonor, and the rest came easy."

And this leads us naturally to another wrong which I fear some of you are likely to inflict upon yourselves and that is the tendency to *narrowness and very contracted views of life and duty*. You, naturally, live more within four walls than your brothers, but do not let those four walls bound all your horizon. It is undoubtedly of the utmost importance whether this piece of ribbon matches your complexion, but there are matters of greater importance still.

I have read of a young woman that spent two hundred days in learning to paint a carrot to hang upon the wall, and, if that carrot was painted well, it was a noble work compared with that which engrosses some lives. The story of the "Dry as Dust" professor was an old favorite in college who spent all his life in studying the Greek particle and when he died regretted that he had chosen such a wide field of study, instead of confining his attention to the dative case. While it seems to be generally understood that a man's aim in life is to subdue continents and build cities and conquer armies, a woman's chief end is to make tatting.

I sometimes see a lady of fashion and wealth who seems to spend all her time over the poodle dog which rides by her side in the elegant carriage. It is dressed and washed and combed and taken its airing, as regularly as the lady herself, while there are thousands of immortal children perishing for lack of just this care; and I sometimes wonder as I see the two, the woman and the poodle, sitting together, I wonder which has the widest outlook upon life. Some women seem to think that a wide, generous outlook upon life is almost unwomanly. They hardly know who the president of the United States is, or who the governor of their own commonwealth is, and, as to such exciting events as have been taking place of late on the other side of the water, they are all rubbish to them. An interest in politics is considered mannish and unnatural, while to read Shakespeare or study political economy, or to have a pet science is thought to savor of the blue stocking. All knowledge is open to you my young friends. If you do dwell within four walls most of your life, the best books and the highest, broadest, life may come within those four walls and dwell there forever.

An Awful Doom

of any nature is usually avoided by those who have foresight. Those who read this who have foresight will lose no time in writing to Hallett & Co., Portland, Maine, to learn about work which they can do at a profit of from $5 to $25 and upwards per day and live at home, wherever they are located. Some have earned over $50 in a day. All is new. Capital not required. You are started free. Both sexes. All ages. Particulars free. A great reward awaits every worker.

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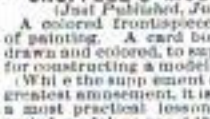

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

SOME HINTS ON MONEY MAKING.

BY ELLA RODMAN CHURCH.

Author of "How to Furnish a Home," etc.

The number of women who desire to make money, aside from those who come under the head of "working women," appears to be steadily on the increase; and "straitened circumstances" are often more pathetic than the need to labor for daily bread. The latter, however, may be none too abundant, through the illness or death of the natural br ad-winner; and having decided on the necessity of doing *something*, the next consideration is what to do.

Among the most touching of records are these of such attempts and failures; of the brave resolve to enter the lists clad only in a panoply of faith and trust, and brandishing as weapons an embroidery needle, a paint-brush, and a pen. Each and all of which have proved most effectual under exceptional conditions,—but which, apart from these conditions are scarcely more available in keeping poverty at bay than they would be as weapons of defence against bodily assailants.

For the first-named weapon, taste in embroidery has been so highly cultivated during the past few years that the work has become actual painting with the needle; and to make it remunerative, not only an artistic gift is needed, but access to the best models and constant keeping up with the times,—advantages which are not to be obtained outside of a large city. Manufacturing pretty articles for home adornment is quite a different matter from making profitable sales; and in a field where there is so much skilled competition, the attempt too often ends in disappointment.

Fancy-work, unless it is both unique and elegant, is almost unsaleable even in the best markets; and it is soon spoiled by remaining on hand. The only kind of embroidery that really pays is ordered work; the artistic fashioning of curtains, portieres, and the like, for millionaires' mansions; and this is usually in the hands of a favored few who work unceasingly, and, as an almost inevitable consequence, impair their eyesight.

The universal epidemic of china-painting is now like a spent fire,—leaving the ashes or blackened ruins of many a hope behind it; to say nothing of painful cups and jugs, and all kinds of pottery ware that can possibly be overrun with decoration. It was considered just the work for amateurs, even those who had received little or no previous instruction; and in a bark more frail than that of the Pearly Nautilus, many adventurers put to sea only to be ignominiously shipwrecked.

China-painting has long been overdone, with the exception of the best and most educated work; and while a dozen or so of exceptionally pretty butter-plates, perhaps, and a dainty bowl or two, may occasionally be sold, the returns are too uncertain to count in the way of an income.

The last tiny weapon on the list, the pen, has slain its tens of thousands with hope deferred; and it will continue to do so as long as the world stands because of its will-o'-the-wisp nature. It points so surely to the desired goal, and then leaves the unfortunate pursuer in a very quagmire of disappointment. For not every one who writes good English can get paid for writing; while some who are unable to express themselves grammatically often receive incredible sums for long-spun-out, dramatic narratives. But they have something to say which a large number of people are eager to hear; and this is indispensable to successful writing.

Those who can make clever combinations of original material—such as marked provincialisms, exceptional scenery, etc.,—are sure to command an audience; yet this gift can be used to far better advantage when it has been developed and expanded by experience in some practical undertaking, some more assured way of money-getting with which it need not in the least conflict. It has been said that to write acceptable nonsense requires a substantial strata of sense and information; and almost any writing can be done better on a practical foundation that yields a tangible support.

Men may have been, as the poet says, cradled into poetry by wrong,—but this is quite a different incentive from the hope of gain; and to take one's pen in hand to write merely because it is necessary to have money, and this seems an easy and pleasant way of getting it, is not likely to produce thoughts that breathe and words that burn. A wide field, too, has been opened of late for practical writing,—accounts of experience likely to be valuable to others; and any success in a new path, or an original method of following an old one, can be made as profitable in writing about it as in the doing of it. In this case, there is something to write about and something that many people are interested in learning.

Women more frequently than they know have means of money-making at their very doors, while they are lamenting that some distant field, in which they would not do half so well, is beyond their reach. Many an old orchard has been dug up for buried treasure that yielded it only in an extra crop of fruit; and the wonder is that, with such numerous seekers after remunerative employment, there are not more orchards. Such a thing has been known as an over production of fruit that left it unsaleable on the ground,—but did such a lame and impotent conclusion ever happen to the choice varieties? Has the man who could get a dollar a basket for peaches, while his neighbors were getting but twenty-five cents, ever found that he raised too many of them?

Careful cultivation does as much for fruit as for flowers; and neglected orchards can be reclaimed with careful washing and pruning of trees, and ashes dug in around the roots; while new ones may be planted by degrees with less expense and trouble than is generally supposed. To transform a wilderness into a fruitful field is an act that deserves well of posterity; but it does not need to wait for that to reap its reward. Good fruit always finds a market; and especially since with our improved methods of transportation, it can be conveyed hundreds of miles without injury.

The business of grafting is easily learned and highly profitable; and the light, open-air employment has been known to bring roses to faded cheeks, and strength to a weak back. Confirmed invalids have regained health and spirits in this way, besides filling their purses; and it is somewhat surprising that with such assured returns, the business of fruit-growing is not entirely overdone. Such, however, is far from being the case; and among women, it seems as yet scarcely begun. One woman in Georgia is doing what many another woman might do with equal success. She is making the fruit farm started by her husband pay magnificently; and an order sent by her to the East for 13,000 fruit baskets, at one time, implies an extensive business.

"The Woodruff farm, to-day," writes a visitor, "is one of the loveliest spots in the banner Southern State. The farm-house is a model of convenience and neatness, furnished richly and in good taste; and the owner is a lady with whom it is a treat to chat. Aside from having been reared and educated as a lady, she has a business head on her which plenty of men might pay a good round price for. She knows the exact number of trees and vines, the total of every year's yield, and does all the corresponding with commission men in New York, Chicago, and Cincinnati. Her fruit has a market of its own; and she can make a close estimate of the yield and the profits. The specialty is of course in the early market; and the climate of Georgia allows her to put Peaches, Pears, and Grapes, into the northern markets when they bring fancy prices. She put Peaches in New York city, last year, which retailed at twenty-five cents each.

Her contracts are all made with Northern houses; and the income from that farm, this year, will be something astonishing. One who doubts my assertions can have the figures from Mrs. Woodruff's books to prove that ten acres of Peaches will double discount the profits on the best farm in the State of Ohio. The man who puts $2000 into Grapes in Georgia will reap more profit than the one who invests $6000 in an Orange grove."

Few women can do business on so large a scale, implying considerable capital; yet such a farm might grow by degrees from a very small beginning. A good income, however, could be depended on without attempting anything gigantic; and a woman has sometimes added considerably to her stock of ready money by raising a little very choice fruit. Every specimen of this was so perfect that she could get her own price for it. Quality pays better than quantity in almost any merchandise; and in few things is this fact so evident as in the growing of fruit.

An acre of Strawberries, for instance, can neither be cultivated nor gathered without hired help, which makes a large hole in the profits; while a woman in ordinarily good health can do all that needs to be done to a large bed of choice varieties producing early fruit, and will therefore gain more, with less trouble, from the smaller domain, with more independence also,—for what one does one's self is sure to be done at the time and in the way it is wanted; and a woman who enters the arena of Money-Making must trust largely to her own hands and her own judgment. It is a favorite saying that, in a figurative sense, she must learn to handle things without gloves; but *literally*, she will be far wiser to take all possible care of her hands and wear gloves while at work whenever she can do so.

In Hood's touching poem, the poor overworked seamstress "sat in unwomanly rags;" but neglect of one's appearance is not an aid to pecuniary success, and a deep sunbonnet and buckskin gloves worn by the cultivator have no necessary connection with an insufficient fruit crop.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MILDRED'S CONVERSATION CLASS.

NO. XV.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

"I have been thinking, Miss Wilson, said Mildred at the next meeting "about an expression you used the other day. It does not seem to me exactly—exactly—"

"Correct," finished Miss Wilson with a smile. "Doubtless, I do use, at times, expressions which are open to severe criticism. I sincerely try to avoid such expressions but 'to err is human' you know. What is the particular form of speech to which you object? You remember, I desired from the first that, if you should, at any time, see or hear any expression of mine which seemed open to criticism, you would speak of it freely, and thus leave me to explain the position I assumed, or acknowledge my mistake."

"Well, the thing—the remark was this. You were speaking to mother about my saying 'sposin'' and you said 'how you did used to try my soul.' Now what I want to know is, is 'did used' a good expression?"

"No, my dear; on the contrary it is a bad one. Thank you for reminding me of it. In talking with an old and dear friend, as with your mother, one insensibly resumes past methods of speech.

"What *should* you have said Miss Wilson?"

"I had no need at all for the word 'used.' 'How you did try my soul' was sufficient. 'How you tried my soul,' would have expressed the idea, but it would hardly have given to the sentence, the emphasis which I desired to give."

"Now Miss Wilson, it is my turn. I feel encouraged by Mildred's kindly reception. You said that 'run' used as a transitive verb, formed its imperfect tense as 'run.' Now if I say 'the boy ran a mile' *that* is a transitive verb, and yet 'ran' is certainly correct?"

Miss Wilson smiled involuntarily. 'Ran' certainly *is* correct, but is 'run,' in that case, a transitive verb?

"Why certainly" *answered Edith confidently*, after a moment's reflection, adding, hesitatingly, "isn't it?"

"Let us consider the subject. A transitive verb is one which takes an object—is it not? Well, is 'mile' the object of the verb 'run?' Most assuredly not. If you could take up a 'mile' in your hand, as you can a needle or a sword and 'run' it into something, then would 'mile' be the object of the verb 'run.' 'He run a needle into his hand,' for instance."

"Well, Miss Wilson, we say 'he ran a mile into the country' and that is precisely the same kind of sentence."

"O Miss Stocker, do you mean to assert that *your* boy picked up the *mile* in his hand and 'ran' it into the *country*, in the same way that *my* boy picked up the *needle* and 'run' it into his *hand*?

"Why, no," answered Edith in a puzzled way.

"What do you mean to tell us, then?"

Edith hesitated, then answered bravely. "Frankly, I do not know. What *do* I mean? Tell *me*."

"You mean 'The boy ran *for*, or *during*, or *for the space of* a mile.' Consequently, the word 'mile' is governed by some word or phrase understood. Is it clear?

A light broke over Edith's face as she answered heartily—"Of course! how absurd of me! It is as plain as daylight now.

During the foregoing conversation, the other four girls had remained eager listeners. As soon as the two subjects under discussion had been entirely disposed of, Sara Tasker spoke:

"Miss Wilson, what do you consider the most important qualification good conversationalist to possess?

Seeing a look of surprise on the countenances of the other four students, Miss Wilson answered Sara's question, by repeating it to the class.

"Education, of course!" was the emphatic and unanimous answer. "Don't you?" they asked in surprise, not noting upon her face, the approval which they had expected to see.

"No, I do not. There is something more important than education. There are *two* things I may say, which receive, or should receive, primary consideration. These are tact, and the power of *listening well*.

"I thought there must be something beside education necessary" said Sara. "I've seen people I knew were educated all to pieces—(excuse me Miss Wilson) I mean very highly educated. But I did not seem to care to listen to them and they always left me with a very uncomfortable sense of something indefinable. I do not mean with an overweening sense of my own ignorance.

The impression to which I refer was something entirely outside of myself."

"I know precisely what you mean. To be a 'brilliant conversationalist,' one must be endowed by nature with a certain power which education cannot give."

"Just exactly what is tact, Miss Wilson?" questioned Georgia Garrett. "It seems a very undefinable word to me."

"Tact is, in reality, more readily felt than explained. It is a quality to which individuals are born, rather than bred. It can be best defined perhaps, as 'the art of saying the proper thing at the proper moment.' I have seen really pleasant, well-read, well educated people utterly spoil a very pleasant, interesting conversation by a little remark, so utterly tactless that one was left to wonder how the speaker could so well conceal natural good sense. Not long ago, one lady, in speaking of a married brother, said 'His family are all among the mountains for the season and he is spending the summer with us. It does seem so good, so like old times to have him with us all the time.' The obvious reply to make to such a remark as this was something like, 'It must be very pleasant indeed' or 'It must make his wife feel very much more content to be away, to know that he is so well taken care of' but in reality the reply was, 'How forlorn it must be for *him*.' That, my dears, was decided want of tact. The conversation, which had been flowing smoothly a few moments before, came to a painful pause. No one seemed to know just what to say, and the tactless one who realized what she had done, tried to amend matters by apologies, that were, if possible, more tactless than had been her original remark.

"I see exactly what you mean, I was at a party not long ago and there was a very pretty looking, sparkling, bright girl, beside me in the refreshment room. Her escort asked what he should bring her from the table. 'Fried oysters and chicken salad' she answered promptly. The affair was a small one and the bill of fare included neither fried oysters nor chicken salad. "Now isn't that just like me!" she exclaimed with an air of deprecation, while her hostess, who had heard the whole affair, turned crimson, and her attendant looked exceedingly uncomfortable. 'I never think. I ought to have asked what there was.' I was so indignant I didn't know what to do."

Georgia Garrett told this anecdote.

"Want of tact in many cases amounts to rudeness, although rudeness is not, by any means, always the result of want of tact. Rudeness is very often premeditated. But I say to you again, if you desire to appear well in society, cultivate *tact*, in all its various branches, for, while I still assert that that tact is inborn, it can be developed and cultivated."

"Why is there more than one branch of this subject?"

"Certainly. There is the tact of *doing*, as well as that of saying. There is as much tact in placing dinner guests at table so that those sitting together may be congenial, as there is in choosing the remarks you shall address to them after they have come.

"Now about 'listening' Miss Wilson" said Mildred.

"By 'listening' I do not mean remaining absolutely quiet. That would accomplish little perhaps, but listening *carefully* to the conversation around you and at the moment which is most appropriate, if there be a proper chance, making your remark or asking your question. The remark you make may not be very brilliant in itself, but being *appropriate* and well put, it passes, for brilliant, and you are regarded as an intelligent girl, who talks little but well. A young girl in this way can, without rudeness or intrusion, enter into the conversation of those much older and much wiser than herself; and thus gain a fund of information and an easy manner of conversing that will be of lasting benefit to her."

"The thing that bothers *me* most Miss Wilson" said Sara Tasker "is to find an answer, when people address me in the most ordinary way. O, of course I don't mean among the girls here, but when I am talking to comparative strangers."

"I do not think that I know exactly what you mean Miss Sara" answered Miss Wilson.

"No, I don't suppose you do, for it is very ridiculous I know. I mean this—when a comparative stranger asks me the simplest question, I can answer 'yes ma'am' or 'no ma'am' but there my reportory seems to end. And it is so ridiculous to say just that, all the time.

"I do not think I would say 'just that' at any time" answered Miss Wilson smiling, "It is not considered 'good form' in polite society to use 'ma'am' upon any occasion, and children are taught to say 'no Mama' 'yes Papa' 'no Mrs. A.' 'yes Mrs. B.' and so on. But this form of address becomes monotonous among older young people and besides, you need someting a little longer. This is accomplished by a partial repetition of the question, in this way 'Is your mother better?' 'Much better, thank you' or 'Not much better, thank you, I am sorry to say' as the case may be."

"That is quite an idea Miss Wilson. I could do that readily."

Suppose, as a final lesson I put a question to each of you, you answering me in something more than monosyllables though I shall such choose questions as demand no other reply than 'yes' and 'no.' Shall I?"

"Yes ma'am" answered Sara, to whom Miss Wilson had directed the question.

An arch look from Miss Wilson and a laugh from the girls, caused Sara to hasten to add—

"I mean, I wish you would Miss Wilson."

"That is an improvement surely on the abrupt 'yes ma'am.' We shall do finely in a short time.

"Were you away all summer Miss Stocker?"

"Not *all* summer, Miss Wilson. I was only away for two weeks

"Did you spend a pleasant summer Mildred?"

"I spent a very pleasant summer indeed, thank you Miss Wilson"

"If you find a let er in the office for me, Miss Garrett, will you bring it to me?"

"I will do so gladly, Miss Wilson"

"Are you going directly home Miss Tasker?"

"Not *directly* home Miss Wilson Can I do anything for you by the way?"

"Not anything this afternoon thank you answered Miss Wilson smiling—while the girls applauded Sara's effort.

A merry "good bye" and they were soon out of sight.

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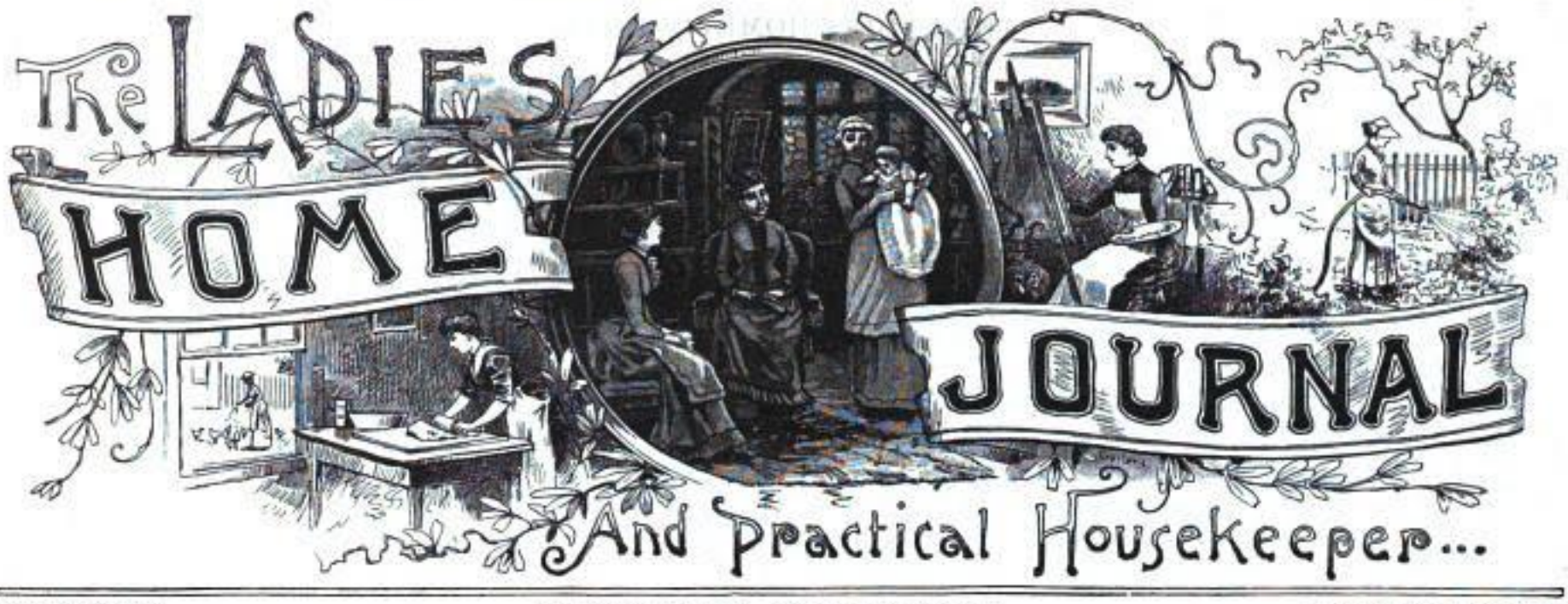

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[FOR THE LADIES HOME JOURNAL.]

JOSIAH ALLEN AT SARATOGA.

BY JOSIAH ALLEN'S WIFE.

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They say there is a sight of flirtin' done in Saratoga, I didn't hear so much about it as Josiah did, natrally there are things that are talked of more amongst men than women. Night after night, he would come home and tell me that some man had told him about it, and how fashionable it wuz—and putty soon I could see that he kinder wanted to follow the fashion.

I told him from the first on't that he'd better let it entirely alone. Says I, "Josiah Allen you wouldn't never carry it through successful if you should undertake it—and then think of the wickedness on't.

But he seemed sot. He said "it wuz more fashionable amongst married men and wimmen, than the more single ones," he said "it wuz dretful fashionable amongst partners."

"Wall," says I, "I shall have nothin' to do with it, and I advise you, if you know when you are well off, to let it entirely alone."

"Of course," says he fireely, "You needn't have nothin' to do with it. It is nothin' you would want to follier up. And I would rather see you sunk into the ground, or be sunk myself, than to see you a goin' into it. "Why," says he savagely, "I would tear a man lim from lim, if I see him a tryin' to flirt with you." (Josiah Allen worships me.) "But," says he, more placider like, "men Aase to do things sometimes, that they know is too hard for their partners to do—men sometimes feel called upon to do things that their partners don't care about—that they hain't strong enough to tackle. Wimmen are fragile creeters anyway."

Oh, the fallacy of them arguments—and the weakness of 'em.

But I didn't say nothin' only to reiterate my utterance, that "if he went into it, he would have to follier it up alone, that he mustn't expect any help from me."

"Oh no!" says he. "Oh! certainly not."

His tone wuz very genteel, but there seemed to be sumthin' strange in it. And I looked at him pityin'ly over my specks. The hull idee on't wuz extremely distasteful tome, this talk about flirtin', and etc., at our ages, and with our stations in the Jonesville meetin' house, and with our grand childern.

But I see from day to day that he wuz a hankerin' after it, and I almost made up my mind that I should have to let him make a trial, knowin' that experience wuz the best teacher, and knowin' that his morals wuz sound, and he wuz devoted to me, and only went into the enterprize because he thought it wuz fashionable.

There wuz a young English girl a boardin' to the same place we did. She dressed like a young nobleman, carried a cane, etc. But she wuz one of the upper 10, and wuz as pretty as a picture, and I see Josiah had kinder sot his eyes on her as bein' a good one to try his experiment with. He thought she wuz beautiful. But good land! I didn't care. I liked her myself. But I could see, thought he couldn't see it, that she wuz one of the girls who would flirt with the town pump, or the meetin' house steeple, if she couldn't get nobody else to flirt with. She wuz born so, but I suppose entirely unbeknown to her when she wuz born.

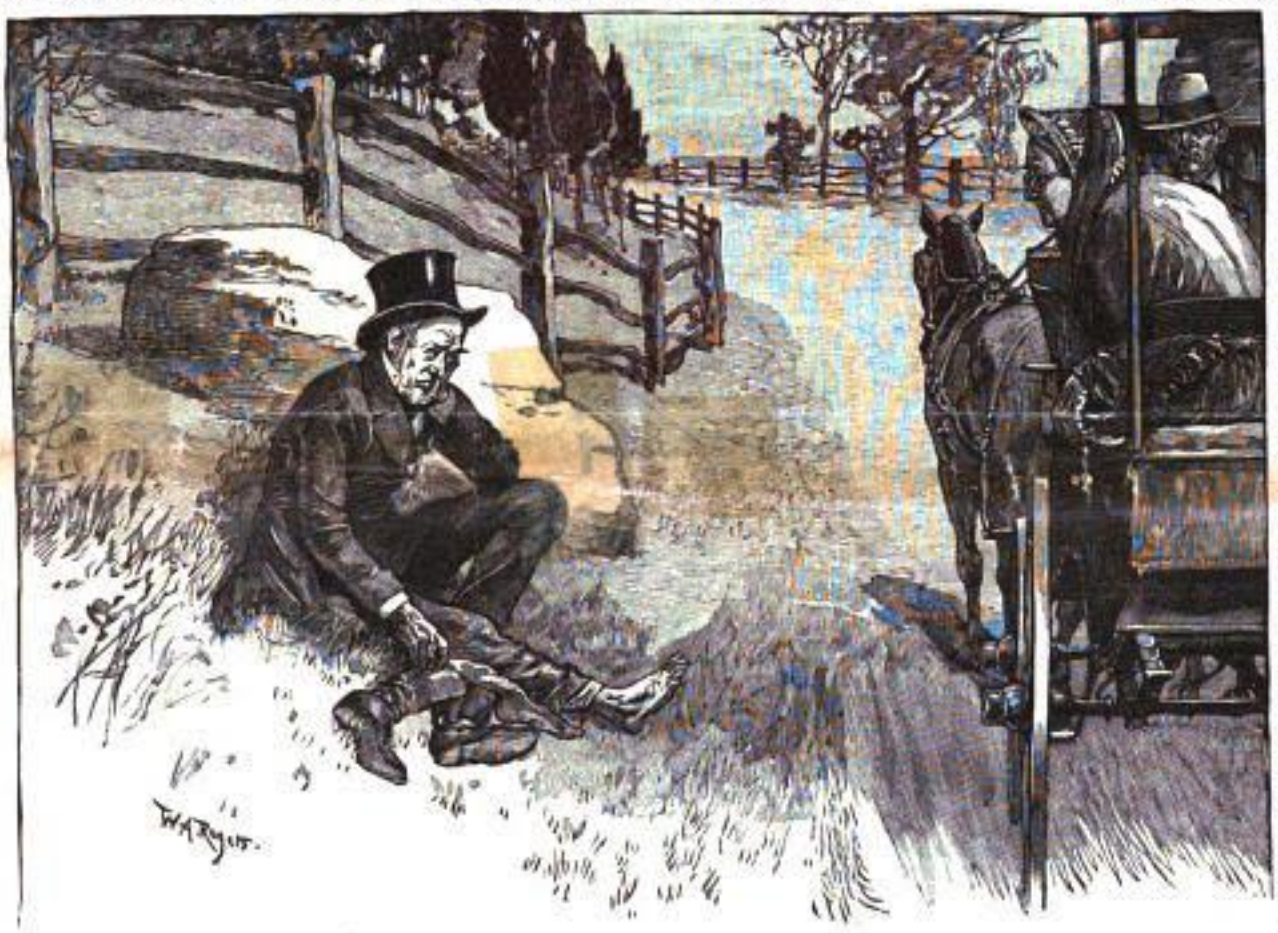
Wall, Josiah Allen would set and look at her by the hour—dretful admirin'. But good land! I didn't care. I loved to look at her myself. And then too I had this feelin' that his morals wuz sound. But afterawhile, I concluded, and couldn't help seein', that he wuz a tryin' in his feeble way to flirt with her. And I told him kindly, but firmly, "that it wuz somethin' I hated to see a goin' on."

But he says, "Wall, dumb it all, Samantha, if anybody goes to a fashionable place, they ort to try to be fashionable. Tain't nothin' I want to do, and you ort to know it."

And I says in pityin' accents but firm, "If you don't want to, Josiah, I wouldn't, fashion or no fashion."

But I see I couldn't convince him, and there happened to be a skercity of men jest then—and he kep it up, and it kep me on the *key vean*, as Maggie says, when she is on the tenter hooks of suspense.

I felt bad to see it go on, not that I wuz jealous, no, my foretop lay smooth from day to day, not a jealous hair in it, not one—but I felt sorry for my companion. I see that while the endurin' of it wuz hard and tejus for him, (for truly he wuz not a adiep at the business; it come tuff, feerful tuff, on him) the endin' wuz sure to be harder. And I tried to convince him, from a sense of duty, that she wuz makin' fun of him—he had told me lots of the pretty things she had said to him—and out of principle I told him that she didn't mean one word of 'em. But I couldn't convince him, and as is the way of pardners, after I had sot the reason and the sense before him, and he wouldn't hear to me, why then I had to set down and bear it. Such is some of the trials of pardners!



Wall, it kep a goin' on, and a goin' on, and I kep a hatin' to see it, for if anybody has *got* to flirt, which I am far from approvin' of, but if I have *got* to see it a goin' on, I would fain see it well done, and Josiah's efforts to flirt wuz like an effort of an old mair to play a tune on the melodian, no grace in it, nor system, nor comfort to him, nor me.

I s'pose the girl got some fun out of it; I hope she did, for if she didn't it wuz a weerisome job all round.

Wall, a week or so rolled on, and it wuz still in progress. And one day an old friend of ours, Miss Ezra Balch, from the east part of Jonesville, came to see me. She come to Saratoga for the rheumatiz, and wuz gettin' well fast, and Ezra wuz gettin' entirely cured of biles, for which he had come, carbunkles.

Wall, she invited Josiah and me to take a ride with 'em, and we both accepted of it, and at the appointed time I wuz ready to the minute, down on the piazzer, with my brown cotton gloves on, and my mantilly hung gracefully over my arm. But at the last minute, Josiah Allen said "he couldn't go."

I says "Why can't you go?"

"Oh," he says, kinder drawin' up his coller, and smoothin' down his vest, "Oh, I have got another engagement."

He looked real high-headed, and I says to him: "Josiah Allen didn't you promise Sylphina Balch that you would go with her and Ezra today?"

"Wall yes," says he, "but I can't."

"Why not?" says I.

"Wall, Samantha, though they are well meanin', good people, they hain't what you may call fashionables, they hain't the upper 10."

Says I, "Josiah Allen you have fell over 15 cents in my estimation, sense we have begun talkin', you won't go with 'em because they hain't fashionable. They are good, honest, Christian Methodists, and have stood by you and me many a time, in times of trouble, and now," says I, "you turn against 'em because they hain't fashionable." Says I, "Josiah Allen where do you think you'll go to?"

"Oh, probable down through Congress Park, and we may walk up as far as the Indian Encampment. I feel kinder manger to-day, and my corns ache feerful." (His boots wuz that small, that they wuz sights to behold, sights!) "We probable shan't walk fur," says he."

I see how 'twuz in a minute. That English girl had asked him to walk with her, and my pardner had broken a solemn engagement with Ezra and Sylphina Balch to go a walkin' with her. I see how 'twuz, but I sot in silence and one of the big rockin' chairs, and didn't say nothin'.

Finally he says, with a sort of a anxious look onto his foreward:

"You don't feel bad, do you Samantha? You hain't jealous, are you?

"Jealous! says I, a lookin' him calmly over from head to feet—it wuz witherin', and yet pitiful, that took in the hull body and soul, and weighed 'em in the balances of common sense, and pity, and justice. It wuz a look that seemed to envelop him all to one time, and took him all in, his bald head, his vest, and his boots, and his mind, (what he had) and his efforts to be fashionable, and his trials and tribulations at it, and—and everything. I give him that one long look, and says:

"Jealous! No, I hain't jealous."

Then silence reigned agen about us. And Josiah spoke out, (his conscience wuz a troublin' him) and he says:

"You know in fashionable life, Samantha, you have to do things which seem unkind, and Ezra, though a good, worthy man, can't understand these things as I do."

Says I: "Josiah Allen, you'll see the day that you'll be sorry for your treatment of Sylphina Balch, and Ezra."

"Oh wall," says he, pullin' up his collar, "I'm bound to be fashionable. While I can go with the upper 10, it is my duty and my privilege to go with 'em, and not mingle in the lower classes like the Balches."

Says I firmly, "You look out, or some of them 10 will be the death of you, and you may see the day that you will be glad to leave 'em, the hull 10 of 'em and go back to Sylphina and Ezra Balch."

But what more words might have passed between us, was cut short by the arrival of Ezra and Sylphina in a good big carriage, with Miss Balch on the back seat, and Ezra acrost from her, and a man up in front a drivin'. It wuz a good lookin' sight, and I hastened down the steps, Josiah disappearin' inside jest as quick as he ketched sight of their heads.

They asked me anxiously "where Josiah wuz and why he didn't come?" And I told 'em "that Josiah had told me that mornin' that he felt manger, and he had some corns that wuz a achin'."

So much wuz truth, and I told it, and then moved off the subject, and they seein' my looks, didn't pursue it any further. They proposed to go back to their boardin' place, and take in Deacon Balch, Ezra's brother from Chicago, who wuz stayin' there a few days, to recooperate his energies, and get help for tizick. So they did. He wuz a widowed man. Yes, he wuz the widower of Cornelia Balch who I used to know well, a good lookin', and a good actin' man. And he seemed to like my appearance pretty well, though I am far from bein' the one that ought to say it.

And as we rooled on over the broad beautiful road towards Saratoga Lake, I begun to feel better in my mind.

The Deacon wuz edifyin' in conversation, and he thought, and said, "that my mind wuz the heftiest one that he had ever met, and he had met hundreds and hundreds of 'em." He meant it, you could see that, he meant every word he said. And it wuz kind of comfortin' to hear the Deacon say so, for I respected the Deacon, and I knew he meant jest what he said.

He said, and believed, though it hain't so, but the Deacon believed it, "that I looked younger than I did the day I wuz married."

I told him "I didn't feel so young."

"Wall," he said, "then my looks deceived me, for I looked as young, if not younger."

Deacon Balch is a good, kind, Christian man.

His conversation wuz very edifyin', and he looked kinder good, and warm-hearted at me out of his eyes, which wuz blue, some the color of my Josiah's. But alas! I felt that though some comforted and edified by his talk, still, my heart wuz not there, not there in that double buggy with 2 seats, but wuz afar with my partner. I felt that Josiah Allen wuz a carryin' my heart with him wherever he wuz a goin'. Curious, hain't it? Now you may set and smile, and talk, and seem to be enjoyin' yourself first-rate, with agreeable personages all round you, and you do enjoy yourself with that part of your nater. But with it all, down deep under the laughs, and the bright words, the comfort you get out of the answirin' laughs, the gay talk, under it all is the steady consciousness that the real self is far away, the heart, the soul, is far away held by some creeter whether he be high, or whether he low, it don't matter—there your heart is, a goin' towards happiness, or a travellin' towards pain, as the case may be—Curious, hain't it?

Wall, Ezra and Sylphina wanted to go to the Sulphur Springs way beyond Saratoga Lake, and as the Deacon wuz agreeable, and I also, we sot out for it, though, as we all said, it wuz goin' to be a pretty long and tegus journey for a hot day. But we went along the broad, beautiful highway, by the high, handsome gates of the Racin' Park, down, down, by handsome houses and shady woods, and fields of beautiful wild flowers on each side of the road—down to the beautiful lake, acrost it over the long bridge, and then into the long, cool shadows of the bendin' trees that bend over the road on each side—while through the green boughs, jest at our side we could ketch a sight of the blue, peaceful waters, a lyin' calm and beautiful jest by the side of us—on, on, through the long, sheltered pathway, out into the sunshine for a spell, with peaceful fields a layin' about us, and peaceful cattle a wanderin' over 'em—and then into the shade agin—till at last we see a beautiful mountin', with its head held kinder high, crowned with ferns and hemlocks, and its feet washed by the cool water of the beautiful lake.

The shadows of this mountin', tree crowned, lay on the smooth, placid waves, and a white sail boat wuz a comin' round the side on't, and floatin' over the green crystal branches, and golden shadows. It wuz a fair seen—seen for a moment, and then away we went into the green shadows of the woods a ruin, round a corner, and here we wuz, at the Sulphur Springs.

It wuz a quiet peaceful spot. The house looked pleasant, and so did the Landlord, and Landlady, and we dismounted and walked through a long clean hall, and went out onto a back piazzer and set down. And I thought as I sot there, that I would be glad enough to set there for some time. Everything looked so quiet and serene. The paths leadin' up the hills in different directions, out into the green woods, looked quiet—the pretty, grassy back yard leadin' down to the water side looked green and peaceable, and around all, and beyond all, the glory of the waters. They lay stretched out beautiful and heavenly calm, and the sun, which wuz low in the West, made a gold path acrost 'em, where it seemed as if one could walk over only a little

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ways, into Perfect Repose. The Lake somehow looked like a glowin' pave-ment, it didn't look like water, but it seemed like broad fields of azure and palest lavender, and pinky grey, and pearly white, and every soft and delicate color that water could be crystalized into. And over all lay the glowin', tender sunset skies—it wuz a fair seen. And even as I looked on in a almost rapped way, the sun came out from behind a soft cloud, and lay on the water like a piller of fire—jest es I dream that pillers did, that went ahead of my old 4 fathers.

The rest on 'em seemed to be more intent on the lemonade with 2 straws in 'em. I didn't make no fuss. They are nice, clean folks, I make no doubt. I wouldn't make no fuss and tell on the hired man—women of the house have enough to worry 'em anyway. But he had dropped some straws into our tumblers, every one on 'em, I dare presume to say they had been a fillin' straw ticks. I jest took mine out in a quiet way, and throwed 'em to one side. The rest on 'em, I see, and it wuz real good in 'em, drinked through 'em, as we used to at school. It wuz real good in Sylphina, and Ezra, and also in the Deacon. It kinder endeared the hull on 'em to me. I hope this won't be told of, it orto be kep—for he wuz a good-natured lookin' hired man, black, but not to blame for that—and good land! what is a straw!—anyway they wuz clean.

There wuz some tents sot up there in the back yard, lookin' some as I s'pose our old 4 fathers tents did, in the pleasant summer times of old. And I asked a bystander a standin' by, whose tents they wuz, and he said they wuz Free Thinkers havin' a convention.

And I says "How free?"

And he said "they wuz great cases to doubt everything, they doubted whether they wuz or not, and if they wuz or when, and if so, why."

And he says, "Won't you stay to-night over and attend the meetin?"

And I says, "What are they goin' to teach to-night?"

And he says "The Whyness of the What."

I says "I guess that is too deep a subject for me to tackle," and says I, "Don't they believe anything easier than that?"

And he says, "They don't believe anything. That is their belief—to believe nothin."

"Nothin'?" says I.

"Yes," says he, "Nothin'." And, says he, "tomorrer, they are going to prove beyond any question, that there hain't any God, nor anything, and never wuz anything."

"Be they?" says I.

"Yes," says he, "and won't you come and be convinced?"

I looked off onto the peaceful waters, onto the hills that lay as the mountins did about Jerusalem, onto the pillow of fire that seemed to hold in it the flames of that light that had lighted the old world onto the mornin' of the new day,—and one star had come out, and stood tremblin' over the brow of the mountin' and I thought of that star that had riz so long time ago, and had guided the three wise men, guided 'em jest alike from their three different homes, entirely unbeknown to each other, guidin' 'em to the cradle where lay the infant Redeemer of the world, so long foretold by bard and prophet. I looked out onto the heavenly glory of the day, and then inside into my heart, that held a faith jest as bright and undyin' as the light of that star—and I says "No, I guess I won't go and be convinced."

Well, we riz up to go most immediately afterwards, and the Deacon (he is very smart) observed: "How highly tickled and even highlarious the man seemed in talkin' about there not bein' any future." And he says "It wuz a good deal like a man laughin' and clappin' his hands to see his house burn down."

And I says "It wuz far wurse, for his home wouldn't stand more'n a 100 years or so, and this home he wuz a tryin' to destroy, wuz one that would last through Eternity." "But," says I, it hain't built by hands, and I guess their hands hain't strong enough to tear it down, nor high enough to set fire to it."

And the Deacon says, "Jest so, Miss Allen, you spoke truthfully, and eloquent. (The Deacon is very smart.)

When we got into the buggy to start, the Deacon says, "I would like to resoem the conversation with you, Josiah Allen's wife, a goin' back."

And Sylphina spoke right out and says, "I will set on the front seat by Ezra. I says, "Oh no, Sylphina, I can heer the Deacon from where I sot before."

But the Deacon says, "Talkin' loud towards night always offected his voice onpleasantly, mebby Sylphina and he had better change seats."

Again I demurred. And then Sylphina said "she must set by Ezra, she wanted to tell him sumthin' in confidence."

And so it wuz arraigned, for I felt that I wuz not the one to come between pardners, no indeed. The road lay peacefuller and beautifuller than ever, or so it seemed under the sunset glory that sort o' hung round it. Jest about half way through the woods we met the English girl, a stridin' along alone, each step more'n 3 feet long, or so it seemed to me. There wuz a look of health, and happy determination on her forword as she strided rapidly by.

I would have fain questioned her concernin' my pardner, as she strode by, but before I could call out, or begon to her she wuz far in the rearword, and goin' in a full pressure and in a knot of several miles an hour.

Wall, from that minute I felt strange and curius. And though Sylphina and Ezra wuz agreeable, and the Deacon edifyin', I didn't seem to feel edified, and the most warm-hearted looks didn't seem to warm my heart none, it wuz oppressed with gloomy forebodings of Where wuz my pardner? They had laid out to set out together! Had they sot! This question wuz a governin' me, and the follerin' one: if they had sot out together, where wuz my pardner, Josiah Allen, now? As I thought these feerful thoughts, instinctively I turned round to see if I could see a trace of his companion in the distance. Yes, I could ketch a faint glimpse of her as she wuz mountin' a diclevity, and stood for a instant in sight, but long before even, she disopeered agin, for her gait wuz tremendous, and at a rate of a good many knots she wuz a goin', that I knew. And the fearful thought would rise, Josiah Allen could not go more than half a knot, if he could that. He wuz a slow predestinatur any way, and then his corns wuz feerful, and never could be told—and his boots had in 'em the elements of feerful sufferin'. It wuz all he could do when he had 'em on to hobble down to the spring, and post-office. Where! where! wuz he? And she a goin' at the rate of so many knots.

Oh! the agony of them several minutes, while these thoughts wuz rampagin through my destracted brain.

Oh! if pardners only knew the agony they bring onto their devoted companions, by their onguarded and though less acts, and attentions to other females, gin without proper reseerch and precautions, it would draw their liniments down into expressions of shame and remorse. Josiah wouldn't have gone with her if he had known the number of knots she wuz a goin' no, not one step—then why couldn't he have found out the number of them knots—why couldn't he? Why can't pardners look ahead and see to where their gay attentions, their flirtations that they call mild and innocent, will lead 'em to. Why can't they realize that it hain't only themselves they are injurin', but them that are bound to 'em by the most sacred ties that folks can be twisted up in? Why can't they realize that a end must come to it, and it may be a fearful and a shameful one, and if it is a happiness that stop, it will leave in the hearts when happiness gets out, a emptiness, a holler place, where like as not onhappiness will get in, and mebby stay there for some time, gaulin' and heart-breakin' to the opposite pardner to see it go on?

If it is indifference or fashion, or anything of that sort, why it don't pay none of the time, it don't seem to me it dux, and the end will be emptier and holler'er than the beginnin'.

In the case of my pardner it wuz fashion, nothing but fashion *he* wuz after, to act in a high-toned, fashionable manner, like other fashionable men. And jest see the end on't, why he had brought sufferin' of the deepest dye onto his companion, and what, what hed he brought onto himself—onto his feet?

Oh! the agony of them several moments while them thoughts wuz a rackin' at me. The moments swelled out into a half hour, it must have been a long half hour, before I see far ahead, for the eyes of love is keen—a form a settin' on the grass by the wayside, that I recognized as the form of my pardner. As we drew nearer we all recognized the figure—but Josiah Allen didn't seem to notice us. His boots wuz off, and his stockin's, and even in that first look I could see the agony that wuz a rendin' them toes almost to burstin'. Oh, how sorry I felt for them toes! His head wuz a restin' in a most dejected and meloncholy manner on his hand, as if it wuz more than sufferin' that ailed him—he looked a sufferer from remorse, and regret, and also had the air of one whom mortification has stricken.

He never seemed to sense a thing that wuz passin' by him, till the driver pulled up his horses close by him, and then he looked up and see us. And far be it from me to describe the way he looked in his lowly place on the grass. There wuz a good stun by him on which he might have sot, but no, he seemed to feel too mean to get up onto that stun; grass, lowly, unassumin' grass, wuz what seemed to suit him best, and on it he sot with his feet stretched out in front of him.

Oh! the pitifulness of that look he gin us, oh! the meakinness of it. And even, when his eye fell on the Deacon a settin' by my side, oh! the wild gleam of hatred, and sullen anger that glowed within his orb, and revenge! He looked at the Deacon, and then at his boots, and I see the wild thought wuz a enterin' his sole, to throw that boot at him. But I says out of that buggy the very first thing the words I have so oft spoke to him in hours of danger: "Josiah, be calm!"

His eye fell onto the peaceful grass agin, and he says: "Who hain't a bein' calm! I should I wuz calm enough, if that is what you want."

But oh, the sullenness of that love.

Says Ezra, good man,—he see right through it all in a minute, and so did Sylphina and the Deacon—says Ezra, "Get up on the seat with the driver, Josiah Allen, and drive back with us."

"No," says Josiah, "I have no occasion, I am a settin' here," (looking round in perfect agony) "I am a settin' here to admire the scenery."

Then I leaned over the side of the buggy, and says I, "Josiah Allen, do you get in and ride, it will kill you to walk back; put on your boots if you can, and ride, seein' Ezra is so perlite as to ask you."

"Yes, I see he is very perlite, I see you have set amongst very polite folks, Samantha," says he, a glarin at Deacon Balch es if he would rend him from lim to lim. "But es I said, I have no occasion to ride, I took off my boots and stockin's merely—merely to pass away time. You know at fashionable resorts," says he, "it is sometimes hard for men to pass away time."

Says I in low, deep accents, "Do put on your stockin's, and your boots, if you can get 'em on, which I doubt, but put your stockin's on this minute, and get in, and ride."

"Yes," says Ezra, "hurry up and get in, Josiah Allen, it must be dretful uncomfortable a settin' down there in the grass."

"Oh no!" says Josiah, and he kinder whistled a few bars of no tune that wuz ever heard on, or ever will be heard on agin, so wild and meloncholy it wuz,—"I sot down here kind o' careless, I thought seein' I hadn't much on hand to do at this time o' year, I thought I would like to look at my feet—we hain't got a very big lookin'-glass in our room."

Oh, how incoherent, and over crazed he wuz a becomin'! Who ever heard of seein' anybody's feet in a lookin' glass—of dependin' on a lookin' glass for a sight on 'em! Oh how I pitied that man! and I bent down and says to him in soothin' axents: "Josiah Allen, to please your pardner you put on your stockin's and get into this buggy. Take your boots in your hand, Josiah, I know you can't get 'em on, you have walked too far for them corns. Corns that are trampled on, Josiah Allen, rise up and rends you, or me, or anybody else who owns 'em and tramples on 'em. It hain't your fault, nobody blames you. Now get right in."

"Yes, do," says the Deacon.

Oh! the look that Josiah Allen gin him. I see the voyolence of that look, that rested first on the Deacon, and then on that boot.

And agin I says, "Josiah Allen." And agin the thought of his own feerful acts, and my warnin's, came over him, and again mortification seemed to envelop him like a mantilly, the tabs goin' down and coverin' his lims—and agin he didn't throw that boot. Agin Deacon Balch escaped oninjured, saved by my voice, and Josiah's inward conscience, inside of him.

Wall, suffice it to say, that after a long parley, Josiah Allen wuz a settin' on the high seat with the driver, a holdin' his boots in his hand, for truly no power on earth could have placed them boots on Josiah Allen's feet in the condition they then wuz.

And so he rode on homewards, occasionally a lookin' down on the Deacon with looks that I hope the recordin' angel didn't photograph, so dire, and so revengeful, and jealous, and—and everything, they wuz. And ever, after ketchin' the look in my eye, the look in his'n would change to a heart-rendin' one of remorse, and sorrow, and shame for what he had done. And the Deacon, wantin' to be dretful perlite to him, wouldn't ask him questions, and I could see the side of Josiah's face, all glarin' like a hyena at the sound of his voice, and then he would turn round and assume a perlite genteel look es he answered him, and then he'd glare at me in a mad way every time I spoke to the Deacon, and then his mad look would change, even to one of shame and meakinness. And he in his stockin' feet, and a pretendin' that he didn't put his boots on, because it wuzn't wuth while to put 'em on again so near bed-time. And he that sot out that afternoon a feelin' so haughty, and lookin' down on Ezra and Sylphina, and bein' brung back by 'em, in that condition—and being goured all the time by thoughts of the ignominious way his flirtin' had ended, by her droppin' him by the side of the road, like a weed she had trampled on too hardly. And a bein' gourded deeper than all the rest of his agonies, by a senseless jealousy of Deacon Balch—and a thinkin' for the first time in his life, what it would be, if her affections, that had been like a divine beacon to him all his life, if that flame should ever go out, or ever flicker in its earthly socket—oh, those thoughts that he had seemed to consider in his own mad race for fashion—oh, how that sass that had seemed sweet to him as a gander, oh how bitter and poisonous it wuz to partake of es a goose.

Oh! the agony of that ride. We went middlin' slow back—and before we got to Saratoga the English girl went past us, she had been to the Sulphur Springs and back again. She didn't pay no attention to us, for she wuz a layin' on a plan in her own mind, for a moonlight pedestrian excursion on foot, that evenin', out to the old battle ground of Saratoga.

Josiah never looked to the right hand nor the left, as she passed him, at many, many a knot an hour. And I felt that my pardners sufferin's from that cause wuz over, and mine too, but oh! by what agony wuz it gained. For 3 days and 3 nights he never stood on any of his feet for a consecutive minute and a half, and I bathed him with anarky, and bathed his very soul with many a sweet moral lesson at the same time. And when at last Josiah Allen emerged from that chamber, he wuz a changed man in his demeanor and linement, such is the power of love and womanly devotion.

He never looked at a woman durin' our hull stay at Saratoga, save with the eye of a philosopher and a Methodist—so great is the charm of a wives stiddy affection and—conversation.

[In the next number Josiah's wife will give her experience with the Adventists. It is rich—one of her best.—ED. L. H. J.

MORE VARIETY WITH LESS VARIETY.

During certain seasons when the market affords a small variety, "What shall we have for breakfast?" "What shall we have for dinner?" and "What shall we have for tea?" are nearly tridally occurring and almost insoluble puzzles with which every housekeeper is obliged to contend, and any hints which tend to make the solution easier will perhaps be acceptable. There are two suggestions that may be offered, viz.:

1. Reduce the variety at each meal, which will give a greater variety at the different meals.

2. Prepare the same food-stuffs in various ways.

The first suggestion has, in its favor, two points—economy and wholesomeness. Economy of time and strength, as it requires the same of both, to prepare six different dishes at one meal, as to distribute these same dishes among two or three meals; and economy of food, as, where so many articles are prepared, a part is almost sure to be wasted. Wholesomeness, because the natural appetite will be satisfied with a few articles, while a great variety tempts to over eating. Wholesomeness on account of not mixing various foods requiring widely different processes of digestion, which subject has received considerable attention.

Recently published bills of fare show a sensible decrease in the number of dishes presented. The time is happily past when Mrs. A. bends every energy to give her guests one more kind of cake or preserves than was served at Mrs. B.'s. Good taste and fashion forbid. If any rivalry exists, it is devoted to a special attention to the few dishes presented, which are made to assume as attractive and palatable a form as possible, the ladies understanding that an over-full table is in as bad taste as a room crowded with *bric-a-brac*.

It is said that civilization sweeps from East to West. Experience has taught the writer to expect a much greater variety upon Western tables than upon Eastern. It is to be desired, for the reasons given, that this factor in civilization will soon follow in the direction stated; then will the woman, who has never traveled, fail to be shocked if she does not receive coffee for dinner, and be calm in the prospect of inviting friends to a dinner without cake.

Nowhere, however, will one find such a bountiful quantity and variety served at one meal as among the Pennsylvania people,—particularly those of German origin. The varied resources of the country are thoroughly appreciated, and the number of sauces and preserves, cheese cakes and molasses cakes, and all of the other good things, causes one to almost think that they live to eat instead of the reverse.

A physician, who had achieved some renown during the Crimean war, remonstrated with a lady for placing so many articles before him, and received this reply: "Because of so much it does not necessarily follow that you should partake of all, but that you may be able to select something which pleases you." This was true hospitality and contains a point which should not be overlooked when one is not cognizant of the particular tastes of one's expected guests, or when the object of an occasion is obviously the refreshments, then a greater variety is permissible. But in the home and upon ordinary occasions, lessen the variety at one meal and do not allow the preceding or succeeding meals to become counterparts of the present. Pie three times a day becomes monotonous.

Busy housewives will find this plan much easier and better in many ways if they will give it a fair trial. A much more satisfactory variety may be obtained from a small variety, which otherwise would prove unsatisfactory.

Now in regard to the second suggestion—prepare the same food-stuffs in various ways. Housekeepers naturally fall into certain ruts, none of which are more apparent than an unchanging way of cooking. Who cannot think of some particular dainty dish that would be sure to grace the table in a visit to this or that friend? Mrs. Jones will undoubtedly have delicious cream toast, while at Mrs. Brown's we are certain to find dainty cup custards. The very fact of these articles appearing so unfailingly, in part, at least, explains why they are so satisfactory, for "practice makes perfect" in the culinary art as in anything else. If, however, perfection can be attained in one dish, a little attention will usually secure it in another, and that with a greater degree of satisfaction in the household, as even cream toast and cup custards would cease to be appetizing if indulged in too frequently.

Many and various attractive dishes may be produced from a small number of articles, either separately, by preparing the same article in different ways, or combined, as in soups, salads, and made dishes, which latter often produce the most satisfactory and economical results, because of the otherwise unavailable odds and ends which can be used in their preparation.

The Irish potato, which next to bread occupies an important place on most tables, as it can be relied upon as a stand-by when the market is bare of other vegetables, is usually fried, roasted and boiled, roasted, boiled and fried, boiled, fried and roasted, *ad infinitum* through all the various combinations which arithmetic provides, until the palate of the average potato eater longs for a change. Even potatoes boiled in the "jackets," *a la Irish*, if you choose so to designate them, would prove a relief; and if smooth, uniform potatoes are nicely washed, and boiled until just right, then a mealy, bursting dish of them served half hidden in a bright napkin, even the most fastidious will be tempted, and thereby gain a certain flavor and property which potatoes boiled without the skins do not retain.

Steamed cream potatoes are nice for breakfast. Slice or chop cold boiled potatoes. For each pint use one tablespoon butter, two of milk or cream, and one-half of flour, add salt and pepper as desired, mix well and steam fifteen or twenty minutes, either set over or in boiling water. The result will be almost equal to creamed new potatoes.

The sticky, soggy, lumpy mess often served under the name of mashed potato is an insult to the properly prepared article. The English stir and beat the potatoes until a light, white, creamy mass is produced, which is a delight to the eye as well as the palate. With very little extra trouble mashed potatoes may always be made attractive. Mash the potatoes as usual, then put through a sieve—brass is preferable, but a common, round, flour sieve answers the purpose, as it will not color the potato if it is perfectly clean and not allowed to stand with the potato in it. To every pint add one teaspoon salt, one tablespoon butter, and one-half cup milk or cream—hot is better—beat with a wire potato masher. Mashed potato is often served at the table of the writer, and is never prepared in any other way.

Cheesed potatoes prepared as above with the addition of cheese well mixed through the potato before putting through the sieve, or colander, as may be preferred, the dish is then browned in the oven with or without a sprinkling of grated cheese over the top.

These recipes were originated in one household, but, if the housekeeper is not ingenious in this respect, any good cook book will give a variety of ways of preparing nearly all food products.

From the foregoing it will appear that more variety may be obtained with less variety, plus brains, and as this is a brain-developing era, why not?

It is the *duty* of each housekeeper, not only for the pleasure provided, but for the health secured, to present a variety of food during each day. Certain parts of the body require certain foods for their nourishment while other parts require something entirely different. The age, occupation, temperament and temperature must also enter into the problem when perfectly considered. Science is doing much in this direction, and it is safe to predict that, at no very distant day, the process of physical nutrition will be resolved into a science. Until then should a constant thoughtfulness be manifested. During the summer months, however, when Nature is lavish in her bounteous gifts to man, who at that season requires a rest, can the busily concocting brain of the housewife seek repose, and Nature's products, which are abundantly sufficient to satisfy the palate as well as the physical needs, be served in the plainest, simplest style.

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A POPULAR ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY AND ITS EDITOR.

[*From the New York Journalist, Dec. 11, 1886.*]

The calm, thoughtful, intelligent and decisive face of one of the most successful of America's woman journalists is mirrored on this page of our holiday offering. Mrs. Louisa Knapp is editor of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL AND PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER. The story of her endeavor and its fruition cannot fail to interest all workers in a field where the harvests are unequal, while the labor is proverbially fascinating. Her salary of five thousand per year, is one of (if not *the*) largest paid to any woman in this country for similar work, and that she earns her money and is worth more than its amount to the proprietor of that capitally written and elegantly illustrated periodical which has become a national pride, is apparent from the fact that her executive ability, skill and judgment have been chief factors in securing for the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, (and within three years) over four hundred thousand subscribers! We hear and read a great deal about phenomenal successes in the publishing line, but this is undeniably the largest circulation and most extraordinary boom of any periodical in the United States.

Mrs. Knapp was born in Boston, Mass., thirty-five years ago. At the age of twenty-four she married a newspaper publisher, and in 1876 removed to Philadelphia. Her first editorial work was to take charge of the household department in an agricultural paper, the *Tribune and Farmer*. From a single column of space, she was soon given a whole page and so thoroughly was her work done that over forty thousand women subscribers were added to that publication's list of regular patrons.

In December, 1883, the first number of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL was issued. How rapidly it won public, we might more properly say household favor, is evident from this tale of figures: At the end of the first year its circulation was about 24,800, six months later it numbered 48,006, and at Christmas, 1885, it was 106,000. It doubled again the first half of the third year, and now, at its close, is by actual count 413,000, with divers and remote counties to hear from.

Mrs. Knapp has a rare intuition. She knows to a nicety what interests and moves women, and appreciating their needs, anticipates their reasonable demands. From the outset her work has been conscientious. Not a line is allowed to go into the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL until it has been carefully scrutinized and edited. Every part must be thoroughly practical. In the housekeeper department she believed there was, and soon found, ample room for many reforms. The cooking recipes in ordinary domestic publications were discovered to be unsuited to the needs of the masses. Her aim was to make those in the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL not only reliable, but at the same time inexpensive. None were used until they had been tested. Her policy has been to secure the best matter obtainable for each and every department of the paper, regardless of cost. The best that can be obtained is her first thought; expense a secondary consideration. Experts in their respective lines are the editors whom she has engaged for the several departments, and they are paid the highest salaries, which are demanded for the best work they are capable of producing. The illustrations are notably by the best and most expensive of our leading artists and engravers. For her literary pages she has secured the best of popular writers and is constantly negotiating for new contributors and fresh, attractive matter. In every sense of the word, THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL is high-toned, and its fiction is pure and sale.

For the coming year (1887) Mrs. Knapp has contracted for the pen-labor of such well-known writers as Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, Rose Terry Cooke, Marion Harland, Harriet Prescott Spofford, Josiah Allen's Wife, Mary Abbott Rand, Christine Terhune Herrick, Will Carleton and Jennie June. Many others equally popular have also been secured. Constantly on the alert for new ideas, and practical expressions, Mrs. Knapp maintains ceaseless correspondence with prominent authors. For her own writing, (always a pleasant, congenial occupation) she has very little time, but her natural tact as an editor is advertised on every page of her completed labor. Her editorial work is done at home, where she has a fine library, replete with every convenience, her reference books the best authorities on every topic, and selected with great care. From two to three hours each morning is devoted to her work. Her heart is in it, and brain and hand are naturally active. She seldom visits the publication offices of the favorite monthly which she so admirably controls, but is in direct communication with it by telephone from her snug and comfortable sanctum.

Thoroughly domestic in her habits, she does not neglect her own household for business matters. She has in fact a strong aversion to being regarded as a business woman, and thinks that every woman's first duty is to her household and family. This belief is with her a religion. Although strongly in love with her professional work, and eminently successful in it, as we have already shown, her duties as a housekeeper, a wife and mother, claim her first attention. Here it may be noted that her disinclination for newspaper publicity, or to be known as an editor, has caused her to hide her real name under a *nom de plume*, and as most of her friends and neighbors are subscribers to the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, it is a great source of amusement to her and the immediate family when in the parlors of their delightful home, to listen to the criticisms and comments freely uttered about the work of which that home is fountain head. Mrs. Louisa Knapp is really Mrs. —— —— no, not just yet! *The Journalist* isn't a woman; therefore it can and will keep the secret.

With a practical, active and cultured director like its lady editor, the wonderful success of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL is less a surprise than an established fact. Mrs. Knapp is the controlling force in a monthly publication, the sheets of which require nearly a month's press-work. Four hundred and thirteen thousand copies! Think what that means in circulation and influence! Supposing that, on a fair average, each copy has five readers, there are to-day in this country of homes, more than two millions of our adult and growing to be adult population who are directly interested in and much edified by by what Mrs. Knapp's hand so deftly turns into living, breathing type-wisdom. It is always a satisfaction to us in this, a newspaper for newspaper makers, to commend what is good and progressive. The iteration and reiteration of deserved compliments is evidence of our sincerity of purpose. The LADIES' HOME JOURNAL has on more than one occasion been flatteringly referred to in these columns. While its growth has been rapid, there is nothing of the mushroom variety about it. Because it is a good idea, jealously nurtured, and presented in most attractive shape to a nation of progress, the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL keeps on the up grade. Mrs. Louisa Knapp, her co-editors and their discriminating employers share the congratulations of a very numerous and highly pleased constituency.

In April of the present year, Mr. Cyrus H. K Curtis, who founded this prosperous monthly, speaking of its business methods, said: "Every energy has bent to one end—to produce a paper that women would have, to make it so good that they must have it, and I succeeded. Then I advertised liberally. Every subscriber thus secured resulted in two new ones. Every subscriber has been secured on the merit of the paper alone. No premiums are offered as inducements to subscribers, although they are given to club raisers to pay them for their trouble. The JOURNAL is cheap in price, simply that it may benefit a large number of women who cannot afford the high-priced magazines. The low price does not account for its large circulation. Women will not subscribe for an inferior paper at any price. Paper is bought for spot cash on delivery at a price few papers can secure. Our printers give us the lowest possible rates for spot cash, same with binders, and everything else needed to produce the paper. Everything is on a hard pan cash basis. The JOURNAL does not owe a dollar, never gave a note, and will not give credit to its advertisers unless they are positively known to be perfectly good and prompt in paying bills. We refuse many dollars worth of advertising rather than run any risk of loss by bad debts. Our rates are invariable, and a line of advertisement never appeared in our columns for one penny less than the regular established rate. All advertisers are treated alike, and the circulation has always been truthfully stated and proved exactly as represented. Thus gradually but surely gaining and holding the confidence of our customers, we have built up our present splendid advertising patronage. The confidence of our readers is also secured by allowing no swindling or humbug advertisements in our columns, and guaranteeing them against frauds by making good any losses sustained by answering advertisements in the JOURNAL. On merit alone, the JOURNAL is strong enough to draw from 1,000 to 1,500 yearly subscribers daily. This has been the average for the last six months. The whole story in a nutshell is, we have published the best domestic paper yet produced and have advertised it liberally."

BEHIND THE DOOR.

BY S. S. NORTON.

The picnic at Jerico Falls was a failure. Nobody could dispute that. In the first place, it didn't rain, and when that important "divertisement," which should be on the programme of every well regulated picnic is omitted, it must follow "as the day the night" that the whole affair be voted a failure.

That was not all, however. The party might have consoled themselves for the lack of ruined hats and wilted muslins, if the social atmosphere had been serene; but, as if to make up for the surpassingly happy mood of Nature, poor human nature must needs display itself at its worst aspect. Everyone grumbled. The sandwiches were heavy, the coffee was weak; the lemonade was bitter, the ice cream was melted and full of sticks. Nothing was right, everything was wrong.

"I declare," said Helen Browne, throwing herself down on the ground beside Kitty Arnold, after the lunch tables had been cleared away, and the party, broken up into little cliques of threes and fours, had wandered off in all directions in search of wild-flowers. "I will never set my heart on anything again! Here's this picnic, which I fondly believed would be the happiest event of the summer; and how has it turned out? I've got my nose burnt to a blister, fussing over those tables in my bare head; I've scratched my arm on a bramble, and cut my finger with a knife that obstinately refused to cut anything else; I've torn two of the ruffles half off my dress besides spilling coffee over the entire front breadth; and to crown all, my head is aching and I'm so tired I can scarcely be civil to anyone! Now, in view of all these calamities, I ask you as a candid and serious-minded person—do picnics at Jerico Falls pay?"

While running on in this voluble fashion, Helen had caught one glimpse of Kitty's face, which was partially concealed by a broad-brimmed shade hat; and she instantly added the mental comment,

"Why, as true as I live, Kitty Arnold has been crying! I wonder if she, too, poor child, has been having a heartache to-day?"

A little attempt at a laugh, which resulted almost in a sob, sounded beneath Kitty's hat; then, in a voice suggestive of recent tears, she responded with affected gayety.

"Really, Nell, I should say, after such a catalogue of misfortunes, that in your case at least this particular picnic hasn't paid. Have you been very unhappy, dear? so have I! What has gotten into everyone to-day?"

"Do you know, Kitty," said Helen, as she dropped down on one elbow beside Kitty in a very confidential way, "I attribute the disagreeableness of this picnic entirely to the Sweedie girls?"

A pause- a conclusive little sniff—then a subdued voice from the depths of the sun-hat.

"Do you?"

"Yes, I do. I think some bird of the air must have told them how much I expected to enjoy the occasion, for they've left nothing undone to spoil it for me. I wouldn't for the world let them know how well they've succeeded! Carrie has contrived to keep Allan Rathburn and Ralph Nicholson at her side all day, and she's perfectly happy in consequence. For my part, I shouldn't wish to receive such very marked attention from an engaged gentleman, and I have decided to tell Ralph—not angrily, you know, but 'kindly and firmly'—that he cannot be engaged to me, and devote himself so conspicuously to Carrie Sweedie, at the same time. He's been falling into the habit, lately, of quite ignoring me in public,—and it's all her fault, too!—but he has been particularly inattentive to-day. Why, will you believe it, Kitty, he has spoken to me only once, and then it was to tell me that I looked like a perfect fright! Such exquisite candor at the present stage of affairs promises well for our future happiness, does it not?"

That equivocal little laugh again—a pause—then suddenly the irrelevant remark—

"Mr. Rathburn isn't engaged."

"To be sure he isn't; but don't you know, Kitty, two months ago everyone said he was as good as engaged—and we all know to whom! Then, all at once he went off, nobody knows where,—'travelling for pleasure,' it was said; and after two months spent in that way, he has returned to Chesney the very antipodes of his former self—crusty, cynical, disagreeable; from which we must infer that his two months' pursuit was unsuccessful. And he meets the young lady whom he was supposed to worship, and they haven't a syllable of greeting to exchange, and *he* flirts desperately with all the other girls, preeminently Carrie Sweedie, and *she* takes refuge in a romantic little nook and cries her dear little eyes out! Now, Kitty, tell me—oh, don't cry so, dearie!—won't you please tell me what the trouble was?"

There was no secret about it, now; the broad sun-hat was flung aside, a very wet handkerchief was brought into requisition and Kitty's sobs were genuine and from the depths of her poor little heart, she put out one hand, which Helen took soothingly in her own; and for a time that gentle, sympathetic touch was all the comfort she offered.

By degrees, Kitty's grief subsided. She dried her eyes and looked up smilingly at Helen, but there was still an unsteadiness in her face, a series of semi-demi quavers in her voice, when she spoke: plainly, there was another shower of tears not far off. This little smile was like April sunshine, only an interlude in the midst of clouds and rain.

"Oh, I'm awfully silly. Well" were her first words, and evidently she experienced at once all the salutary effect of an honest confession, for

just a ray of cheerfulness shone in her face for an instant. "I wouldn't have Mr. Rathburn know this for the world. He would think it was because he has been flirting with Carrie Sweedie, and it isn't anything of the sort! What do *I* care whom he flirts with? It's nothing at all to me!"

A little paroxysm of pride, right here, did wonders. Kitty herself almost believed that she had shed her last tears for Allan Rathburn, and her voice rang out sharply without a break. Helen promptly took advantage of this improved condition to probe the wound with greater boldness.

"But you did care once, didn't you, Kitty? I am certain that you would not have spoken thus, two months ago. Was it your fault, dear? Did you quarrel? You know Kitty," pleadingly, "we're just like sisters to each other, and I do so wish to see you happy again! I'm not very happy myself, just now, with Ralph and Miss Sweedie, and so on; but you'll never see *me* letting little misunderstandings grow up like invisible walls between us—I'll have a straightforward talk with Ralph before twenty-four hours have passed, and if he is one-half as good and sensible as I've always believed him to be, there will not be very much to forgive and forget in the end. Now, Kitty, why didn't you do this way?"

The sunshine was all gone, now; but Kitty managed to say, amid her sobs,

"Oh, Helen, we didn't quarrel at all! It was worse than that."

"Worse than that? My dear child, what could be worse? For my part, I think lovers' quarrels are the most useless, senseless, dreadful thing in the world!"

"But we weren't lovers, you see."

"Oh, you weren't? Well, you acted very much like it, Kitty Arnold! What were you, then? Just friends, of course—oh, yes, I understand that! Kitty, couldn't you trust me better than this?"

"I mean," explained Kitty tearfully, "we were never exactly engaged. I do think, Nell, that Mr. Rathburn cared more for me than anyone else in the world, and I cared just as much for him; but something must happen, of course, to cause a misunderstanding, and—well, let it go! *I* don't care!"

And a fresh burst of sobs testified eloquently to Miss Kitty's indifference.

"Now, Kitty, you *do* care, and it's wicked to say you do not," said Helen firmly. "What was this 'something' that happened so inevitably, and caused all this wretchedness for you?"

"It's an absurd confession, Nell," said Kitty, after a little pause, "but I will tell you all in the strictest confidence. You remember May Smith's birthday party?—well, that was the very happiest evening of my life! Mr. Rathburn was there, and we danced together and talked together and promenaded together, as we had often done before,—only, that evening there was something in his manner that had never been there before, and I—well, you know all about it, Nell! Didn't you know that Ralph loved you, before he even told you so in words?"

A significant pressure of the hand that Helen still held lovingly in her own, was the only response; and Kitty continued:

"He was my escort that evening, as usual; and when we were saying good-night at the door, he asked if he might call on me the next afternoon at three o'clock, as he something very important to say to me. I couldn't help knowing just what he meant,—when he looked at me as he did, you know!—but I told him he might come."

The next afternoon I dressed with especial care and went down to the parlor in state to receive him. It lacked just five minutes of the time he appointed, when I heard some one say, 'Oh, there's Miss Aspenleaf!' and just then the door-bell rang. You know what a tiresome old gossip she is! I knew that if she got into the parlor she'd stay there all the afternoon; but before I could tell Hannah to say that nobody was at home, she was opening the front door. I determined that Miss Aspenleaf shouldn't get hold of *me* anyway; and with the one idea of getting out of her reach, I darted behind one of the big folding door and had just drawn my flounces out of sight, when someone came into the parlor. It wasn't at all Miss Aspenleaf's fussy style of entrance—besides, I noticed a faint breath of English violet extract, which Miss Aspenleaf never uses, and Somebody Else always does! In the space of about two seconds the dreadful truth flashed over me that Mr. Rathburn had come, and was sitting in the easy-chair right by the folding-doors, waiting in all his cool, calm elegance for me come down to the parlor to receive him. And there *I* was, huddled up in a heap behind that door, so near to him that I could have pulled his hair—which, indeed, I felt an insane impulse to do!—and scarcely daring to breathe, for fear he should hear me. And there I stood for five dreadful minutes, while Hannah ran all over the house looking for me. Then, mamma came down, and she was very gracious to Mr. Rathburn, and much perplexed over my mysterious disappearance. 'I am sure' she said, 'I cannot imagine where Kitty can be. She was here only a moment ago; I heard her voice in the parlor, just as you rang the bell. It is possible that she has run over to see Maude Ellis, I will send Johnny to enquire!'"

(*To be continued.*)

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

ETHEL'S STEP-MOTHER.

BY MRS. M. E. STAFFORD.

"Papa! you cannot mean it! You cannot be so cruel, so—so, oh Papa! say that you do not mean to bring another woman to fill Mamma's place in—in—Oh! Mamma! Mamma! I cannot, cannot bear it. I cannot. Oh! I cannot! Precious Mamma, forgotten so soon!"

Ethel Clayton's voice broke, and she sank, a tumbled, excited, passionate, little heap upon the sofa, where she lay, sobbing, and wildly wringing her hands, and vainly struggling to keep down that terrible choking in her throat, that portended a violent attack of hysterics.

It was hard. How hard, only some girl can tell that has lost her Mother, and who, after trying so hard to keep the house looking as it did "when Mother was alive," who, after trying her very best to fill the dead Mother's place to the younger ones, as Ethel had done, has been brought face to face with the terrible fact, that "Papa is going to marry again," that a Step-mother is coming to supplant the dead Mother, and take the household reins from the hands of her eldest daughter.

Yes, it was hard; and the father's face grew pale, and his firm under lip quivered with emotion, and a feeling, almost of repentance, took possession of him for a moment, as he looked at the girl lying there, sobbing in such an agony of despair, at his apparent forgetfulness of the Mother who, two short years ago, they had laid to rest in the quiet cemetery.

"Ethel!" he said at length, kneeling beside the sofa, and laying his hand gently on the girl's shoulder, "Ethel, my daughter, do not for one moment think that I have forgotten your Mother, for I have not, and never will. *Her* place will never be filled in my heart. But dear, the new Mother has a place of her own there, as I trust she will sometime have in your heart, without however taking from you one bit of the love you have, and I trust always will have, for your dear Mother. And now Ethel, won't you try to make this less hard for me? Will you try to think that this is as much for your good, and for the good of the little ones, as for my own interests? And try also to crush down all the bitter, rebellious thoughts, and assist the younger ones in making a pleasant home-coming for your new Mother."

"New Mother! She *isn't* my Mother! and never will be!" cried Ethel, impatiently shaking off her Father's detaining hand, and tossing the tangled masses of wavy chestnut hair, back from her pale tear stained face.

"Ethel!"

"I can't help it, Papa! There is no need of talking. I shall never call that woman Mother. I shall never love, or even respect her, as long as I live! I shan't! I shan't! Oh! Mamma, my own darling precious Mamma! I shan't,—I shan't,—I say I *shan't!*"

The last word ended in a hysterical shriek, and Ethel caught convulsively at the poor constricted throat, that seemed to be on the verge of strangling its poor excited owner.

Her Father's face was more grave, than tender now, as he caught the girl's hands, and held them firmly in his own strong ones, at the same time forcing her gently into a seat.

"I am sorry for all this, Ethel," he said gravely, "more sorry than I can say, to find that you are so incapable of controlling yourself, and I see more plainly now, than ever before, that a girl so incapable of keeping herself under control, is wholly unfitted to have complete charge of her younger brothers, and sisters. Hush Ethel!" as the girl tried vainly to speak, between her choking sobs, "you *must* listen to me now, and try to understand, that, although I do not wish you to forget, or love your own Mother any less than you now do, I still insist upon your treating the lady whom I shall so soon bring home, with all the respect due your father's wife. Understand, I do not say you *must love* her, or even call her by the name of Mother, that will all right itself before long, but you must treat her with respect, and any attempt to resent her authority, or encourage your brothers and sisters to be saucy or rude to her, I shall take means of punishing, with all the severity of which I am capable."

"Papa! Don't—don't ——"

"Hush, daughter!" this more gently as the father stooped to kiss the working, quivering face upturned to his, "I would rather you would not say anything more in your excited state, and so I will leave you to think it all over now, and soon I trust my own good, eldest daughter, will come to me, and give me the assurance that she will do all in her power, to make home pleasant, for Papa, as well as for the lady who will soon be his wife."

Scarcely had the door closed behind her father's retreating form than a small figure bounced, yes, actually "bounced" in, through the open window, overturning a chair, and two footstools in its rush across the room, towards the sofa, where Ethel half sat, half lay, crushed by the sudden blow that had fallen upon her.

"Oh, Ethel! ain't it horrid!" cried the new comer, excitedly. "I've been listening outside of the window to every blessed word that Papa said. The idea! Hum! I just wish any step-mother joy of any good times she will get in *this* house."

"Oh! don't bother me, Gertie," said Ethel wearily. "I have done all I could to show Papa that we could never tolerate the idea of any one else taking poor Mamma's place, but he is determined, so I suppose all there is left for us to do is submit."

"Submit! Hum! well I guess not! I tell you Ethel, what let's do. Let's every one of us down to baby, 'go in a body,' as they say in picnic processions and tell Papa flatly, that we decline having any step-mother put over us."

"Don't be silly, Gertie," responded Ethel, with a touch of impatience. "Do you suppose Papa would pay any attention to you, after refusing to listen to a single word from me? And in a few days a step-mother will be ordering you, and the others about, as though she had a perfect right to do so."

"I'd like to see her try to order *me* about!" This defiantly from Miss Gertie.

"You can't help yourself, Gertie. But one thing you may make up your mind to, if she ever dares to punish one of you, I shall certainly interfere with the proceedings, and she will soon find out that she cannot rule *me* quite as easily as she probably thinks she will; and another thing, she shall not have anything to do with baby. He belongs to me, for when Mamma was dying she made me promise to keep, and watch over him, as long as I lived; and I shall keep my promise in spite of all the step-mothers in the world."

HER FATHER'S FACE WAS MORE GRAVE, THAN TENDER NOW, AS HE CAUGHT THE GIRL'S HANDS, AND HELD THEM FIRMLY IN HIS OWN STRONG ONES, AT THE SAME TIME FORCING HER GENTLY INTO A SEAT.

"I suppose she thinks she is going to have grand fun, making us step round, and wait on her ladyship," quoth Gertie, nodding her head vehemently. "I tell you Ethel, the very best thing to do! Let's all of us have on all of our very best clothes, just to show her that we are at least as good as she is, 'n' then when she comes walking in the door, we'll just bow very politely, 'n' all that, but if she offers to kiss one of us, we'll up 'n' tell her, that we don't kiss anybody but our own folks. I bet you that would take her down a peg."

And this was the welcome that was to be given to the lady who was about to give up the bright, easy, freedom of her old life, to go into a new home, and take upon herself the care of the household matters, and the training and guiding of seven motherless boys and girls. It was not an enviable position, and on the afternoon of the day when Elinor Raymond had become Mrs. Elinor Clayton, she turned to her husband and said softly, "You cannot know John, how very anxious I am to see the children; dear little souls! I pray God to give me strength and wisdom to make me worthy of taking their own mother's place."

"I am afraid, dear, that you will find them a most unmanageable lot of young heathens," responded her husband, smiling down at the little woman at his side, "Ethel has done what she could, but as she is now only sixteen, it has been too great an undertaking for her, and so the children have run wild. And now we look to you to straighten everything out for us again, and put us all on the right footing."

At home Ethel had been very busy all of the day on the evening of which her father and his new wife were expected to arrive. Every room in the house had been thoroughly swept and dusted; all unnecessary articles of clothing, bric-a-brac, etc., had been banished into the attic, or the various clothes closets, with which the house abounded, and by dusk the house presented a very sombre, and funeral air indeed, which was in no wise lessened by the appearance of the group of children assembled in the gloomy parlor, awaiting the arrival of the father and his new wife.

Ethel had resumed her deep mourning, which she had discarded a year before. Gertie was likewise arrayed in a dress of the deepest black, although she had insisted upon having her hair tied back with a bow of cherry colored ribbon, much to Ethel's annoyance. Charlie and Tom, aged respectively eleven and nine years, wore black neckties. Rose and Ruth, the six-year-old twins, wore their best white dresses, with broad black sashes, that had been Ethel's and Gertie's two years before. And the last, and most imposing sight, was Master Johnnie, the tiny two-year-old darling of the house, arrayed in a white dress, and with huge shoulder knots of black *crepe*, which to say the least looked decidedly out of place on baby's fat, plump dimpled shoulders and arms.

"If Papa has forgotten dear Mamma, we will show him that *we* have not," said Ethel, setting her lips firmly together as she tied Ruth's sash. "I suppose Papa will be vexed at us putting on these clothes, but I certainly think he has no right to be angry with us for mourning for our own darling Mamma, even if he has got a new wife."

"Gert says that she—you know, that woman, will club us every time we do anything. Say, will she, Ethie?" questioned Charlie, anxiously, from his seat on the stairs, where he was busily engaged emptying the sand from his shoes, into his hat.

"Not if *I* can help it," answered Ethel, slowly but decidedly, and then catching sight of the young man's occupation, she pounced upon him, exclaiming wrathfully, "You hateful, horrid boy! Just look at those shoes! Ain't you ashamed of yourself after Gertie worked nearly all forenoon cleaning them! Where have you been I should like to know?"

"Where do you s'pose?" answered Charlie, dodging the slap she aimed at his ear.

"He's been down to Mr. Robinson's new house, a watchin' 'em dig the cellar," spoke up Tom, who was sliding down the banisters.

"Charlie Clayton! when Papa told you the other day not to go near that place again. I have a good mind to shake you."

"I'd like to see you," responded Master Charlie promptly, "I'll just tell Papa how ——"

What Charlie was going to tell his Papa was never known, for at that moment there was a shriek from the dining-room, then a loud crash and more shrieks.

"It's baby!" shouted Tom, rushing to the spot, arriving there just in advance of Ethel.

Sure enough, it was baby, who being left alone a minute had seized the opportunity to climb by means of a chair, upon the table in search of some of the goodies that had been prepared for the occasion, to show the dreaded step-mother "that I knew how to cook" Ethel had said. The result of baby's exploit had been a sudden slip, a frantic clutch at the tablecloth, and there baby, tablecloth, dishes, food, and all had descended with a crash of broken china to the floor. Ethel seized the baby from the midst of the debris. "Oh, my goodness!" she exclaimed, "Just look at the lump on his forehead! and he has cut his lip. Run, Rose! run quick, and get some cold water, and brown paper, and, oh my gracious goodness! how it's swelling; somebody bring the arnica bottle! no, never mind! there isn't anything in it, I used it all for Tom's sprained ankle, and,—there, there, Ethie's darling pet, did the naughty old sings fall over on my beauty?"

"I bet you a half a dollar they'll be here before we get these things out of the way, and then won't she grin," said Gertie, getting down upon her knees to gather up the scattered fragments.

"If you will all go to work it wouldn't take but a few minutes to put everything to rights," observed Ethel insinuatingly, "and then they would not have a chance to see anything. As for me," she added, still trying to hush Johnny's howls, "I have got all I can do to quiet baby. I wouldn't have them see this great lump on his forehead for anything."

"Go ahead, Ethel," cried Charlie, forgetting his anger, "we'll have things all hunky in no time. Ain't you got any "Rabian Balsam,' or whatever-you-call-it, to put on his head?"

Away went Ethel in search of the bottle of "Arabian Balsam," and Gertie, Charlie and Tom, went hurriedly to work to reset the table, and sweep up the broken dishes into a dustpan, and carry them out to the ash heap.

Scarcely had they succeeded in restoring order, and bringing the table to its former state of pristine glory, when Ruthie shouted from her perch on the window sill:

"They're coming! They're coming! the carriage is coming up the street!"

"Run! run! everybody, call Ethie," shrieked Gertie, suiting the action to the words by rushing from the room, and shrieking "Ethie—Ethie-e-e, they're coming!"

"Every single one of you get right straight into the parlor," said Ethel, running down the stairs with baby in her arms, and proceeding to marshal the little brood into the aforesaid gloomy apartment.

Now," she said, looking them over to see that none were missing, "I want you all to just sit right down and keep still, and when she comes in, if she speaks to you, answer her politely, but no more. Do you understand?"

"Bet we do!" answered Gertie and Charlie, in a breath.

"We'll be just as stiff as pokers," continued Miss Gertie, sitting very erect and squaring her elbows, "We'll—hush-sh-sh-sh. Here they are!" The door opened, and the father's smiling, happy face was seen, as he advanced into the room, with his newly wedded wife leaning on his arm. Gertie gasped, "Kinder pretty ain't she?" she whispered softly to Tom, who sat next her.

"Pretty" would hardly express it. Mrs. Clayton looked something more than pretty, as she stood there, in her neat, nicely fitting grey traveling dress, with a soft, pink flush in her cheeks, a bright, eager light in the soft brown eyes, and a tender, motherly smile about the sweet, well-shaped mouth. Not in the least the sort of step-mother the children had expected to see. They had looked forward to a dreadful vision, all grey cork-screw curls, and snapping black eyes, and tall bony form. No wonder they stared in amazement, or at least the younger ones did. Ethel stood straight and rigid beside her chair, with baby clasped closely in her protecting arms.

"This is Ethel, our eldest daughter," said Papa, leading the new mother up to her, after waiting a moment for her to advance to welcome them.

"And I trust that we shall soon be the very best of friends," said Mrs. Clayton, smiling and taking the girl's chilly, unwilling hand in hers. "And this is baby! bless his darling little heart! pray let me take him a moment, dear."

"He is very much afraid of strangers," responded Ethel, icily, conscious of the fact that her father was eyeing with evident displeasure, the sombre garments in which she, and the others were arrayed.

If Mrs. Clayton was hurt at Ethel's unkind words, and frigid deportment, she did not show it, except by a little heightened color, as she stooped to kiss baby's fat rosy cheek, with the gentle remark that she hoped she would not seem like a stranger to them long.

"Here are Gertie, Charlie, Tom, Ruthie and Rosie," said Mr. Clayton, presenting them all in turn. "Gertie is my tom-boy, but a dear, affectionate little tom-boy, however. Always getting into scrapes, but scorning a mean act. Hey Gertie!" as the little girl looked up into his face with her frank, honest blue eyes, and then turned and placing her hand in that of her new mother's, returned with hearty zeal the loving kiss she received.

"Charlie is my big boy, and like Gertie, has a way of getting into scrapes, only equalled by his success in getting out of them," continued the father, with his hand on Charlie's shoulder. And the new mother, turning to take the boy's outstretched hand, was surprised to see his eyes filled with tears, and his lips quivering pitifully.

"My boy," she said softly, taking his hand, and kissing him tenderly on the forehead. But Charlie threw both arms tightly around her neck and sobbed:

(To be Continued.)

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Just as taken from the Mines in the Rocky Mountains, made into beautiful Scarf-pins. To quickly introduce, price only 35c., post paid. Address, H. H. TANNER, Mineralogist, DENVER, COLO. Send Stamp for Illustrated catalogue of Minerals Cabinets, Agate Novelties, Indian Relics, etc. Trade Supplied

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FRIDAY, OCT. 29.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I am glad that you agree with me about taking young children to church.

I could have said much more on the subject but was afraid my paper was already too long.

My sister's church friends are very much shocked because she will not let her children go to church or Sabbath school, but she prefers that they should get their first religious instruction at home. She will not even trust them with a servant, but she and their father and I take turns in staying with them.

I often wonder that mothers who do not feel able to take care of their children and do their sewing, do not put out the work instead of getting a nurse to take care of the children. It seems as if they thought the sewing of more importance than the children. It seems to me that when God gives children to a woman He intends that she shall take care of them, and I do not think she has any right to delegate that duty to any one unless she is too ill to perform it. Do you not agree with me? Once while riding in the cars I was attracted by a young mother with a bright little girl about a year old who sat in front of me.

After a while the child grew restless and the mother tried to amuse her by showing her a picture book. Coming to the picture of a cow the baby touched it, and the mother exclaimed, "Don't touch it, darling, it might bite you!" The child's brown eyes grew very large and a strange look came into the little face. It seemed to me that the mother did very wrong to say such a thing to her innocent child.

In the first place she said what was not true, and then she taught her baby a fear of the animal which may cause the child a good deal of pain in the future. I think such remarks cause much of the nervous fear of animals which many women have and which brings on them so much ridicule from men.

I hope all the L. H. J. mothers take that excellent magazine *Babyhood*, but if there are any who do not I wish they would get the October number and read it through, paying especial attention to what Marion Harland says on "Teasing the Baby."

My little nephew seven years old and his sister two years younger, are very fond of making scrap books. It is one of their stormy day amusements.

When their picture books and magazines have been used a good deal they cut out the stories and pictures and put them in a box kept for the purpose, and when Irwin and Cora cannot go out they think it fine fun to paste the scraps into books given them by their father. They are allowed to use their own taste without any help unless they ask for it. Some of the books they send to the children's hospital and homes for children. Some of these are cloth and are suitable for babies. Irwin is now at work pasting pictures on a small screen which he will give to a sick playmate. They enjoy what they do for others more than what they do for themselves.

They have received a great many Christmas and birthday cards, which their mother wished to preserve, so she got a book for each of them, into which all such cards are pasted, and underneath each card is written the name of the giver and the date of its reception. The books are carefully kept and only brought out when new cards are to be pasted in or on some extra occasion. Even the twins, Ethel and Mabel, who came last Christmas, each has a book. We think the children will take great pleasure in these souvenirs of their childhood when they are grown up.

They are very fond of flowers, and though our yard is not large, they each have a little bed in which they plant what they like best. Even three years old Fay has what he calls his "Tindertarten." He has just begun to attend a Kindergarten and is delighted with it. The children take great delight in furnishing flowers for the house, and think they can hardly eat a meal without at least one flower on the table. They are allowed to use their own taste, and though their flowers are often arranged very oddly, yet we see that their taste is improving.

In winter they each have two boxes, one to plant seeds in, and the other for plants already started. They have a very nice little book called "Little Talks about Plants," by Mrs. Faunie A. Deane. It is published by D. Lothrop & Co., Franklin St., Boston, and costs 35 cents. Other good books for children are Miss Warner's "Three Little Spades," and "Flower Talks at Elmridge." ($1.15.) "Among the Trees at Elmridge," "Birds and Their Ways," and "Flyers and Crawlers, or Talks about Insects," all by Ella Rodman Church.

For older children, "Chapters on Plant Life," and "Wonders of Plant Life," by Mrs. S. B. Herrick, and "Wild Flower Papers," "Door-Yard Talks," and other books, by Amanda B. Harris, are very interesting any instructive.

Yours truly, MISS M. A. TROWBRIDGE.
39 MEAD ST., CHARLESTOWN, MASS.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—In your last number, we sisters receive quite a pen-thrashing from a sister who very wisely (perhaps) withholds her name. Let me say to the dear reader she judges us harshly; for I assure her we mean no unkindness, because we differ in opinion on some subjects. If she will re-read my article entitled, "Another Mother's View," she will see her mistake in accusing me of so serious a charge as she did in your last issue. No, no, nothing was further from my intention. Dear mothers, do you buy baby's little bibs ready made? Try my plan. Buy a yard of fleecy back pique and cut them the usual pattern, and the small piece that comes out of the neck curve, put on the front to be under the little chin. Trim it around to correspond with the bib, bind both with tape, leave ends to tie, and when baby wears it pin down with the "Darling" pin. When it is soiled it can be tucked back under the bib, and you still have the two thicknesses, and another clean spot for baby to soil. Thirty cents will buy one yard of this goods, and you can have twelve or fourteen bibs, while you pay twenty and twenty-five cents a piece at the store. Let me tell you a convenience for your "little man" of two, three or four years. Have for him a china or glass mug, with handle, for "his own"; give it a corner near the wash-stand or commode. He soon feels very proud of his possession, and it saves mamma so many steps, as he can carry it to her when she is so busy with her lap full of sewing, or perhaps just taken her seat for a little rest. It is also very convenient to have near his little bed at night where he can reach it. I have gained so many valuable hints from Mother's Department, I feel like adding my mite of knowledge with the wish that it may aid some busy mother. MRS. CLARA D. ARMSTRONG.

HOUSTON, TEXAS, Tuesday, Oct. 26th, '86.

FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL MOTHER'S CORNER.—You do not know how dear the JOURNAL is to me, and how I welcome it every month. The Mother's Corner especially is interesting to me, for I have a dear, sweet, blue-eyed little girl baby just seven months old. Have any of the mothers any objections to baby sleeping with mamma and papa? My little one sleeps with me, she goes to sleep about dark and sleeps till seven the next morning, nursing of course several times in the night.

Do any of the mothers, also, know how to remove, without injuring baby's tender little head, the scab that often forms, even with the most careful attention, on baby's head? Well, I have tried this with the greatest success. Will any one suggest a better way? Rub plenty sweet oil on baby's head, rubbing it in gently but good and then take a clean, fine-tooth comb, and by combing gently, you will find it will all come off easily. MRS. W. H.

P. S.—I agree with "John's Wife" about her "Uncanny Bedfellow." Will tell my experience some other time, with a cat.

CALIFORNIA, MO., 12, 10, '86.
LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Friend:—Altho' I have known you for only one year, I feel as if you are one of my very best friends.

I have two babies, a boy of a year and nine months, and a girl of three months.

My little boy is cutting teeth, and is so cross that it takes one person to amuse him. This interferes greatly with my work, as I have no help but a little girl. Can any one suggest a new plaything?

ED. JOURNAL.—I would just like to tell "John's Wife"—I believe it was—how I clean my children's heads without washing them. Moisten their heads with coal oil, wait about five minutes, then comb with a fine tooth comb. I would not advise the use of it where the hair is worn done up, as it is apt to burn it, but soon evaporates when the hair is short. ADDIE.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

BABY'S FEET.

Baby's little feet have two great needs—warmth and room; and to always secure these, use constant care and discretion. Care, that the restless little heels and toes do not kick away blankets till the moist, pink feet grow clammy and purple with long exposure, and, when the little one is older, trotting over icy floors in winter months, to remember that the cold soon penetrates the soft hose and thin soles of baby's shoes, and the tiny feet must often be brought to the fire and chafed and warmed, else they will suffer with cold.

Discretion We need when buying new boots for baby, else we shall take into account dainty shapes and stitches, and pretty kid and buttons more than the allowance to be made for a chubby, fast growing foot.

See that width of sole and height of instep and circuit of boot top are enough and more than enough for the growing needs of baby's feet and ankles.

Unless this allowance for growth is taken into consideration when boots are purchased for baby, he often must suffer with pinched toes and choked ankles, unless the boots are discarded before half worn.

Many mothers, with the fond purpose of securing for their little girls, trim, dainty ankles, deliberately set over buttons till the boot buckles the tender ankle so snugly, circulation is hindered, the flesh deeply if not sorely creased, and the little feet made numb and cold with this cruel stricture about the ankles.

Button boots have not the mercy on a high curved instep that lace boots will give, unless a special fit is secured. Notice if baby's feet have this peculiarity, and if so, be merciful in your selection of boots.

The agony that one can suffer with a stiff boot buckled like a cruel straight jacket over one's sensitive, throbbing, nerve and cord tortured instops, where space of boot is not allowed them, is something terrible; and a too narrow and too short sole that cramps the foot and buckles the toes and gounds the flesh and bones, cause aches from which we would mercifully shield the tender, little babies. CLARISSA POTTER.

A FALSE METHOD OF TRAINING.

"There, Georgie! if you do that again I'll tell your father when he comes home."

"Jessie, the minute your father comes in tonight, I will tell him what a naughty, disobedient girl you have been."

How often do we hear children threatened as above. Indeed, it is to be feared that a great many mothers know of no other way to try to control their children.

Don't you think, mothers, that by doing this we are rather shifting our responsibilities?

When any of the wee lads and lassies do anything to deserve punishment, should not we be the ones to settle the matter then and there? To do otherwise, do we not tacitly say to the child, "I have not the ability to force obedience, but your father can?" (for all *real* wrong doing is rank disobedience.)

Should the father, coming home tired from a busy day, see, (instead of the loving, cheerful faces he expected and longed to see) the sullen, scowling, or frightened countenances of children waiting for him to enact the role of Executioner in Chief?

Put yourself in his place. Supposing you had been busy all day, and were coming home with a heart full of love and a body full of weariness, to appreciate the warmth and cheer and pleasantness of a happy, loving home, what effect would it have upon you, to be met with the news that George and Jessie and the twins had all been naughty in their various ways, and were all (crowning misery!) awaiting your advent to receive the punishment their delinquencies deserved?

Don't you think you would wish you had taken supper down town? It seems as if such a thing, habitually recurring, would almost make a man vow that he would never come home, (and to make his children unconsciously wish, way down in the bottom of their little hearts, very much the same thing.)

Mothers, surely the children are as much yours as his, not only to love and to care for, but to correct as well.

It is better for each parent always to settle the delinquencies that come directly under his or her eye, at the time. To leave it for one or the other is to betray a weakness which the children cannot fail to detect, and which they must learn to despise.

No one can *talk* with a child as can a *mother*, and "mother's talks" will often reduce a child to abject penitence, when a punishment *left over*, to be received at a father's hand, will only produce sullen rebellion. M. E. STAFFORD.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TO HER WHO WILL COMPREHEND IT.

Young mothers have frequently said to me, "At what age is my baby sufficiently conscious to understand government?" My reply is, the first time they put their hand to your breach or ear-ring. It is a great mistake to postpone the correction of a child until it is old enough to show obstinacy. If you will commence early, it will take very little to make them see that you are master; and what is more disagreeable than an unruly, unrovernable child? It needs correct judgment, firm will, and never-failing patience, to raise children aright; do everything in your power to make them love you, enter into all of their joys, and sorrows, sympathize with them, confide in them, play with them, and romp with them, but don't let them get the upperhand of you. Let them be under good parental authority, and they will honor, and respect you through life; teach them to appear well at home, and they will not mortify you when abroad. As soon as they can talk, instil in their minds the principle and necessity of honesty, temperance, promptness, truthfulness, and a good many more nesses. Not a day should pass, but you labor to make them reliable, respectable men and women; and mark what I say, never tantalize or ridicule your children, never scold or punish them for an accident, never laugh at their mistakes or misfortunes, never destroy a cherished pet; such treatment exasperates and alienates, and tends to make them secretive and untruthful. A little love, a tender remonstrance, will teach them the lesson you wish in a holier way.

Make home pleasant for your children, and they will be contented there. From early childhood furnish them with all sorts of games, not omitting a pack of cards, that they may be so familiar with them, as to destroy the charm which they have for many in later years, who steal away in barns, and out-of-the-way places, to gratify a curiosity hitherto denied them. I insist that it is far better to inform the young of the variety of evils which flesh is heir to, and the disgraceful, ruinous results which arise from indulgence.

Music charms and elevates the soul. If you cannot afford to have a piano or organ, give your boy a French harp, and your girl a fifty cent accordion. Music brings cheerfulness into the house, and is a passport into good society. You may say you have not time to spare to attend to all this, but you had better neglect your work than your children; they need and should have all your time to fit them for the great stage upon which they are about to act; and above all things, keep your boys at home nights. They may think it pretty hard to be kept in while other boys are hooting and yelling on the streets, but they will live to thank you for it, as mine have. Boys have no business out after dark, unless sent by their parents, and are more than likely to get into mischief, or bad company. No matter what argument they present, keep them in; then you know that they are not annoying their neighbors, and you feel comfortable.

If there is one trait of character more than another, which deserves special commendation, it is the strict adherance to one's word; and when it is known, as it soon is, that it is your rule, and practice to do exactly as you agree in all things, be they ever so small, that when you say you will pay the $10 or 10 cents you owe on the 20th of the month, you do not mean the 21st, or that you will return the article you borrowed, this evening, you do not mean to-morrow; the community will have unbounded confidence in you as a good citizen; such people are, as a rule, just and upright in all things. Teach your children all this and much more.

As there can no greater curse fall upon the young man than intemperance, take heed that you poison the mind of the child against intoxicating drinks; teach them very early that it is a disgrace to be seen coming out of a place where the "beverage of hell" is sold, that the odor of whisky and tobacco is obnoxious to ladies of refinement, that as they expect virtue in the opposite sex, they should live it themselves. Mothers should talk in confidence to their sons, as well as to their daughters. Better that the daisies grow over your babies' graves, than that they live to be drunkards, or drunkard's wives.

Great importance is attached to fitting your daughters to obtain a livelihood for themselves, that they may never feel compelled to marry for a home. Alas! how many have, too late, repented the hasty and thoughtless step which has brought with it unbearable burdens, and thankless reward. The day has long passed, when it was a disgrace to be unmarried at thirty; they had better be happy old maids than miserable wives, and the sensible world will commend them for it.

Habitual politeness is a valuable element in family intercourse. Mothers, never think it beyond your dignity to prefix a request with, if you please, or have the kindness, and your children will take naturally to good breeding.

And to the young ladies, young gentlemen, and children, I would say, honor the gray hairs of your parents. A coarse, rude speech is inexcusable, addressed to a father or mother, and falls upon the ear of a by-stander with disgust. You who have shared their love and care all your life, are expected to let them fall like a precious weight upon your bosom, and when they are no longer able to toil for you, or themselves, let their last days be made happy by the knowledge that they have never been a burden, and they will not die, but sleep to awake, and meet you in the great hereafter.

MRS. HETTA P. MANSFIELD.

Now is the time when all the mothers are asking for themselves and their children, some remedy for chapped or roughened hands. The best thing for this purpose is "Lanolin," which is the grease extracted from lambs' wool. It is absolutely the very nicest thing for this purpose ever known. Wash the hands thoroughly in hottest water and soap (or Fond Lily if you have it) so as to entirely cleanse, and then rub in a little "Lanolin," a presto! your hands are smooth. A few days application will cure hands that are badly chapped. When purchased, it is in the form of a sticky salve. If used in this state, it must be rubbed and rubbed until all stickiness has gone, and the grease is thoroughly incorporated into the skin. But it is about the only oil which can be mixed with water. If, therefore, you desire a thinner emollient, you can have it by rubbing up a little of the Lanolin, by means of a broad knife, with water, thus making a fluid mixture. The odor is perhaps not so pleasant as some other things being that of new wool, but the effect is perfect.

FRANK FINCH'S UNEXCELLED MAILING FACILITIES.

We learn that Frank Finch, seedsman of Clyde, N. Y., has changed his location, and now occupies the rooms directly over the new post-office, where his facilities for conducting the seed business is most complete. He receives and delivers his mail without going out of the building, and is able to receive, fill and deliver an order in less time than it takes many dealers to carry their mail from the post-office to their own place of business. Mr. Finch has the reputation of sending out seeds of excellent quality, and is well known as an honest, honorable dealer.

In olden times it was considered the proper thing for a woman to cover up her beautiful gray hair with a false front. In these days one sees as many elaborate coiffures in snow white hair, as in any other color. And nowhere can a greater variety of this kind of goods be seen than at John Medina's, 463 Washington Street, Boston. Medina, likewise, makes a specialty of sending goods on approval, all over the United States. So, if any of the sisters desire anything of that kind, they will do well to address him directly, and he will send them anything in the hair line they may desire, for examination.

Mrs. Eliza Parker, a contributor to the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, has published a book of 585 pages called "Economical Housekeeping," which many of our readers will find a valuable help in preparing their daily meals. Its receipts have not the usual extravagance of the ordinary cook book, and its practical suggestions fill a want long felt. We take pleasure in recommending it to our readers.—[ED.]

Sweet Orpheus! thy scent
Steals upon me in the gloom;
Summer's secret—when she went—
Bequeathed to ATKINSON'S Perfume.

BEAUTIFUL WOMEN
In the United States, Canada and England wear
"GOOD SENSE"
CORSET WAISTS.
THOUSANDS NOW IN USE.
BEST for HEALTH, ECONOMY, and BEAUTY.
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CROSBY'S
Vitalized Phosphites
Aids in the bodily and wonderfully in the mental development of children. It brings refreshing sleep prevents perishness, and gives bright, glad spirits. It is a cure for nervousness in old or young. It is the mothers' best friend. It is used by Emily Faithful, Dom Pedro, Bismarck, Gladstone, and thousands of brain workers. Prescribed by all physicians.
F. CROSBY CO., 56 W. 25th St., N. Y. For Sale by Druggists or sent by mail $1.

Parturition Without Pain;
Or, A Code of Directions for avoiding most of the Pains and Dangers of Child-bearing.
By M. L. HOLBROOK, M. D. *Godey's Lady Book* says: "We give our cordial appreciation to this work, and would like to see it in the hands of every mother in the land. The information it contains is most important, and, we are fully convinced, reliable."
Price by mail, $1.00. Address: Dr. M. L. HOLBROOK, 13 Laight Street, New York.

BABY'S WARDROBE
Latest Styles. The most complete outfits of garments ever offered. Infant's Outfit, 12 patterns, 50c. First Short Clothes 12 patterns, 50c., with directions. Health Garments same price. New England Pattern Co., Rutland, Vt.

TO MOTHERS!
Every babe should have a bottle of DR. FAHRNEY'S TEETHING SYRUP. Perfectly safe. No Opium or Morphia mixture. Will relieve Colic, Griping in the bowels and promote difficult Teething. Prepared by DRS. D. FAHRNEY & SON, Hagerstown, Md. Druggists sell it; 25 cents.

Infants' Wardrobe.
For fifty cents I will send ten patterns for a baby's new style Health Wardrobe, or ten patterns first short clothes, Health Garments, at same price. Full directions for each pattern also kind and amount of material required for each. MRS. F. E. PHILLIPS, (FAYE) Brattleboro, Vermont.

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

MARY F. KNAPP, EDITOR,
No. 20 Linden St., S. Boston, Mass.

Terms Used in Knitting.

K—Knit plain. P—Purl, or as it is sometimes called, Seam. N or K 2 tog—Narrow, by knitting 2 together. Over—Throw the thread over the needle before inserting in the next stitch. This makes a loop which is always to be considered a stitch, in the succeeding rows or rounds. Tw—Twist stitch. Insert the needle in the back of the stitch to be knitted, and knit as usual. Sl—Slip a stitch from the left hand to the right hand needle without knitting it. Sl and B—Slip and bind—slip one stitch, knit the next; pass the slipped one over it, exactly as in binding off a piece of work at the end. * indicates a repetition, and is used merely to save words. "Sl 1, k 1, p 1, repeat from * 3 times"—would be equivalent to saying sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1. Tog means together.

Terms in Crochet.

It is mistaken economy to buy a cheap indelible ink as a substitute for the ever reliable Payson's. Quality is more important than quantity. Sold by druggists.

Ch—Chain; a straight series of loops, each drawn with the hook through the preceding one. Sl st—Slip stitch; put hook through the work, thread over the hook, draw it through the stitch on the hook. S c—Single Crochet; having a stitch on the needle (or hook) put the needle through the work, draw the thread through the work, and the stitch on the needle. D c—double crochet; having the stitch on the needle, put the needle through the work, and draw a stitch through, making two on the needle. Take up the thread again, and draw it through both these stitches. T c or Tr—Treble Crochet; having a stitch on the needle, take up the thread as if for a stitch, put the needle through the work, and draw the thread through, making three on the needle. Take up the thread and draw through two, then take up the thread and draw it through the two remaining. S t c—Short Treble Crochet; like treble, except that when the three stitches are on the needle, instead of drawing the thread through two stitches twice, it is drawn through all three at once. L t c—Long Treble Crochet; like treble, except that the thread is thrown twice over the needle before inserting the latter in the work. The stitches are worked off two at a time, as in treble. Extra Long Stitch—Twine the cotton three times round the needle, work as the treble stitch, bringing the cotton through two loops four times. P—or picot; made by working three chain, and one single crochet in first stitch of the chain.

A subscriber would like directions for gentleman's muffatees.

Tunis stitch is one of the many names for afghan stitch.—ED.

Have any of our readers directions for gentleman's knitted night cap? M.

Can some one tell me how to make fringe for mats, with the Pearl Rug Maker?

Will some one kindly tell me how to make a gentleman's collar and cuff box? R. G.

Have any of our readers directions for a lounge cover? "Carrie" wishes to crochet one.

Will some of the sisters give directions for making hair chains? and oblige KATE.

"E. P."—You will find directions for knitting gentleman's scarf in February number of L. H. J. 1886.

"M. E. A."—There is a song, "The Arkansas Traveler," published by Oliver Ditson & Co., Boston, Mass.

"Six Girls" may obtain desirable patchwork patterns by addressing with stamp, Mrs. F. A. Warner, E. Saginaw, Mich.

Will some of the sisters please send directions for crocheting a collar of rick-rack braid? and oblige one of the "shut in's."
MRS. A. FLIPPIN.

If "New Comer" would like directions for knitting mittens shell pattern, she can have them by sending her address and ten stamps to M. F. K., 20 Linden St., S. Boston, Mass.

Can any of the readers of the L. H. J. give me any information about making a doll's body, hands and feet attached? MRS. S. A. BARNES
BENNINGTON, OTTAWA CO., KAN.

If "Achsah" will send a two-cent stamp and her address to M. F. Knapp, 20 Linden St., S. Boston, Mass., I will loan her a paper with directions she asked for.

To those of our readers who find the white stamping powder rubs off, I recommend them to mix a little pulverized resin with it. If not successful then, make a powder of pulverized whiting and resin, using more whiting than resin. —ED.

Can any of the sisters of the JOURNAL send me a pattern of bed-quilt called White House with steps leading to it? I will return the favor or send stamps. Address MRS. H. M. DOLLIVER.
NORTH GRAFTON, MASS.

If subscriber from Wheatland, Me., will send her full address, with 2 two cent stamps to M. F. K., 20 Linden St., S. Boston, Mass., I will answer her questions on learning to embroider from books. It is always best for correspondents to sign their full name and address.

(ANSWER:)—To take the letters out of flour sacks, make water quite strong with lye, and boil the sacks half an hour. If the letters do not come out, add a little more lye. I have taken them out that way, and made lambrequins for my kitchen windows. MRS. S. S.

Perhaps some the sisters of the L. H. J. would like my way of making a cheap footstool. I made one, and think it very pretty. It is made of seven empty fruit cans. 3 pounds cans are best, tied together, and padded on top, and covered with cretonne or velvet. Mine is covered with velvet, and I like it much. G. A. S.

"Bridgeport Girl:"—(Answer)—Cross Treble Stitch is made by turning the thread twice around the hook, insert the hook into the stitch, turn the thread over the hook, draw it through the stitch, turn the thread over the hook, draw it through two loops together, thread over the hook, pass over two stitches, insert the hook into the next stitch, draw it through, thread over the hook, draw it through two loops, thread over the hook, draw it through two loops, thread over the hook, draw it through all the loops on the hook together, 2 chain, 1 treble into centre of cross treble; repeat from beginning. JENNY JUNE.

Crochet Infant's Sock.
(Very Pretty.)

American Saxony yarn, rather fine steel hook. Use white and any color preferred. Make a chain of 32 stitches of the white, and join. Crochet once round with d c, then ten rows of s c, putting the hook through the back part of the stitch. Now d c one row, and s c two rows. To make the instep, take up 12 stitches, and tricot 12 rows. Narrow once (by taking first two stitches together) at commencement of each of next two rows, then narrow at beginning and end of next 4 rows. Join on the color, and s c in every stitch round the sock for the foot. Next row, s c in every stitch, leaving 14 stitches at the toe, (7 each

[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

side of the point,) skip the first stitch, s c 12, skip 1, s c through the row. The narrowings each side of the 12 stitches, commence to form a gore. Next row, s c until you come to the gore, skip 1, s c 10, narrow, (or skip 1) s c through the row. Work 7 more rows in s c, narrowing to shape the gore, as in the two previous rows. In the last row, narrow once each side of the middle stitch in the back, to round the heel. Turn the sock on the wrong side, lay the two sides of the foot together, and single crochet them together. Run cord and tassels through the row of d c near instep. For a finish at top of sock, join on the color, make a shell of 4 d c between 2 d c of first row, 1 s c between 3d and 4th d c from where you commence. Repeat through the row. Next row, 1 s c in top of middle of shell in last row, 4 d c in s c of last row; repeat. Double crochet is, having a stitch on the hook, put thread over, hook through the work, thread over, draw it through the work, thread over, draw it through two stitches, thread over, draw it through two.
S. E. REEVES.

Apple Leaf Lace.

Cast on 19 stitches and knit across plain.

1st row—Slip 1, knit 1, over, narrow, over, narrow, purl 2, knit 1, over, knit 1, over, knit 1, purl 2, knit 2, over twice, narrow, over twice, knit 2.

2d row—Knit 3, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 4, purl 5, knit 2, purl 5, knit 1.

3d row—Slip 1, knit 1, over, narrow, over, narrow, purl 2, knit 2, over, knit 1, over, knit 2, purl 2, knit 9.

4th row—Knit 11, purl 7, knit 2, purl 5, knit 1.

5th row—Slip 1, knit 1, over, narrow, over, narrow, purl 2, knit 3, over, knit 1, over, knit 3, purl 2, knit 2, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 1.

6th row—Knit 3, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 4, purl 9, knit 2, purl 5, knit 1.

7th row—Slip 1, knit 1, over, narrow, over, narrow, purl 2, knit 4, over, knit 1, over, knit 4, purl 2, knit 12.

8th row—Bind off 5, knit 8, purl 11, knit 2, purl 5, knit 1.

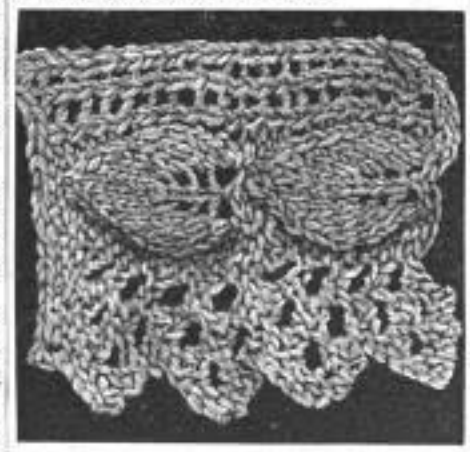
9th row—Slip 1, knit 1, over, narrow, over, narrow, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 7, narrow, purl 2, knit 2, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 1.

10th row—Knit 3, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 4, purl 9, knit 2, purl 5, knit 1.

11th row—Slip 1, knit 1, over, narrow, over, narrow, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 5, narrow, purl 2, knit 9.

12th row—Knit 11, purl 7, knit 2, purl 5, knit 1.

13th row—Slip 1, knit 1, over, narrow, over, narrow, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 3, narrow, purl 2, knit 2, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 1.



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

14th row—Knit 3, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 4, purl 5, knit 2, purl 5, knit 1.

15th row—Slip 1, knit 1, over, narrow, over, narrow, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 1, narrow, purl 2, knit 12.

16th row—Knit 14, purl 3, knit 2, purl 5, knit 1.

17th row—Slip 1, knit 1, over, narrow, over, narrow, purl 2, knit 3 together, purl 2, knit 12.

18th row—Bind off 4, knit 12, purl 5, knit 1; repeat from first row.
MRS. C.

Fancy Aprons.

Take two large handkerchiefs with gay borders: one kerchief makes the apron, the other cuts up for flounce on bottom of apron: corner pieces makes the pockets. G. R. P.

Toboggan Cap.

Germantown wool, 1 lap and a half of split zephyr. Cut a paper pattern 20 inches across the bottom, 12 and ½ inches across the top, 12 inches deep from top to bottom; fold it together, cut it up straight on the sides from the bottom 2 and ¾ inches. Then cut the sides slanting, from the top of the 2 and ¾ inches to the top of pattern. This gives the shape of lining to the cap. Use Germantown wool for lining, and split zephyr for outside. A red lining, and a black outside makes up pretty. Use large size bone hook. The lining should always be a bright color, and the outside dark.

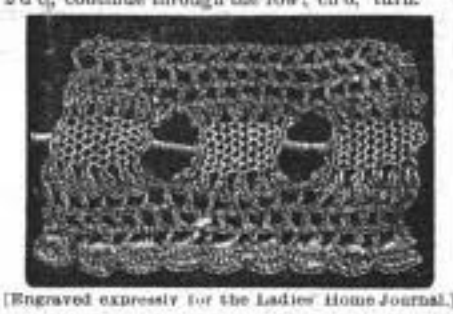
For lining make a chain of 74 stitches quite loose. Turn, put 1 d c in every 4th stitch of chain, and 1 d c in every stitch, until you have 70 stitches; draw the stitches out to make them pretty long, so that 3 rows will cover the 2 and ¾ inches on the pattern. Work 18 rows in d c, narrowing at beginning and end of each row; always make 3 chain at the beginning, for the turn. This will shape according to the pattern. If 18 rows do not come out to the top, make 19. Narrow by skipping one stitch at beginning of row, and skip one at the end, before making the last stitch in the chain 3 at turning of last row. For the outside, make a chain (quite loose) of the split zephyr, using a steel hook, and after allowing 3 of the ch for the turning, put 2 tr c in the 4th st, ch 2, skip 2, 2 tr c in next stitch, work through the row with ch 2, skip 2, 2 tr c in next stitch, until it measures the same as the first row of lining. Work 12 or 14 rows like the last one, so that they will be twice as deep as the 3 plain rows of lining. Then work one row, narrowing at beginning and end, then 3 rows without narrowing; continue on working 3 rows without narrowing, and 1 row with narrowing, until you have 45 rows, or until it is the size and shape of the lining. To make it up, run the edge of the outside on the lining, across the top of the 3d plain row; then turn the outside back on the other side of the lining; catch it on the sides and across the top of lining, to keep them together. Fold back the 3 plain rows which are covered by the outside. Lay 2 small plaits at each end. Sew the ends over and over on the right side, then make 2 plaits on each side, turning the plaits up instead of down. Sew both sides together on the right side, then make 2 or 3 plaits out of the top and bring them inside; sew them down on top of the other plaits. Put loop bows of ribbon, or 3 fan shaped bows, on the front, (to cover the seam,) using No. 9 ribbon, the 2 colors of which the cap is made. If one prefers, pompons are pretty made by folding up half a skein of Shetland floss in lengths of 2 and ½ inches; tie in the centre with a strong string, leaving 2 ends of string to fasten with; hold on to the string and trim the pom-pon off with scissors. It will be flat on the bottom and round on top. Have 3 of these, 2 of 1 color, and 1 of the other. By d c I mean to put thread over the hook once before putting it into the work, thread over, draw it through 2, then over, and draw it through the two remaining stitches; tr c (treble crochet) is worked the same only putting thread over twice, putting hook through the work, then over, draw it through 2, over, draw it through 2, over, draw it through 2.
M. F. K.

Crochet Edge with Novelty Braid.

No. 24 spool cotton; fine steel hook.

1st row—2 d c in each loop of braid, the desired length, ch 3; turn.

2d row—1 d c between first and second groups of 2 d c, ch 1, 1 d c between 2d and 3d groups of 2 d c; continue through the row; ch 3, turn.



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3d row—1 d c under ch 1, ch 1, 1 d c under next ch 1; continue through the row; ch 3, turn.

4th row—Same as 3d.

5th row—6 d c in loop made by ch 1, 1 s c in next loop made by chain 1; continue through the row. Take the other edge of the braid, and crochet same as first 4 rows.

D c means to put the thread over the hook, then put the hook through the work, thread over, draw it through 2 stitches, thread over, draw it through the remaining 2 stitches. J. D.

Melon Seed Bag.

1st row—String 20 seeds, round end, and fasten together.

2d row—* string the pointed end of seed in first row, string 1 bead, then take another seed and string it through the round end, string 1 bead;* repeat from star to star through the row.

3d row—String the pointed end of first seed in 2d row, *string 2 beads, take another seed and string it through the round end, string 2 beads, take pointed end of 2d seed in 2d row;* repeat from star to star through the row.

4th row—Same as 3d, only string 3 beads in place of 2 beads.

5th row—Same as the 4th row.

6th row—Same as 5th, only string 4 beads between the seeds.

7th row—String 5 beads between the seeds.

8th row—String 6 beads.

9th row—String 8 beads, string 2 seeds together; repeat through the row.

10th row—String 9 beads, pointed end of seed, 1 bead, pointed end of seed, 9 beads, 2 seeds together; repeat through the row.

11th row—String 9 beads, 3 seeds together, 9 beads, end of seed, 1 bead, end of seed; repeat through the row.

12th, 13th and 14th same as the 11th.

15th row—20 beads, end of seed, 1 bead, end of seed, 1 bead, end of seed; repeat through the row.

To commence the different rows, carry the twist up one side the first seed. For the lining, or bag, 12 inches of satin, or silk; turn down 2 inches at the top, run a welt, just above the bead work, for a drawing string of silk braid; gather up bottom of satin, and catch it inside where the seed bag is commenced. Fasten top of seed bag to the satin, by catching through the 11th bead in the string of 20, at equal distances. For the tassel, string 9 beads, end of a seed, *6 beads, end of a seed; *repeat from star to star until you have strung 7 seeds, then string 7 beads, string the other end of the 7th seed, 6 beads, end of 6th seed and so up; end with 9 beads, fasten the end of twist to the first bead strung, leave an end to sew the tassel together. Eleven of these strings makes the tassel, which you fasten firmly to the end of satin bag. Use No. 9 steel beads, and twist to string on. It is stronger than silk.
CORA DAVIS.

Crochet Cotton Tidy.

Tidy cotton No. 10 or macreme cord No. 12.

Make a chain of 72 stitches.

1st row—3 d c in first stitch, ch 1, 3 d c in same, ch 4, 3 d c in 8th stitch of ch, ch, 1, 3 d c in same, ch 4, 3 d c in 8th stitch from shell; repeat to end of row; turn.

2d row—3 d c in first shell, ch 1, 3 d c in same, ch 4, 3 d c in next shell, ch 1, 3 d c in same; repeat to end of row; turn.

3d row—3 d c in shell, ch 1, 3 d c in same, ch 2, join the two ch 4's together with a s c, ch 2, 3 d c in next shell, ch 1, 3 d c in same; repeat to end of row.

4th row—Repeat from 3d row.

5th row—Repeat from 4th row.

6th row—Repeat from 5th row.

7th row—3 d c in shell, ch 1, 3 d c in same, ch 2, join the last 2 ch, 4 together with a s c, ch 2, 3 d c in next shell, ch 1, 3 d c in same; repeat from 3d row, until the desired length is obtained; finish with fringe, and run ribbon through the open spaces. EVA H.

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(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

BRUSH STUDIES AND HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

NEW SERIES—NO. XIV.

BY LIDA AND M. J. CLARKSON.

Plaque and Panel Decoration—White Roses—Trumpet Flower. Hints and Novelties. Queries, etc.

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Perhaps, of all flowers, roses are the most difficult subject for the amateur painter.

Their delicate texture, and varied form require skillful handling, and it seems needless to say that the novice in art should not attempt them. Trusting however, that many who have followed the instructions in these columns thus far, will be able

(Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.)

DECORATIVE PLAQUE WHITE ROSES.

to master difficulties, we introduce this month, a plaque study of white roses. The black and white sketch so reduced in size, conveys but a meagre idea of the subject, but it may furnish some useful hints and enable us to make things clearer, and more readily understood. Let us suppose that you are about to decorate a plaque with these delicate flowers. You will select, perhaps, a white porcelain plaque, as being the most suitable to the purpose. If you are already advanced sufficiently in drawing, to copy the natural flowers, some beautiful specimens can be had of the florist, even at this inclement season. The Royal Tea Rose, with its creamy yellow tinge, can be obtained at the hot houses the year round; it being a favorite with rose culturists. Of all flowers, roses are quickest to drop and fade, so that it is difficult to obtain a good copy from nature. A large plant in bloom can be hired at the hot house, or a smaller one purchased. In the latter case select one well filled with buds, which will gradually expand, thus affording a good study of the flower in its different stages of growth, which is necessary in the composition of a picture of this kind. In this way the foliage can be carefully studied with the general characteristics of the plant. If cut flowers can be had more conveniently, do not place them in water, but in dampened moss, or cotton, and keep, when not in use, in a cool cellar. In this way they retain their freshness better, and the buds often open naturally as upon the plant. In composing a sketch the cut flowers will perhaps be found most desirable, unless you happen to possess a genius for arrangement and design, and are not dependent upon an exact and rigid model. The flower stems can be strengthened with wire, and roses and buds thus posed, can be the more readily sketched. Arranging them against a bed of moss, well dampened, will prevent a premature drooping, and will greatly assist in the composition of the study.

A very pretty background for the roses is a greenish blue at top, shaded down to a broken, mossy green. Begin by sketching in the outlines of roses and buds. The local color is first laid in, using white, a little light cadmium, and a trifle black. While this is still wet, lay in the background, using at the upper part, silver white, Antwerp blue, and light cadmium. Deepen with more blue towards the centre, and still more at the lower part of plaque, by adding to the palette, burnt sienna, orange cadmium, and ivory black. Do not adopt one uniform tone throughout, but, taking the paint upon the flat of the brush, blend upon the plaque, dragging the colors together irregularly. This gives the broken, mossy effect. Now the flowers can be finished, *without finishing*, that is to say the work is characterized by simplicity, the treatment being broad and simple. The brush is used trowel fashion to load the paint well upon the rolling edges of petals, and in the high lights. Put each tone where it belongs, then drag the edges together, instead of going over the whole surface with regularity of touch. In the general shadows use white and black alone, but in the centre, or heart of the rose, add cadmium and madder lake. At the outer edges of petals, a trifle cobalt may be used in shading. For the greens, Antwerp blue, light cadmium, and white, will be needed, toned with black and a little burnt sienna, while raw umber, and burnt sienna will be required in the shadows. For the cooler tones where the leaves are thrown much in shadow, use madder lake and more black. In the warmer, yellower accents, zinnober green will be found useful, and for the grayish lights on the under side of leaves, Antwerp blue, white, black, yellow ochre and a trifle madder lake.

Aim for simple effects in the composition of the sketch, but do not give each flower the same prominence, or, in the words of an artist friend's curt criticism: "as if each one wanted to have its own say." Throw some of them in shadow according to the position they occupy, those in the background mingling with it, so as to be merely suggested, by masses of light and shadow. When the plaque is finished let it dry thoroughly before varnishing. Then use the French retouching varnish thinned with a little alcohol. This will prevent that shiny surface which detracts from the softness and peculiar delicacy which is the chief charm of a porcelain plaque.

We come now to another subject in our series of screen designs. The trumpet flower is bright and showy, and where warmth of coloring is wished nothing could be better. A good background is had by using white, vermillion, cadmium orange, black, and burnt sienna, at the upper portion of panel, gradually deepening the tone as it nears the bottom, with Vandyke brown, light red and burnt sienna. This gives a ground in excellent harmony with the subject, a light, rather creamy yellow, gradually deepening into a warm, reddish brown.

To obtain the brilliancy of color seen in the flower, it is necessary to glaze over the local tint with madder lake. It is a good plan, therefore, to paint in the general tone of flowers first, and while this is drying lay in the background and foliage. The palette for this general tone is cadmium orange and vermillion. In the lighter accents at the edges of flowers, a little light cadmium may be added, as also for the centre, and the calyx. The shadows may be painted now, or into the glazing afterward. For these use burnt sienna and madder brown, or raw umber and Vandyke brown. The leaves are a rich, medium shade of green, with warm yellow lights. For the general tone use Antwerp blue, light cadmium, white, and light red, toned with ivory black. Raw umber and burnt sienna are needed in the shadows. In the yellowish tone of leaves and stems, light zinnober green may be used, with a little light cadmium and white.

At this stage of the work the flowers are probably dry and can be glazed as follows: Thin some madder lake (deep rose) with either linseed, or poppy oil, and rub with the fingers or brush over the entire flower. This can be repeated several times if great brilliancy of color is wished, letting each coat of glaze dry thoroughly, before applying another. The bird's nest introduced into the design, can be painted with Vandyke brown, raw umber and burnt sienna, with light cadmium and yellow ochre in the lights. The eggs in nest, are a pale speckled blue, painted with white, Antwerp blue, and cadmium shaded and spotted with yellow ochre, and raw umber.

The birds are bluish gray in color, with a lighter tone upon the back and breast, the wings and tail feathers edged with black. The general tone can be painted with silver white, ivory black and a trifle cobalt, adding in the lighter accents yellow ochre, cadmium and a trifle madder lake. For the tips of wings and tail, use white, Antwerp blue, and black. The bill is painted with cadmium yellow, black, and yellow ochre. The drawing of this design should be carefully made before commencing work, and if done with charcoal it is best to make it permanent with fixatif or sweet milk, as explained in previous papers.

HINTS FROM CORRESPONDENTS AND EXCHANGES.

A novelty known as "Lace Painting," or "Tinting," is vouched for, by a New Yorker, and although we cannot answer for it from personal experiment, we give it for the benefit of those who are on the lookout for the novel in home decoration.

The method is so simple that it is claimed that those least skilled in the use of the brush can accomplish it. Spanish, or Chantilly lace edgings are doubtless the most suitable for the work, as these kinds of laces can be had in a variety of floral designs, such as roses, daisies, tulips, and other desirable patterns.

This method of painting is as follows: Lay several folds of soft cloth over the drawing board, and stretch the lace smoothly over it, fastening firmly in place. The paints used are the liquid

(Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.)

TRUMPET FLOWER DESIGN FOR SCREEN OR PANEL DECORATION.

water colors, which can be had in tubes like oil colors. We would suggest also the use of tapestry, or any good dye colors. Small saucers, or a water color palette will be needed, and bristle brushes, with a few small camel hair brushes for fine work. Gum water is used to dilute the paint, and to prevent the colors from spreading. This is made with one-half oz. gum arabic, dissolved in a pint of lukewarm water, with one teaspoonful of white sugar. A teaspoonful of this liquid is poured into each saucer, or well of the palette, and the color mixed with it. If a very light tint is wished a little Chinese white is added until the right shade is had. The colors required are chrome yellow, burnt sienna, Vandyke brown, raw umber, deep vermillion, olive green, sap green, cerulean blue, rose madder, violet, and Chinese white. Other colors can be added to the list, or some of these omitted, according to the subject in hand. The finer woven laces paint the best, giving a smoother surface, which holds the color well.

For small flowers, take a medium sized bristle brush and moisten with color. Then apply, as in dye painting, rubbing in gently, gradually shading out at the edges. The veining of leaves and smaller details will require a finer brush. A little practice will enable any one who understands flower painting to do this work readily. It is in fact a mere pastime. Lace thus painted can be used in finishing toilet sets, valences, tidies and other fancy articles. The London *Queen* gives a description of a room decorated with painted lace, which must resemble a fairy princess' boudoir. "The walls were painted a delicate cream tint, the ceiling cream, rose color and light blue. A frieze of Nottingham lace border, 25 inches wide, designed in daisies, with a deep scalloped edge, was painted in colors to match the ceiling. The daisies were blue, centred with yellow and brown, the leaves and stems a delicate green, and the scalloped edge of the lace was bordered in pink and cream color. The two tints were divided by a line of burnt sienna. This was stretched around the room and fastened in place by white tacks, the whole having the appearance of an elegant fresco. The window drapery was of Nottingham lace, of a pattern similar to the frieze. This was also painted in the same way. The mantle was covered with a broad strip of Nottingham lace, also painted, and caught up at one side with a rosette of light blue and cream satin ribbon. The tidies were of a wild rose design, painted in the most delicate tints, and each tied in place with knots of blue and cream satin ribbon. The toilet case was also covered with a spread of the lace, over blue satin, painted, and of the same pattern as the tidies." These novel suggestions may be acceptable to those fond of dainty trifles, and where time "hangs heavy on the hands."

"S. L. C." who has copied one of our small marine views, on a slate, writes as follows: "Let me tell you how I am going to frame my slate: "First, I shall gild the frame which is on the slate. Then I shall have a plue frame made, four or five inches wide, and cover it with wine colored velvet, or plush. The slate will set inside the plush frame far enough to allow about one-half inch of the gilding to show, and I think will be much prettier than having the slate bare. Do not you?" We certainly do, and shall perhaps try it ourselves. Slate is a very pleasant material to paint upon, and especially good for black and white sketches, moonlight, or snow scenes.

A novelty in the framing of pictures, is a mat of domestic manufacture, composed of irregular bits of cork, gilded, producing a very pretty effect. Another frame exhibited in one of the art galleries, was composed entirely of small gilded ropes. This was also of home manufacture.

Beautiful decorative effects may be had by using the French models, or imitation plaster casts, in the following way: Cut out the medallion, either close to the head, or plaque shape as they are sometimes marked in relief. Next procure a board large enough to hold the figure or medallion, leaving a margin around it of two or three inches. Cover the board with black velvet, stretching tightly to remove every crease or wrinkle. Upon this fasten the figure with strong paste or glue, upon the velvet in the centre of the board. Be very careful not to smear the velvet with the paste. The board is then to be surrounded with strips of wood about two inches deep, covered with the velvet, (a large flat cigar box will answer the purpose if of the right size) and these are secured to the board, making a flat box two inches deep. An ordinary picture frame and glass are now required, which is affixed to the box—the broader the frame the richer the effect.

The result, if properly done, will well repay all trouble. The white figure on the black velvet being sunk, and partly in shadow, will appear to project from the background of velvet, and has all the roundness and relief of the marble it represents. These make very elegant and inexpensive ornaments, handsome enough for a drawing room. A good engraving, or photograph of statuary, will answer for the French model, with almost as good an effect. Any person with ordinary care and judgment, may execute the work nicely.

QUERIES ANSWERED.

"Georgia Ruth."—You can obtain the book by Susan Carter of G. P. Putnam's Sons, 27 West 23d St., New York. Frank Fowler's book is for sale by Cassell & Co., 739 Broadway, New York.

"M. F. M. O."—You will doubtless obtain the material you wish of H. A. Johnson, 342 West 23d St., New York.

"H. H. G.," Detroit.—If you use the amber enamel or Limoge glaze upon your porcelain shade it will wear well with careful handling. Ordinary oil colors cannot be made permanent, nor can the porcelain shade be fired.

"Ella F. L."—To paint the dark purplish berries of the Virginia creeper, you will need permanent or Antwerp blue, ivory black, white, and yellow ochre, with burnt sienna and raw umber for the shadows. Paint the stems a brown red, using burnt sienna, permanent blue, white, ivory black and a trifle madder lake. To paint red clover, use madder lake, white, and a trifle black, for the general tone, adding in the shadows, a little raw umber, and a trifle cobalt and burnt sienna. For the high lights, white, with the least trifle black, and a little madder lake.

For the green leaves use Antwerp blue, light cadmium, white, and black, with raw umber and burnt sienna in the shadows. A little light zinnober green may be used in the lightest accents, and more black in the deepest tones. The centres of yellow daisies are a rich, warm brown, Vandyke brown, burnt sienna, a little orange cadmium and a trifle light red will give a good color. Your other query answered by mail.

"Sallie," who is trying to learn to paint without a teacher, is informed that the oil tube paints are the best, and most convenient for use. The best medium for mixing colors is either refined linseed, or poppy oil. "Sallie" must use her judgment as to proportion. In covering a large surface more oil is needed, while again the paint is used just as it comes from the tube. If "Sallie" will read "Brush Studies" attentively she will find her other queries answered repeatedly. The black panels described, are not paper, but wood, with an ebonized surface, highly polished.

***

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AND

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A NATIONAL ILLUSTRATED FAMILY JOURNAL.

MRS. LOUISA KNAPP, EDITOR.

MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT, MRS. J. H. LAMBERT, } ASSOCIATE EDITORS.

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W. S. NILES, MANAGER.

Our New York Office is for the transaction of business with New York advertisers.
Subscribers should not address any letters to that office.

Philadelphia, February, 1887.

Remember, that two six months' subscriptions count the same as one yearly. When asking your friends to subscribe, you can always induce them to spend 25 cents for a six months' trial, if they cannot spare 50 cents for a year's subscription.

The good old-fashioned word "wedding" that once upon a time meant what it said, has now grown to be an equivalent for fuss, and feathers, and bright lights and flowers, with no thought of all the long vista of years to follow.

How often we hear the expression "O no! there was not any wedding, only the ceremony at the church," and but too often is there a bitter significance in the words so lightly and unwittingly spoken. No wedding of *hearts*, a mere ceremony, uniting *hands* or propepty.

Twenty pages this month—this gives us room to present several pages of new premiums—special offers to JOURNAL readers only—without interfering with the regular quantity of reading matter promised our readers. Our Flower Seed and plant premiums are special bargains, and are offered none too early in the season for our Southern and Southwestern subscribers. Time to commence your clubs. Sample copies for distribution among your friends will be cheerfully sent to all who desire to raise a club.

We would say to our subscribers that all papers start fairly from our office. That many of them fail to reach their destination is an undeniable fact. While this is not our *fault*, it is our responsibility, and we cheerfully send duplicate copies to all subscribers who notify us. If, however, when notifying us of the non-arrival of your paper, you demand the "reason why," please do not communicate with us per postal, as that gives you no opportunity to enclose a stamped envelope, *which is necessary*. Every question is cheerfully answered, if accompanied by a stamped envelope.

Much of the illness following Christmas festivities, generally ascribed to too many sweetmeats, has its origin in something very different. It is due to undue excitement, too many toys, too many parties, too much strain upon the brain generally; and the result is, the little ones cannot stand it. To keep a child's brain in as quiescent a state as possible, is of primary importance. The brain having a very direct influence on the stomach, indigestion is caused quite as frequently by an over-taxed brain as by improper eating. Be careful to keep the children's feet warm, and their brains cool.

THE popularity of *The Press* among the employes of the New York Post-office is vastly to the credit of those ambitious young men, and indicates that their motto is "Get the Best." Nevertheless their custom of confiscating copies of the great moral and religious journal belonging to other and equally cordial admirers is highly reprehensible. It is a good deal like stealing a Bible—the thief may repent in time through the teachings of the work he steals—but it is stealing just the same. *The Press* is within the reach of every truth-seeker who toils for a living, and to the misguided enthusiasts in the New York Post office we unhesitatingly confide the inside information that now is the time to subscribe.—*Philadelphia Press, Sunday, Dec. 26, 1886.*

The above article has been quite a comfort to us. It puts things in a newer and pleasanter light. We have been regarding the wholesale non-delivery of our paper by post-masters and carriers, purely in the light of neglect; but it is much pleasanter to regard it as good taste, and our brother of the *Press* has our thanks for his few words so ably said.

Some people ask us the "reason why" they have been obliged to write for their JOURNAL every time the last two or three months, and desire to know if their names are down on our books properly? In answer to these letters which we have received, and the many we shall yet receive, we would say that the subscribers are *not* obliged to write every month. They only *think* so.

Our last three issues have been late, as is this one, and probably will be, March, (owing to various untoward circumstances.) When a paper does not reach a subscriber on time, she writes within a few days; and when, in the course of a week or so, she receives her paper, she fancies it has been sent in answer to her complaint; while, in reality, we pay no attention whatever to a complaint coming from a State to which the wrappers are not as yet all sent out. She receives her paper *because it has gone out in the regular mail*. We have been delayed ten days on one or two issues which gives plenty of time for hundreds of complaints.

ADVANCE IN ADVERTISING RATES.

On and after May 1st, 1887, the price for advertising in the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL will be Two Dollars ($2.00) per agate line for each and every insertion. There are 14 lines of agate type to the inch, making the rate $28 per inch for each insertion. Reading notices will be set in nonpareil type and charged for at the rate of Four Dollars per line. All medical and novelty advertising will be discontinued. The few medical advertisements now in our columns will not be renewed, when they expire. We shall continue as heretofore to rigidly adhere to one price under all circumstances. Not a line ever yet went into the JOURNAL'S columns for one penny less than its established rates, and never will.

The LADIES' HOME JOURNAL has an assured circulation of over Four Hundred Thousand (400,000) copies each issue, for the year 1887, and beyond all doubt will reach 500,000 within the next three,—or at the outside,—four months.

This circulation is not only the largest of any periodical published in the United States, but it goes to the very best and highest classes of people, into wealthy and refined homes, into the homes of the great, well-to-do, middle classes, who have money to spend. The cultivated Christian homes of this country receive the largest proportion of our 400,000—and every copy is paid for in advance, we do not swell our circulation by sending free sample copies broadcast. We believe in, and practice what we preach, spending many thousands of dollars in newspaper advertising. The woman who takes the trouble to answer our advertisement and mail us the subscription price of the JOURNAL is sure to be interested in, and a faithful reader and admirer of such a paper as ours;—furthermore, our circulation having been secured by advertising in the leading and best papers and periodicals in the country, our subscribers are peculiarly the very class who read and answer advertisements.

The JOURNAL can be published at a fair profit, without one line of advertising. It is therefore not dependent on advertisers, and proposes to admit only the very highest class, and best known houses, such as it can guarantee and become responsible for to its readers.

A PLEA FOR GIRLS.

The financial education of women is so systematically neglected, that their ignorance of everything pertaining to business has come to be considered a constitutional disability. Will a candid investigation of the facts uphold that theory?

Are boys expected to master the problems of Euclid without a teacher? Yet girls must conquer the greater difficulties involved in the acquirement of a knowledge of practical finance, alone, if at all. A boy starting out for himself has usually a stated salary.

He soon learns to save in one direction that he may spend in another; to ascertain whether a thing is worth to him what he must pay for it. He realizes that a dollar means not simply one hundred cents; but any labor or self-denial required to earn or save that sum. Is it strange that he learns foresight, learns to estimate accurately his expenses for a quarter, that he may maintain a just equilibrium throughout?

A girl's position is exactly reversed. She has no regular amount for her personal expenses. During childhood her wants have been supplied without thought on her part. Now that she must select and decide for herself what aid does she receive? If she acquires habits of forethought, economy, prudence and decision, it is because of the innate strength and resolution of her character. There is little in her surroundings to stimulate them. Forethought is impossible, since she has nothing stable on which to base a calculation.

All values are relative, hence what would be prudence and economy in one is extravagance in another. Decision is rendered difficult if not impossible when all one's plans depend upon another's movements. If she needs a new dress she goes to her father for the means to purchase it. Having obtained the money how can it be best expended? Can she afford to buy one handsome article, or is it advisable to make it cover a whole suit? According to her temperament and previous experience she decides the question. Perhaps, from its greater durability or usefulness, the costlier article would, in the end, be the cheaper, but, other accessories of the toilet must be in unison. If she can make them so it is well. If she cannot, and is a girl of good taste, the incongruity of her attire will be such a constant annoyance, that when again placed in similar circumstances she will be apt to rush to the other extreme. Cheap goods rarely prove "a bargain," as she learns to her cost.

Some one will say, "Any girl may have a general idea of how she can afford to dress, and ought to be able to avoid such difficulties."

To such a one the attempt to bring his or her expenses within a certain unknown limit, having only the aid of a "general idea" of what could be indulged in, would prove beyond cavil the herculean nature of the task. Some girls, with strong, well-developed intellects, and energetic, independent habits, will fight their way through these perplexities and conquer them. All are not so constituted, and many who would make notable managers if properly trained, lacking that training, take things as they find them and get along "somehow"—a way of doing things hich generally results disastrously.

After marriage it is still worse. The innumerable, small, unforeseen expenses are so confusing in their multitude, so pressing in their demands, that unless a definite limit can be set to the expenditures in each department, the encroachment of one upon another is the inevitable result.

Even among the wealthy the case is but little better, since the system of buying on credit, so much in vogue, certainly does not promote thoughtful expenditure, or an accurate knowledge of values. If girls could have from childhood a regular allowance from which to provide themselves with certain stipulated articles, the amount to increase with their ability to select for themselves, there would soon be no reason to complain of the financial incompetency of women.

POSTAGE TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

A discrimination in the rates of postage to city subscribers is made between weekly and monthly periodicals, to the great disadvantage of the latter, for, while the weeklies can be mailed to city subscribers for one cent per pound, monthlies can not be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent for each two ounces, except where the subscribers go to the post-office for their mail. And, as the JOURNAL in its present form weighs over two ounces, we are, therefore, obliged to ask Philadelphia subscribers twenty-four cents extra or postage, unless the paper is addressed at the **post-office to be called for, or to any P. O. box.**

CORRESPONDENCE.

"ENQUIRER:"—A good silver watch could not be bought for that price.—[ED.]

"C. BISSELL," ROSELLE, N. J.:—Send to Associated Fanciers, 238 S. 8th St., Philadelphia.

"MRS. ANNIE WETMORE:"—Putzen Paste is what you want for cleaning any kind of brass goods.

WILL "Lulu" please address MRS. F. W. Hawes, 20 Marcella St., 20 Roxbury St., Mass., in regard to stammering.

MRS. J. M. T., Paris, KY.:—A little very fine pumice stone will probably remove the stain from your lamp chimney.

"MRS. Z. B. TOWER" asks how to make an acceptable music rack out of an old-fashioned wash stand with a hole in the top.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Please tell me how to take tar and grease stains out of white goods, and oblige A. E. L.

SUBSCRIBER, Arlington, DAKOTA:—Apply to "Womens' Exchange," Phila., in regard to your paintings, embroideries, etc.—[ED. JOURNAL.]

IF "Young Wife" will send her address to Mrs. Joseph Weeks, 13 Cumberland St., Portland, Maine, she will receive the required information.

NEWARK, N. J.

SIR:—Will you please inform me through the JOURNAL, which is the *purest* soap, Ivory or Cashmere Bouquet, and oblige now subscriber, E. A. A.

"A SUBSCRIBER," (at least so she signs herself) from Newark, N. J., desires to know why she does not receive her Nov. No. Really, "Subscriber" we do not know unless we know your name.

"M. L. SMITH:"—Your letter answered per mail to "M. L. Smith," Albany, N. Y. There was no street address given, and we were obliged to guess at the town from postmark on envelope.—[ED.]

GRIGG'S CORNERS, O., Oct. 11, 1886.

ED. HOME JOURNAL:—Will some of the readers of the L. H. J. please tell me of something that will remove mildew from black cashmere? and greatly oblige NETTIE MUNSON.

"MISS ALICE GRAY:"—A little ammonia stimulates the hair but it should be used with extreme caution for fear of burning the hair. A very few drops in a half basin of water is sufficient.

ANNIE, Milwaukee:—Nothing will successfully remove the shine from a worn black silk. The simplest and most harmless tooth powder is prepared chalk, to be procured at any drug store.

FONTERVILLE, MICHIGAN.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Is there anything that will remove iron rust (made from old iron castor-) from carpet matting, without obliging one to take up the matting? E. L.

"PLEASE insert the following in reply to a request in JOURNAL?"

If the lady who desired information about silk culture will address Box 520, Cambridge, Henry Co., Ill., enclosing stamps for reply, she will receive desired information, also three hundred silk worm eggs for nothing. MRS. M. D.

I saw in the October LADIES HOME JOURNAL, that MRS. S. L. N. wanted correct directions for bleaching with chloride of lime. Here is the rule I always go by, and have always had success:—For thirty yards of muslin, take one pound of chloride of lime, dissolve in two quarts of rain water. In the morning wring out cloth and put in another tub of warm rain water, in which the chloride of lime solution has been poured. Let it remain for about twenty minutes, lifting up the cloth and airing every few minutes; rinse in clear rain water.

FAIRMOUNT, IOWA. MRS. J. A. GILES.

TO "MRS. MCDUNBAR," Grand Detour, Ill., who wishes to know how to prepare cold boiled potatoes for breakfast. Peel and slice them thin. Have a skillet hot, put in a large lump of butter and immediately the potatoes, cover them over and occasionally stir and turn, so they will be evenly browned. When nearly done salt and pepper to suit taste.

Another way is to add a beaten egg before they brown very much, or else stir in a little milk and let it cook up like a gravy just before serving them.

Another way: Cut the potatoes in small dice and cook with butter and milk, instead of slicing them. This is called Mill-Creek potatoes.

Kentucky Potatoes: Slice cold potatoes, arrange them in layers in a "yellow ware" pudding dish, alternately with bits of butter, pepper and salt. When the dish is full pour over a small cup of milk or cream, (the latter of course is better) then bake in the oven until a nice brown.

If butter is scarce nice "frylngs" can be used for the simple fried potatoes given first, and is preferred by some, but butter is finer and the dish looks better. ALICE.

BANGOR, Dec. 15th.

DEAR EDITOR:—I like to be accommodating and am willing to answer questions, but *why* I should write to *utter strangers* and answer questions in regard to the watch *unless they enclose stamps* I do not see. When a stamp is enclosed I *always* answer and always shall. I am *satisfied* with the watch, it keeps *good time*, it has been pronounced by experts all that it was represented to be. I obtained 330 subscribers. I canvassed in the city and in some of the neighboring towns. I was about four months getting to it. I *could* have secured it in two if I had spent all my time. They were 25 cent subscribers. I think it is worth having. I am not sorry that I undertook it. I was not discouraged after I commenced. I am not sorry now. I consider the Curtis Publishing Co. reliable, and would canvass for them again if there was any premium I particularly wanted. I have had my watch since the 10th of September, it came by mail, it was registered, it came safely. I've got it *and intend to keep it*. I do not intend to canvass for another watch, as one is all I particularly need.

It might be well to suggest to your readers that they enclose stamps when asking questions. I have a great many letters to write and hereafter *do not intend to answer a letter making inquiries in regard to the watch unless a stamp is enclosed.*

Very truly yours, M. A. VALENTINE.
130 ESSEX ST.

A CASE of "Home Doctoring," and a simple remedy for wounds. A young lady having severely scratched a finger turned undiluted carbolic acid upon the wound hoping thereby to prevent any serious result of the injury. The powerful acid burned the exposed, tender flesh to the bone. A friend intimated it was a serious affair, and she immediately applied a salve of camphor and lard to soften the flesh and prevent inflammation. It was dressed daily with poultice until the corrupt flesh passed away, and then kept soft with mutton tallow until the painful sore was healed, which it did nicely.

Another lady used it as a disinfectant during sickness, and thoughtlessly sprinkled the floor with the acid, by means of her hand. A burnt hand taught her a lesson she ever after heeded.

These are facts brought before my observation of late, and often as people have been cautioned against the use of such powerful remedies undiluted, and without a knowledge of their effects, it seems not amiss to warn those still in ignorance again.

I heard a good lady, who kept a little store, tell a customer, while she was aiding him button a heavy, wet coat, his hand being disabled from a wound, "Just take a cupful of fresh lard and five cents' worth of camphor gum, place in a tin and set in a kettle of warm water until it is all dissolved, and when it is cold, it makes the nicest salve you ever see, and will take every bit of soreness out of any bruise or cut, like a charm."

I know from experience it is most excellent to rub on forehead and chest in severe colds, and I mixed the gum with tallow, and it cured those painful bruises and cracks that come in toil hardened hands when handling heavy lumber and stones.

Camphor I find to be excellent in allaying inflammation. In our family is one who at times suffers intensely from varicose veins of the leg. A bandage of rubber is immediately applied, and alcohol camphor turned over the affected part freely, and relief is soon experienced. It prevents the knotted veins from becoming hard and ulcerating. These are very simple remedies and I trust may save some one from suffering, and that it may be a timely warning in carelessness in the use of others. MOZE.

PLEASANT HOME, OREGON.

DEAR JOURNAL SISTERS:—Although I have taken this dear little paper but one year, still it has been such a source of comfort and help to me that now as my subscription expires, I feel that I cannot do without it. Since I have two little darlings to care for, (the oldest but twenty months old) and being an inexperienced hand with children, I am deeply interested in the "Mother's Corner."

While I read and reread each of your kind letters and helpful suggestions, I imagine myself well acquainted with many of you; and as the thought comes to my mind, that we are all children of the same Heavenly Father, and, therefore, truly sisters, I realize that I do really love you *all*. And as "Lida Clarkson" said, "If I only had arms long enough, I would hug you all this very minute."

But I must be brief.

"Pinkie:" Try washing and soaking ink stains in cold sweet milk. The sooner after the article is stained the better. As often as the milk colors take fresh.

One way of preparing cold boiled potatoes: Peel, slice thin, and stew well in sweet milk or cream, enough to nearly cover them. Stir frequently, and just before removing from fire, add salt and pepper to taste. Serve hot. If well done they are nearly as nice as fresh.

Some one wishes to know how to mend rubber. Here in Oregon, all the drug stores keep Rubber Cement, which is a very handy and useful article. It comes it cans, at twenty cents each. After being opened it will soon dry so it is unfit for use, but the addition of a little benzine a short time before it is wanted, makes it as good as fresh.

I will tell "O. M. C." my way of crystallizing grasses: also a basket to contain them.

Take small wire, (old broom wire will do, but wire that will not rust is better,) wrap it carefully with candlewick, and bend it in any desired shape or pattern for a flower basket. Leave it very open and make it complete, ball and all. Have your grasses and winter flowers well dried, and enough to fill the basket.

Put enough clear water in a kettle to cover the basket, set it on the fire and let it boil. Now add all the alum to this that it will dissolve while boiling, and remove from fire. Tie a thread around the bail of the basket and suspend it in the kettle so that the top of the ball will be covered well, and no part of the basket touch the kettle. Remember, the solution must be hot, and the basket dry, when it is placed in the kettle. Set it aside a few minutes, keeping a close watch so as to remove it as soon as it suits you.

It may be lifted from the solution at any time and returned without injuring it. When it is complete, take it from the bath, set in the sun to dry, cut off the thread from the ball, and line it with some pretty shade of tissue paper, or silk if you choose. Treat the grass and flowers in the same manner, placing only a few in the kettle at a time. Do not let them take too much, or the stems will break with the weight. If the solution becomes too weak put it on the fire and let it boil a little while.

Now, after all is done, cover a bread pan with clean paper, lay a few of the crystallized grasse on it, and set it in a hot oven till the alum resembles snow. Watch closely lest they get too hot and be brown, instead of snowy white.

When all is perfectly dry, arrange your bouquet, and you will have something lovely indeed.

This is the way I took one first and one special premium on bouquets at a county fair.

I think thirty or forty cents worth of alum will be sufficient for a basket five inches in diameter. After you have finished, evaporate the solution and you have the alum that is left.

"Lulu:" I will give you Dr. Chase's recipe for stammering: Keep the lungs well filled; draw frequent and long breaths, speak loudly, and pause on the instant of finding embarassment in speech. Take a long inspiration before you go on again. Frequently read aloud with the teeth closed, and tap with the finger at every syllable pronounced. In conversation, keep time with your toes. You can do this without any one being aware of it.

"Mame:" You can certainly find anything you wish with regard to bathing, in "Dr. John King's New American Family Physician," published by Robert Douglass, Indianapolis, Ind. If you can't afford this book, I consider "Tokology" a very valuable work. This is published by Sanitary Publishing Co., 159 La Salle St., Chicago. I know nothing of the Sea Salt.

I saw "Tokology" advertised in the JOURNAL some time ago, and sent for a copy. I tried to follow its precepts, and have been repaid many times in health, strength, and comfort. I cannot praise it too highly. I say this of my own desire to benefit poor, suffering womankind.

Will some one kindly tell me how to clean soiled white silk handkerchiefs, so they will not turn yellow.

Bye-bye, LORRA M. M. HEDGE.

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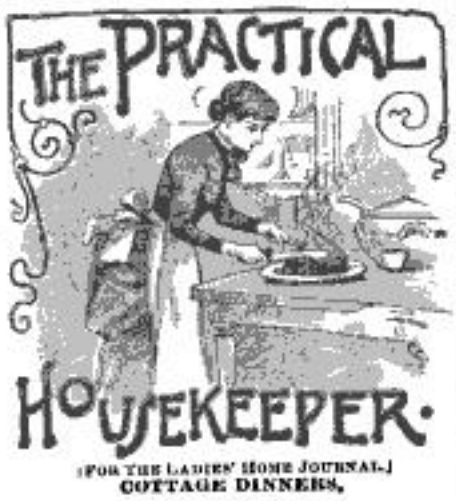

(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

COTTAGE DINNERS.

FEBRUARY.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

In beautifying the every day table, the housekeeper refines and educates her children. The boys and girls who have been accustomed to seeing the best kept for company and the common and unclean made to serve for family use are not only awkward and ill at ease among elegant surroundings, but lose respect for the guardianship that does not hold consistency as an essential in domestic matters.

Of course, there is such a fault possible as erring in the other direction. In a certain home where the mistress declared that she held nothing too good to be put to daily use, the youngsters of the family wore their best clothes every day until they had no Sunday or company toilets, raced with muddy shoes over the originally handsome carpets, left greasy finger-marks upon satin furniture and plate glass mirrors, and took their share in chipping the delicate china and crystals that were used as freely and carelessly as stone ware and pressed glass.

Between these two extremes there is a golden medium. While children should be habituated to the use of handsome articles, they should be taught to consider them with respect. There is a distinct moral influence in nice clothes, kept for high days and holidays, in best china and glass, brought out to honor a favored guest and in richer napery reserved for extraordinary occasions. One may own velvet and satin without despising homespun. But bear in mind that to make the homespun equally worthy of esteem, it must be neat, clean, whole. To drop metaphor. Coarse tablecloths and napkins may be well laundried and carefully laid, stone china and pressed glass immaculate and placed on the table with as strict regard to the conventionalities as though it were the finest Minton and Baccarat.

Nor should one commit the blunder of saving real silver for grand events. It is really more economical than are plated knives and forks. It takes generations to wear out solid silver and its unbreakable qualities make it an exception to the rules that apply to crockery. Like so-called "company manners," it should be in daily use. When possible, let each child have his individual fork and spoon. It is a pretty custom that makes the birthday gifts of the boy and girl always include some small piece of silver, a fork, knife or spoon, a napkin-ring, or a salt-cellar. The plenishing of the future home is thus begun and the child given that feeling of ownership in the domestic belongings that strengthens the household ties and creates an interest in making the house and its contents attractive.

SUNDAY.

Split Pea Soup.
Roast Mutton, stuffed. Succotash.
Potatoes au gratin.
Lemon Pie.

SPLIT PEA SOUP:—One large cup dried split peas, carefully washed and soaked over night in cold water, two teaspoonfuls butter, one tablespoonful flour, one saltspoonful each of salt, pepper and sugar, two quarts cold water.

Put the soaked peas over the fire in the two quarts of cold water, and let them come slowly to a boil. Simmer until the peas are dissolved, taking care not to let the liquid be reduced to less than two quarts. As it boils away, add water from the kettle to keep it up to the required quantity. When soft, rub through a colander and return to the fire. If it seems too thick, dilute to the proper consistency with milk or water. Bring to a boil and stir in the butter and flour, rubbed smooth together. It is better to cook these for a few moments before putting them into the soup. Season to taste, and pour upon dice of fried bread laid in the tureen.

ROAST MUTTON, STUFFED:—Have the shoulder bone extracted by the butcher, leaving a cavity for the stuffing. Make a dressing of crumbs and chopped pork, well seasoned with pepper, salt and sweet herbs. Take a few stitches in the edges of the opening to keep the forcemeat from escaping. Lay the meat in the baking pan, dash a cup of boiling water over it and bake about fifteen minutes to the pound. Baste frequently. When done transfer to a platter and set in a hot place while you cool, skim and strain the gravy and thicken it with browned flour. Pour a little of the gravy over the meat and serve the remainder separately.

SUCCOTASH:—Strain off the liquor and turn out the contents of the can into a bowl for a couple of hours before using that they may get rid of the close odor peculiar to canned food. Stew about twenty minutes, putting them on in boiling water. Turn off the water at the last and pour over them a half cup of hot milk into which has been stirred a bit of soda the size of a pea. Thicken the milk with a teaspoonful of butter rolled in one of flour, add a teaspoonful of sugar and pepper and salt to taste.

POTATO AU GRATIN:—Prepare mashed potato as usual, and mound it in a pie plate or a dish that will stand the heat. Sprinkle fine dry crumbs over the top and brown on the upper grating of the oven.

LEMON PIE:—Make pastry as directed in December number of LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. Line the pie plate with the paste and fill with the following mixture:

One teacupful of boiling water, one tablespoonful cornstarch, one lemon, one cup sugar, one egg, two teaspoonfuls butter.

Wet up the cornstarch in a little cold water and stir into the boiling water. Cream the butter and sugar, and stir into the cornstarch and water. Set aside to cool, and when quite cold, add the egg beaten light, the juice of the lemon, the grated peel and the inside chopped very fine.

Set aside a little of the pastry in a cold place to use for Monday's dessert.

MONDAY.

Pea and Tomato Soup.
Scalloped Mutton.
Roast Potatoes. Macaroni with Tomato Sauce.
Jam Tarts.

PEA AND TOMATO SOUP:—To the remains of yesterday's pea soup add half a can of tomatoes, stewed tender with a teaspoonful of sugar and rubbed through a colander. Should this thin the soup too much, thicken with a teaspoonful of butter, rolled in one of flour. The stock made from the well cracked mutton bone removed from yesterday's shoulder will be a welcome addition to your soup.

SCALLOPED MUTTON:—Cut all the meat from the bones of yesterday's roast. Reject the fattest bits of meat and mince the rest fine with a sharp knife. Put the stuffing with this and moisten all well with the gravy. Fill a buttered pudding dish with this, strew the top with crumbs, dot with bits of butter and bake covered half an hour. Uncover and brown. Care must be taken not to have the scallop too dry. Should the gravy run short, borrow a little stock from your soup.

ROAST POTATOES:—Prepare as previously directed.

MACARONI WITH TOMATO SAUCE:—Break the macaroni into pieces not over an inch in length and stew in hot water until tender. Drain dry, heap in a hot dish and pour over it a sauce made of a cupful of stewed tomatoes and half a cupful of gravy from the mutton bones, well seasoned, and thickened with a teaspoonful of butter rolled in flour. Sprinkle grated cheese thickly over the top.

JAM TARTS:—Line small pans with the pastry reserved from Saturday's pies, fill with jam or marmalade and bake in a quick oven. If you wish, you may lay strips across the top in a lattice work.

TUESDAY.

Curried Veal.
Rice. Bananas.
Cornstarch Hasty Pudding.

CURRIED VEAL:—Order two pounds of veal for stewing. The neck or the leg pieces are much cheaper than the other parts and serve this purpose equally well. Have them cut into pieces for stew and let them simmer gently until tender, with half an onion minced fine. About ten minutes before dinner, add a couple of teaspoonfuls of curry powder to the gravy and stir in well. The amount of curry used must be regulated by the tastes of the eaters. The average palate does not care for it if too hot. In serving, put the rice upon the plate first and place the curried meat and gravy on top of the rice.

RICE:—Boil as directed in January issue, taking the precaution to prepare a double quantity as it will be the only vegetable, and also because it will be needed in the bill of fare for Wednesday's dinner.

BANANAS:—These must be passed with the curry. Their cool freshness counteracts the heat of the curry.

CORNSTARCH HASTY PUDDING:—One quart milk, four tablespoonfuls cornstarch, one tablespoonful butter, one saltspoonful salt.

Heat the milk to boiling in a double boiler. Stir into it the salt and the cornstarch wet up with cold water. Let it cook ten minutes, add the butter and let it stand five minutes on the side of the stove before serving. Eat with the following sauce:

PUDDING SAUCE:—One cup sugar, half cup hot milk, one egg, vanilla to taste, pinch of soda.

Beat the egg very light and stir in the sugar. Add the soda to the boiling milk and mix little by little with the egg and sugar. Set in boiling water a few moments and flavor just after taking from the fire.

WEDNESDAY.

Creamed Salt Mackerel.
Mashed Potato. Savory Rice.
Apple and Tapioca Pudding.

CREAMED SALT MACKEREL:—Soak the fish all night, and wipe dry before using. Broil on a buttered gridiron over a clear fire. Lay on a hot dish and pour over it a cream sauce made as follows: One cup milk, one egg, two teaspoonfuls butter, two teaspoonfuls cornstarch rubbed smooth with the butter, pepper and a little salt, chopped parsley.

Heat the milk to boiling, thicken with the butter and cornstarch, mix carefully with the egg to prevent curdling, cook a moment longer, season and pour over the fish.

MASHED POTATO.—Directions previously given.

SAVORY RICE:—Heat the cold rice saved from yesterday by adding a little boiling water to it and setting it on the fire in a double boiler. Mince fine half a cupful of cold meat,—if you have it. A few remains of yesterday's curry will work in well, but if these are lacking boil a couple of eggs hard and chop those. Stir these into the rice, and season well. Turn into a buttered mould, with plain sides. A brown bread tin or a small pail may be used. Set this in a pot of boiling water and cook steadily an hour and a half. Heat half a cup of gravy, and when the rice is turned out, pour this about it.

APPLE AND TAPIOCA PUDDING:—Peel and core enough nice firm apples to fill, without crowding, a pudding dish. Pour over them a teacupful of cold water, cover closely and steam in the oven until tender. Have ready a cupful of tapioca which should have been soaked for several hours in enough water to cover it. Drain the water from the apples, fill the empty centres with sugar, stick a clove in each and pour the tapioca over and between them. Bake one hour. Eat either with cream and sugar or with a sauce made by rubbing to a cream two tablespoonfuls of butter with one cuptul of powdered sugar. Flavor with a little lemon juice.

THURSDAY.

Corn Soup.
Barbecued Rabbits.
Baked Hominy. Pea Pancakes.
Fruit.

CORN SOUP:—Drain the liquor from the contents of a can of corn and chop the corn very fine. Put it on the fire in a quart of boiling water and simmer for an hour. Rub through a colander and return to the pot with a teaspoonful of sugar and pepper and salt to taste. Boil up and thicken with a tablespoonful of butter rolled in one of flour. Have ready two cups of boiling milk to which has been added an egg beaten light. Stir this into the soup and serve immediately.

BARBECUED RABBITS:—Open all the way down on the under side, wash out with soda and water and lay in cold salted water for an hour before cooking. Cut gashes in the back that the heat may get at the meat and broil over a hot fire, turning often. Lay on a hot platter when done baste plentifully with butter, and pour over it a sauce such as is described in the recipe for barbecued ham in the January number of the JOURNAL.

BAKED HOMINY:—One cupful cold boiled hominy, one and a half cups milk, one egg, two teaspoonfuls butter, one tablespoonful sugar.

Rub the hominy very smooth with the back of the spoon, work in the melted butter, the sugar, the egg, beaten very light and the milk. Beat very hard and bake covered half an hour in a buttered pudding dish. Remove the top five minutes before removing from the oven and brown.

PEA PANCAKES:—See "Cottage Dinners for November."

FRUIT:—Apples, Florida oranges and bananas are now in season.

FRIDAY.

Lobster Bisque.
Scalloped Eggs.
Fried Bananas. Stuffed Potatoes.
Batter Pudding.

LOBSTER BISQUE:—One can lobster, four cups milk, four cups boiling water, three quarters cup of rolled cracker crumbs, two tablespoonfuls butter, salt to taste, cayenne pepper at discretion, juice of a lemon.

Cut the lobster small with a sharp knife, and put into the boiling water with the salt and pepper. Cook thirty minutes. Stir the cracker crumbs into the boiling milk, which should have been heated in another vessel. Stir the butter into the lobster when it has cooked half an hour, simmer five minutes, add the milk, heat all together and just before serving, put in the lemon juice. Serve as a soup, passing crackers and sliced lemon with it.

SCALLOPED EGGS:—Five hard boiled eggs, half cup gravy or drawn butter, one cupful bread crumbs, three quarters of a cupful of minced cold meat,—the rabbit left from yesterday, or better still, cold ham or tongue. If none of these are forthcoming, buy one of the small tins of deviled meats that come at a low cost, and use that.

Butter the bottom of a pie plate or shallow pudding dish and cover with a layer of the meat. Over this spread the hard boiled eggs, sliced and pour in the gravy. Sprinkle the bread crumbs over all, pepper and salt and dot with bits of butter. Bake covered, ten minutes in a moderate oven and brown.

FRIED BANANAS:—Cut bananas in two lengthwise and dip them first in beaten egg, then roll them in flour. Have your fat boiling hot, drop them in and fry to a fine yellow brown. Take out carefully with a split spoon and serve folded in a white napkin.

STUFFED POTATOES.—See "Cottage Dinners for November.

BATTER PUDDING:—Four eggs, two cups milk, two cups prepared flour, one saltspoonful salt, well mixed with the flour.

Beat the eggs light, whites and yolks separately. Add the milk to the latter, stir in the salted flour and the whites. Beat vigorously for two or three minutes and pour into a buttered mould. Bake three quarters of an hour in a steady oven and eat as soon as possible after it is done, as it falls very quickly. Prepare hard sauce for it, such as was directed for apple-and-tapioca-pudding.

SATURDAY.

Corn Beef. Fried Potatoes.
Baked Macaroni. Stewed Oyster Plant.
Ginger Snaps and Marmalade.

CORN BEEF:—Prepare as directed in "Cottage Dinners" for November, setting aside the liquor in which it was boiled for soup, and not omitting to serve drawn butter with the beef. Capers make a nice addition to this sauce.

FRIED POTATOES:—See "Cottage Dinners" for January.

BAKED MACARONI:—Two cups macaroni or spaghetti, broken into nice bits, half cupful milk, quarter pound of cheese, grated, two teaspoonfuls butter.

Cook the macaroni in slightly salted boiling water, for about twenty minutes. Drain through a colander, and put a layer into a greased pudding dish. Sprinkle with cheese and bits of butter, place another layer of macaroni, then more cheese and butter until the supplies of all three are exhausted. Pour in the milk, and make the top stratum of cheese thicker than the previous ones. Bake covered half an hour and then brown.

STEWED OYSTER PLANT, OR SALSIFY:—Scrape the roots and cut into inch lengths, dropping into cold water to prevent discoloration. Put on in hot water and stew until tender. Drain nearly dry and cover with hot milk. Simmer about ten minutes and thicken with a teaspoonful of butter, rolled in flour. Salt and pepper to taste.

GINGER SNAPS:—Four good cups flour, one cup lard, one half cup butter, two cups brown sugar, one cup molasses, one cup cold water, one tablespoonful ground ginger, one tablespoonful cinnamon, two small teaspoonfuls soda dissolved in hot water.

Put sugar, molasses and shortening into a bowl and set in the oven until the contents are warm enough to mix readily. Stir in the spices, water, soda and flour. Flour thickens so variously that it may be necessary to add more in order to make the dough stiff enough to roll out. Make the cakes very thin and bake quickly. This recipe is for a large quantity.

QUERIES FOR RECIPES.

1.
"How to make Pepper Pot."
(F. K. H., Chicago.)

Three pounds veal bones, well cracked,
Two pounds tripe,
Four potatoes,
One tablespoonful butter,
" " flour,
One small onion,
Bunch of herbs,
Three quarts cold water,
Salt and pepper to taste.

Boil the tripe the day before the soup is needed, putting it on in cold water. Cook several hours. Throw away the liquor in which the tripe was cooked, and cut tripe into small pieces. Put the veal over the fire in the cold water, simmer gently and strain. Return to the soup pot, add the minced onion and herbs, the potatoes cut small and the tripe. Bring all to a boil, season and thicken with the butter rubbed into the flour. Add small dumplings made by recipe given for those in Mutton Stew. Cook these about twenty minutes in the soup and send all to table.

2.
"How to make Scrapple."
(F. K. H., Chicago.)

Two hogs' heads,
Pepper and salt,
Sage, thyme, allspice.

Clean the hogs' heads, put over the fire in hot water and bring to a boil. Simmer until the meat leaves the bone readily. Chop fine, and season. Add two cupfuls of the liquor in which the heads were boiled, and press all down in a greased crock. Put a heavy weight on top the contents and let them get perfectly cold. Slice it off as it is needed.

3.
"How to brown flour."

Sift a cupful of flour into a tin pie plate and set it on the top of the stove. Watch closely, stirring it frequently, to see that it does not burn, and taking especial pains to prevent its sticking to the bottom of the pan. It should be of a fine brown, not at all blackened. Some housekeepers prefer browning it in the oven, but it cannot be watched as constantly there as when on the top of the range. It is well to prepare one or two cupfuls of browned flour at a time. It keeps perfectly in a tin box or glass preserve jar, and is then always ready for thickening. If this plan were more invariably followed, there would be fewer tables where a grayish yellow paste, thickened with uncooked flour appears under the name of gravy.

4.
"How to make Cheese Pie."

Three eggs,
Half cup sugar,
Two teaspoonfuls butter,
One tablespoonful flour,
Cinnamon or nutmeg to taste,
Half pint cottage or "pot" cheese.

Rub butter, flour and sugar together, beat the eggs light and add these, last, put in the cheese and flavoring. Bake in a steady oven.

5.
"How to make Banana Cake."

See "For Christmas Week" in December issue of LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

6.
"How to Preserve Green Ginger."

Scrape or peel the roots, throwing them in cold water for half an hour. Boil until tender, changing the water three times during the process. Drain dry when done and lay in ice water. Meanwhile the syrup should have been prepared in the proportion of a pound and a quarter of sugar to a pound of the stewed ginger. To each pound of sugar should be put a half pint of water, and these boiled together. Skimming constantly until the scum rises no longer. Let the syrup become perfectly cold, and drop the ginger into it. After it has stood a day or two remove the ginger, heat the syrup to tepidness and pour over the ginger roots again. Let it stand three days, and repeat the process of removing the ginger and heating the syrup, but this time being it to the boiling point before putting in the ginger. Wait a week, drain again, boil and pour over the ginger and put away in closed jars. It will hardly be ready for the table in less than a month.

7.
"How to make Oyster Patties."

Heat to boiling half the liquor from a quart of oysters add the raw oysters and half a cup of hot milk into which has been stirred a tiny pinch of soda, thicken with a tablespoonful of butter, rubbed smooth with two tablespoonfuls of corn starch, and seasoned with salt and pepper. Cook about five minutes and pour into shells of pastry made by the recipe given in December number of the JOURNAL.

8. "How to make cocoanut cake."

A reliable recipe for this was furnished in the article "For Christmas Week" in December issue of LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

9. "How to prepare pea soup from canned peas."

Drain the liquor from the can of peas, and put these over the fire in enough cold water, slightly salted, to cover them. Simmer until soft and rub through a colander. Have ready two cupfuls of hot milk, thickened with a tablespoonful of butter, rubbed smooth in as much cornstarch. Add the strained peas to this and let them cook together about five minutes. Pour upon dice of fried bread laid in the tureen. It is well to put a pinch of soda into the milk before adding the peas.

If there is soup stock of any kind in the house, it may be used in place of the milk.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

SERVICEABLE FABRICS.

Desirable Materials for Late Winter and Early Spring Wear. Curious Effects in New Cotton Goods. Novelties in Dress Accessories.

BY MRS. JAS. H. LAMBERT.

It is natural to imagine that a season of rest will be granted to the merchant, and his aids, after the festivals of the New Year are over; but the experienced buyer generously allows that constant trade means distribution of money, and also that the investing of it at this time in the year, saves a certain percentage, so that a fair interest is gained by making purchases during the clearance season which transpires after stock taking is over, when goods are marked down to considerably less than cost, and often much less than their real value.

In buying fabrics, or articles of dress, and for home service, they should be carefully selected, and styles chosen which will not be out of date for a year or two to come, and then with the money gained by this saving, the prudent housewife can buy some stylish article for full dress, which she may see after the decided novelties have been opened in the spring.

Most general reductions in prices have been made in nearly every department in large stores. In woolen dress goods even the standard varieties are marked down, because although the make or weave is all right, the new goods will be in other shades, or tones, if in the same colors.

The same fact is noticeable in regard to silk materials; hence, the great difficulty in matching fabrics; for, as the Philadelphia and New York stores renew their lines of goods as often as four times a year, it is only by chance that a person can perfectly match goods bought only six months before.

Ladies living in the city realize this fact, and are glad to accept the ever-ready combination, for it is so much easier to secure a complementary, or a contrasting fabric, than to find the exact match, and suits of two or even three kinds, and as many colors of goods are considered quite as stylish as those all of the one sort of fabric.

Our friends who so often write to mail order departments of large stores, or to friends in cities, and enclose sample to be matched, may read with interest a little experience of last week, in the matching interests.

The sample looked simple enough, only medium weight, grosgrain, in one of the wood browns. Nearly every store in Philadelphia was visited by Sharpless' buyer, and over one hundred shades of brown silk found, but not one an exact match. The sample was then sent to McCreery's, in New York, but with no better success; and after all this, two entire evenings were consumed in writing to the lady to explain why combination fabrics were sent in place of the exact match which she insisted even at the last writing upon having, because, she said, brown was such a common color, it must be easy to match.

Although black and white are generally supposed to be easily matched, in certain goods the shades vary quite as much as they do in colors. In white ivory, pearl, dead white and cream are all seen, and in black, there is blue black, grayish black, brown black, and jet black, and no two go well together; hence, the necessity of knowing the tone of black and white fabric when trimmings are to be selected, as well as when the goods are to be matched.

Now is the time to buy wraps of all kinds from the handsome long cloak, to the pretty opera mantle, for the most stylish conceits, of the most costly materials are now offered at just about half their real value. Visites, New Markets and Jackets are very fashionable; the latter being in stockinette, or elastic cloth, which is so justly popular, because of its beauty and durability.

The newest waterproof garments are those with steel gray outside and inside, or lining, of checks or stripes. These gossamers are in novel shapes, easy to put on, and graceful to look at. A popular style is the Raglan with fitting back, rather loose front, and cape sleeves, which protect the arms, but leave the hands free. Another shape is with a full back and front; it has sleeves which are made large and full, and confined at the wrists by elastics.

All during the month of January, there will be clearing out sales of underwear in muslin, for ladies, misses and children, and such wonderful bargains can be secured in these made-up garments, which may be just a mile out of style, that very few New York or Philadelphia ladies make their under clothes, but buy them in quantities at these sales.

Among a lot of these garments are night-dresses at 75 cents, $1.00 and $1.25; chemises at 50 and 75 cents; drawers to match at the same prices; also under-bodies, petticoats, at 75 cents, $1.00 and $1.50; gentlemen's night shirts at only $1.00; all of good material, well made, and those for ladies are neatly trimmed. Of course, there were stacks upon stacks of garments at higher and lower prices than those mentioned—all of splendid value.

In some of the leading dry-goods' houses, numbers of suits and dresses for young girls and misses have been left over; also all styles of wraps, and these garments have been marked down to less than the cost of materials, to say nothing of the making, which is done in the most perfect manner. Lovely dresses for children from one to six years old are in the new Jersey cloths, in cream, pink, blue, red, brown, and other colors, fashioned in odd and very pretty styles.

For older girls the assortment includes pretty dresses and costumes in plain, as well as elastic cloths, made after artistic models, and trimmed in novel designs. The dresses range in price from $3.50 to $15, and the wraps from $5 to $25. The coats, at the latter price, being very stylish and really worth much more money.

For facts about underwear and reduced fabrics, thanks are due Jas. McCreery and Sharpless Brothers. Children's dresses and wraps are at Lewis S. Cox, Oriental Store.

SPRING AND SUMMER DRESS GOODS.

For early spring wear no woolen fabrics will be more appropriate than the stylish, fine checked stuffs, which come in odd and pleasing combinations, and singular tone or shade effects, for instance, in some specimens, the various colors shade in one hue, and in others there are tiny alternating checks in light and dark tones of one color, illustrating the new myrtle and Lichen greens, the grayish blues, the bois browns, and other colors.

These checked cloths are fine, soft, beautifully finished and very wide, and will be largely used to form stylish tailor-made suits for walking purposes, and neat costumes for church or visiting. Such dresses can be finished with velvet, or they may be fancifully trimmed with braid, in black or colors.

Although the novelties in cotton goods have not yet been introduced in the retail houses, by special favor, we have gained information concerning their beauties and merits.

The plain, or solid colored materials come in the ground shades of the ornamental or decorative fabrics with which they are to be made up; and a noticeable feature of the new striped skirting is the graduation of the clusters of which, like the rich embroidered bands seen on winter dresses, are evidently intended to run round skirt, or across panel, as did also the folds of plush or velvet, which were sewed on to the skirts of costumes; however, ladies who so desire can place the stripes to run up and down, without offending good taste, or being out of style. In some exceedingly graceful toilettes, the stripes run across panels, and vest, and cuffs and collar are formed in stripes.

Suggestive names have been given to many of the new fabrics, by which they will be generally known when the selling season opens in February. A striking novelty is the Costume Compose, a combination of plain zephyr gingham, in numberless shades of chambrey and plain, solid colors with a stripe in a kind of Egyptian or Oriental design, looking very much like heavy embroidery in extremely effective color combinations.

Arrassene zephyrs are among the new fine wash fabrics, which show grounds in light and dark shades of solid colors; but a prominent feature in this line of goods is the ground work of thread and thread, or fil a fil, sometimes called pin head checks, with surface stripes in braided effects in stylish, but lady-like designs; these are in times of black, brown, gray, blue and cardinal, following the fashionable styles of London and Paris, as developed late last season. Similar effects are worked up into costumes, and those with graduating stripes running across fabric will appear as Arrassene costumes, and may be found in many designs, and a great variety of colors.

A very attractive material, evidently intended to make up alone, has a remarkably silky sparkle in the stripe which is in bright and light colors, on solid ground, which may be either light or dark. These queer but very pretty novelties are called Twinkling Stripes, from the glimmering of the lustre in the lines.

The Tufted Batiste is a kind of zephyr gingham with a distinctive face finish on the Batiste order, and without the gloss of the old zephyrs. These are made in combination of plain and striped effects in matching colors, the stripes being produced by a kind of spiral braid-like yarn, laid apparently on the surface of the goods giving clear, effective contrasts of color, not attainable by any old methods. The beautiful and various color combinations include navy blue, seal brown, shades of tan and cream, goblin and porcelain blue, very pale blue and pink, the stripes on these grounds being in harmonious contrasts, and while some are in single color, others are in curious combinations showing several colors in the same stripe, and all of these beautiful hues are said to stand washing equal to a standard staple check gingham.

In making up these new and pretty fabrics, the taste of the wearer should be exercised, for the striped portion can be used for the lower skirt, or it can be made up in the waist and overskirt, or, if preferred, the entire suit can be formed of stripes.

The Sicilian costume is formed of a forty inch wide fabric on the gingham order with plain, even stripes in two shades of brown, of blue, of black and of gray for the waist and overskirt, with the same effect for skirt; but this portion is crossed at intervals in such a way as to form bands of check graduated from three to four inches at bottom, to perhaps half an inch when near the waist. The graduated stripes are also used for vests, coll ar, and sleeve trimmings.

For information and samples of novelties in cotton goods, thanks are due Mr. Jas. Lockett, of Tebbetts, Harrison and Robins, of Boston and New York.

Sharpless Brothers

Announce the General Reduction in Prices, of Special Lines of Goods, in each and every Department of their Establishment, so that various stocks may be cleared out to make room for the incoming

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Our friends will confer a special favor, if, in their letters to firms or individuals, mentioned in our answers to inquiries, they will say that they were advised to write direct to such houses or persons, by the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

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PRACTICAL DRESS.

Young Lady's Evening Dress—House Dress. Girl's Dress.

BY JENNY JUNE.

Life is interesting, not from what we possess, but what we know, and what we can do. Most girls think they understand that; but they want to know, and do the great things, before they have learned the little ones. Yet, it is the little things that are needed every day, and every hour; and it is these which not only give value to life, but attention to them is absolutely essential to success in greater efforts.

There is a very successful lady in New York, who, fifteen years ago, was a saleswoman in the underwear department of a great dry goods house. She was clever at making things, and she, after a time, obtained a little custom work, with which she started in business for herself. She is now a great leading "modiste." She goes to Paris, imports many thousands of dollars' worth of costly dresses every year., and has made a fortune. There is always a reason behind success; and, questioning this successful woman about her early life, I found she had always been famous, even as a little girl, for "doing things," and doing them well. "I did almost all the sewing at home," she said, in reply to my inquiry. "I made my brothers shirts, and my father's shirts, when I was a little girl at school, and helped mother on the children's clothes. I made all my own by the time I was fourteen, and was able to get more and better materials on that account. I was always fond of nice things." There are many girls who are fond of nice things, but they will not take the trouble necessary to acquire, or keep them.

The question just now, with hundreds, is, how to get a pretty evening dress. They have, perhaps, ten dollars, or they can obtain that amount by their own work, or from father, mother, or brother. "But what is the use of ten dollars in buying an evening dress, it would hardly cover the cost of making!" Very true; but that is where the genius of economy comes in; you must make it yourself. You are clever, you are ambitious of looking well, you are an adept, perhaps, at knitting, or painting, embroidery, or "crazy" work. All this, or any part of it, presupposes the possession of a certain amount of talent and energy. Put this talent and energy into your evening dress, and it is so much capital, your dress is more than half obtained.

SIMPLE EVENING COSTUME.

The design, we give, is for a pretty dress of cream nuns-veiling, with full vest of satin marveilleux, or surah, and narrow plaiting of the same at the bottom. This plaiting is placed on the lining, which may be of fine cotton satine, a material which will answer every purpose of silk, will only cost twenty-five or thirty cents per yard. Of this, nine yards will be required, to two of surah, and eight (fifty-six inches wide) of nuns-veiling. Two dollars and a half will buy the satine, one and a half the surah, and six dollars, (at seventy-five cents per yard), the nuns-veiling; leaving a trifle, not quite enough for ribbon. But with half a dollar more, and some taste, and industry, you will have a costume that looks as if it might have cost fifty dollars, and is permanently useful; for the soiled parts can be rubbed with magnesia, when it is folded, and put away for the season;, and if brushed carefully, when it is taken out, the dress will look new. The satine, or under part of the dress will be good, when the nuns veiling is worn and frayed; and this can then be removed, and the satine made into a morning sacque, or used as the foundation for another dress. The best way to make a simple evening dress of this description is, to cut the satine into a plain walking skirt, round V-shaped waist, and elbow sleeves. First, sew up the seams, face the bottom and edge the skirt with the plaiting first. Then fit the bodice, drape the fulness over to the sides, and into the belt, and put in the little plaited vest of the silk. Cut the veiling of the sleeves with a little lengthwise fullness, and gather it up upon the lining, letting the shirrings come upon the upper, and under side. Then arrange the skirt, which should have been previously hemmed, slightly, at the foot. Drape the front irregularly, fastening the sides, under the ribbons at the left under straight folds, silk-stitched, or feather-stitched, on the right. Let the fullness at the back hang straight, except a little to one side, where it should be lifted a trifle, and allowed to fall over, to prevent stiffness.

Bordering, and lace as trimming, are not now used, especially for young girls; everything for them is made as simple as possible, and with as few accessories as may be. The effect is much more youthful and refined, than labored and elaborate styles. The belt of the dress, as given, would be of ribbon, and ribbon, also, would be used for the loops at the side.

If money is rather less of an object, a very small amount, additional, would provide canton crape, as a finish, instead of surah, and add to the sleeves and neck, soft folds of cream, or pale pink canton crape, which are very becoming.

If the materials, described, are difficult to procure, or cost more than the estimates given, and doubtless they do in some shops, or in different parts of the country, there is the choice of others. First, of a pretty buff, or salmon-tinted muslin, dotted with white. A delicate Madras muslin, in shades of olive, and gold, on a cream ground; or, failing these, there is cheese cloth, whose principal fault is, that it soon looks stringy, and does not pay for the trouble put upon it. Very cheap, and very pretty evening dresses can be made at a cost of perhaps five dollars, of dotted muslin, twenty-five cents per yard, with full, little vest, folds and bows at neck and sleeves, of pale pink, or blue surah, or canton crepe. Belt and bow at the side to match.

Long and wide sashes of moire, dull satin, or gros-grain ribbon are now fashionably worn, and add much to these pretty dresses; but they are not essential.

SASH.

The amount of ribbon required is three yards; and it ranges from ninety-five cents to one dollar and a half per yard. The loops should not be so long as in the cut; in fact, they are often arranged as butterfly bows, and long ends, and not as hanging loops at all.

Ribbons are in great demand just now, and one of their uses is to make bows for the high-crowned hats. I do not advise young girls to wear exaggerated hats; they are not becoming, and there is always a tinge of vulgarity about everything which is carried to an extreme. Besides, they are selfish, and show want of consideration. A little incident will show you what I mean. I took great trouble, not long since, to attend an illustrated lecture. It was intended to describe a trip over a part of the country in which I was very much interested. I sat up part of the night before to finish some work that had to be done, so that I could attend that lecture. The speaker, the illustrations, were all that could be desired; but, personally, my pleasure was destroyed, and much of my object frustrated, by a tall girl, who wore a tall hat, and sat directly in front of me. That hat seemed to obscure the whole face of the lantern. It was no use trying to avoid it; it moved this way and that, but always shut off the desirable part of the picture. This was actual loss, and more than annoyance to every one who sat in her vicinity. Those young women, therefore, who want very high hats, and cannot be satisfied without them, should confine their use to the street; not wear them on occasions when they must be a cause of annoyance, and loss to others.

It is not economy to buy cheap felt hats. They are not only old, or exaggerated in form, but they spot, and are spoiled by the first exposure to "weather," of which we are apt to have an abundance during the winter and spring months. A good felt, untrimmed, but with finished edge, costs from $1.25 to $2.50. A bow like the one here given, and a band round the crown, trimmed it, not only effectively, but substantially, and so that it will look well all the season. The loops and ends should be mounted on a cone-shaped piece of stiff muslin, and the bow pinned on the front of the hat, the lower part within, not under the brim, with long, black or colored pins. Three yards of ribbon for this size of bow. Here are some of the pins fashionably used for bonnets, the cost ten to fifteen cents each.

BOW.

BONNET PINS.

Pins with heads, more or less decorative, are now indispensable to the completing of the toilet. Formerly we had only the jetted pins used for black, or in mourning, now we have a variety of small pins with colored glass, or enamelled heads. The common kind of cat's-eye, tiger eye, and onyx, are used abroad to make heads for pins, that are very pretty, and a most as cheap as our black pins, but we have not yet learned to adapt our native stones and woods to these purposes. Our more costly silver topped, and jewelled pins are too expensive for common use,—especially in a form which risks frequent loss.

"AUTHOR'S DRESS" (for Homework.)

This dress is an original design by Katharine Armstrong, the author, and artist, of London, England. Mrs. Armstrong suggests blue serge for the material, because she has found it the "most lasting." I endorse this opinion, and urge the new, "odd" shades of blue, because of their refinement and purity. Dark blue serge looks almost black by gaslight, and is more suitable for the street, because it requires a strong light to bring out its good qualities, while the electric blue, smoke blue, gray blue, old china blue, and some shades of peacock, are cheerful, without being in the least glaring, and shows up admirably the open, or Oriental embroidery; the latter being that which Mrs. Armstrong recommends for trimmings. These shades, and materials, are suitable for all ages, and becoming to all complexions. But little of the embroidery is required, and it should therefore be very good,—rich in color and design. If a lady can embroider so much the better. But here let me say, do not make the mistake of putting on too much trimming. A "touch" is more artistically effective than a bushel of it. An ignorant person keeps putting on borders, and bands, and bows, and buttons, till lines, and almost entire surface disappears; this is destructive to good taste.

The author's dress is just as good for one who is not an author. It is simply a plain, yet elegant home dress. It should be lined, and hemmed up at the foot, and will take ten yards of serge, ordinary width, at about fifty cents per yard, all-wool, of course. Never buy mixed materials for whole dresses. The figure given tells its own story, it is hardly necessary to say, that the front is shirred, and that a fold is laid on either side of it, crossed at the waist by a ribbon, which is tied loosely. There is a hollow plait at the back which terminates at the waist.

BLUE WOOLEN DRESS FOR GIRL.

This pretty dress of blue cashmere, with honey-comb embroidery, is also designed by Katherine Armstrong. The frock is simply five long breadths 27 inches wide, the length measured from the shoulder; it is gathered there to fit the neck, chest, and back. Holes are cut in for the arms, but it is shaped at the waist, as at the neck, simply by gathering. The sleeves are of one straight breadth gathered slightly at the arm-size, and shaped in a little towards the wrist, where they are gathered, and honey-combed, as at the neck, with coarse, pale blue twisted sewing silk,—purse silk would be the best. The honey-comb gathering is very simple: take up to the inch, eight stitches in a straight line for the first row. The same for the second row, half an inch lower down upon the fabric; and so on, the depth you wish the "gauging" to be. On this, as a back-ground, go over with plain herring-bone stitch, Point Russe, or feather stitch, using the same pale blue silk.

The material for this dress need not cost more than $3, but the work upon it would bring it up to twelve, or fifteen dollars, if bought in a shop. The bottom of the skirt should be tucked, and finished with several rows of machine stitching in the silk used for the embroidery.

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appears about the twentieth of every month, in advance. It contains a large number of woodcuts, representing the leading styles in Ladies' Toilettes, Hats, Bonnets, etc., that are to be worn in Paris during the following months; besides this, an article on Fashions prepared for us with the greatest care by our agents in Paris; and many hints and information invaluable to the professional dress-maker, as well as to the private lady who appreciates elegance and correct style of dress.

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The New Store is now an established retreat for the Ladies. Auspiciously located, it welcomes you and provides comforts and luxuries for you even though you have no purchases to make.

The New Store covers the entire field in Ladies' and Children's Over-Garments, Wraps, Few Markets, Ulsters, Jackets, etc., have their best representation here. It is our line of business, and we understand it as only manufacturers can. We are, however, not limited to the goods of our own manufacture. All the leading foreign makers are represented in our stock through our own direct importation. No matter how elegant or costly a Garment you may want the assortment is here to select from. So, also, with the cheaper Garments. The variety and the stock are practically unlimited. Although nothing is cheap in the sense of being common, it is just as well to have style and shape and fit in the lower-priced garments as not. With us it does not make them cost any more.

Our position as makers of both the cloth and garments enables us to sell Jackets at $2.00, $2.25, $2.50, $2.75, $3.00, and upwards that usually retailed for double these figures. Jersey Waists for Ladies and Children in cloth effects never before seen in Jerseys. Ladies' All-Wool Underwear, shaped as never Ladies' Underwear was shaped before to fit the form. Boys' Stockinet Suits and Overcoats—you would not have any other when once you have clad your boy in these. Cloakings, Suitings and Jersey Cloth by the yard, Ladies' Ready-made Waists, with enough material for Skirts, at $10, $12, $14, $16, $18 $20 and $21.

This new idea in Dress-getting is extremely popular. You only need to look into it to see the utility and economy of this new suggestion from The New Store.

In our Children's Department, second story front of 1218 Chestnut Street—the new and successful addition to The New Store—we are presenting at half former prices, in consequence of broken lots in sizes that cannot be replaced,—a large variety of Misses' and Children's Newmarkets, Coats, Havelocks and Jackets. In Astrakan or Plush Garments we undeniably lead the town. We are at once the headquarters for everything desirable in this line. We have also a handsome line of Costumes, and an unequaled display of Elegant Silk Dress Patterns with Beaded Panels, with Brocaded Velvet Panels and with Brocaded Silk Panels. Imported Wraps, both Short and Long, $35 to $175.

LEWIS S. COX,

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CLEMATIS.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

No plant is more popular at the present time than the Clematis is, and its popularity is well deserved. It is hardy, or perhaps I ought to qualify that statement and say that some of the most desirable varieties are hardy, and it seems to combine all the essentials of a vine for the masses, being a good bloomer, having beautiful flowers, and requiring no care that any amateur is not abundantly able to give it. For training about the pillars of the verandah, or over lattice, it is the best of all plants that make growth from the roots in one season and furnish flowers on that growth. There may be some vines like the Wistaria or some choice varieties of Ampelopsis which many persons would prefer on account of their being ready to cover whatever surface they are trained over as soon as they leave out in the spring, thus making it unnecessary to wait for them to make growth before they make much show, but these plants, while being very good, are not as well adapted to the tastes of all as the Clematis is, and will not give as much general satisfaction.

There are so many varieties of this favorite plant now in the market, and all are so attractively described in the catalogues that one is often at a loss as to which kinds to select. For show I think most persons would be likely to select Jackmanii, if they were to see it in bloom, its great purple flowers, produced in wonderful profusion, being sure of receiving great admiration from every one. The large-flowered white double, Duchess of Edinburgh, is very fine for training up with the first-named variety, the contrast between the colors being exquisite. Sir Garnet Wolsely, pale blue, is very fine.

The native variety, known in most sections of the country as Traveller's Joy, is, while not being showy, a most beautiful kind, and every collection should include it. It has much finer foliage than most of the more showy-flowered kinds, and its tufts of pure white blossoms are so graceful and airy in appearance that they make a plant of it look as if covered with lightly-fallen snow. If you want something to cover a hedge, an old stump, or anything unsightly, this is the very plant you want. If you are fond of bright color, plant a root of the Jackmanii variety with it, and you will have a very beautiful screen. During the last two seasons much use has been made of the Clematis in bedding, the plants being pegged down and made to cover the ground, and in this way they are very effective; but the natural habit of the plant is to climb, and it does not give one a sense of "the eternal fitness of things" to see it made to crawl. I would advise any one wanting to grow these beautiful vines in the most satisfactory way to plant them about the verandah where they can be seen at any time, and to give them a rack or trellis to clamber over. A very pleasing way to train them is to set them by a tree which has low branches, and let them climb at will over it. Each branch will be festooned with the trailing branches, and the effect is one in keeping with the character of the plant, which is as far from formality as possible.

If you want a vine that will be sure to give you satisfaction, get a Clematis. Or, what is better yet, get three or four varieties of it.

The Freezia is a new bulb that has already won its way to the favor of all who have grown it. It is beautiful, fragrant, and easily flowered in winter, and is equally valuable for cut-flower purposes or for decoration of rooms in pots. The flowers are borne in clusters or one-sided spikes, and are shaped something like a Lily, and something like a Gladiolus. They are white, tinged with a soft lemon-yellow, and last for some days if cut and placed in water. Their fragrance is delightful without being overpowering like that of the Tuberose. Their culture is easy. Procure the bulbs, which are quite small, and put four or six in a five-inch pot, filled with a good rich compost. Press them down into the soil, and set the pot away in the cellar or some cool dark place for the roots to form. But do not treat them as you do such hardy bulbs as the Tulip, Hyacinth, and others of that class, when you force them,—that is, putting them in a cold place where they will freeze before it comes time to bring them in, for the Freezia is quite tender, and if they are touched with frost the bulbs will very likely not grow, as I know from personal experience.

FREEZIA.

FLOWERS IN JANUARY.

By January, such plants as were not ready to bloom earlier in the season ought to begin to show indications of flowering. This will be the case with such plants as the Calla, Geranium, Heliotrope and Carnation, if they received proper culture during the summer and fall. By "proper culture" was meant a treatment which was calculated to induce and secure a healthy growth and development without allowing them to bloom.

At this season the plants must have all the sunshine they can possibly get. If the windows at which they stand have shades which are let down on cold nights, see that these shades are kept rolled up entirely out of the way of the light during the day. It is a good plan to have the swinging brackets, for sale at most hardware stores, and by nearly all florists, fastened to the window frame for the accommodation of the smaller plants. These brackets can be swung toward the light during the daytime, and away from the glass at night. Those with three arms are generally arranged to hold five pots, and by their use one can grow nearly as many again plants at one window as he could without them, and they do not interfere with the free entrance of light into the room. Then another thing in their favor is that they are substantial, and cannot be thrown down when plants are moved, as shelves often are. They are vastly more ornamental than any shelf can be, and their cost is not much more. Begonias and such plants as like the heat to be found in the upper part of the room can be displayed very effectively on them. "Hanging" plants look well on them, and are much more manageable than when grown in pots suspended by chains or cords.

Plants at this season of the year need turning frequently to prevent them becoming one-sided as the light acts on them powerfully, soon causing them to become unshapely, if not given proper care.

The soil in the pots should be kept light and loose on top. Never allow it to become hard, or covered with weeds. Let your plants be kept clean, in all respects. Unsightly pots, weedy earth, and dead leaves always give an unpleasant effect to the beholder, and the charms of a flower is often wholly lost by its surroundings. On the contrary, a well-cared for, clean collection of plants on which there is not a flower to be seen will be attractive. Neatness should always be regarded. Wash the pots once a week, with soapsuds, and no green slime will ever accumulate on them. Once a week remove the plants to a sink, and, laying them on their sides, give them such a thorough showering that not a particle of dust will be left on them. It is a good plan to have a thin sheet of muslin to throw over them when dusting or sweeping. This weekly washing is to be given in addition to a daily showering with the syringe, or a whisk broom dipped in a pail of water. The syringe is best, because you can throw the water up among the foliage with it. If you are afraid of damaging the carpet with the water, have a square of oil-cloth where the plants are.

The water given your plants in winter should always have the chill taken off it. That for the Calla should be as warm as you can comfortably bear the hand in, and it should be given in liberal quantities.

Ammonia can be given once a week. An half-ounce in a large pail of water will be as strong as can be given safely to most kinds. This stimulates growth and flowering. What is better to produce flowers is Plant Food, which can be dug into the soil about the roots. You can get it of most druggists, or they will order it for you of the manufacturer if they do not keep it. This is by far the best preparation I have ever used to make flowers grow and bloom. It is a true *food*, not a mere *stimulant*, and I would not be without it for anything. It induces a vigorous, *healthy* growth. It does not force a plant. Some fertilizers do, and soon there will be a reaction, and the plant often dies from over-stimulation. Such is not the case when the Plant Food is used. It brings forward fine crops of flowers at a season when we very likely would have few or none at all without its use. It can be bought in bulk, or small packages. Instructions for its use generally accompany it. I have often kept plants in the same pot and soil for two or three years, and by using this *food* I have had no difficulty in keeping them in a vigorous condition. Since beginning its use, I have given up re potting plants twice a year, as was formerly my practice.

Fuchsias should be brought up from the cellar in February. Cut off two-thirds of the top, trimming the branches into symmetrical shape. Give considerable quantities of water, and apply fertilizers as soon as the plants begin to grow. When once started, their growth will be rapid, and they will begin to show buds in March. The only variety of Fuchsia worth cultivating for winter flowers is Speciosa. This will bloom most of the season, if not allowed to bloom much during the summer.

***

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Mrs. L. S. Daniel:"—This correspondent wants to know of some successful way of rooting slips of Geranium. I root all my cuttings in sand, clear, sharp sand. I use a soup-plate for a cutting-dish. I fill it quite full of the sand, water it until the soil is thoroughly saturated, and then insert the cuttings in it, and put the dish in a warm place, and after that I take the pains to see that the sand is never allowed to get dry. If it does, quite likely your slips will die. If you keep it moist and warm, you will find that almost any plant can be rooted safely in this way.

"Mrs. W. R. Conway:"—Your experience with Carnations is certainly vexatious. I do not understand why you have not succeeded in getting a good crop of flowers with the treatment you gave the plants. It is very possible that this plant may not be adapted to southern culture. At the north we seldom fail to get fine flowers from the Carnation under the same treatment you speak of having given it. A great many plants which do well here are worthless in Florida, and I am inclined to think that climate, etc., may have something to do with your failure. As to the Cacti, I can give you no advice, as I do not admire these plants and consequently have never grown them. I would suggest that you write to John Saul, Washington, D. C. The Bouvardias were probably small plants when you set them out in the beds, and were not sufficiently well established to bloom during the summer. You cannot get many flowers from young plants. In lifting them in fall, it is best to cut off most of the top, and depend on new growth for blooming surface. If your Tuberoses budded, I do not see why they failed to perfect their flowers. The fact that they seemed "burnt and seared" would indicate that there was a worm or something of that sort at work at the root. Here at the north we only succeed with this flower in warm summers, and I should suppose that your Arkansas summers would just suit them. Did you take notice of the appearance of the bulbs when you took them up in fall?

"Mary G.:"—The Lily you ask about is not adapted to forcing.

"Emma T.:"—The sample of vine you sent, asking for a name for it, was pretty badly crushed in the mails, but from what was left of it I should say that it was Clematis Coccinea. Is it an out-door vine? If so, I think you will find the above is the correct name of it.

"A. F.:"—I am not familiar with the first plant you name. The Gloxinia can be grown easily by giving the tubers complete rest during the winter. Keep them in a dry, cool place, but not so cool as to make it risky about frost reaching them. In April pot them in small pots, and water sparingly at first. When they begin to grow, increase the supply of water, but never give enough to make the ground wet. Aim to keep it merely moist until they begin to come into bloom. Then it will be safe to give more water, but if proper drainage has been supplied the earth will not get heavy and sour, but if this has not been done it will be likely to do so, as the plants must be kept away from the sun. To guard against this, it is well to see that the soil is made quite light and porous by adding sand to it. Put broken brick, crockery, or something of that sort into the bottom of the pot, to the depth of an inch, at least, before filling in the soil. If you have a greenhouse, you need not take the tubers out of the pots in fall but can dry them off, and set the pots containing them away in some corner, where they will absorb enough moisture from the air to keep them from drying up. Treated in this way you ought to grow this plant well. It is one of the best of all summer blooming plants for the house.

"A. B.:"—The Oleander is poisonous.

"Nancy:"—I do not feel able to give you the advice you ask for because I am not fully acquainted with the circumstances of the case. I do not see why women should not succeed quite as well as men as florists, if they really mean to make success of the business when they st rt out in it. If they go into it in a sort of half-hearted fashion they will quite likely fail at it as they would at anything else they undertook in the same way. If you have a liking for flowers and would like to grow them because of your love for them, leaving business considerations out of the question, and if you have patience to learn all about their habits, requirements, etc., and you will have if you really love them, and if you are not afraid to work, and are willing to wait for results, you have the necessary qualifications of a florist. The business is, in one sense, a "flowery" one, but there are plenty of "thorns" to be encountered, I suppose, as there is in any business you might go into. I would much prefer this to teaching, because it is healthier, pleasanter,—unless you teach because you love to do so,—and you would not have such close competition as a teacher has to work against if you were to locate in some place where there is not an established florist, and such places are easily found. But you bear in mind that it takes considerable money to get a start. You will have to build greenhouses, lay out considerable money in heating apparatus, and more in stock, and all this before there are any returns. Would you be willing to invest your money and wait for "good time" hoped for? Before going ahead with the proposed enterprise I would advise you to visit some reliable florist who knows the ups and downs of the business, and talk the matter over thoroughly with him. His advice will be practical, and from his own experience, therefore much more valuable than the opinion of any successful amateur, for there are great differences to be taken into consideration between amateur floriculture and floriculture as a business.

"Allie Y.:"—The Marchal Nell Rose is not hardy at the north. It is barely possible that you might succeed in wintering it out of doors in southern Pennsylvania, by giving it the best of protection, but I think the chances would be against your doing so. It is not adapted to out of door culture. I have succeeded in getting it to bloom when bedded out in summer, but not with the freedom characteristic of some of the hardier varieties of Roses of the class to which it belongs. It is a grand variety in the greenhouse, where it properly belongs with us.

"A. D. F.:"—There is no variety of Fuchsia having white sepals and double rose-colored corrolla.

"Mrs. Wood:"—Fir-tree Oil, prepared according to the directions on the cans it is bought in, will most effectually rid your plant of the mealy bug.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

SOME HINTS ON MONEY MAKING.

BY ELLA RODMAN CHURCH.

II.

Caring for poultry has been especially an occupation for women from the earliest times of farming industries; and among the wives and daughters of small farmers, "egg money" often represents many of the necessaries of life. Eggs, however, are too much like nuts in the general estimation of those who have other work to do; a sort of harvest provided by nature in return for feeding a flock of chickens once or twice a day. Beyond this, no one is particularly responsible.

As a reaction, perhaps, from this lack of proper care, gigantic experiments in poultry keeping, on the principles of high farming, have been tried at great expense and with varied success; some failing entirely, while others prospered and became rich. From all that can be gathered on the subject, the greatest number of experimenters are to be found in the former class.

Among the successful ones is a French lady of rank, whose story was told some years ago; and who must have begun in a very modest way, as she was left a widow with little else but her title and four children. The defect of the narrative lies in the very fact of keeping this beginning out of sight; and Madame passes at once from the resolve, in her impecunious condition, to "cultivate hens,"—selecting "our good little common hen, quiet and unpretending in her beauty, but a good layer and a most careful mother"—to a "paradise of hens and chickens," containing over 1300 fowls!

These favored bipeds were not lodged in ordinary chicken quarters, but in an imposing structure of two stories,—containing among other conveniences, a kitchen with a furnace range for cooking the food, and hot-air pipes for heating the hatching-room, and the four different sleeping and nest rooms above. "On the second story, there is a wide veranda or gallery, with a railway and turn-tables at the corners. This greatly facilitates the service of the establishment. Every morning, the four upper compartments are thoroughly cleaned. The floors are then sprinkled with fine sand, and once every week the straw of the nests is removed. The nest-boxes, *three hundred* of them, are then thoroughly washed, and furnished with fresh straw."

The account goes on to say that the torment of lice is guarded against by absolute cleanliness and fresh air. These much-cared for hens are accommodated with Venetian shutters at the front and back of their residence, which are not quite closed even on cold nights,—the Arctic atmosphere being counteracted by a constant current of fresh, warm air from the furnace. To each of the four compartments is attached a park of an acre and a half, which furnishes an abundant supply of green food and space for exercise. Masses of shrubbery protect the fowls from rain and heat, and furnish small fruits for their dessert; while roses and honeysuckles climb around the pillars of their residence.

Few poultry raisers have attempted an establishment at all on a par with this; and few, if any, have received such returns in eggs, chickens, and manure. There is a certain quality, too, in French soil, which is especially favorable to the production of eggs; and France is said to export this popular article of diet to the value of 18,000,000 francs yearly.

Shady parks and flowers are not common attachments to hen-houses; and the account is almost a laughable one, and savors somewhat of the marvellous. But if exaggerated, it is intended to instil the advantages of high cultivation; for after a dozen years or so, perhaps less, the impecunious Baroness had fully proved the truth of an old writer's assertion "that no alchemist ever produced from furnace or alembic so rare a treasure as you may obtain from the entrails of your hens, if you only know how to combine labor and delight."

There is no doubt whatever that money can be made from poultry if one is near a large town, or even in direct railroad communication with it; the most serious obstacle in the way being the attack of midnight thieves, whether on two legs or on four. If this can be guarded against, few occupations promise greater pecuniary success. *People must live*, as the saying is, in good times and in bad; and poultry, both as eggs and fowls, seems an indispensable means to that end.

The ordinary business of egg-raising is highly remunerative; but it requires, to be conducted properly, much land with extensive buildings and conveniences. *Quality*, however, in this as in most other productions, carries the day against quantity. Fancy stock, even at a fabulous price for the necessary beginning, is worth raising; and a very modest venture, if properly managed, will often lead to brilliant success. Thus a lady, who has kindly given her experience for the benefit of her needy sisters, says:

"I begun with half-a-dozen eggs of a good breed of chickens, which cost me five dollars. That was my only outlay. I went on for three years, with frequent losses and discouragements; steadily increasing my stock, however, and strictly limiting it to the very finest kinds. The demand for poultry or eggs in our neighborhood was small, and our farmers laughed at fancy stock. I was advised to advertise in a New York paper. I inserted one notice of the stock I had for sale, and I have never been obliged to insert another. I sometimes receive fifty dollars daily from customers. I have now over forty yards of poultry. I find that the higher grades pay best; but there is an immense amount of money to be made in this country by the ordinary barn-yard fowl and its eggs, if women would only learn the business scientifically, and not take it up hap-hazard."

This testimony to the value of the "ordinary barn-yard fowl" agrees with that of the French lady; and "hap-hazard" ways never succeed in *any* calling. Such a statement backed by experience, is sufficiently encouraging,—for what woman has done woman can do again. Scientific knowledge of the subject is easily acquired from the excellent manuals to be had at any large publishers; and those who are extensively engaged in the business will often aid a beginner with their practical knowledge. But no teaching is so valuable as that of experience; and it will pay even to lose a few eggs and chickens for the sake of it.

Those whose home is in the country with available ground attached, have already great advantages for beginning to raise poultry. There is the house, however, to build, the poultry to buy, and various unlooked-for expenses, which must all be considered; and people who have spent a large sum of money in ornamental buildings without receiving anything like a suitable return, are always ready to discourage the beginner. But if the beginner will not be discouraged, and sees no reason for throwing away $500 or a $1000 on a poultry house merely because Neighbor So and So has done it, this is a great point gained.

The French Baroness to the contrary, hens have thriven and done their duty in a highly commendable manner amid very plain surroundings; but these surroundings *must* be clean and airy, and thoroughly comfortable. Over-crowding breeds disease; and want of cleanliness is a pressing invitation to the vermin that revel in it. Plenty of glass windows and sunshine are quickly transferred to plenty of eggs; but here, says the fancy poulterer, is just where the trouble lies. Nothing runs away with money like glass in profusion; and as it gets broken, being an attractive target for stones, the expense is endless.

But the aspiring sister need not despair. An obliging carpenter is often to be found who, in "slack" times, will put up a building capable of accommodating one hundred fowls for about $25 or $30,—lumber, nails, and sashes included. The sashes should be bought second-hand; as they are frequently standing idle in some factory, where it is quite a pleasure to get rid of them even at half the original cost. So that any woman with the moderate sum of from $50 to $100 in hand, besides her home and sufficient ground, need not hesitate to make the experiment. If need be, she would do well even to borrow the necessary amount at good interest,—provided that she is physically able to attend to her poultry-farm, and has sufficient intelligence and enthusiasm to make it successful.

She need not hope, however, to begin her venture without plenty of drawbacks, and a visitation of all the ills that chickens are heir to. These should be met by a thorough knowledge of the diseases and enemies of poultry, with their various remedies; and even then, some individuals among them will "up and die" out of "pure cussedness." It is a sort of hazing practiced by nature upon a beginner; but if the victim's pluck is good, and her perseverance above the average, victory, in the shape of auriferous notes from Uncle Sam's treasury, will sooner or later perch upon her banners.

At $2.50 a head, which is not an unreasonable profit from fowls that are well lodged and well cared for, a hundred feathered workers will add a nice little sum to a moderate income,—besides leaving the greater portion of one's time free to pursue other avocations. Even a larger profit than this has been realized; and raising early "broilers" for the city market is a branch of industry that always pays well. Hen-manure, too, is valuable for enriching the ground; and on a small farm, this part of the profits will be found of no slight advantage.

The dwellers in villages, and even in cities, need not be shut out from so remunerative an occupation. The country sister has the advantages, in the way of land and other conveniences, and she can therefore conduct the business on a larger scale. But twelve hens in the circumference of an ordinary city yard can be made to pay well by making all other outside things subordinate. There can be no flowers, no grass-plot; for what ground is not appropriated by the poultry-house should be planted with lettuce for the health and happiness of the feathered inmates. Large, pearly, perfectly *fresh*, eggs will bring almost fabulous prices during the winter in a city market; and four dozen such treasures in a week might amount to many dozen not so choice and further away.

The experiment is worth trying, in the way of making a little extra pin-money; and as one enterprise often leads to another, it will probably be discovered that the resources of a city yard have never been fully appreciated. To be sure, there are many stray cats with evil intentions towards small chickens; but the latter can be protected until they are able to take care of themselves, and a little watchfulness will prevent depredations. A lady in a village home had a flock of thirteen hens, who were "cultivated" up to the highest possible point,—making such lavish returns in eggs and chickens, that a fortune seemed imminent for anyone who would undertake a thousand. But the thousand would not do nearly so well in proportion.

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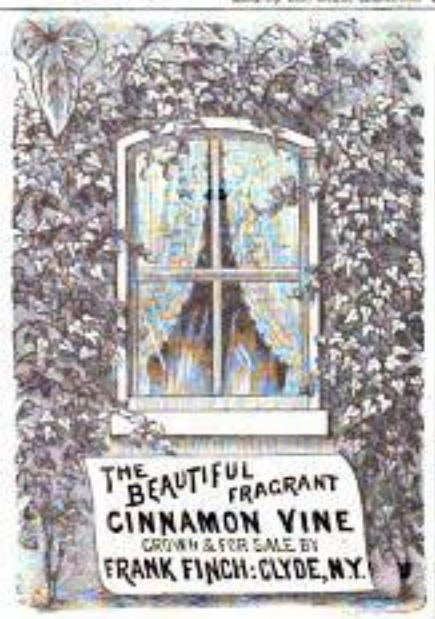

And a very pretty climbing plant it is. Perfectly hardy, the stem dying down every autumn, but growing again so rapidly in the spring, as to completely cover any trellis or arbor very early in the season. Is as easily cultivated as the Madeira Vine, and is produced from tubers which will make from ten to twelve feet of vine, and with its beautiful heart-shaped leaves, bright green peculiar foliage, and clusters of delicate white flowers, sending forth a delicious cinnamon odor, render it by far one of the most desirable climbers in cultivation. A tuber planted near a door or window, and the vine allowed over and about it make an ornament worthy the admiration of all. The tubers will stand our most severe winters without any protection, and when well grown will measure two feet in length, and they are fully equal to the best potatoes for eating, either baked or boiled. J. P. RUNG, Tyrone, Pa., says: "The vine has grown about eighteen feet and was very full of bloom, with a delicious odor, scenting the air for a long distance. The foliage is very much admired, and is withal, a desiratum in the way of vines." When first introduced here from Japan, the tubers sold for $20 each. I will send two tubers packed in moss, post-paid, for only 50 cents, or five for $1.00—12 for $2—remit by postal note, or money order. If these cannot be obtained, send silver or stamps. Mention this paper. Address,
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SEEDS **GIVEN AWAY!** Pk'g mixed Flower seeds (500 kinds), with PARK'S FLORAL GUIDE, all for 2 stamps. New flowers, new engravings; teems with flower hints. Everybody delighted. Tell your friends. Send now. G. W. PARK, Fannettsburg, Pa.

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This new and valuable variety for field culture is the most prolific bean yet known; it is what its name indicates, a Tree Bean; grows to the height of 18 to 30 inches, branching out in all directions, bearing its grain so high that the pods do not touch the ground, enabling it to stand a wet spell without injury to the crop. They yield from 10 to 20 pods to the vine. G. P. BARNHART, of Massillon, Ohio, grew a plant on which were 30 FULL-SIZED PODS—or over TWO THOUSAND BEANS FROM ONE! The average yield is about sixty bushels per acre, while they have yielded on small plots of ground, at the rate of 116 bushels to the acre. Quality excellent; will give perfect satisfaction.

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I have put up exactly two ounces of the Prolific Tree Beans, in a bottle, which will not be opened until May 1st, 1887. They will then be counted, and the person who will guess the number, or nearest to the number, of beans contained in the bottle, will receive $5 in cash; the person who will guess next nearest, will receive $10 worth of choice Seeds; next, $7 worth of Seeds; next, $5 worth of Seeds; next, $3 worth of Seeds. Due bills will be sent giving every one a chance to make their own Selection of Seeds from my Catalogue. I made a similar offer last season; the following persons won the prizes:—Geo. H. Miller, Epping, N. H., 1st.; Julia Mintz, Kendallville, Ind., 2d.; W. H. Locke, New Wilmington, Pa., 3rd.; A. H. Newton, Mount Alton, Pa., 4th.; Catherine Lowry, Knoxville, Ky., 5th.

For 25 cents, in silver or stamps, I will send a Package of Beans—enough to plant 150 hills—by mail, postpaid. Every person sending 25 cents for a Package is entitled to compete for one of the above Prizes. Do not delay, but enclose 25 cents and make your guess. And be sure and remember **every person** answering this advertisement will receive a **present** worth, at least, 25 cents, and a chance to win one of the above Prizes. Address, at once, **FRANK FINCH,**
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A YOUNG WOMAN'S WRONGS.

LECTURE NO. II.—PART II.

BY REV. F. E. CLARK.

Remember that first of all you are a human being, and that you have all the rights of a human being, that you are a woman secondarily. Remember that you will live as long, that you will have as precious a soul to save, as momentous questions to face as any hero or heroine who ever lived.

"Little girls," says Frances Power Cobbe in her most admirable book on the "Duties of Women," "Little girls may fitly play with toys and dress dolls and chatter in the nursery for hours over some weighty concern of the baby house; but it is a pitiful sight to see grown women making all life a child's play. Rise, I pray you, to the true dignity of a human being, to whom petty feelings and small vanities, and servile, wheedling tricks, must be repugnant and abominable."

The dialogue over a china tea pot which Constance Cary Harrison puts into the mouths of two of her characters points most wittily the moral I would teach. "Is it not consummate" asks the husband. "It is indeed. O Algernon do let us try to live up to it," responds the wife. Some women, and men too, for that matter, have nothing nobler to live up to than a china tea pot with a crack in it. It is one great danger of the modern life of women, whether they are rich or poor, that some such small, dwarfing ambition may be the goal of life. This age without much cynicism might be called the age of *bric a brac*, the age of expensive tidies and costly nothings,—things well enough in their way but not large enough to fill the soul. Oh, remember that there is something better to live up to than cracked china and yellow lace, and the last waltz or polka, or the latest crochet stitch. Nothing but God can fill the soul.

Will it not help you in realizing this high ideal to remember what your sisters have been and done and dared? It has been well said that in every walk of life we should think of those who have most honored that particular station and catch the inspiration of their lives. Thus the slave may proudly exclaim "Frederic Douglass was a slave," the blacksmith may cry, "Elihu Burritt was a blacksmith," the shoemaker, as he plies his awl, may remember William Carey and Admiral Scovil and J. G. Whittier were shoemakers.

Every woman may remember that as heroic, steadfast blood as ever flowed, has flowed in woman's veins. As high aims, as noble purposes, as ever actuated human souls have inspired the breasts of women. If you are of a literary turn and desire to leave a name in letters do not be disheartened but remember Charlotte Bronte and George Eliot were women. If you would be an artist strive not for mediocrity, but for the highest place, remembering Rosa Bonheur and Hariet Hosmer are women. If you love to study the works and plans of God's universe remember that the gates of science are no more closed to you than to your brother, or Caroline Herschel and Maria Mitchell were women.

Does your heart burn with philanthropic zeal to do great things for your day and generation? The way is fully open. You have not to blaze an unknown path, for Paula and Florence Nightingale and Dorothea Dix and "Sister Dora" were women.

Do you feel within you the strivings of the spirit to do and dare great things for God? Just so has he striven with others who nobly yielded themselves and chose nothing less than God. Perpetua and Felicitas were women, and yet they, in the public arena, flinched not nor denied their Lord by word of sign, when placed in the swinging net to be gored to pieces by wild bulls.

Or is it in the quiet home circle that you find your mission? Most of you I trust will find your life-work there for it is a line no less really rich and full than the life of the artist, philanthropist and heroine. Is it your mission to cheer the aged father, to comfort the weary mother, to share a husband's cares or steady a baby's first, timid step? I hope it may be for most of you.

Then remember that ten thousand times ten thousand women who have been before you have set the pattern of noble, modest womanhood, full, symmetrical and well rounded as any man's could be. Let me recall to your mind the familiar words of the noble wife of a noble president: Thus wrote Mrs. Garfield ten years before her husband tho't of being President. "I am glad to tell that out of the toil and disappointment of the summer just ended I have risen up to a victory."

"I read something like this the other day: 'There is no healthy thought without labor and tho't makes labor happy.' Perhaps this is the way I have been able to climb up higher. It came to me one morning when I was making bread. I said to myself: 'Here I am compelled to make our bread this summer. Why not consider it a pleasant occupation and make it so by trying to see what perfect bread I can make?' It seemed like an inspiration and the whole of life grew brighter. The very sunshine seemed to be flowing down through my spirits into the white loaves and now I believe my table is furnished with better bread than ever before. And this old truth, old as creation, seems just now to have become fully mine—that I need not be the shrinking slave of toil, but its regal master, making whatever I do yield me its best fruits." Thus spoke out the true, large souled woman. Just as noble, just as honorable as the good bread-maker, as when she became the good president's wife.

I must dwell very briefly on my last point—the deadliest wrong you can inflict upon yourselves is to allow your souls to be corroded with the spirit of worldliness.

There is nothing so foreign to a true woman's nature as worldliness, Godlessness. In a man it is unnatural, hardening and debasing; in a woman it is atrocious and horrible. As much as her finer nature raises her nearer the angels, so the deadening and blunting of this nature brings her nearer the devils than a man often falls. "I feel very keenly" writes one, "that even among some of our Christian girls there seems to be such an utterly indifferent attitude to a thoroughly consecrated life. They like to keep just as near the border as they can so that their associates will not suspect they are trying to lead a Christian life." "Indecision in religious matters, hesitancy, want of singleness of aim, a desire to serve God and mammon, a desire to make reservations" says another is one evil that girls even Christian girls are prone to.

O, young women, would that some word of mine might show you how a whole hearted consecration to Christ glorifies and ennobles your treasure of womanhood! It does for the jewel of your life what the lapidary does for the rough, unsightly stone from the diamond mine; it makes it glow with a heavenly light. There is nothing so distorted, and perverted, and deformed, as a Godless womanhood, there is nothing so beautiful and precious as a Godly womanhood.

If you care not for the redemption of your soul which is precious and which ceaseth forever, remember the other lives which your loss may involve. We mourn the disaster to the Oregon because so many millions of treasure were wasted, and because a thousand lives were imperiled. Let every Godless woman remember, if she cares not for her own destruction, that she imperils with herself a thousand other lives. If the deadly waters of worldliness and Godlessness leak in, the fires of love, of home affection, of wifely and motherly devotion will slowly but surely be extinguished, the precious cargo of peace and good will and modest, unselfish care for others, with which every true womanly life is freighted and without which the world would be far poorer than by the wreck of many an Oregon, will be lost, and a thousand lives, of those yet unborn, down to the third and fourth generation, will be imperiled.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HINTS UPON ETIQUETTE AND GOOD MANNERS.

BY MRS. S. O. JOHNSTON.

NO. XII.

Social Intercourse.

Sir Richard Steele gives, in "The Rambler," a most desirable rule for conversation, which, if both men and women would learn by heart, and apply constantly in their social intercourse, their daily lives would be far more agreeable to themselves, and to others. He says:—

"I would establish one great rule in conversation which is this, that men should not talk to please themselves, but those that hear them. This would make them consider whether what they speak be worth hearing; whether there be either wit or sense in what they are about to say; and whether it be adapted to the time when, the place where, and the person to whom it is spoken."

If our young readers would learn this rule, and practice it, they would find it a passport to the best society—because, they could so train themselves in the right way that they would not offend any one—even the most sensitive—and they would possess the power of pleasing every one—because, they endeavored to make their conversation pleasing. Let us all commence this year to train our tongues to speak no evil; but when we meet in social intercourse, strive, in every way, to introduce topics of conversation, which we know will be pleasing to those with whom we converse; and, also, to keep ourselves in the background—our occupations, our pursuits, etc., being, always, far more interesting to ourselves than to others; and the most desirable way to entertain our visitors is to let them interest themselves by relating, if they enjoy the process, all their proceedings for the last few days or weeks, and not only seeming to take an interest in them, but, if possible, really doing so. But we all—

"Pine for kindred natures
To mingle with our own;
For communings more full and high
Than aught by mortals known."

And when we can meet a kindred spirit, and converse upon the mysteries of life—the wondrous beauties of nature, the treasure house of literature, and the marvels of science—then:—

"The talk is the sweet extract of all speech,
And holds the ear in blissful slavery."

Society is so arranged that as many work for one, so must each individual bring his labor to make the whole. Therefore, the highest is not to despise the lowest, nor the lowest to envy the highest; and each must live in all and by all. So God has ordered that men, being in need of each other, should learn to love each other, and bear each other's burdens.

The kindly, loving words of those who have passed beyond the veil that hides the future from our eyes, return to us with added charms when times and things are changed; and simple phrases heard long ago, often bring back the past, with its lights and shadows, most vividly to our minds.

And if we desire to be loved, while we live, and kindly remembered after death, we must attune our tongues to kindly words, and avoid all sarcasm and bitterness of speech. Wit is often but another name for sarcasm and ridicule which always wounds those who hear it; and a reputation for witty remarks is not desirable, unless one is humorous, but not scathing and insolent. Levity of speech is not wit, any more than stupidity is sagacity.

Repartee has been called "the spice of conversation," as it gives a zest to it, and entertains all who hear it; and any one who possesses this talent will always be welcomed in society, for without its aid our social entertainments would be flat and stale.

Sidney Smith said:—

"Man could direct his ways by plain reason, and support his life on tasteless food; but God has given us wit and flavor, and laughter, and perfumes to enliven the days of man's pilgrimage, and to charm his paused steps over the burning marle."

He, Sidney Smith, has the soul and life of every social gathering; and while the English language is spoken, his witty remarks will be read and quoted with delight, as they were never bitter or unkind.

Wit and puns are a pleasing flavor of the mind; but if the latter is made too common, *i. e.*, used upon every occasion, their author becomes very tiresome, and is sometimes called "a bore."

And though Byron tells us that—

"Society is now one polish'd horde,
Form'd of two mighty tribes—the bores and bor'd."

We would prefer to escape both species. And it does not require much wit to pun upon words, or to ridicule our friends. There are persons who possess a large repertoire of anecdotes, as well as of conundrums, quaint epitaphs, and quotations of prose or poetry, which they have stored up as their stock in trade, to bring into play, when they are in Society. And if they are not used too often, in the same company, they are of decided value to their owner.

Dr. Johnson said, as Bosworth tells us:—

"Quotation, sir, is a good thing; there is a community of mind in it, and classical quotation is the parole of literary men all over the world."

And it is a commodity that is current everywhere; but it must be used discreetly, as one uses the pungent sauces of the dinner table—only to flavor the more solid dishes.

What one commits to memory in childhood and youth is rarely forgotten while life lasts; and there is no better exercise of the mind than to learn wise or humorous bits of poetry or prose which will always be at one's bidding, when conversing upon any topic that may be introduced in society.

But to quote Latin and Greek, French and German, in a mixed assembly, where not more than one or two could possibly give the translation of them, it is not a polite proceeding, and will dub you "a bore," if you persist in the practice.

It is, however, an excellent plan to form a "Quotation Club" for amusement during the winter months, wherein each member shall recite one or more short quotations from some standard work, or from any periodical or newspaper that one prefers. Necessarily the limit must be settled, as some one might take up too much of the time, while others, more modest, would take too little. Like the Sunday-school boy, who was forced to repeat a text from the Bible, and who searched its pages until he found the shortest verse, viz., "Jesus wept."—John xi. 35, which he triumphantly declaimed. Such a club would, surely, prove a decided help in social intercourse, while it would give to its members a more ready command of language, as well as educate their style of speech.

To converse well is as great an accomplishment as a young person can possess. Yet one needs to be trained to it, as much as to paint well, or to play upon the piano or guitar. For to talk properly, you must understand the subject under consideration, and must, also, have been well taught on the modes of speech. To be considered a fine conversationalist one should be acquainted with ancient and modern literature, and the historical events of all countries, as well as with the current news of the day. Then there will always be topics of conversation at your command, and you will not babble and chatter upon the twaddle of dress, and servants, and the scandal of the day, which comprises so much of the talk of society, at the present time.

A lady who had lived abroad for several years, but had recently returned home, said to her mother:—"Do the ladies here, talk only of dress and servants, and the foibles of their friends? They seem to be the chief topics of conversation with all your visitors." The mother resented the imputation upon her friends. Yet, after a few more days had passed, she was forced to reply in the affirmative to her daughter's question.

This is a point which should be brought forward in writing upon "Etiquette and Good Breeding"—for does it not belong to them? One cannot be well-bred who would converse upon such topics to the exclusion of those of more general interest; and the demands of etiquette, surely, require a different style of social intercourse.

Recently, while visiting in a large city, I was forced to receive a caller, in my hostess' absence, who entertained (?) me for an hour by relating the faults of her servants, the particulars of her wardrobe, and the foibles of her friends, until I was in agony, both of head and heart. I had laid aside a very interesting book, (Mr. Andrew Carnegie's "Tour Around the World"), at her entrance, and I really felt that I had been robbed of a pleasant hour with him.

Yet, I was forced to smile, and to say:—"Indeed! Ah! Yes! How trying!" and other phrases which a conventional politeness demanded of me. But I gave a deep sigh of relief when she was so kind as to take her departure.

"But she enjoyed her visit?" you ask.

Yes, doubtless she did, because she only talked of herself. But she taught me the lesson never to do so myself—by an hour of suffering which she could not understand.

Talk, my fair friends, talk as you please, when you are paying visits, or in a social gathering, but, do pay a little heed to the dictates of good-breeding, and put self into the background. Yourself may be the most delightful of selfs, yet, perhaps, another self is more agreeable to the other.

It was said by an ancient wise man,—"That ten measures of garrulity were given to men, but women took nine of them." And, sometimes, one must acknowledge its truth, and also allow that—

"Speech is silvern, but silence is golden."

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"H. H. C." writes:—"If a person desires to be married without guests, and at the time of the marriage sends cards to friend, announcing it, is it the usual and understood thing that gifts should be sent to the pair by the recipients of the cards, just as if they had been invited to their wedding? I ask because I wish to be married quietly, and, still, both my intended husband and myself have a large circle of friends whom we have remembered on similar occasions, and who will do likewise, if it is the proper thing."

Ans. Of course your friends are aware of your intentions to marry, and will send you their gifts before the ceremony is performed, or afterwards, if they prefer to do so. Your marriage being private does not prevent the sending of remembrances. Yet, the feeling that wedding gifts must necessarily be returned makes the practice too much like a trade or barter, and, often, the recipients, who have begun housekeeping in a small way, are much harassed by being forced—as it were—to return, in value, the wedding presents they had received. It is on this account that some wise ones have a notice printed upon their wedding invitations to this effect:—"Wedding gifts not expected."

"A Subscriber" writes:—1st. "Will you please state upon which finger the engagement ring is now worn? 2nd. Also, is it not the gentleman's place to order and pay for the wedding cards?"

Ans. 1st. The third finger of the left hand is the place for the engagement ring to be worn. 2nd. The bride's father (or family) always pays for the wedding cards, and all the other expenses of the wedding. But, of course, there are cases, when it is the privilege of the bridegroom to do so. But it is entirely optional with him.

"Florence Mutly H." writes:—"Will you kindly inform me, through the columns of "THE LADIES HOME JOURNAL," for December, 1886, the latest style of engagement ring for ladies, and, also, for gentleman; also on what fingers they are worn by both parties?"

Ans. The latest styles of engagement rings, for ladies, are a plain, heavy gold ring, when a solitaire diamond, or pearl, or opal are not selected. For gentlemen, a heavy, plain gold ring is in good taste; but some prefer a seal ring, or a handsomely carved stone. But seal rings engraved with the initials are good form. The third finger of the left hand. It is always impossible to answer questions in next issue. The December number was distributed before your letter was received.

"An Inquirer" writes:—"How should a widow be addressed; by her own name, or that of her husband, to which she has always been accustomed?"

Ans. Both names are correct; and her letters and cards can be addressed, as previous to her husband's decease. But, if she signs business papers, she should use her own name. It is never good form to sign a letter with one's married name, thus:—Mrs. John Jones—unless it is a strictly business epistle; and even then you could write—Mrs. Mary E. Jones. But widows usually prefer to keep their husband's name on their visiting cards.

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Many of our **Premiums** would cost, if bought at **retail**, two or three times the amount of the cash discount, and, in nearly every instance, one-half of the amount of the order for which they are given. Our **Premiums** are all of the latest styles and shapes, and from the best makers.

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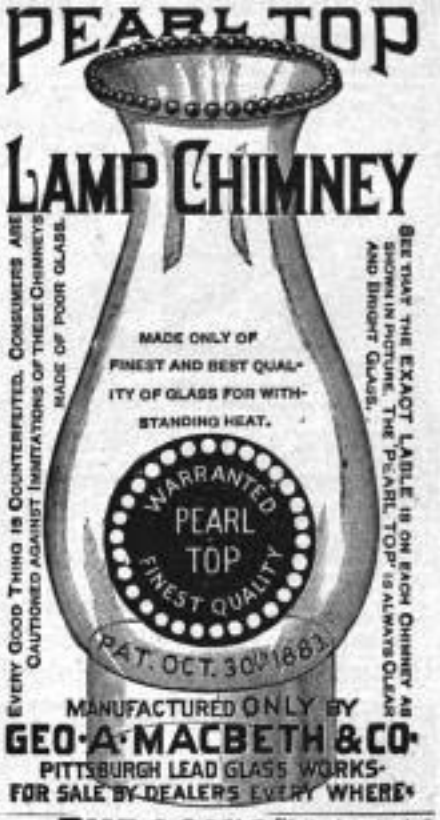

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LADIES' TRACING WHEEL.—Agents wanted everywhere. 2 doz. mailed for $1.00. Sample 10cts. NOVELTY WHEEL CO., 24 Congress St., Boston, Mass.

EMPLOYMENT For Women at Home In Artistic Needle and Crochet work. City or Country. Steady work to good workers. Smart Lady Agents wanted in every town. **WESTERN LACE M'F'G CO.,** Incorporated. 218 State St., Chicago

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OUR MONTHLY VISITOR, tried and true,
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Stories for all, both long and short,
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The fashion plates from Demorest
Double its worth, the ladies say;
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A Six Months trial of this friend.

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At least until you have read our new book entitled *Don't Marry.* Some marry too soon; others wait too long. This book will tell you how, when, and whom to marry, besides giving you valuable hints and hints not found in any other book. It contains 100 pages, paper covers, and is worth $50 to you. Sold by all booksellers, or mailed on receipt of 25 cents, by

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The Lablache Face Powder, so delicate, so dainty and refined, is a most exquisite toilet preparation. It is the admiration of thousands of lovely American women who owe their beauty to its constant use. It will add brilliancy to a maiden's charms, and make the complexion as soft, transparent, and pure as an infant's. To the fair sex who pride themselves on having the most delicate skins, this toilet powder is becoming distinguished, and is found among other fashionable surroundings upon the toilet tables of the elite. The Lablache Face Powder is for sale by all druggists, or will be mailed to any address on receipt of a 50-cent postal note. BEN. LEVY & CO., French Perfumers, and sole proprietors, 58 Winter St., Boston, Mass.

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NEW Sample Book of Beautiful Cards; 14 amusing games; 12 tricks in magic; 444 autograph album verses, for 2c. stamp. Star Card Co. Station 15, O.

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N. B.—Samples and testimonials from celebrated Chemist, mailed free, on receipt of postage stamp, by **Madme. C. LEWENBERG, 258 West 23d Street, New York.**

(Mention this paper). *Agents Wanted.*

$50 WEEKLY EASILY EARNED! **We want Agents** for our celebrated Oil Portrait. No experience required! 4 orders per day gives the Agent $50 Weekly Profit! Our agents report from 4 to 30 daily sales! Send at once for terms and full particulars. **$2 outfit free. SAFFORD ADAMS & CO.,** Mention L. H. Journal.] **48 Bond St., N. Y.**

10,000 AGENTS WANTED!

DR. SCOTT'S ELECTRIC CORSETS AND BELTS.

Corsets, $1.00, $1.50, $2.00, $3.00. Belts, $3.00. Nursing Corset, Price, $1.50. Abdominal Corset, Price, $3.00.

Probably, never since the invention of Corsets, has so large a demand been created as now exists for Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets and Belts. Over three thousand families in the City of New York alone are now wearing them daily. Every Man and Woman, well or ill, should daily wear either the Corset or Belt.

OUR CORSETS ARE DOUBLE STITCHED AND WILL NOT RIP.

If you have any pain, ache, or ill-feeling from any cause, if you seem "pretty well," yet lack energy and do not "feel up to the mark," if you suffer from disease, we beg you to at once try these remarkable curatives. They cannot and do not injure like medicine. Always doing good, never harm. There is no shock or sensation felt in wearing them. There is no waiting a long time for results; electro-magnetism acts quickly; generally the first week, more frequently the first day, and often even during the first hour they are worn, their wonderful curative powers are felt. *Every mail brings us testimonials like the following:*

The mind becomes active, the nerves and sluggish circulation are stimulated, and all the old-time health and good feeling comes back. They are constructed on scientific principles, imparting an enlivening, health-giving current to the whole system. Professional men assert that there is hardly a disease which Electricity or Magnetism may not benefit or cure, and they daily practise the same, as your own physician will inform you.

THE CELEBRATED DR. W. A. HAMMOND, of New York, formerly Surgeon-General of the U. S. Army, lately lectured upon this subject, and advised all medical men to make trial of these Agencies, describing at the same time most remarkable cures he had made, even in cases which would seem hopeless.

The Corsets do not differ in appearance from those usually worn; we substitute our flat steel magnets in place of the ordinary corset steels. These Corsets are nearly all equally charged, differing chiefly in quality and design. They are elegant in shape and finish, made after the best French pattern, and warranted satisfactory in every respect. Our Belts for both gents and ladies are the genuine Dr. Scott's, and are reliable.

The prices are as follows: $1, $1.50, $2 and $3 for the Corsets and $3 each for the Belts. The accompanying cut represents our $3 Abdominal Sateen Corset. We have also a beautiful French shaped sateen Corset at $2 and a short sateen Corset at $2. The $1 and $1.50 goods are made of fine Jean, elegant in shape, strong and durable. Nursing Corset, $1.50; Misses, 75c. All are double stitched. Gent's and Ladies' Belts, $3 each; Ladies' Abdominal Supporter, an invaluable article, $12. We make all these Corsets in drab and white only. They are sent out in a handsome box, accompanied by a silver-plated compass, by which the Electro-Magnetic influence can be tested. We will send either kind to any address, postpaid, on receipt of price, with 20 cents added for packing and registration, and we guarantee safe delivery into your hands. Remit in Post-office Money-order, Draft, Check, or in Currency by Registered Letter at our risk. In ordering kindly mention JOURNAL, and state exact size of corset usually worn. Make all remittances payable to GEO. A. SCOTT, 842 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

N. B.—Each article is stamped with the English coat-of-arms, and the name of the Proprietors, THE PALL MALL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION.

NEWARK, N. Y.
Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets have entirely cured me of muscular rheumatism, and also of a severe case of headache.
MRS. L. C. SPENCER.

Holts Centre, Mo.
I suffered severely from back trouble for years, and found no relief till I wore Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets. They cured me, and I would not be without them. MRS. H.D. BENSON.

Memphis, Tennessee.
Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets have given me much relief. I suffered four years with breast trouble, without finding any benefit from other remedies. They are invaluable. MRS. JAS. CAMPBELL.

De Witt, N. Y.
I have an invalid sister who had not been dressed for a year. She has worn Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets for two weeks, and is now able to be dressed and sit up most of the time. MELVA J. DOE.

Chambersburg, Pa.
I found Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets possessed miraculous power in stimulating and invigorating my enfeebled body, and the Hair Brush had a magic effect on my scalp. MRS. T. E. SPYKER, Fancy Goods Dealer.

South Abington, Mass.
Dr. Scott—My sister and I are very much pleased with your Electric Corsets. They have given us great satisfaction. For weak stomach and nervousness they are unexcelled. I have felt uncommonly well since wearing them, and can confidently recommend them. FLORA E. COLE.

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Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets have cured me of acute dyspepsia, from which I had suffered for eight years. His Electric Hair Brush cures my headache every time. MRS. WM. H. PEAK.

Princeton, Minn.
Your Corsets have accomplished wonders in my case. I was previously thoroughly incapacitated, and could not help myself. I have worn your Corsets now for two weeks, and I am able to be up and around helping to do housework, etc. My friends are astonished. With many thanks, etc. JULIA J. MCFARLAND.

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Dr. Scott—Your Electric Corsets are beautiful in appearance, wonderful in effect, and elegant in fit and finish. M. J. BRIGGS.

923 Henrietta St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Dr. Scott—Your Corset has cured me of rheumatism of and around the kidneys. W. H. UPHAM.

Dr. Scott's Electric Hair Brushes, $1.00, $1.50, $2.00, $2.50, $3.00; Flesh Brushes, $3.00; Dr. Scott's Electric Tooth Brushes, 50 cents; Insoles, 50 cents; CHEST PROTECTOR, $3.00; ELECTRIC HAIR CURLER, 50 cents; LUNG AND NERVE INVIGORATORS, $5 & $10.

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A GREAT SUCCESS ☞ A Good, Live Canvassing Agent WANTED in your town for these splendidly advertised and best selling goods in the market. LIBERAL PAY, QUICK SALES. Satisfaction guaranteed. Apply at once. GEO. A. SCOTT, 842 Broadway, N. Y.

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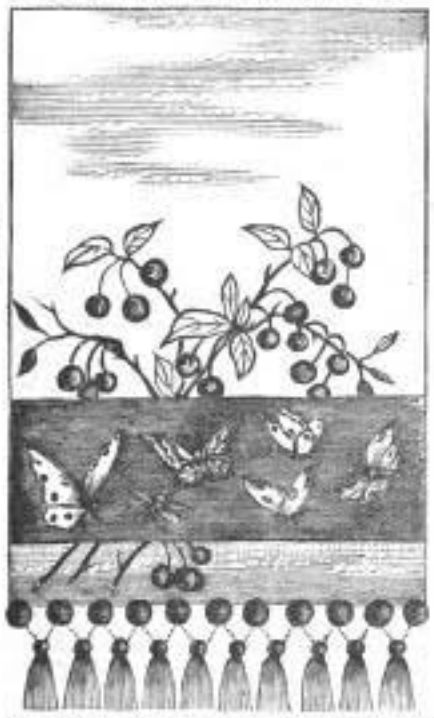
Table Scarfs.

Given as a Premium for a Club of Only 4 Subscribers at 50 Cents Each per Year.



Special offers in table covers, scarfs, and square covers made of felt and embroidered on each end or in each corner, to be thrown over tables, work-stands, &c.; are now among the most popular pieces of fancy work. They are very ornamental and easy to finish. These table covers are sold at the stores at from $1 to $2 each, but by a special arrangement we can make the following great offer: We will send a table scarf 18 inches wide and 50 inches long, made of any color felt desired, stamped on each end ready to be worked, with designs of your own choosing, either for Kensington embroidery, Ribbon work, Tinsil or Outline embroidery. Given for only 4 subscribers, or 60 cts. For 15 cents extra we will send 25 skeins of silk, assorted colors, with which to work the designs.

Kensington Embroidery

And The Colors of Flowers.

Given as a Premium for a Club of Only 2 Subscribers at 50 Cents Each per Year.

A new book just publish'd It contains illustrations and clear descriptions of the stitches used in Kensington embroidery; also the Plush stitch, Bird's-eye stitch, Ribbon embroidery, etc. Tells how to work Golden Rod, Coxcomb, Snow Ball, Fussie Willow, Clover, Sumac, and sixty-three other flowers. Gives the proper colors to use in working the Petals, Stamens, Leaves, Stems, etc., of each flower; contains also a chapter on finishing fancy work, with numerous illustrations; tells what colors look best together, how to press embroidery, how to wash silk, etc.

It is the best book ever published on embroidery.

A color card containing 168 samples of silks showing the exact shades indicated in the book and card by numbers, is sent with each copy when desired.

We send the book for 2 subscribers, or 35 cents; and book and card for 3 subscribers, or 50 cents.

A SPECIAL OFFER TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS ONLY !

$1.00 Worth of Flower Seeds Free

TO ANY PERSON SENDING US ONLY TWO SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.

By a special arrangement with one of the largest and best seed growers in New York State, we have secured especially for the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, the best dollar's worth of flower seeds ever grown, which we propose to GIVE AS A FREE PRESENT to every person who will secure for us only 2 subscribers for one year at 50 cents each, or 4 subscribers for 6 months, at 25 cents each. A full dollar's worth free.

COMPRISING THE FOLLOWING VARIETIES:

Phlox Drummondii, all colors, mixed.	Portulaca, all colors, mixed.	French Marigold, all colors, mixed.
Carnation Poppy, " " "	Petunia, " " "	Japan Coxcomb, " " "
Double Zinnia, " " "	Balsam, " " "	Fragrant Candytuft, " " "
Gilia, " " "	Amaranthus, all " "	Ice Plant, " " "
Sweet William, " " "	Sweet Peas, " " "	
Perilla, " " "	Acrocolinum, " " "	

☞ These flower seeds are put up in well-filled packets, and wrapped in bundles, each containing the sixteen varieties; they are guaranteed to be first-class in every respect; the same that seedsmen sell for more than $1.00. On the whole they consist of a careful selection of the very best varieties for ordinary garden culture, and will make a superb and brilliant display from June until long after frost. With but little attention you can produce all the cut flowers and bouquets desired, during the Spring, Summer and Autumn months. They are what our conviction and experience tells us will result most acceptably to all. Last season we sent out thousands of premium flower seed packages, every one of which gave the greatest and most unalloyed satisfaction, which we can prove by innumberable testimonials at present on file in our office.

Does your subscription expire this month? If so you can easily induce your neighbor to subscribe and thus secure these seeds free for the two subscriptions sent at once. Remember that two 6 mos. subscriptions always count the same as one yearly.

Address: CURTIS PUBLISHING COMP'Y, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

CRESCENT LACE PIN.

Given as a Premium for a Club of Only Two Subscribers at 50 Cents Each.

A little beauty, of the latest style with crescent of Oxidized Silver and spray of Forget-me-nots in frosted silver. These pins are exceedingly neat and pretty, and are very easy to secure. Given for only two subscribers at fifty cents each. We sell them, postpaid, to any address for only 50 cents.

LADIES SILVER BAR PIN.

Given for only 2 Subscribers at 50 Cents per Year Each.

A Silver Bangle Lace Bar Pin, with four bangles handsomely engraved. One of our best premiums for ladies. They are very fashionable, and cannot be bought in any store for double the money we ask for 2 subscribers at 50 cents each.

LACE BAR PIN.

Given as a Premium for a Club of Only 2 Subscribers at 50 Cents Each per Year.

A very pretty and stylish Pin of frosted silver. They are the very latest style and are very popular. Given for a club of only two subscribers at 50 cents each, or sold for 50 cents and sent, postpaid, to any address.

TIDIES STAMPED READY TO BE WORKED.

GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 2 SUBSCRIBERS, AT 50 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.

These Elegant Tidies are 14x18 inches in size, are made of the very best quality of Felt, and the same as are sold in the stores at from 40c. to 50c. each. You can select the color of felt you like, and have it stamped with any design you wish, either for Kensington or Outline, or Ribbon embroidery, all ready to be embroidered.

With these Tidies we give also, a book, which teaches the stitches used in art embroidery,—giving such clear and explicit descriptions as to be easily understood; and also a lesson in Kensington and Lustra painting.

We will send one of these Tidies and the book of stitches, for a club of only 2 new subscribers or 35 cents.

LINEN SPLASHERS.

GIVEN AS PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 2 SUBSCRIBERS, AT 50 CENTS EACH PER YEAR AND 10 CENTS EXTRA for postage and packing.

These are designed to be placed back of a wash-stand to protect the wall from be spattered. They are embroidered mostly in outline with embroidery cotton or etching silk, and are washable. They are finished by fringing and drawn work, according to taste. We will send one Splasher and three skeins of French cotton for a club of only 2 subscribers, or 50 cents.

We have all the new and latest designs. One of the most popular premiums we have to offer. Only six subscribers required to secure it. Easily done, by simply showing a copy of the paper to six of your friends or neighbors. Splashers mailed to any address, postage paid.

These Splashers have proved to be a very popular premium, and are easily secured. Any one can easily find two new subscribers, or if your own subscription is expiring, find one new subscriber and send her name with your own renewal, thus making two subscriptions sent at once, and we will send you the splasher for your trouble,—provided you enclose 10 cents extra to pay postage,--don't forget that!

Bracket Lamberquin.

GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 2 SUBSCRIBERS, AT 50 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.

These Lamberquins are made of Felt, the same as the Tidies, on any color you may choose; they are 12x20 inches in size, and are exceedingly ornamental when finished.

We will send one of these Lamberquins and the book of stitches, for only four new subscribers, or 35 cents.

TISSUE PAPER FLOWER OUTFIT.

Given for only 2 Subscriber at 50 Cents each per year.

The latest craze, and a very pleasant occupation. Our outfit consists of Book of Instructions for making paper flowers, our 60 samples of imported tissue and flower papers, samples of flowers made up patterns and materials. Everything complete. Book of instructions gives every possible and minute detail, so clearly that any person can, with a little practice become an expert in this fascinating and beautiful art.

Secure 2 subscribers and we will send this outfit postpaid.

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Our Premium List of Plants and Bulbs

OPEN TO EVERY READER OF THIS PAPER.

OUR present circulation has reached the enormous figure of 400,000 copies each and every month, but we are not yet satisfied, and very much desire to reach 500,000 in the next three months. To do this we desire the co-operation of every subscriber. We do not ask you to give us your work for nothing, and so we have made arrangements with one of the best ROSE GROWERS of Pennsylvania to furnish us our Roses and Plants as named below. We believe every lady on our list to be a lover of flowers, and now that the Holiday season is over, and work on fancy articles for Christmas gifts is done, and all are able to devote a little time to this work—you are also making your plans for your flower garden for spring—with a little effort on your part, but at *no expense*, you can secure some of these choicest of Flora's treasures. Get to work at once. We want 50,000 more subscribers a month, and believe if you will help us, we shall easily secure them. In return we think we can safely guarantee you some of the finest flowers and fruits. Understand, these plants are from one of our MOST RELIABLE GROWERS—one who is in love with his work and earnestly desires to give none but good plants. He guarantees safe arrival and full satisfaction.

How many subscribers can you get us?

What plants do you want?

Look carefully over this entire list, and send us all the subscriptions you can. Just think of it: ONLY 50 CENTS A YEAR for such a paper. Any number is worth twice that amount, and then to give such handsome premiums, we think should attract the attention of every lady into whose hands this copy may fall. In some parts of the country work will already be moving forward in the garden, and we urge upon all to get to work at once so as to secure your plants early!

Full directions for planting and care are sent with every order.

Now for our 500,000. Let every one do her duty, and we shall keep our florist busy sending out his plants. We must hear from you at once. Do not miss this opportunity, or you will surely regret it. Those who have tried our plants all say, "*Splendid.*" "Much better than I ever received from any one else." This we want you to say, too, so give us a chance.

Beautiful Ever-Blooming Roses.

HOW TO GET THEM AT NO COST TO YOU.

In all the wide domain of Flora's Kingdom there is no flower that has yet been able to rival the rose. She stands to-day *the queen*, and so we place this flower first on our list. We have sent out thousands of these plants by mail all over our land, and the testimonials from our patrons are such that we feel warranted in commending these roses to you. A few subscribers

to this paper at 50 cents a year will give you a nice lot of roses, which, if you follow the "directions given with every order," will find you in possession of floral treasures you might not get in any other way. Just look *carefully* over this list of offers.

For 2 subscribers to Ladies' Home Journal at 50 cts. each we will send you 2 choice Ever-blooming Roses.

For 3 subscribers we will send you	4 Roses.			For 12 subscribers we will send you	15 Roses.		
For 4 " " "	5 "			For 20 " " "	25 "		
For 6 " " "	7 "			For 30 " " "	36 "		
For 8 " " "	9 "			For 40 " " "	50 "		
For 10 " " "	12 "			For 75 " " "	100 "		

These roses are all well grown, and with proper care will all bloom freely next summer. Get them early, pot them and keep them in the house. By the time spring comes you have a rose well established, with good working roots, and you cannot fail to have every one do well and give you nice blooms all summer. Not only this, but where the winters are not very severe, these plants will be well-grown and ready to come through the winter out-doors. They are worth double the price of our offers, so take advantage of some of them *now*, and see if we do not mean *just* what we say. You never have had, and never will have, such wonderfully liberal offers again. To secure the best, send us as large a club as you can. Every premium plant is carefully marked.

Chrysanthemums.

Next to the rose there is no other flower that has claimed the attention of the florist or amateur gardener more than the Chrysanthemum. We can offer our friends this plant as premium for subscribers, and will guarantee you some of the finest varieties. All are named, and cannot help but give you entire satisfaction.

Popular interest in this lovely fall blooming plant is now at fever heat, and the exhibitions held in the large cities last November were very largely attended. Flowering, as Chrysanthemums do, after nearly all other plants are done blooming, and presenting such a great variety of color and form, it is not to be wondered at that only the rose excels them in popularity. Immense strides in perfecting the flower have been made in the past few years.

For 2 subscribers at 50 cents we will send you 2 Chrysanthemums, all different.

For 3 subscribers at 50 cents,	4 all different.		
For 4 " "	5 "		
For 6 " "	8 "		
For 8 " "	10 "		
For 10 " "	12 "		
For 12 " "	15 "		
For 20 " "	25 "		
For 30 " "	36, 18 kinds.		

FIVE STERLING NOVELTIES.

MILLA BIFLORA.

The following floral gems, although comparatively new, have been thoroughly tested, and we offer them with absolute confidence that they will prove satisfactory to any one who gives them decent care. So thoroughly reliable and meritorious a collection, of so great variety in season and character of bloom, is seldom presented. Yet you can get the whole set without cost at a little exertion.

Milla Biflora.

A Mexican bulb, of the habit and form as shown in the accompanying engraving. It is one of the lovellest and most desirable bulbs we know of. The flowers are in pairs, of a pure waxy white, nearly 2½ inches in diameter; the petals are thick and leathery, of great substance, and will keep for days when cut and placed in water; the foliage is slender. It is a flower that will attract attention among a thousand. Each bulb will often throw up several flower stems, and always one, even under the most unfavorable circumstances. The bulbs will improve from year to year; they can be planted in any good garden soil after May 1st, and should be taken up in the fall and kept like Tuberose bulbs over winter.

For 3 subscribers we will send two Milla bulbs.

Pyrethrum, "Little Gem."

A comparatively dwarf and continuous-flowering form of the old "Double Feverfew," bearing in the utmost profusion all through the summer until frost, medium size pure white flowers, somewhat resembling a small Pompon Chrysanthemum. Its habit is compact and bushy. After thorough trial, this stands out boldly as one of the very best continuous white-flowering plants ever introduced, it never exceeding 20 inches in height, and flowering from June until frost. It is a most desirable plant for cemetery use, and as a border plant is equally valuable. It is also a most valuable plant for summer cut-flowers, its lovely white flowers being produced most freely during the hottest summer weather; when cut, they will last in water for a week or ten days. Nothing prettier can be had for a table or mantel ornament than these starry flowers, set off with a twig of the filmy asparagus mentioned below. We are sure our friends will thank us for calling their attention to this well-named "little gem."

For 2 subscribers we will send 1 Pyrethrum, "Little Gem."

For 3 subscribers, ... 2 Pyrethrum.

PYRETHRUM, "LITTLE GEM."

IMPATIENS SULTANI.

Impatiens Sultani.

A splendid summer and winter blooming plant of easy and rapid growth. Its single flowers, about the size of a silver quarter-dollar, are of the richest carmine color, and growing close to the glossy bright green leaves of the plant, form a most effective contrast. The plant is of dwarf and compact habit, and exceedingly ornamental. It is one of the most pleasing novelties introduced for many years, and is meeting with constantly increasing favor as it becomes better and more widely known, and its sterling merits appreciated.

For 2 subscribers we will send 1 Impatiens Sultani.

For 3 subscribers, 2 Impatiens Sultani.

Asparagus Tenuissimus.

A most interesting and beautiful plant, with foliage of the richest shaded green, so finely divided as to represent so much emerald mist. It is of climbing habit the same as Smilax, grows rapidly, and for cutting there is no plant its equal, sprays lasting in water fully six weeks. As a window plant this is a decided acquisition, and for cutting to use for personal wear it is most charming.

For 2 subscribers we will send . . . . . 1 Asparagus.

For 4 subscribers we will send . . . . . 2 Asparagus.

ASPARAGUS TENUISSIMUS.

Geranium, "Mad. Sallerol."

A distinct form of the Geranium, the plant being of very dwarf and bushy habit, and standing exposure to the hottest summer sun with impunity. The center of the leaf is a glaucous green, and the edge is pure white, the general effect of the plant being *white*. It is fine as a window plant, and absolutely unsurpassed as an edging or bedding plant.

For 2 subscribers we will send 1 "Mad. Sallerol."

For 3 subscribers we will send 2 "Mad. Sallerol."

COMBINATION OFFERS ON OUR FIVE STERLING NOVELTIES.

For 6 subscribers we will send you as a premium . . . . . 1 each of the 5 Novelties.

For 12 " " " " . . . . . 2 each of the 5 Novelties.

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HARDY PINK, "SNOW."

Hardy Pink, "Snow."

A beautiful and much improved hardy white garden pink. The flowers are large, of good form and the richest fragrance– nothing can be sweeter than the delicate and invigorating perfume of the Hardy Pink. The plant is of vigorous growing habit, and in its blooming season is covered with lovely double white flowers. As first mentioned, the plant is perfectly hardy, and will be found a most desirable addition to the flower garden.

For 2 subscribers we will send you one of these attractive flowers. Sure to please.

GLADIOLI.

Gladioli.

These exquisite summer and fall-blooming bulbs are not as generally grown as they should be. Their easy culture and the elegance and rich colors of their flowers make them foremost among bulbs. Planted even two weeks after May 1st, they will furnish a gorgeous display of lovely flowers all through the late summer and fall. Be sure to get a few of these bulbs.

For 2 subscribers we will give . . . . . 2 Gladioli bulbs.
For 3 " " " . . . . . 3 " "
For 4 " " " . . . . . 4 " "
For 10 " " " . . . . . 12 " "

Double Tuberoses.

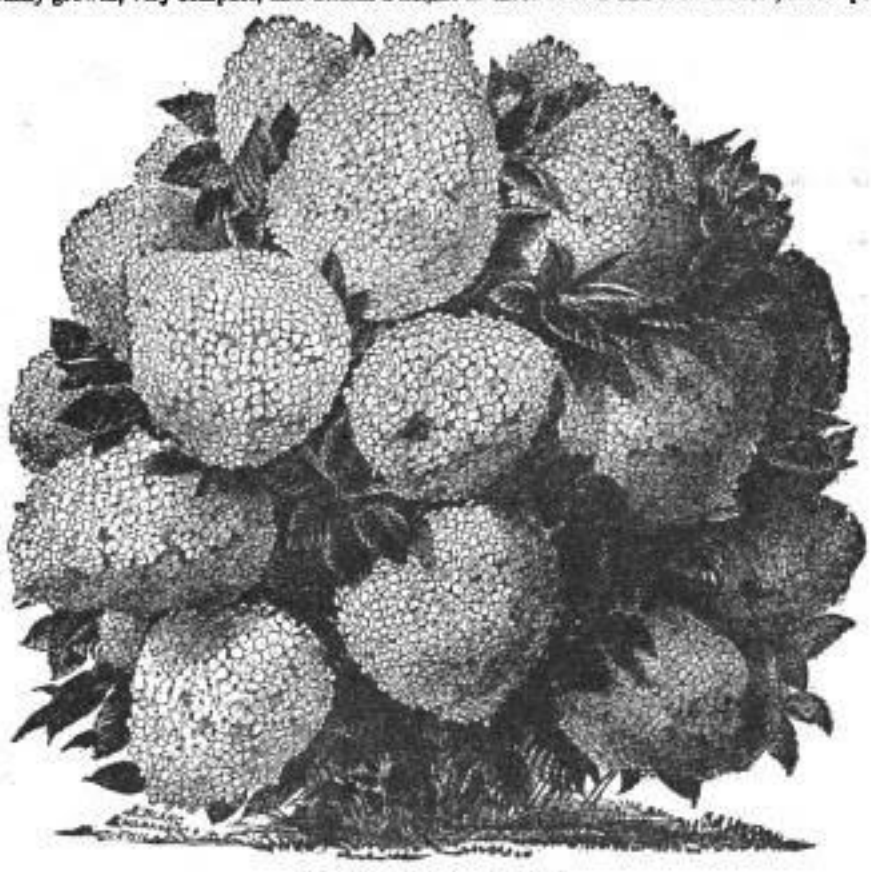
The most fragrant of summer flowering bulbs, throwing up flowering spikes two feet high, crowned with lovely double white flowers of waxy purity, which remain in perfection a long time. The bulbs may be planted for a succession from April to June, or may be started in pots even earlier, and transferred to the open border as soon as danger from frost is past.

For 2 subscribers we will send 2 fine large bulbs. | For 6 subscribers we will send 6 fine large bulbs.
For 4 " " 4 " " | For 10 " " 12 " "

Hardy Vines and Shrubs.

Fine shrubbery is now indispensable in all kinds of ornamental planting, and can be planted singly or in clumps or groups. They fill up corners and odd places, and are very attractive during their season of bloom.

HYDRANGEA GRANDIFLORA.—Comparatively new; a very striking and elegant hardy flowering shrub, suitable for lawns. The flowers are pure white, afterwards changing to pink, and are borne in immense pyramidal trusses over a foot in length and nearly the same in diameter. It blooms in midsummer, and continues in bloom three or four months. The plant is of bushy growth, very compact, and attains a height of three or four and even six feet, and is per-



HYDRANGEA GRANDIFLORA.

fectly hardy in all parts of the country. The bush should be cut back every spring at least half of last season's growth. Dig around it and manure well. Flowers are borne on the new or young wood, and are large and fine when plant is making a vigorous growth. A writer in "Vick's Magazine" says: "The first year I planted Hydrangea Grandiflora it produced three heads of flowers, the second year fifty-six, and the third year ninety-two."

For 4 subscribers we will send one of these elegant shrubs.

AMPELOPSIS VEITCHII.—A new and very beautiful hardy climber, lately introduced, but gaining rapidly in the estimation of every lover of the beautiful. It is a hardy quite rapid grower, clings fast to wood or stone without support; is drooping in its nature, combining all the qualities of a first-class vine. Does not flower, but is very charming and picturesque.

For 2 subscribers we will send one Ampelopsis. | For 6 subscribers we will send three Ampelopsis.

GRAPE VINES AND SMALL FRUITS.

We propose to offer you the useful as well as the ornamental, and thus give you a choice of either. You will find in this list nothing but reliable and well known fruits.

Grape Vines.

CONCORD.—A very old sort, but it is *the* grape for the million. Large, black, juicy, sweet and excellent. We send nice vines that will fruit second year from planting.

For 2 subscribers we will send . . . . 2 Concords. | For 6 subscribers we will send . . 8 Concords.
For 3 " " " . . . . 4 " | For 10 " " " . 12 "

ROGERS' No. 15.—(*Agawam.*) Bunches large and compact, dark red or maroon; berries large, inclining to oval; flavor sweet, sprightly, aromatic; very rank grower; one of the best in every respect. These Rogers grapes are among the very best sorts grown, and we can send different varieties.

For 2 subscribers we will send 1 Rogers, | For 6 subscribers we will send 3 Rogers, 3 kinds.
For 4 " " " 2 " 2 kinds. | For 10 " " " 6 " 6 "

These vines are usually retailed by agents at 50 cents and $1.00 each, so look carefully at our offers. The vines are fine.

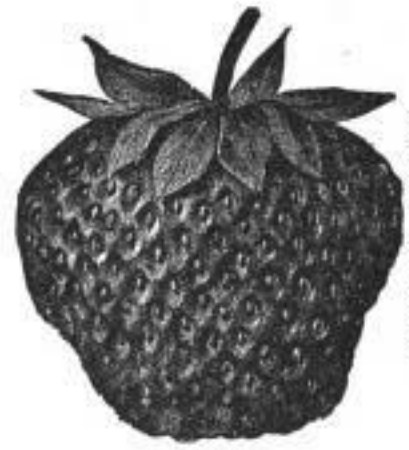
POCKLINGTON.—This is the largest white grape yet offered, with large, thick, tough, long leaves, perfectly hardy; bunch large, compact; berry large to very large, pale yellow, covered with a thin light bloom; flesh juicy, sprightly, sweet. This grape vine usually retails for $1.00 each.

For 4 subscribers we will send one Pocklington grape vine.

NIAGARA.—This purely native white grape is a cross between the Concord and Cassady. Hardy, as strong a grower as the Concord, earlier and far better in quality; bunches large and uniform, very compact, sometimes shouldered; enormously productive, a four year vine producing 140 clusters of from 8 to 16 ounces each. Selling in various markets at 15 to 25 cents a pound, when best California grapes brought but 10 cents. The most desirable white grape ever produced. The fruit matures, or rather is eatable, quite early; yet it will hang on the vine and constantly improve in quality until frost cuts the leaves, and even then it can be kept for weeks quite easily. Retails at $1 50 and $2 for good vines. This is one of the best premium plants we are offering, and would advise all who want a nice fruit to work hard for a club of subscribers to secure this grape.

For 12 subscribers we will give a Niagara, with seal as proof of its genuineness.

NIAGARA.



SHARPLESS.

Strawberries.

Everybody knows what it is to eat this delicious fruit, which can be had so readily that we hope all our readers will take advantage of our offers. A small patch in your garden will grow all you need for table use. There are so many varieties that have only a local reputation and are comparatively worthless for other sections, that we have concluded to offer only the one which we can confidently recommend to all.

SHARPLESS.—Fruit large to very large. Color clear bright red with a shining surface; flesh firm, sweet, with a delicate aroma. One of the largest and best on account of its many fine qualities; medium ripening.

For 8 subscribers we will send 1 dozen fine Sharpless Strawberry Plants.

THINK OF THIS OFFER!

Raspberries.

Next to the strawberry, this is one of the most valuable of fruits, coming as it does at the beginning of summer, when there is very little else yet ripe. Succeeds well in almost any soil that is rich and deep.

CUTHBERT, or QUEEN OF THE MARKET. Originated near New York a few years ago, by a gentleman of the same name, and has been proven to be one of the best fruits, a very strong, vigorous grower and very productive; fruit bright red, large and delicious; ripens late. We have no hesitation in recommending this to any one desiring a first-class raspberry for market or for home use.

GREGG.—The best late black-cap raspberry. Does well in almost every section. Very hardy and productive, and of good quality.

For 5 subscribers we will send 12 Cuthbert or 12 Gregg.

For 9 subscribers we will send 12 of each of the 2 Kinds.

CUTHBERT.

Currants.

This is a fruit needed in every garden, is very easily cared for, and for the little trouble it costs, gives a good crop, and should be more extensively cultivated. When troubled with the currant worm, use a little "white hellebore," stirred in water, and sprinkle your plants once or twice. This is death to the worms after one or two applications. Take one ounce of hellebore in a quart of boiling water, then dilute with two or three gallons of water.

FAY'S PROLIFIC CURRANT.—A grand success. It has no rival; it brings a multitude of gratifying reports whenever tried on its fruiting, vigor, health and growth of plants. We now offer this wonderful new currant with the utmost confidence that it will continue to prove all that has been claimed for it. Color rich red; as compared with the Cherry Currant, Fay's Prolific is equal in size, better in flavor, with much less acid, and five times as prolific. One delighted

possessor of this fruit writes: "Fay's Prolific Currant is in advance of all its predecessors. The size of the berry and the healthiness of the bush is all, and even more than we anticipated. The originator is entitled to the thanks of the public as doing them a great favor." It has indeed come to stay.

For 5 subscribers we will send . . . . . 1 Fay's Prolific.
For 12 subscribers we will send . . . . . 12 Currants, assorted varieties, including 1 Fay's Prolific

NOW, FRIENDS,

What do you think of these offers? We think them the best offers ever made, and hope you will all take advantage here afforded you to possess a number of these choice premium plants. Now is the time for action all along the line, and with a grand army of Four Hundred Thousand, each one doing his or her share, will very soon swell our ranks. Drop in and see a few friends, and get their names to your list. Remember our paper is only 50 cents a year for 12 handsome numbers, each one full of useful information on interesting subjects, all by writers of National reputation.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MILDRED'S CONVERSATION CLASS.

NO. XVI.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

Miss Wilson, much to the delight of "Mildred's Conversation Class," had concluded to remain with Mrs. Green for some time. This enabled the girls to meet her each week for conversation instead of writing to her, for correction. By this means, they learned many things, which never would have come to their notice, in any other way.

Again Miss Wilson was sitting in Mrs. Green's pretty parlor, awaiting the arrival of the girls.

"Good afternoon Miss Tasker, is it cold this afternoon?"

"No ma'am, not very—I mean" she corrected hastily "not very cold, Miss Wilson."

Miss Wilson smiled, glad to see that the lesson of the week before, had not been forgotten.

"Indeed, Miss Wilson," continued Sara, in a tone of vexation, "I have been so particular, all the past week, that I have hardly made one mistake, and it does seem too bad that I should go and make one, the very minute I come in."

"Miss Sara, you did not 'go and make' a mistake. You simply *made* one. By the way, girls, this brings me to the subject about which I had determined to speak to you this afternoon."

"Are you going to make a 'preachment' as Jo March calls it, in Miss Alcott's 'Little Women'?" laughed Mildred.

"Yes, I think I shall 'make a preachment'; my sermon shall not be long, I promise you, and the text shall be ——"

Just here the entrance of the remainder of the class, caused an interruption.

Greetings having been exchanged, the class settled down to work. "And your text is ——?" questioned Sara.

"The text shall be, 'Unnecessary Words'" finished Miss Wilson.

A shade of disappointment came over the faces of the girls. The text did not, to them, seem to promise much either for improvement or interest.

"Why, Miss Wilson, it is very hard to say just what you mean and no more. To 'let your communications be yea, yea, nay, nay—' as it were" replied Georgia slowly, in a troubled sort of way. "If one should stop to think, every time, whether every word one uses, is absolutely necessary to the sense, one's conversation would be very stiff, it seems to me. There could not possibly be any fluency. It is the very flow of the language that makes the fluency, it has always seemed to me."

"In a certain sense, yes. But you have hardly grasped my idea as yet—possibly because I had only reached the *title* of my sermon."

"Pray excuse the interruption Miss Wilson, I acknowledge the fault."

"Let me speak just here, about that particular practice, before I proceed with the sermon. There is nothing more detrimental to a pleasant exchange of ideas, than the habit, possessed by many people, of what is called 'jumping at conclusions.' When people are conversing, one should not assume that the other means some particular thing, unless the talker distinctly so states. There are many people, to whom one talks, who at once assume that one's words mean a certain thing, and they, upon that hypothesis, will talk round and round a subject with a volume of unnecessary words, without trying first, by careful listening, whether their hypothesis be a true one. Such people can *talk*, to any length, but they cannot 'converse.' Between the two acts, there is much difference.

To return to my sermon—I intended only to refer to the habit of making unnecessary replies and asking unnecessary questions in regard to the simplest statement. For instance, Miss A. meets Mrs. B. in the street. 'How are you Miss A?' says Mrs. B. "and how is your mother?" "Mother has met with an accident Mrs. B." "Is that so?" "It is indeed." Now it is reasonable to suppose, that, had it *not* been so, Miss A. would hardly have made the statement in the first place. Mrs. B.'s question would seem to imply a doubt of Miss A.'s habits of truthfulness. But the conversation proceeds on the same ridiculous plan. "It is indeed" says Miss A., "she fell down stairs and broke her leg." "You don't tell me!" Nevertheless Miss A. does tell her, and continues to tell her, with a running comment from Mrs. B., of words as senseless and as useless, as those I have already quoted. People insensibly fall into this habit. If the expression means anything, they are positively rude, in the doubts they express, and if they mean nothing, they are useless.

But they betray lack of good breeding, in any case. One woman, with whom I was well acquainted years ago, made upon me, (by the use of what seemed to me at the time, a specially rude expression,) an impression which I have never forgotten. I rented my first school-room of her. She asked me about my fire one day, and in answer to my reply that I had built it three times that morning, she replied—'I wonder if you did!' I had never been used to hearing such expressions and this open doubt of my statement, struck me very unpleasantly. I soon discovered, however, upon closer acquaintance, that it was merely her method of expressing sympathetic surprise.

All such sentences as "Is that so?" "No! really?" "Did you really" and kindred expressions, should be avoided as meaningless; and rude as well, in obliging the person who has first spoken, to reiterate the sentiment first expressed or the information first given.

How much better for Mrs. B. to say simply 'I am very sorry,' and thus show at once that she believes the statement Miss A. has made and desires to express sympathy. To sum up—avoid all meaningless expressions. Let each sentence express some thought or idea, be that idea small or large. Now I have finished upon that point, but I desire to say a little more in continuance of last week's lesson.

In replying to one with whom you are not upon very intimate terms, always repeat the name of the person to whom you are speaking, even should it be but a simple 'good evening' or 'good night' which you are called upon to say. The omission of this, is especially discourteous if the person to whom you are talking is older than yourself. For instance, should you be spending the evening with me, on leaving I should expect you to say 'Good-night Miss Wilson' 'Are you well protected from the cold Sara (or Edith, as the case may be)' 'Very well protected thank you Miss Wilson.' Of course it is possible to do too much of this, but one must learn by experience to exercise judgment."

"What is the reason that so many people, really sensible people I mean, seem to have nothing but the most inane things to talk about out in company? They really seem as if they must have left their wits at home."

"One of the best satires I ever saw on the subject of 'ball-room chatter,' as it is often called, was published in *Harper's Bazar* some few years ago," replied Miss Wilson. "Two exceedingly weary looking individuals are leaning against the wall in a ball-room. He—'I'm so glad you came' She—'I'm so glad you're glad.' He—'I'm *so* glad you're glad I'm glad.'"

"Well, now, Miss Wilson, that is just about as many ideas as *I* have when I go out into large companies. I hear people talking about this book and that and I not only have no ideas to offer upon the subject but half the time, I haven't even heard of the books they are speaking of. I often wish I was a man—they mix so much more with their kind, and have so many more and better opportunities of gaining ideas. How *do* people manage to read so many books and keep up with the times? I don't have time, and if I undertake to read anything solid, it takes me so long, that every one is beyond me again by the time I am through my one book."

"I can understand your feeling, Edith," said Miss Wilson thoughtfully, "and I am sure I can assist you. In these days of electric rapidity, there is, without a doubt, much surface reading, which enables people to discourse with comparative intelligence about books through which they have merely skimmed. At the same time, there are many men and women who have much time to devote to reading and who do it conscientiously."

"But what have I to say to such people Miss Wilson. Besides no one wants to sit down and tell me all about these books; yet if I had some idea of what they were about, I would not find the conversation between those who *do* know, dull."

"That is just the point on which I am going to touch now. Wanamaker of Phila sends out monthly a pamphlet called "Book News." This gives not only a list of the best books, published since the issue of the month before but gives, likewise, a brief synopsis of their contents. By this means, you can obtain, at a very small cost of time and money, a general idea of what the world is talking about."

"What an elegant idea!"

"What kind of an idea?"

"An *excellent* idea I mean," corrected Edith with a blush. "Please, Miss Wilson I don't often use such extravagant terms now."

"Miss Wilson" inquired Georgia Garrett, "what is the difference between 'talking shop,' as Father says and talking about the only topic you or some one else is acquainted with?"

"I fancy I know what you mean, although your idea is not very clearly expressed" replied Miss Wilson smiling.

"I can give you an illustration which will make it clear, I think. If you are introduced to a physician, for instance, to immediately begin to ask him about the number of cases he has, ill with some particular malady, would be to 'talk shop,' (which expression, by the way, is very inelegant,) and to be ill-bred, while to try to think of some topic, entirely *outside* of his business but within his *profession*, would be well-bred. There are many subjects of general interest among physicians (and all other professions as well) which are likewise interesting to the general public. The difference between the two things of which you speak, consists in general interest and private interests. A house-keeper, for instance, can talk intelligently, well, and in a way to display deep thought, upon the various departments of housekeeping, but when she relates her experience with her particular set of servants, she becomes ill-bred.

The main point, and with this my sermon is done, is to confine yourself to topics of general interest, relating your individual experiences only when asked to do so and, when this is the case, making the recital short, omitting all possible details.

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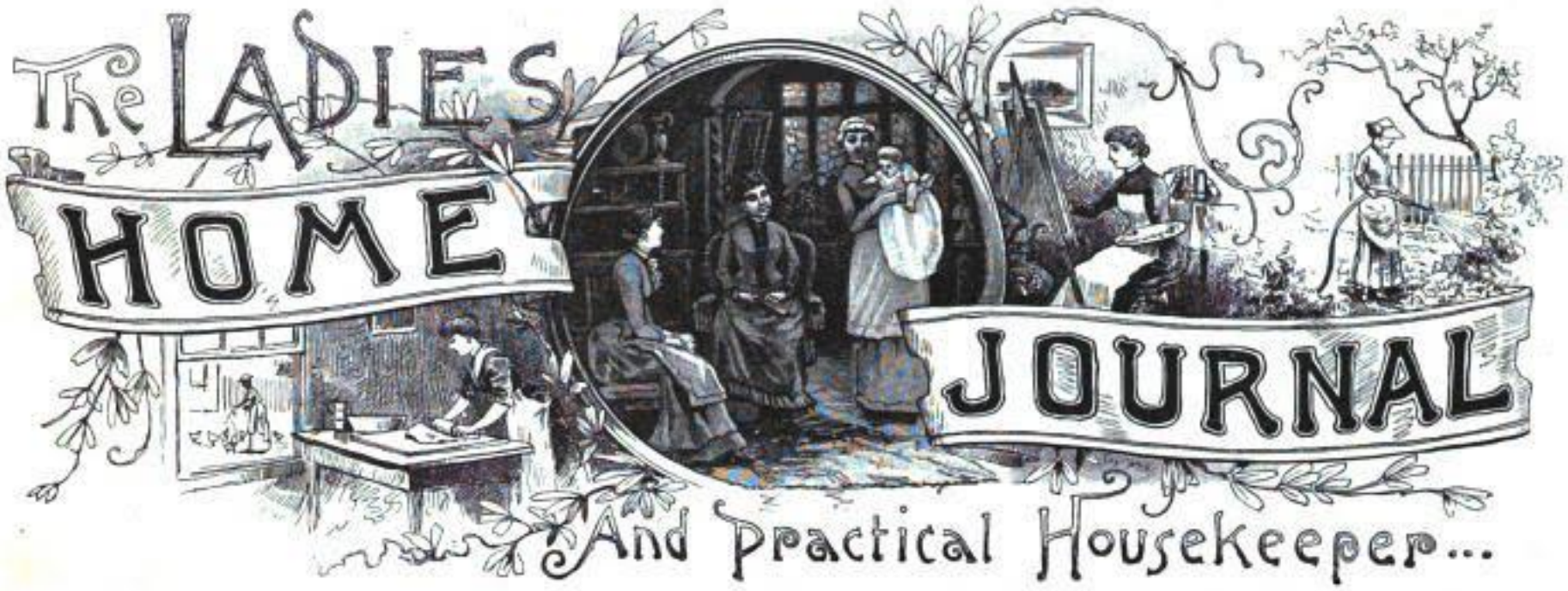

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE LAST DAY.

BY JOSIAH ALLEN'S WIFE.

[Copyrighted by Marietta Holley.]

We had a wider come to stay with us a spell, she that wuz Aurelia Spink, Miss Coon that now is, Miss Newman Coon.

Her husband died 7 years ago this winter, and left her not over and above well of. And so she goes round a visitin', and has went ever sense his death. And finds sights of faults with things wherever she is—sights on it.

Newman wuz Josiah's cousin (on his own side) and I used her quite well. She used to live neighbor to me before I wuz married, and she came and stayed 9 weeks.

She is a tall, spindlin' woman, a 2d Adventist by persuasion, and weighs about a 100 pounds. Wall, as I say, she meens middlin' well, and would be quite agreeable, if it wuzn't for a habit she has of thinkin' what she duz is a leetle better than anybody else can do—and wantin' to tell a leetle better story than anybody else can.

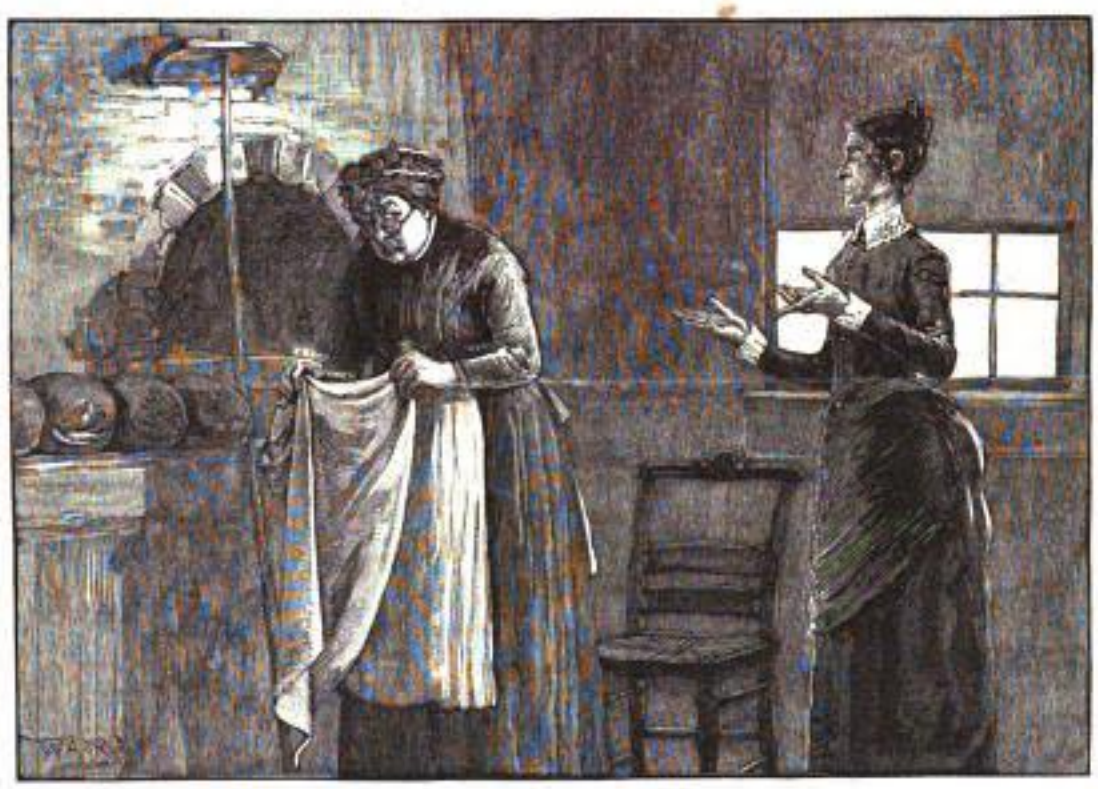
Now she thinks she looks better than I do. But Josiah says she can't begin with me for looks—and I don't s'pose she can, though of course it hain't to be expected that I would want it told of that I said so. No, I wouldn't want it told of pro or con, especially con. But I know Josiah has always been called a pretty good judge of winnuen's looks.

And now, she thinks she can make better riz buiscuit than I can—and she jest the same as told me so. Anyway, the fust time I baked bread after she got here, she looked down on my loaves real haughtily, yet with a pityin' look, and sez:

"It is very good bread for yeast, but I always use milk emptin's."

And she kinder tosted her head, and sort o' swept out of the room, not with a broom—no, she would scorn to sweep out a room with a broom, or help me in any hurry—but she sort o' swept it out with her mean. But I didn't care, I knew my bread wuz good.

Now if anybody is sick, she always will tell of times when she has been sicker. She boasts of layin' 3 nights and 2 days in a fit. But we don't believe, it, Josiah nor me don't. That is, we don't believe she lay there so long a runnin'—we believe she came out of 'em occasionally.



But you couldn't get her to give off a hour or a minute of the time—3 nights and 2 days she lay there a runnin', so she says, and she has said it so long, that we s'pose, Josiah and me do, that she believes it herself now.

Curius, hain't it? How folks will get to tellin' things, and tellin' 'em, and finally tell 'em so much, that they will get to believin' of 'em themselves—boastin' of bein' sick, etc.,—or bad. Now, I have seen folks boast over that; act real haughty because they had been bad and got over it. I've seen temperance lecturers and religious exhorters boast sights and sights, about how dretful bad they had been. But they wuzn't tellin' the truth, though they had told the same thing so much, that they had probably got to thinkin' so.

But in the case of one man in perticler, I found out for myself, for I didn't believe what he wuz a sayin' any of the times. Why, he made out in in evenin' meetin's, pertracted and otherwise, that he had been a awful villain—why no pirat wuz ever wickeder than he made himself out to be, in the old times before he turned round, and became pious.

But I didn't believe it, for he had a good look to his face—all but the high-headed look he had, and sort o' vain. But except this one look, his face wuz a good moral face, and I knew no man could cut up and act as he claimed that he had, without carryin' some marks on the face of the cuttin' up, and also of the actin'.

And so as it happened, I went a visitin' (to Josiah's relatives) to the very place where he had claimed to do his deeds of wild badness, and I found that he had always been a pattern man. Never had done a single mean act, so far es wuz known.

Where wuz his boastin', then? as the Bible says. Why, it wuz all vain talk. He had done it to get up a repirtation. He had done it because he wuz big feelin' and vain. And he had got so haughty over it, and had told of it so much, that I s'pose he believed in it himself.

Curius, hain't it? But I am offendin', and to resoom, and continue on.

Newman's wife would talk jest so, jest so haughty and high-headed, about the world comin' to a end. She'd dispute with anybody right up and down about it, if they disagreed with her.

She come to our house a visitin' along the first week in June, and the last day in June wuz the day they had sot for the world to come to an end.

I myself, didn't believe she knew positive about it, and Josiah didn't either. And I says to her, "The Bible says that it hain't a goin' to be revealed to angels even, or to the Son himself, but only to the Father when that great day shall be." And says I to Newman's wife, says I, "How should you be expected to know it?"

Says she, with that same collected together haughty look to her, "My name wuzn't mentioned I believe, amongst them that *wuzn't* to know it!"

And of course I had to own up that it wuzn't. But good land! I didn't believe she knew a thing more about it than I did, but I didn't dispute with her much, because she wuz one of the relative on his side—you know you have to do different with 'em than you do with them on your own side—your have to. And then agen I felt that if it didn't come to an end, she would be convinced that she wuz in the wrong on't, and if did, we should both of us be pretty apt to know it, so there wuzn't much use in disputin' back and forth.

But she wuz firm es iron in her belief. And she had come up visitin' to our home, so's to be nigh when Newman riz. Newman wuz buried in the old Risley deestrict, not half a mile from us on a back road. And she naterally wanted to be round at the time.

She said plain to me that Newmann ever could seem to get along without her. And though she didn't say it right out, she carried the idea (and Josiah resented it, because Newman wuz a favorite cousin' of hisen on his own side.) She jest the same es said right out, that Newman if she wuzn't by him to tend to him, would be jest es apt to come up wrong end up es any way.

Josiah didn't like it at all.

Wall, she had lived a widowed life for a number of years, and had said right out, time and time agen, that she wouldn't marry agen. But Josiah thought, and I kinder mistrusted myself, that she wuz kinder on the lookout, and would marry agen if she got a chance—not fierce, you know, or anything of that kind, but kinder quietly lookin' out, and standin' ready. That wuz when she first come, but before she went away she acted fierce.

Wall, there wuz sights of Adventists up in the Risley deestrict, and omongst the rest wuz an old bachelder, Pelek Jackman. I s'pose his name wuz Peleg, which is Bible. But folks always called him Pelek or Peal.

And Peal Jackman wuz, I s'pose, of all Advents, the most Adventy. He jest *knew* the world wuz a comin' to a end, that very day, the last day of June, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. And he got his robe all made to go up in. It wuz made of white book muslin, and Melinda Filkins made it. Cut it out by one of his mother's nightgowns—so she told me in confidence, and of course I tell it jest the same, I want it kep.

She wuz afraid Peal wouldn't like it, if he knew she took the nightgown for a guide, wantin' it es he did, for a religeous purpose.

But good land! as I told her, religeon or not, anybody couldn't cut anything to look anyhow without sumpthin' for a guide, and she bein' an old maid felt a little delicate about measurin' him.

His mother wuz es big round es he wuz, her weight bein' 230 by the steelyards, and she allowed 2 fingers and a half extra length—Peal is tall. She gathered it in full round the neck, and the sleeves (at his request) hung down like wings, a breadth for each wing wuz what she allowed.

Melinda owned up to me, (though she wouldn't want it told of for the world, for it had been spared for years, that he and she had a likin' for each other, and mebby would make a match sometime, though what they had been a waitin' for for the last 10 years, nobody knew.) But she allowed to me, that when he got his robe on, he wuz the werst lookin' human bein' that she ever laid eyes on, and sez she, for she likes a joke, Melinda duz: "I should think if Peal looked in the glass after he got it on, his religeon would be a comfort to him; I should think he would be glad the world *wuz* comin' to a end."

But he *didn't* look at the glass, Melinda said he didn't; he wanted to see if it wuz the right size round the neck. Peal hain't handsome, but he is kinder good-lookin', and he is a good feller, and got plenty to do with, but bein' kinder big-featured, and tall, and hefty, he must have looked like fury in the robe. But he is liked by everybody, and everybody is glad to see him so prosperous, and well-off.

He has got 300 acres of good land, "be it more or less," as the deed reads. 30 head of cows, and 7 head of orses (and the hull bodies of 'em.) And a big sugar bush—over 1100 trees, and a nice little suger house, way up on a pretty side hill amongst the maple trees. A good, big, handsome dwellin' house, a sort of a cream color with green blinds; big barn, and carriage house, etc., etc., and everything in the very best of order. He is a pattern farmer, and a pattern son—yes, Peal couldn't be a more pattern son, if he actid every day from a pattern.

He treats his mother dretful pretty—from day to day. She thinks that their hain't nobody like Pelek; and it wuz s'posed that Melinda thought so too.

But Melinda is, and always wuz, runnin' over with common sense, and she always made fun and laughed at Peal, when he got to talkin' about his religeon, and about settin' a time for the world to come to a end. And some thought that that wuz one reasen why the match didn't go off, for Peal likes her, everybody could see that, for he wuz jest such a great, honest, open-hearted feller, that he never made any secret of it. And Melinda liked Pelek *I* knew, though she fooled a good many on the subject. But she wuz always a great case to confide in me, and though she didn't say so, right out, which wouldn't have been her way, for es the poet sez, she wuzn't one "To wear her heart on the sleeves of her bask waist." Still, I knew es well es I wanted to, that she thought her eyes of him. And old Miss Jackman jest about woreshipped Melinda, would have her with her, sewin' for her, and takin' care of her—she wuz sick a good deal, Mother Jackman wuz. And she would have been tickled most to death to have had Peal marry her and bring her right home there.

And Melinda wuz a smart little creeter, "smart es lightnin'," as Josiah always said.

She had got along in years, Melinda had, without marryin', for she staid to hum and took care of her old father and mother and Jim. The other girls married off, and left her to home, and she had chances, so it wuz said, good ones, but she wouldn't leave her father and mother, who wuz gettin' old, and kinder bed-rid, and needed her. Her father, specially, said he couldn't live, and wouldn't try to, if Melinda left 'em, but he said, the old gentleman did, that Melinda should be richly paid for her goodness to 'em.

That wuzn't what made Melinda good, no indeed; she did it out of the pure tenderness and sweetness of her nature, and lovin' heart. But I used to love to hear the old gentleman talk that way, for he wuz well off, and I felt that so far es money could pay for the hull devotion of a life, why, Melinda would be looked out for, and have a good home, and enough to do with. So she stald to home, es I say, and took care of 'em night and day, sights of watchin' and weerisome care she had, poor little creeter; but she took the best of care of 'em, and kep 'em kinder comforted up, and clean, and brought up Jim the youngest boy by hand, and thought her eyes on him.

And he wuz a smart chap. Awful smart, as it proved in the end. For he married when he wuz 21, and brought his wife, (a disagreeable creeter) home to the old homestead, and Melinda, before they had been there 2 weeks, wuz made to feel that her room wuz better than her company.

That wuz the year the old gentleman died; her mother had died 3 months prior and beforehand.

Her brother, as I said, wuz smart, and he and his wife got round the old man in some way, and sot him against Melinda, and got everything he had.

He wuz childish, the old man wuz, used to try to put his pantaloons on over his head, and get his feet into his coat sleeves, etc., etc.

And he changed his will, that had gi'n Melinda half the property, a good property, too, and gi'n it all to Jim, every mite of it, all but one dollar, which Melinda never took by my advice.

For I wuz burnin' indignent, at old Mr. Filkins, and at Jim. Curius, to think such a girl as Melinda had been, such a patient, good creeter, and such a good-tempered one, and everything; to think her Pa should have forgot all she had done, and suffered, and gi'n up for 'em—and give the property all to that boy, who had never done anything only to spend their money, and make Melinda trouble.

But then I s'pose it wuz old Mr. Filkinses mind, or the lack on't, and I had to stand it, likeways so did Melinda.

But I never set a foot into Jim Filkinses house, not a foot, after that day that Melinda left it; I wouldn't. But I took her right to my house, and kep her for 9 weeks right along, and wuz glad to.

That wuz some 10 years prior and before this, and she had gone round sewin' ever sense. And she wuz beloved by everybody, and had gone round highly respected, and at 75 cents a day.

Her troubles, and everybody that knew her, knew how many she had had of 'em, but she kep 'em all to herself, and met the world and her neighbors, with a bright face.

If she took her skeletons out of the closet to air 'em, and I s'pose she did, everybody duz; they have to at times, to see if their bones are in good order, if for nothin' else. But if she ever did take 'em out and dust 'em, she did it all by herself. The closet door wuz shet up and locked, when anybody wuz round. And you would think, by her bright, laughin' face, that she never heard the word skeleton, or ever listened to the rattle of a bone.

And she kep'up such a happy, cheerful look on the outside, that I s'pose it ended by her bein' cheerful and happy on the inside.

The stiddy, good-natured, happy spirit that she cultivated at first by hard work, so I s'pose; but at last it got to be second nater, the qualities kinder struck in, and she *was* happy, and she *was* contented—that is I s'pose so.

Though I, who knew Melinda better than anybody else, almos, knew how tuff, how fearful tuff, it must have come on her, to go round from home to home—not bein' settled down at home anywhere. I knew jest what a lovin' little home body she wuz. And how her sweet nater, like the sun, would love to light up one bright lovin' home, and shine kinder stiddy there, instead of glancin' and changin' about from one place to another, like a meteor.

Some would have liked it; some like change and constant goin' about, and movin' constantly through space—but I knew Melinda wuzn't made on the meteor plan. I felt sorry for Melinda, deep down in my heart, I did; but I didn't tell her so, no, she wouldn't have liked it; she kep a brave face to the world. And es I said, her comin' wuz looked for weeks and weeks ahead, in any home where she wuz engaged to sew by the day.

Everybody in the house used to feel the presence of a sunshiny, cheerful spirit. One that wuz determined to turn her back onto troubles she couldn't help, and keep her face sot towards the Son of Happiness. One who felt good and

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pleasant towards everybody, wished everybody well. One who could look upon other folkses good fortune without a mite of jealousy or spite. One who loved to hear her friends praised and admired, loved to see 'em happy. And if they had a hundred times the good things she had, why, she wuz glad for their sakes, that they had 'em, she loved to see 'em enjoy 'em, if she couldn't.

And she wuz dretful kinder cunnin' and cute, Melinda wuz. She would make the oddest little speeches; keep everybody laughin' round her, when she got to goin'.

Yes, she wuz liked dretful well, Melinda wuz. Her face had a kind of a pert look on to it, her black eyes snap, a good-natured snap, though, and her nose 'urns up just enough to look kinder cunnin', and her hair curls all over her head.

Smart round the house she is, and Mother Jackman likes that, for she is a master good housekeeper. Smart to answer back and joke. Pelek is slow of speech, and his big blue eyes won't fairly get sot onto anything, before Melinda has looked it all through, and turned it over, and examined it on the other side, and got through with it.

Wall, she wuz to work to Mother Jackman's, makin' her a black alpacker dress, and 4 new calico ones, and coverin' a parasol.

A good many said that Miss Jackman got dresses a purpose for Melinda to make, so's to keep her there. Melinda wouldn't stay there a minute only when she wuz to work, and as they always kep a good, strong, hired girl, she knew when she wuz needed, and when she wuzn't. But of course she couldn't refuse to sew for her, and at what she wuz sot at, though she must have known and felt that Miss Jackman wuz lavish in dresses. She had 42 calico dresses, and everybody knew it, new ones, beside worsted. But, anyway, there she wuz a sewin' when the word come that the world wuz a comin' to a end on the 30th day of June, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

Miss Jackman wuz a believer, but not to the extent that Pelek wuz. For Melinda asked her if she should stop sewin', not sposin' that she would need the dresses, specially the 4 calico ones, and the parasol, in case of the worlds endin'.

And she told Melinda, and Melinda told me, so's I know it is true, that she might go right on, and get the parasol cover, and the trimmin's to the dresses, cambrick, and linin' and things, and hooks and eyes.

And Miss Jackman didn't prepare no robe. But Melinda mistrusted that Miss Jackman is close-mouthed, and didn't say nothin', but Melinda mistrusted that she laid out, when she see signs, to use a nightgown.

She had piles of the nicest ones, that Melinda had made for her from time to time, over 28, all trimmed off nice enough for day dresses, so Melinda said; trimmed with tape trimmin's, some of 'em, and belted down in front.

Wall, they had lots of meetins, at the Risley school-house, as the time drew near. And Miss Newman Coon went to every one on 'em.

She had been too weak to go out to the well, or to the barn. She wanted dretfully to see some new stanchils that Josiah had been a makin', jest like some that Newman had had in his barn. She wanted to see 'em dretful, but wuz too weak to walk. And I had had kind of a tussle in my own mind, whether or not, I should offer to let Josiah carry her out; but kinder hesitated, thinkin' mebby she would get stronger.

But I hain't jealous, not a mite. It is known that I hain't all through Jonesville, and Loentown. No, I'd scorn it. I thought Newman's wife would get better, and she did.

One evenin' Pelek Jackman came down to bring home Josiah's augur, and the conversation turned onto, Adventin'. And Miss Coon see that Pelek wuz congenial on that subject; he believed jest as she did, that the world would come to an end the 30th. This wuz along the first part of the month.

He spoke of the good meetins they wuz a havin' to the Risley school-house, and how he always attended to every one on 'em. And the next morsin', Miss Newman Coon gin out that she wuz a goin' that evenin'. It wuz a good half a mile away, and I reminded her that Josiah had to be away with the team, for he wuz a goin' to Loentown, heavy loaded, and wouldn't get back till along in the evenin'.

But she said "that she felt that the walk would do her good."

I then reminded her of the stanchils, but she said "stanchils and religion wuz 2 separate things." Which I couldn't deny, and didn't try to. And she sot off for the school-house that evenin' a walkin' afoot. And the rest of her adventins and the adventins of Pelek, I will relate in another epistol; and I will also tell whether the world come to an end or not. I know folks will want to know, and I don't care to keep folks in anxiety—it hain't my way.

(To be continued)

BEHIND THE DOOR

BY S. S. NORTON.

"But my Lord Magnificance was on his insulted dignity by this time. 'Miss Arnold was aware that I was coming at this hour,' he said, with an evident and unsuccessful attempt to be very cool and loftly, 'and if she has chosen to show her indifference to the appointment by absenting herself, I certainly will not trouble you to recall her. It is of no consequence whatever, I am intending to leave Chesney this evening, to be absent for several weeks, and I desired to acquaint Miss Arnold of the fact. Will you be so kind, Mrs. Arnold, as to tell her this, for me?'

"After this little speech, he went away, and you can imagine my feelings, perhaps, when I came to reflect upon what had occurred. When I fully realized the effect that this episode would have upon our friendship, I began to worry, and I haven't had a happy moment since!"

"Why didn't you tell me, Kitty? Why did you keep it to yourself all this time?" asked Helen with tender reproach.

"Why, you see, Nell, there really wasn't anything to tell; it wasn't a lovers' quarrel, because, as I said before, we weren't lovers! It was only a case of 'it might have been.' I have been cherishing the hope that when he came home the affair would be straightened out some way, and we should be as good friends as ever; and when I heard, last evening, that he had returned and was coming to Jerico Falls to-day, I thought it would be such a delightfully informal place to meet him for the first time, and perhaps I could summon the courage to tell him just enough of the ridiculous story for him to understand, you know, how it happened. I didn't know then that he was coming on the special invitation of the Sweedie girls, and intended to distinguish himself by his frantic devotion to Miss Carry! And Nell, he actually pretended not to see me to-day, when we met almost face to face, and he was talking so gayly to everyone else, and flirting with that hateful Carrie Sweedie as sentimentally as if he hadn't said, only two months ago, that she was the silliest coquette in Chesney!"

"Well, girlie," said Helen, as Kitty paused here, breathless, with a crimson flush on her cheeks and an angry sparkle in her blue eyes, "let me tell you just what I think about this case. You were a silly little goose not to come right out from behind the door, when you knew Mr. Rathburn was there, and explain to him exactly how it happened you were there. He knows Miss Aspenleaf well enough to appreciate your panic; I don't think his fastidious sense of propriety would have been very seriously shocked; there would never have been any misunderstanding between you, and I am sure you would both have been happier to-day. Don't you think so?"

"Perhaps so—oh, Nell, I wish I had done it! But it's too late, now!"

"Why? 'It's never too late'"—

"Yes, it is! Don't urge the matter, Nell. After the way he has acted to-day—"

"Nonsense! Of course he has acted to-day—' just as any other man would act, under the circumstances. He thinks that you treated him with deliberate discourtesy, and very naturally resents it. You owe it to yourself, as well as to him, to correct this mistaken impression. Do it as coldly and formally as you please—or rather, as the circumstances will permit—only do it! That's my advice, once for all."

There was no opportunity to reply, for now several of the picnic party had discovered their retreat and were calling loudly to them to come, the afternoon was waning and everyone was going home.

It was no use; while acknowledging the wisdom of Helen's advice, Kitty could not persuade herself to act upon it; thus the days went by, and she and Mr. Rathburn were as far as ever from an understanding and reconciliation. As Helen Browne watched the rapidly widening gulf which she was so powerless to bridge, she frequently quoted to herself the satirical words of Celia, "It is a hard matter for friends to meet, but mountains may be removed with earthquakes, and so encounter!"

Could she do nothing to persuade these two friends to meet? She pondered the question gravely. She couldn't consult Ralph, (who, by the way, had himself repented of the error of his way and had stopped flirting with Carrie Sweedie,) because that would be a betrayal of Kitty's confidence.

"Oh," she sighed in despair of her own ability to mend matters, "if the merciful Fates would only come to the rescue!"

They came. Those three grim sisters who seem to occupy the greater part of their time in putting hateful snarls into people's lives, do occasionally take a kindly fit and devote themselves with equal assiduity to straightening them out again.

The ladies of one particular congregation in Chesney were preparing for the Christmas festival. The church was to be handsomely decorated, and all the young men and maidens and public-spirited matrons were impressed into the service.

Allan Rathburn was constantly in demand. No one else was quite so tall as he, so fearless, so agile, so skillful; he was just the one to go up the ladder with hammer and nails and put up the prickly wreaths. Of course, he was willing to make himself useful, and of his cheerful alacrity there was no end; but climbing and reaching and stretching and balancing has its effect at last upon even the most indefatigable church decorator: and towards evening, when nearly all the merry band of workers had gone home, he was glad to pause for a few moments and lean against the wall, with his arms aching and his fingers full of holly thorns, to survey his work and take one good long breath.

Presently, the door leading to the vestry was thrown partially open; he was standing just behind it. He was absolutely too weary to move; so he folded his arms and remained there. Dreamily he listened to two feminine voices in the vestry.

"Oh, that's *better!*"—in a tone of comfortable commendation. "I wonder we didn't think of it before. This room is really suffocating. There—that wreath is finished. I wonder where Mr. Rathburn is. Can it be possible that he has deserted us?"

"Unprecendeted baseness!" thought Rathburn with a sarcastic smile. "Shall I go forward and immolate myself on this altar of Duty? Shall I work until my weary frame yields to the pressure and I sink from exhaustion? No, I will not! I have sacrificed myself sufficiently to-day. I will go home and proceed to enjoy the rest that I have so dearly earned."

Still he did not move; for at instant he heard the same comfortable voice saying:

"By the way, Mrs. Arnold, where's Kitty? She used to be foremost in this good work. I've missed her to-day; is she ill?"

Just what Rathburn had been wondering! His attention was not quite so idle, now.

"Oh, no, not seriously," he heard Mrs. Arnold reply. "She said she didn't care about getting into it, this winter, because it took so much of her time. She is very busy with her music, you know, and we think—(oh, where are my scissors? thank you, Mrs. Miner.)—Ah, well, the young people were keen enough to begin this work, but I guess the old married women will have to finish it!"

"I always had an idea that your Kitty and Mr. Rathburn were going to make a match," pursued Mrs. Miner with a delightful frankness that sent a flush to Rathburn's brow and a tingle to his listening ears. "But they tell me that now-a-days they scarcely speak to each other. What does get into young people, anyway?"

"Oh," Mrs. Arnold rejoined, with a carelessness which proved how little she suspected Kitty's heartache and Rathburn's wretchedness, "there was nothing at all in that. They were fairly good friends until a little incident occurred, which I told Kitty at the time would make trouble."

And then she went on, all in confidence, of course, to give the particulars of that incident, quite unconscious that Kitty wouldn't for the world have had the absurd story repeated. And Allan Rathburn listened, scarcely crediting the evidence of his own senses; utterly lost in amazement at the revelation that such a trifling cause as that should have turned his love and Kitty's into coldness and estrangement.

"Who would have believed that paper walls could have separate us so long!" was his one thought, as he withdrew noiselessly from his place of involuntary concealment and rushed from the church.

That evening, Kitty Arnold was astonished by receiving a call from Allan Rathburn. He walked into the parlor where Kitty was all alone, took her in his arms impulsively, and held her there as tenderly as though no such person as Carrie Sweedie were in existence.

Kitty was too utterly amazed to offer any resistance. She burst into tears and without a word of protest or reproof, dropped her pretty head on his shoulder. She knew not how to account for this strange turn of events, for Rathburn's impulsive action; she only dimly comprehended, in the depths of a very happy little heart, that it was all right, and they *were* lovers, now!

"Kitty, how could you let Miss Aspenleaf separate us? How could you be so cruelly unjust to me?" he presently asked in tones of tender reproach.

"Why, Mr. Rathburn, who told you that?" cried Kitty, with a swift, unjust suspicion of Helen Browne.

"No one told *me*, darling. Your mother told Mrs. Miner, at the church."

"And you—how did you hear?"

He was laughing, now, as he drew her closer to him to claim the first kiss; the gray eyes looking so tenderly into hers were full of teasing mirth.

"Oh, they were talking it over in the vestry and I, Kitty—was behind the door!"

THE ANXIOUS AND AIMLESS.

LECTURE III.

BY REV. F. E. CLARK, BOSTON.

"The anxious and aimless:" such I believe were the epithets applied by one of the former governors of Massachusetts to the 70,000 so-called superfluous women of Massachusetts whom he advised to find a mission and a use for life by emigrating to the West. I believe that these words contain a libel on the vast majority of the sex. I do not think there are any more superfluous women than men. Most of you I am very sure are not anxious or aimless, but, because these words point out a frequent and prolific source of danger, and because I want you all to prove them more and more libellious and untrue, I wish to dwell upon them in this chapter. Your brother meets his temptations on the street and in the market; they are the temptations of active life; your come from the very quietness and lack of stir in your lives, lives which are apt to degenerate into weak aimlessness, a passive drifting with the current, which is supposed to bear every woman on to the harbor matrimony, but which, if they allow themselves simply to drift often leaves them, whether married or unmarried, stranded upon the sandbar of a useless, fruitless life. "You brother and his college mates tell you that their work has hardly begun with the receipt of diploma or degree," says Marion Harland. "Commencement day with them signifies the first step in the real career—the unclosing and flinging wide the gate revealing the highway of life." They have their lives mapped out for themselves from the beginning; in some rough way at least.

It is business, or the law, or medicine, or divinity; there is a *goal* somewhere. There is an end for them to strive for. Alas, it is too often not realized. They faint in the day of adversity, or turn from the noble end in view to chase an *ignis fatuus* or to bury themselves in the dirt of a gold mine, but it is very much easier to *start*, as every high-spirited boy does, with a noble aim beckoning him on. But girls are at a disadvantage from the beginning in this respect. There is a hazy impression that sometime Prince Charming will come along and carry them off.

But, supposing he does not come, what then? "It is pitiable and instructive to busy people" continues the author "Eve's Daughter's," "to see the varieties of behavior in women who recognize the reality of the situation and seek to overcome its irksomeness. The majority of the most respectable of them begin to dabble industriously in something, it matters little what it is, so long as time and thought are engaged. A catalogue of the hundreds of species of what is known as 'fancy work,' to which this century alone has given birth, would show better than fifty formal treatises the prevalence of this dabbling, and the ingenuity with which the desire has been fed. Crocheting, tatting, wax work, paper flowers, monochromatics Kensington and outline embroidery;—time and memory would fail me and patience would desert you were I to prolong the inventory.

"Such, and a thousand other inventions of play which is work, and work which is play, are put forward in a fast succession of cheats to answer our question: 'what then?'"

There is a certain temporiness in the pursuits of women that is greatly to their disadvantage as compared with a man's work. Your brother takes up his calling meaning to make a life business of it.

If he intends to be a carpenter, he does not learn how to drive a plane and fit the mortise as a temporary expedient, only to fill up the time until he shall be sent to Congress or dispatched on a foreign mission. If he studies medicine it is that he may spend his life in practicing medicine, not because he expects to be called to the bar one of these days. A young woman, on the other hand, often takes up some employment as an expedient—to kill time until Prince Charming appears, riding over the plains to claim his own. Next to having no aim is it to have this temporary expedient and time-killer for an object in life.

Prince Charming may come; very likely he will, but it will be all the better for him and for her if he finds the object of search honestly and patiently doing some one thing for which she has fitted herself, rather than nervously starting up at every ring of the door bell thinking that it marks the advent of the Prince.

"Among the great dangers which threaten young women," writes one whose name is as familiar to the world as any name in America, "it seems to me is an outlook on life without a purpose, a tendency to *drift*, to magnify the present moment, to give undue attention to externals and trifles, to seek happiness rather than blessedness."

"A girl should have a motive and aim in life," writes one of yours teachers whom you love, and revere, "aiming at nothing she too often accomplishes nothing."

"A plan in life is what every young woman needs," writes a noted temperance lecturer: a plan in life and power to carry out that plan.

Of course this latter can only come from a true relation to and self-reliance on God. It is a good sign when the literary world will not accept Howell's heroines as ideals of true womanhood, and when it cries out for something stronger. "They are beautiful, affectionate, and almost morbidly conscientious," says *Lippincott's Magazine*, for instance, in a recent criticism, in speaking of this novelist's feminine characters, "but they are idle, inconsequent, and more or less jealous, incapable of philanthropy, hard thinking and decided act'n."

I have scores of letters on this point or related matters which I have not time to give you. One of your friends tells me she thinks there is a very great lack of decision of character in our girls of the present day, or that perhaps it would be better to say stability of character.

"Girls lack moral backbone," writes the successful principal of a young ladies' seminary. "One of my own girls says to me on this point: 'Girls are all too much afraid of what other will say.'" But I must hurry on to tell you that aimlessness is, in my opinion, only of a large family of sisters who usually travel in company. One of these sisters is *idleness*. I know that just here many of you will protest, and say: "whatever my faults you can't lay this to my door. Why, I'm busy from morning to night. I am driven from the time school begins until vacation comes again and then it isn't much better. I am so busy that I can hardly find time to read my Bible or say my prayers."

Ah! that is just it. There is a busyness which is not business. There is an activity which is the truest idleness and that is the kind of idleness I most fear from you. What are you busy about? that is the question. If you are too busy to read your Bible and good books, to think and pray, it is altogether probable that with all your fancied hurry you have a pair of those hands, for which the old couplet tells us "Satan finds some mischief still to do."

"If our girls could only be induced to spend more time in prayer and meditation," writes one. "It is the same cry with the children as with the older ones—'no time;' and in the busy whirl of everyday life it seems to me there is scarce any leisure for thinking. They will listen, receive what is said, and hurry on, but to *think* out anything for themselves or really to take any part of the day for meditation, is a rare thing even among older ones, and so when asked a reason for an expressed belief or opinion, often the only one that comes is, 'people say so,' or something just as weak."

A piece of advice which many of you need is: "If you would not be idle do not begin to do so many things." The so-called accomplishments of the sex are often the direct promoters of idleness.

It is not at all necessary that you should spend just so many hours a day in strumming the piano, or wielding the paint brush, if you have no particular taste or talent in their direction, but it is necessary that you should remember that there is a womanhood within you, to cultivate which is not at all dependent upon Chickering or Steinway.

A true noble woman may be too busy to cultivate the artist within her. She may not know the difference between an old master and a tea store chromo, but such a woman is never too busy to think and pray and read that which will build up her soul.

Take off the weights from the old eight day clock standing in the corner and the hands will fly around at a great rate, exceedingly busy we say, but the busier they are the less value they are, for their mission is not too fly around the dial but to mark time. I am not decrying these accomplishments. They are all well in their way, they all may be made aids to a noble life, if there is a large worthy aim and motive pervading all, but if they engross your minds to the exclusion of better things, they are hindrances and not helps, and the sooner you stop and think, why you are here, and whither you are going, and what you are doing, the sooner you may escape the charge of idleness. Paradoxical as it may seem, it is sometimes true, the less busy you are the less idle you are. To escape the charge of idleness you must not only be doing something, you must be doing something worthy of a human being.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

NEIL'S DILEMMA.

BY JERUSHA JUMBLE.

"Was that Ettie Bradley?"

"Yes."

"I thought so; but you bowed so coolly, and looked so sober, I thought I must be mistaken. What's up now, Neil? Did she give you the mitten?"

"No."

"Well then, perhaps you are afraid she will?"

"I think not."

"Well, well, I don't like to be too inquisitive, if I can find out without; but really a man's curiosity is quite equal to a woman's, when fully roused; so I promise you no peace until you satisfy mine. What troubles you?"

"Did I say anything did?"

"Yes. Actions speak louder than words sometimes; you have not been looking well for several days; I thought perhaps you had overdone, and there was a little liver trouble; now I begin to see that the heart has more to do with it than the liver. Sit right down under this tree and tell me all about it. You know my interest is born of a genuine friendship. You will be better off to unburden your mind to some one, and I will never betray you in any way. What did that sigh mean?"

"It arose from amid the ashes of a dead hope. But I hesitate to speak my feelings, even to you, because I dislike to speak of another's mistakes; it seems like disloyalty to the friendship which has so long existed between Ettie Bradley and myself."

"The friendship which *has* existed! Doesn't

"SO ENGROSSED WAS SHE WITH HER BOOK, AS TO BE APPARENTLY OBLIVIOUS TO ALL SURROUNDINGS."

it still exist? I am sure she bowed politely, and smiled as pleasantly as one would ask when you met just now; otherwise I would almost imagine you had quarrelled."

"I should consider myself a disgrace to the mother who bore me, if I could so far forget myself as to quarrel with a lady."

"O come, Neil! you know I would not insult you, or repeat anything told me in secret. So tell your story in as few words as you choose."

"Well, Fred, you know I have enjoyed Ettie's company very much. I had talked, walked, and driven with her; in fact spent many delightful hours in her company. And was fast coming to the conclusion that she was the woman of all women for me. I don't think this will surprise you, as you seemed pretty well aware of my feelings, judging from some words you have spoken in jest."

"Yes, Niel, I understood your attentions to mean something more than a mere pastime. But I must have misjudged the girl very much if your friendship was not reciprocated."

"I believe it was; and this belief only adds to my sufferings to-day. You are already aware that I have always prized very highly my mother's advice. With my usual confidence, I spoke to her of my serious intention of trying to win Ettie's love. She talked to me in a loving manner; but I thought she seemed disturbed, although she declined to explain; but advised me to get a closer look into Ettie's home life before I fully decided a matter so important to both parties. I had never thought so much about obtaining a housekeeper, as a companion, but mother convinced me that I should miss my tidy home, and for health's sake should need my food properly prepared; and had never been accustomed, either, to sew on my own buttons, or go with them off. I then realized that I was not in reality acquainted with Ettie's home life; my calls had either been made in the evening, or according to previous engagement. She sings and plays so nicely that I gave her little chance for other work, during my visits; that she could, and did, do fancy work, I knew, because I had seen her work, (or what she said was hers.) She does Kensington painting, among the rest. I called the next Tuesday evening, with my eyes and ears on the alert. It seemed to me that she was more becomingly dressed than usual; her pretty hair coiled loosely upon the back of her shapely head, while the front hair seemed one mass of tiny waves; her complexion is almost faultless, so cosmetics are unnecessary. I did not call for music as soon as usual, and she busied her fingers (which were shapely if not lily white) with a dainty little piece of rie-rae. After a pleasant chat, and some music, I left for home, more in love than ever. During the evening I learned that Mr. and Mrs. Bradley were going to Kingston, to spend the next day, and laid my plans accordingly. I rode over to Britin's with Father, purchased a book I had promised Ettie, and started to deliver it: cutting across lots, etc., and coming into the yard at the back of the house. I confess the back yard seemed distantly related to the flower yard, and my heart throbbed with a mighty fear of the revelations which might follow. I did not wish to see, yet felt *compelled to look*. I walked on, feeling more like a criminal going to judgment, than a lover calling upon the girl he loved. Coming around the corner of the house, I saw, through the open window, first, a basket of unfolded clothes, nicely *sprinkled* with flies. The breakfast, just as the family left it, except that the flies were holding high carnival over everything——"

"Go on, Neil; murder will out, and you may as well tell the whole truth first as last."

"Well, the next sight must have paralyzed my power of action, for the instant, for I came to a dead halt, just opposite the window. You know my mother is always a lady, never a sloven, even in the kitchen, and the picture presented, looked worse to my eyes than it would to those better accustomed to such sights. In a low rocker, sat Ettie Bradley, so changed from the Ettie Bradley of my acquaintance as to be almost unrecognizable. The dress and apron she wore was far from clean; the shoes were ragged and slipshod; no collar adorned the pretty neck; the hair had been slept in, but not combed since my visit; the tiny waves were in preparation, in the form of two hateful looking horns. And shall I say it? Her hands and face were ornamented with something very like pot-black——"

"What was she doing to allow such an inventory of her charms?"

"Reading an exciting novel which she had laid aside upon my entrance the previous evening. So engrossed was she with her book, as to be apparently oblivious to all surroundings. Then you know it takes longer to tell about a thing than it does to look at it. While my regret was very deep, I was even then conscious of a feeling of deep thankfulness, that I saw this sight with eyes free to look in another direction. Recovering my senses, I passed quickly around to the front door and rung the bell. In a few moments I heard stealthy footsteps, and felt rather than knew, that Ettie was looking at me from behind the curtain. But the door did not open. I rung again and waited, determined to have it out while I was about. In perhaps fifteen minutes, the door opened and there stood my pretty Ettie: face and hands clean, hair brushed, and while it showed haste, still it looked very unlike the last view I had had of it; only serving to show how little time it would take to make some heads more presentable. Her wrapper and apron were clean; at the neck she wore a neat rie-rae collar, fastened by a small, but neat pin; to be sure her face was over-flushed from haste and excitement, but she looked so different, and so pretty, that my heart throbbed with a mighty regret, and I felt for the moment capable of almost any sacrifice, if that could, thereby, have become the *reality*, everything else in accordance. But I was to have a still greater trial, for while giving me a most cordial welcome, she, at the same time, apologized for keeping me standing, saying she was housekeeper in her mother's absence, and was just making up the bread. At this, she blushed deeply, but turned it off, saying she supposed I would not be shocked to learn she ever done such things. I very warmly assured her that I believed it the *duty* of every young lady to perfect herself in all the arts of housekeeping. Then blushing more deeply than before, she answered, 'I think so too. I could not tell you all that passed. I kept saying over and over to myself: 'Untruthful and untidy, untruthful and untidy.' I felt like one in a dream; she urged me to spend the day with her, but I desired to get away by myself, and declined, having no desire to dine at that neglected breakfast table, where I knew the flies must be still paying their "horrible regrets." Some people seem to think a nice parlor compensates for an untidy kitchen; or afternoon "fix-ups" for morning untidyness. But Ettie's falsehoods, fashionable though they be, grieve me beyond aught else. I could never love, or respect *her*, as I desire to the woman I call *wife*. You can see, Fred, it is a hopeless case."

"Yes, Niel, I do, and from my heart I pity you. In fact I pity you both. I am surprised at, and disappointed in Ettie; she seemed so nice. To tell the honest truth, had it not been for the visit you received from your little brown-eyed Cousin Rieta, I should have made a fool of myself over Ettie Bradley."

"I say what I know, Fred, when I say Rieta is worthy of your love, and I shall be only too happy to claim you as a cousin, when the time comes."

"Thank you; may the time still come when you shall find your Rieta; one good enough to pay for all previous disappointments."

"It does not seem, now, that I can ever care for another. The feelings I entertained toward the Ettie I believed her to be, still haunt me. 'Tis a nightmare from which I cannot wake. The Ettie I love, lives only in an Idea; the Ettie I saw in Mr. Bradley's dining-room is a reality which I *cannot* love, or respect."

"Still, Neil, I pity her, because she has not had your bringing up."

"I know it; and more than ever realize a mother's responsibility in training her children. For this reason alone, I could never install Ettie Bradley where it might fall to her lot to train a daughter to make any man such a wife, as she would make me. If young men and young women were wise they would always look before they leap. A mother's wisdom caused the look which prevented the fatal leap in my case. But it cannot prevent all suffering. What will Ettie think of me? I *believe* she was fast learning to love me as well as she was capable of loving. I cannot endure the thought of her believing me to be that most despicable of creatures, the flirt; who strives to win what he really don't want, or won't take. I have given her reason to think that my attentions were of a serious nature; now what can I do?"

"What had you thought of doing?"

"I presume you will be horrified to hear, that I have about made up my mind to tell her the exact truth. I would rather merit her anger than her contempt."

"Well, sir, I presume you will have both if you try that on, whether you merit them or not. But I must go home, now; you know I start for Philadelphia in the morning."

Three months have fled, and we will listen to a second conversation between Neil Dawson and Fred Irison. Neil Dawson's face wears a look of contented happiness; Fred's one of puzzled inquiry.

"Well! Neil Dawson, I used to think you a man of your word; but only three months ago, you spoke these words: 'I could never love and respect her, as I desire to the woman I call *wife*.' Now what am I to think upon learning that you now expect to make this same *her* your wife? Are you marring a woman you neither love or respect? or have you changed your opinion as to the virtues which can command the same? Don't worry about my dropping in to dinner oftener than once or twice a day."

"I won't, I promise you; nevertheless shall expect the honor of your company quite often; not so much for the dinner's sake, as because you appreciate the cook."

"Bah! don't talk to me; my love for the cook, is not, as yet, sufficiently strong to relieve my memory of a very interesting, and like-like picture, imprinted by your animated description, of a certain breakfast-table. I enjoy *my* hash, better without the relishing thought that its ingredients had ever furnished picnic grounds for a few *aristocratic* (?) flies."

"Don't Fred; please oblige me by not making the disgust, evidently so genuine, so ludicrous that I am obliged to laugh in your face. Give me time to convince you that my word has not been broken—scarcely cracked. The girl I love, and am *proud* of, bids fair to be one of the neatest, as well as the sweetest little house and housekeepers, among your acquaintances."

"I won't pretend to question either your word or judgment; am open to conviction, but can't see *exactly* how one *could* change so *much* in so short a time."

"'Where there is a will there is a way.' But I will explain. The evening you left us, I went to Ettie in perfect candor; telling her what my feelings were toward the woman I had though her to be. I did not hide my love, only declaring firmly that it belonged to the ideal, not the reality. She wept bitterly, showing no signs of anger; frankly owning, not only her faults, but her affection for me, also. You may imagine something of your feelings: joined in heart, but separated by an awful barrier to a nearer and dearer union in our lonely lives. It was a sad interview. When I left she asked me to come again in two months, begging me not to close my heart against her, until she had made at least an effort to be worthy of my love, and respect. Her mother married very young, without the least knowledge in regard to housekeeping; spent the first few years in a boarding-house (that bane of all young married people who patronize them.) Of course she is not capable of training her daughter. Ettie said my words to her that sad Wednesday morning, had roused her somewhat to her true condition, causing a new ambition; therefore a difference in her manners as to work and dress; and she felt that already she was a little different from the girl she was that day. Said she never saw her untidyness as she did that morning; ashamed to be seen by any one outside of the family, in that trim, she never could have opened the door before making a change; in her great shame was driven to speak deceiving words, lest I should guess the truth. She had grieved much over these things. Only finding comfort in the new-born hope of still becoming in reality, what she was in pretension. I told my mother just how things stood. She said it would be next to impossible for Ettie to overcome, alone and unaided, the mischief of mis-spent years. So you can imagine I spent a miserable two months; receiving from her no word of encouragement, could only hope she was succeeding better than my Mother thought she could. Fortunately, I was obliged to go away on business the next week, and returned only the day before my time was up. It is possible that might have had something to do with my returning just when I did; however, I was very glad to get home, and mother seemed pleased to have me back again, and more than usually pleased with my appreciation of the dinner I found just ready to be eaten; but if she had spent, as I had, two, or nearly two, months, in a little backwoods hotel, where there was nothing first-class but the charges, she could have enjoyed it better herself. We never fully realize the value of a thing until we lose it or are likely to. Perhaps this will, in a measure, account for the increased vigor of my love for Ettie. Well, it's getting late, and I will cut my story short. I found my mother had put her 'hand to the plow.' She was teacher and adviser. Ettie had proved an apt and willing scholar. She it was who had prepared my good dinner; and better than that had won my mother's affection as well as mine. Sometimes I am almost tempted to be jealous of their friendship for each other; you know my mother never had a daughter's love. She thinks we will be safe in setting up a 'dove cot' of our own, six months hence, when you will consider yourself upon a standing invitation to dine whenever it suits your convenience."

"Thank you; 'the proof of the pudding is in the eating.' I shall surely put in an appearance; out of curiosity, if nothing more. Then, after I have ransacked pantry and closets, rummaged drawers and boxes, peeped under beds and into corners, finding everywhere a full corroboration of your very sanguine expectations, I may possibly consent to prove the 'pudding,' which, mind you, is to be seasoned with—well, I don't care what, so it is not our friends of the breakfast table. Ah! Neil, an otherwise sensible man, is a 'precious goose' when he is in love. Don't contradict me; I speak from experience; and she is the 'best teacher,' you know. And *everyone* wants a lesson from her science of Love.

In the January *Housekeeper*, there is an open letter signed "Happy Old Maid," which is so good that we would like to make a little extract from it:

"But the principal thing is, do away with the corset, if you would be healthy, wealthy, and wise. Hold on a minute, sisters, I am not going to stay long, just want to say that I am a living witness that doing without corsets will not make one wealthy, healthy or wise. I am now in my—Oh! dear me, most told how old I was, but anyhow there has been more than one gray hair in my head; and as I was going to say, I have my third and fourth corsets (that I ever bought) yet, the fourth good as new, the three wearable. I don't wear a corset only once in a while, and there has been times when I didn't have one on for a year or more. I wear the union undergarment and I wear a heavy skirt. I put suspenders to it, have plenty of fresh air, gets lots of exercise between the cellar and garret, wear No. 5 shoes broad and flat. Mother never wore a corset until 15 years after I was born; my grandmother never wore one; don't think my great-grandmothers ever did and yet I am a poor, weak-backed, long, lanky mortal, no more back-bone than a snake. What is the reason, will some one please tell me? Is it because I am not a member of the dress-reform party? If so, I must say that that dress-reform party will have to change a little before I join. But maybe I will change my mind; there is no telling. Wouldn't I change my mind now if I thought I would have better health? certainly; but I will have to *think* so first.) Won't it be a grand sight to see all the sisters of the dress-reform party out on parade? Just imagine your humble servant as standard-bearer of the band. Five feet seven inches in height, slim as a bean pole, heelless shoes, soft and flat; union undergarment, soft flannel petticoat, minus corsets; princess dress of some kind of soft, clinging woolen goods. I can just imagine how nice I would look; and if I thought our new editor would put it on the first page of our paper, I would have one taken dressed just so, for the benefit of those interested in the cause. Excuse me sisters, I am not a friend to corsets, and I am certain that doing without one will not insure good health. I know there is too many pieces to our dresses, but can't we dress neat, comfortable and sociable, without putting on long robes or going to the heathen sisters for our models."

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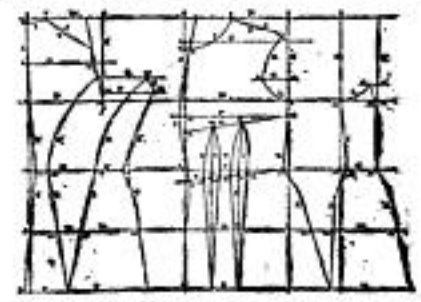

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

ETHEL'S STEP-MOTHER.

BY MRS. M. E. STAFFORD.

"Mamma, I am glad to have you here; for oh! you do look so much like my own mamma, and no one has ever kissed me since she died."

Not until long years afterwards, did Charlie know how much good those few short, choking words did his new mother, and throughout the rest of the evening she kept the boy by her side.

Poor Charlie! no one had ever known how much he had missed and longed for the dear, loving, mother he had lost, and so everyone was astonished at this outburst from the rough school-boy, who Ethel had often said "cared for nobody but himself."

Tom received his step-mother's kiss with apparent indifference Ruth and Rose were bashful and retreated into the shadow of Ethel's skirts; and when their father would have called them out to kiss and welcome their mother, she quietly interposed by saying: "Don't force them to come, John. By to-morrow we shall all be good friends, but to-night it all seems strange to these little ones, and we must give them time to get acquainted."

Gertie proposed showing "Mother" as she already called her, to her room, which offer was thankfully received, and so they left the room together; the little girl chatting merrily, and smiling brightly up in her mother's face.

Ethel watched them as they crossed the room, and she frowned darkly at poor, unconscious Gertie, while she muttered inaudibly: "*There's* the young lady that was going to stand by me, and help me, and now she has just turned her back on me, and gone over to the enemy. *Very well*, perhaps *some* day she will be *glad* to fall back on me." Which dark forboding never came to pass. Gertie forgot all about being as "stiff as a poker" and instead, clung confidingly to the young step-mother's hand. And the trust and loving confidence the girl placed in her mother that first night, continued through life.

Supper passed off with few mishaps. To be sure, Tom put salt on his strawberries instead of sugar. Rosie would persist in "shoveling in" her food, and then swallowing it almost whole. Gertie persisted in talking a great deal more than was necessary, and managed, during the conversation, to introduce every word of her pet (slang) expressions. And last but not least, it was found that Ethel had forgotten to put any sugar in the custards, and the cream for the strawberries had soured.

However, all these mishaps were passed lightly over. Mrs. Clayton told some amusing anecdotes about some mistakes she had made in the cooking line, at different times, and by the time they arose from the table, Ruth and Rosie had forgotten their shyness, and when bed-time was announced clung lovingly around her neck, as she kissed them good-night.

"Never mind," said Ethel bitterly to herself, that night as she was preparing for bed, "'a new broom sweeps clean;' she is all honey to-night, but just wait until she begins to make them stand around, and wait upon her. Then they'll see how well they like it. There is one thing certain, she shan't have baby, for he is my very own; my very own," she continued, kneeling beside the bed to kiss the sweet, rosy face of the sleeping baby. "No darling, Ethie will take care of you as long as you live, and you won't ever love anybody but her, will you, sweetest?"

There was something almost holy in Ethel's love for the little baby brother, who, since his birth, had been her own especial charge, for their mother had died when he was but a week old, and dying, had bade Ethel watch over the little helpless baby, so soon to be left motherless. And Ethel, in her loving, jealous zeal to obey the dead mother's charge, almost forgot that her father, and brothers, and sisters, had any right to baby. He was her's, her's alone.

The next day was a very busy one, mamma must be taken all over the house, to inspect the rooms and their contents. Her trunks were unpacked, presents distributed, and received with shouts of delight. She made friends with Rover, the great St. Bernard, and Speckle and Blackie, the kittens. She froliced with Tom, and the twins, as though she was not a day older than they. She gave poor Charlie, "who followed her about the house like a faithful watch-dog" more than one kiss, and tender, motherly hug; and she entrusted Gertie with the sole charge of unpacking and putting away the contents of one delightful great trunk.

At the end of the first week the children all agreed in saying that never, no never, had they ever had such a good time, as since mother come.

"She is just as splendid as she can be," said Gertie, "she says she wants us all to have just as good a time as we possibly can while we are young, and I've promised to try to stop using slang."

"She promised me a new "Chatterbox" if I would try not to 'gobble' at the table," placidly observed Rosie, from her perch on the gate.

"I think that every one of us had ought to do all we can for her, when she does so much for us," exclaimed Charlie, looking up from the rabbit hutch he was building. "Just think how good she talks to us about our own mother, and she says she wants us always to remember Mamma and the things she used to teach us."

"Ethel don't like her though, and she won't let baby go near her, if she can help it," said Gertie indignantly; "she says we——"

"Rough! Ethel is an old crank," interrupted Charlie. "I tell you, Gertie Clayton, if Papa knew one-half how hateful Ethel was to dear Mamma, he'd give her a good talking to."

Was Ethel "hateful" to her step-mother! She was never saucy to her. She was never disobedient. She simply ignored as nearly as possible her presence in the house, never speaking directly to her when she could possibly avoid doing so, and keeping poor baby apart from the new mother, and the rest of his brothers and sisters, until the little fellow grew actually sick with sheer loneliness.

"I must give that girl a thorough good scolding," exclaimed Mr. Clayton impatiently one evening, after Ethel had made herself especially disagreeable.

Mrs. Clayton hesitated a moment, and then crossing the room to where her husband was sitting, she said gently, resting her hand on his shoulder as she spoke:

"John, pray, for my sake, don't say anything to Ethel just now, dear, the poor child is more to be pitied than blamed. I know just how she feels, for I went all through with this once myself, and I know just how hard it is to see another filling a dear mother's place. It will all come out all right, I trust, and we can only be patient; but you must promise not to scold, or appear to notice her little unpleasant ways now, or it might make her feel even more bitter toward me."

Mr. Clayton promised that he would not interfere at present. "But," said he, "if she don't come to her senses before long, I very much fear she will be the death of every one in the house."

Poor Ethel! How little her father, or any one thought what a trying ordeal she would have to pass through, before she was, as he expressed it, "brought to her senses."

The summer passed pleasantly to all, but the poor stubborn girl. Gertie was fast learning to be more womanly under her mother's teaching and guidance; and had almost entirely given up talking slang. Charlie was still his mother's right-hand man, and was never saucy or disobedient to her, and was fast setting a good example for Tom to follow, in studiousness and gentlemanly demeanor. The twins were much less quarrelsome and selfish than formerly, and they exhibited with much pride a doll's wardrobe they had completed, by joint efforts, and mamma's ever ready help.

The one dark cloud, amidst all their bright ones, was Ethel; and at times her mother grew almost discouraged, as she thought how persistently the girl rejected all overtures on her part.

One morning in the early winter, Ethel came down to breakfast with pale, weary face, and deep, dark circles under her eyes, and with baby in her arms, with flushed, feverish face, crying in that peevish, fretful manner, that nearly always indicates that the little one is suffering.

"Why Ethel dear! is baby ill? why did you not call me?" exclaimed her step-mother, laying her cool hand on baby's hot head.

"It is nothing but a cold, and he is much better now," answered Ethel testily. "He has been just so often, and I have always brought him through all right."

Mrs. Clayton sighed, and looked anxiously at baby's tossing head, and swollen, parched lips.

"Ethel," she said slowly, "won't you leave him down here with me to-day? I really do not wish to alarm you, dear, but I very much fear that baby is much more ill than you imagine, and I shall feel much more easy about him, if he is where I can watch over him."

"Thank you," answered Ethel coldly, "I prefer to have him in my own room; and I understand *perfectly* well what to do for him. He will be all right by night."

Sure enough, baby seemed to be much less feverish by night, and when his young step-mother made her last, unwelcome visit to Ethel's room to look at him, before retiring for the night, she sound him in what seemed to be an easy, refreshing slumber.

"I'm so glad, Ethel," she said, "for I was really alarmed this morning about him."

"I *knew* that it was nothing but a sudden cold," answered Ethel, grimly.

But it so happened that Ethel knew nothing about it, for when baby awakened, he looked with unconscious blue eyes into those of the sister bending over him; the little curly head tossed upon the hot pillow, and hoarse quick gasps for breath came from the little swollen throat.

Ethel hung over him in frantic despair: "Baby, Ethie's darling baby! don't you know sister?" she cried, wringing her hands helplessly.

But baby's only answer was a moan, and then a quick, convulsive gasp for breath. Ethel gave one bound across the room, opened the door and called Gertie.

"Go for Papa!" she said wildly, as the little girl answered the call, "Johnnie is ill; and oh! tell him to hurry."

When the father and step-mother entered the room, after being awakened by Gertie's terrified summons, they found baby in strong convulsions, and Ethel crouched, a mute terror, beside the bed.

"Papa," she gasped hoarsely, as her father took the little, struggling, suffering form in his arms, "It is all my fault! I have killed him! and oh! Papa, I loved him so."

"Hush Ethel," said her mother gently, but firmly, "there is no time to think of that now. Please God baby will not die; but you must help me save him. Get out his little bath-tub, and then run to the kitchen and bring me a kettle of hot water. Gertie, you heat a blanket, and melt some lard, and John, dear, pray bring a doctor as soon as possible."

All flew to obey the mother's quiet, steady voice, and when Mr. Clayton returned with the good doctor, who had known Ethel since her babyhood, baby was lying wrapped in the warm blanket, and well greased from head to foot with the warm lard with his curly head resting against his step mother's shoulder, and her thumb tightly clasped in his tiny hand.

"Malignant diptheria" pronounced the doctor; and a thrill of horror crept through the hearts of the little anxious group, gathered closely about the little sufferer.

Ethel Clayton never forgot the terrible days that followed that long weary night; days that when every breath that baby drew were those of agony; and then there came a day when they hung over the little suffering form, lying so mute and still across his step-mother's arms; fearing that before another day baby would be with the angels.

Just as day was deepening into dusk, Mrs. Clayton arose, and laying the little one gently on the bed turned to Ethel, who stood near her with a white, drawn look upon her face, and drawing the girl's trembling form into the shelter of her loving arms, kissed her tenderly upon the quivering lips, as she whispered softly:

"Ethel, daughter, God has been very good to us. He has given dear baby back into our keeping. Shall we not try now to thank him for this great blessing?"

"And next to Him, thank you, Mamma," sobbed Ethel, with her head on her mother's shoulder, "for if it had not been for you, baby would have been in Heaven now, and I——Oh, mother! what can I do to atone for all my wretched treatment of you?"

"By never alluding to it again, and being my own dear, good girl in the future," answered her mother, kissing her again. "And now, dear, I want you to come into my room and lie down, and try to have a nice, long, refreshing sleep."

Ethel submitted quietly to being undressed, and assisted into her mother's cool white bed. She was tired, she confessed with a wan smile, and her head ached; and before morning Ethel was lying tossing and moaning, as baby had done, with the same dread disease.

Unwearied and patiently her mother watched over her; giving her cooling drinks, to cool the poor parched tongue, and throat, replacing the quickly dried, hot cloths on her head by others wrung from ice cold water, holding the burning hands in hers, and doing all in her power to relieve the girl's sufferings.

"How good you are Mamma. What makes you love us all so?" said Ethel, one day, when, after the fever had left her, she was able to sit up in a great easy chair, well cushioned with pillows, for a few hours each day.

Her mother smiled gently, and smoothed the chestnut hair, lying in tiny short rings now, upon the girl's head.

"I love you all because—well, because I could not help it if I wished," she answered slowly. "But Ethel darling, I love you especially, because fifteen years ago, I was left motherless, as you were, daughter; and then one day awoke to the fact that another was coming to take my mother's vacant place in the household; and then, dearest," kissing Ethel's upturned face, "like you, I tried to hate her, and ended in loving her, as my own precious girl loves me."

"Darling Mother," whispered Ethel, softly, "Thank God for sending you to me."

STEALING THE SILK TRADE.

Silk had its origin in China 150 B. C. From thence it was introduced into Persia, and for a long time the Persian merchants held the monopoly by land and sea, and by their proximity to markets of India, they drove a thrifty trade with that country. The Emperor Justinian saw with dismay the wealth of his subjects continuously drained by a nation of enemies and idolators, for Roman navigation had so decayed that he could not send ships to the ports of Ceylon and China for the purchase of silk, and he was indebted to the shrewdness of two Persian monks for its introduction into his domain.

These monks had long resided in China, and had a favorable opportunity of seeing how the Chinese reared the silk worms and manufactured the silk. They saw it was possible to transport the eggs to a remote climate, and so they, knowing of the Emperor's wishes, made the long jour- to Constantinople, and made known their project to Justinian, who rewarded them with valuable gifts, and encouraged them with promises of future gains, if successful.

The monks returned to China, and stealthily concealed the eggs of the silk worm in a hollow cane with which they came back to the Emperor. By their direction they were hatched by artificial heat; the worms were fed on mulberries and thrived, spun their cocoons and multiplied. The silk was manufactured as successfully as by the Chinese.

When it was first brought from India in A. D. 274, a pound of raw silk was worth its weight in gold. The manufacture of it in Europe dates from 350. Silk dresses were first worn in 1455. Silk stockings were unknown in Europe before the middle of the sixteenth century. A pair of long Spanish silk hose were at that period considered a gift worthy the acceptance of a king, and a pair was presented to Edward the VI., by Sir Thomas Gresham.

In the third year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, Mrs. Montague, the queen's silk woman, presented to Her Majesty a pair of black knit silk stockings, which pleased her so well that she would never wear any cloth hose afterwards.

M. D. W.

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ED. L. H. J.—If the many mothers who read this most excellent of papers, THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, will send a self-addressed *stamped* envelope to me, I will write to them about small children who have thrush or canker sore mouth. It is very, very painful to the little ones, and I would like to write to every mother who reads this paper about it.

MRS. IRENA H. CARDWELL.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

ED. L. H. J.—Will the lady who recommended "deer's hair" for a baby's pillow please state where I can obtain it, and the amount of money to forward for it?

Will some of the ladies in the *South* tell how *they* keep a wee baby cool when the thermometer is 110 in the shade? I dress baby according to directions in "Tokology," omitting the second skirt in hot weather. Being a new-comer in the South I ask for information. MRS. M. P. C.

BARABOO, WIS., JAN. 1, '87.

ED. L. H. J.—After reading several of these very entertaining JOURNAL's, I am induced to offer a few suggestions for the benefit of rising humanity. Thanks to its grandmother, my baby, of four months, is never chafed, as after the bath in the morning, and the last thing at night, we apply with the finger, as you would vaseline, some glycerine and tannin. To prepare this, take about twenty-five cents worth of tannin, and slowly stir in enough glycerine to make a kind of a thin paste; then strain through a cloth to remove any grit, and keep the mixture in a large necked bottle or little jar, to prevent dirt or dust getting in. Place the diaper beneath the baby before applying the mixture, as it sells; however, these and other stains are easily removed by using "Pearline." I only use one safety pin around my baby, and that is in the diaper; then it is an easy matter to find out if a pin is sticking in the tender flesh when she cries. With narrow tape I tie her pinning blanket in the front and skirt in the back. For a northern baby, in winter, the nicest kind of a pinning blanket is made of Shaker flannel,—one yard and a third from the arm-pit and the width of the material is just right. The end of the blanket is turned up and laid smoothly over the baby's stomach and both sides, then the four edges are pinned, if preferred, over the stomach, and at the feet, however, leaving plenty of room for the little legs to stretch out. I use long sleeved and high necked skirts, two at a time. One of silk, next to the body, as it does not scratch; the other, over this, of cashmere. Every morning I wash out the baby's mouth with the following recipe for, or to prevent, sore mouth: One cup of strong sage tea, sweetened well with honey first melted and strained. A tablespoonful of powdered borax. Strain all through a cloth, and if it becomes too thick for use, mix in a little borax water. To swab out the mouth use a soft rag, well saturated, and placed over the finger, thereby enabling you to reach every portion of the mouth. If some one will tell me what to give my baby for costiveness I shall be very grateful. MRS. J. A. B.

DEAR JOURNAL:—I have been quite interested in the controversy "Spinster" started, and think she is well answered. I do not agree with her for I was one of the naughty ones who took a "summer outing." If we trust a man enough to give ourselves to his keeping while life lasts, we usually can trust him alone a few weeks. There is one point in regards to children upon which I had hoped "John's Wife," with her good sense, would give her views, viz.: as to the little ones visiting without Mamma.

If I have a hobby it is this one: that children should be kept at home until their character is in a marked formed. My boy is over seven years of age, and when Mamma goes visiting (which is not often) he goes, and not any other time. He is happy and contented at home, because he knows nothing else. We go shopping together, and what a treat it is to him. A few times I have yielded to friends to "let Elmer come and play this afternoon" and then the baby girl of three years cried with quivering lip "me too go wiv Buba" (her baby name for brother.) And now, though I have gained the ill will of some dear friends, my little ones stay home and play with Mamma. During my "summer outing," when I expressed myself in regard to this matter, this was the reply: "The children must enjoy themselves and I can't take time to amuse them." I tell you, mothers, if you take upon yourselves the responsibility of motherhood, and take a soul to train for Eternity, you *must take time to amuse them*. I want my boy and girl to be children in actions while they are so in age, and dressing them in best "bib and tucker" and sending them off alone is not the best way of keeping them innocent. Their table manners may not be perfect and in society they may not be called well-bred, but that will come in good time. I heard of a group of young misses, the eldest not more than nine years of age, criticizing their mothers. Think of it! Mothers may talk to me of the claims of society. I tell you society can have no claims that will interfere with the welfare of our children. My article on "Economy" in March No., 1886, brought me numerous letters—some containing stamps, others not. Some asks for my address. Here it is. MRS. H. E. JERAULD.

PEORIA, ILL.

DEAR MOTHERS OF "MOTHER'S CORNER:"—In the "Corner" of the October number of THE JOURNAL, there appeared a letter signed "M. A. T.," which interested me greatly. It has induced me to ignore my timidity and briefly relate my experience, which may prove of value to one or two weary mothers, whom I cannot hear called "cruel," because they deem it wise that their children should not receive certain exacting care which the little hearts may demand.

I might speak of all excessive petting, but I wish especially in this letter to ask your consideration of this old question: "Ought children to be made to go to sleep alone?"

I shall give you my "very own" story, the sequel to which has been reached at the expense of many a sigh and too often a tear. We have three children and I am prepared to affirm, my first boy in his early babyhood was more "trouble" (that is the word mothers so often—shall I say *heartbeats*) than he and his two brothers collectively, have been since their parents have gained a little wisdom.

How I enjoyed the rocking and "snuggling" and caressing that I bestowed upon my first-born! It was, I used to think, the sweetest thing in the world to feel his dear little head upon my arm and to see his tiny pink eyelids droop as he enjoyed the motion of my chair. The time came, however, when an hour's rocking at each sleeping time did not suffice. My husband and I were obliged to alternate in the regular evening care of the little fellow. He would not go to sleep, but lie quietly, blinking up into our faces. If we laid him in his bed, with the desperate determination of letting him "cry it out," we were never disappointed in the crying part, but before the baby reached that stage where weariness would cause natural sleep, grandma, grandpa, uncles and aunties would betray such uneasiness that, for the sake of peace, we would take up the screaming child and begin again the weary task of coaxing slumber to that small body. Often, evening callers would be obliged to leave without seeing us, and indeed we very nearly lost all society, through being so confined with our baby. We began to feel almost disappointed and disgusted with married life generally. When the little monarch was sixteen months old, we went into a house of our own; it was necessary that I should have more time to attend to the thousand-and-one cares which housekeeping entails, and so it was resolved that Willie *should* go to sleep alone. It seemed very hard then, but it is with a smile that I reflect upon it now. A little determination, a great mountain of patience, and it is accomplished. The child will not only learn that he is to go quietly into his crib to sleep, but also the realization will gradually steal into his little mind that his wish cannot always be an object before which parents, relative, everybody must bow assent. The tiny man or woman, in everything will be more submissive, forbearing and amiable.

Our second boy was a robust and colicky fellow, and while we never rocked, we gave him much loving and sympathetic care; but a small drink of hot water usually conquered the gas in his little stomach, and he would be laid in his bed to sleep at proper and *regular* intervals. Strange as it may appear to some parents, he preferred his bed to anyone's arms.

This habit or custom should, however, be inaugurated in the first days of infancy. Common sense indicates if babies were not rocked and coddled they would never have occasion to grieve or lament when these attentions were withdrawn. Commence rightly and save yourself an immense amount of inconvenience or worry. How many times the mother's other duties, which may be far more practical and urgent, utterly deny her the pleasure of holding her babies' hands or even sitting in the nursery while her little one or ones are traveling to dreamland. I know "M. A. T.," who is an auntie, will say: "But the mother's first duty is to her children." I do not know what one can do more for her child than to teach it that its pleasure should not be considered primarily to the convenience of those carrying more years and burdens. In my own case, I should have three tiny hands to hold in three different beds, and I am unable to say how I should ever be able to even attend prayer-meeting. "M. A. T." I infer must be speaking exclusively to the mothers who have but one child and never expect to have more. If "Winnie" had a little brother or sister, younger and perhaps ill, could her mamma, you think, still allow to "Winnie" that "hour for soothing lullaby."

O, dear Theorizers, do not, I beg of you, interfere with the conscientious and loving mother, who knows far better than you probably ever will what is for her child's good! Do you think that mothers *love* to hear that plaintive, appealing cry that comes from the nursery when baby is put for the first time to go to sleep alone? Do you think it "cruel" to steadfastly declare that the year-or-two old *must* go to sleep without attendance when perhaps lying against that mother's heart there may be another little life which will shortly demand of her much suffering and care?

So many have said to me, "How do you find time for so much reading and study?" My answer ever is: "*Because my children are so good and helpful to each other and to every one else.*" They are nearly always bright and happy and above all, healthy.

I wish, before closing this letter, to tell you of my youngest, our eight-month's-old boy. He is, by far, the merriest of our little folks. He is extremely affectionate and loves his mother's arms, but when, at sleepy times, we carry him to his crib, he will first put up his little mouth, bird-fashion, for a kiss, then lian over to be placed in his nest.

If you, dear mothers, are rushed with many duties and worn with care, if you desire more time for reading and mind culture, if your children are becoming selfish and tyrannical, try my plan, and your baby, if it is well, will not cry itself into convulsions. Yours sympathetically,

F. W. J.

A SUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENT.

I have not seen in the "Mother's Corner" any account of a similar one, so I will detail, for the benefit of mothers, my departure and how it worked.

With my first baby I followed the accepted method of clothing infants, wearing skirts and dresses of a moderate length and simply made, but I did not like it. He was a sleepy baby, and no matter how nicely dressed he was, he always got up with a rumpled damp place in his clothes. I had but limited time to devote to his wardrobe, as I did all my own housework, and the result was that I was often mortified by baby's appearance, and made all possible haste to put him in short clothes. And I inwardly determined that if I had to take care of any more babies, I would discard baby clothes. Well, the opportunity came without much delay, and true to my resolution, I set about shortening to three-quarter length all the little dresses left over from No. 1., made simply with Hubbard yoke and hems, either plain or a simple cluster of tucks above them. Little flannel skirts with flannel waists, (and they should have had long sleeves, too) knit Saxony shirts, long sleeved and high necked, fine woolen stockings coming well up the little leg, for the first three months little knitted shoes or bootees, after that soft leather shoes and merino stockings, always pinned to the diaper holding it round the leg like drawers. And no band after the first two weeks, or as soon as baby healed up nicely. You will think she looked odd, but no one ever saw a neater, cuter looking baby; when she lay down for a nap her clothes turned up in under her without making an uncomfortable wad. She never had cold feet, never had the colic even once, and has been throughout the two years of her life an unusually healthy baby.

If I had a dozen babies I would put them in short clothes from the first.

Another great advantage to the busy mother is, that these clothes do not have to be laid aside in a few months and new ones made. As long as they last they are useful. Baby grows into them fast enough for them to look well in the usual time, and then it is a long time till they are too short or small otherwise. My baby's *good* dress, when she was six months old, only needed new sleeves to answer the same purpose at eighteen months.

I do not urge this for mothers who have plenty of means and leisure and dress their children for pleasure as well as comfort, but to the many who must make their babies comfortable at the least possible outlay, I say try it at least once. You can have a conventional suit for state occasions if you think it necessary.

This may not be so unusual a plan as I think it, but it was original with me, I never having heard it advocated, and the wonder, and after a while admiration of my neighbors makes me think it rather new. MRS. G. D. L.

CHILDREN IN THE HOME.

Polemicus Pattle, in his letters has said, somewhat humorously, "folks now-a-days hez decided that childern is a heritidge ov the Devil stid ov the Lord, an' ev gone ter raisin' cats, birds, poodles an' sich, which they declare is cheeper an' easyer done."

And no one who has taken note of the sentiment of the times concerning this subject will deny the truth of the quaint old gentleman's statement.

We condemn, or perhaps pity, the heathen mother throwing her helpless babe under the cruel wheels of the Juggernaut, or into the dark waters of the Ganges, as an offering to her god; yet scores upon scores of our Christian (!) women sacrifice their yet *unborn infants*, from a far less holy motive, upon the altar of society, fashion and personal ease.

The world is rushing on at too mad a pace to bother with children,—no time to nurse their colics,—steady their little tottering feet,—to brood them in childhood's petty storms,—to guide them while making the perilous rapids to manhood and womanhood!

"Get some beautiful house plants—a charming canary—a dear old cat and a *love* of a *poodle!*—these are not always in the way; don't disturb your nights; don't keep you home from the ball, the opera, and the thousand and one imperious but delightful demands of Society! Then too, Robert and I can be all in all to each other."

Thus reasons many a silly and ignorant young bride, as she imperils everything, even life itself, rather than welcome these God-given angels to her home.

That capricious and conscientiousless dame, Fashion, has invaded this holy precinct and now arrogantly *dictates*, that to be in the height of style, there must be *no children*. One offspring, if puny and delicate, but elegantly dressed, may be allowed—two shows a serious disregard of the laws of Society, while more completely ostracizes (from the *elite*) and consigns you to the "common, vulgar class."

There is scarcely a crime in our nation; not even that of intemperance, we believe, that is working such insidious but sure devastation of our homes, our physical health and our social purity as this crime. The intelligent physician and studious philosopher must regard it with apprehension and alarm.

Wrote a friend just entered upon the sacred duties of marriage: "there is nothing we so much fear as children." And this "fear," though it may be unexpressed, is far too wide-spread.

Even our landlords and the proprietors of fashionable boarding houses, have declared them a nuisance. A "man and wife *without children*," they advertise.

No room! Crowd them out! But did you ever think what an army of these un-owned, despised ones, must be gathering to the arms of Him who said: "Suffer the little children to come unto me?"

And is there no one to lift a voice against this slaughter of the unborn innocents, while scores of quacks and professionals stand ready to deceive and aid in this wicked business?

We need instruction. We need plain talks on these vital subjects. We want it in our medical works, by the press, from the pulpit and from the parents in the home.

Our youth should be taught that children are the crowning glory of the marriage relation, and that none should enter it who are unfit or unwilling to assume this sacred responsibility.

Some one has said, "Life is all preface before the children come;" and truly how little we know ourselves, our weakness and our strength, until we attempt to rear a family. Children are our great educators: teaching us self-denial, patience and industry. They are the strong cords binding (often wavering in their affection or untrue) together. "For our children's sake" becomes the noble and inspiring watchword of the household. And it has saved many a family ship from the breakers and final dismemberment.

Children keep the home warm and bright and the hearts of the parents young and cheerful. If you want to find a fussy, fidgety, finical woman, wrinkled, haggard and disagreeable, look into the homes of those whose order and neatness has never been trespassed upon by a flock of merry, mischievous children.

It is ignorantly supposed that children are like an untimely frost, destroying all physical freshness and beauty. But some of the most beautiful, healthful and fascinating women I have known, are those who have reared large families; upon whose features have rested the beneficent smile of the Madonna. And any intelligent and honest physician will tell you that nothing so undermines the health as the wicked attempts to avoid the duties of maternity.

"What is home without the children?
'Tis the earth without its verdure,
And the sky without its sunshine;
Life is withered to the core!"

One of the greatest luxuries

is a pure and fragrant *Toilet Powder*. To our lady readers we recommend J. & E. ATKINSON'S Rose, *White Rose*, and *Violet Powder*.

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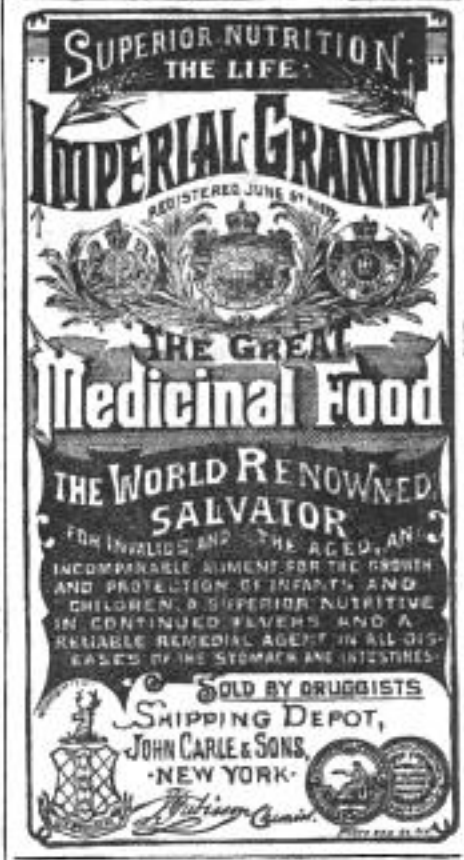
To Canvassers we furnish samples gratis, and give liberal terms. THOS. LEEMING & CO., Sole Agents, New York.



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For fifty cents I will send ten patterns for a baby's new style Health Wardrobe, or ten patterns first short clothes, Health Garments, at same price. Full directions for each pattern, also kind and amount of material required for each. MRS. F. E. PHILLIPS, (FAYE) Brattleboro, Vermont.

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

MARY F. KNAPP, EDITOR,
No. 20 Linden St., S. Boston, Mass.

Terms Used in Knitting.

K—Knit plain. P—Purl, or as it is sometimes called, Seam. N or K 2 tog—Narrow, by knitting 2 together. Over—Throw the thread over the needle before inserting in the next stitch. This makes a loop which is always to be considered a stitch, in the succeeding rows or rounds. Tw—Twist stitch, insert the need e in the back of the stitch to be knitted, and knit as usual. Sl—Slip a stitch from the left hand to the right hand needle without knitting it. S. and B—Slip and bind—slip one stitch, knit the next; pass the slipped one over it, exactly as in binding off a piece of work at the end. * indicates a repetition, and is used merely to save words. "Sl 1, k 1, p 1, repeat from * 4 times"—would be equivalent to saying sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1 p 1. Tog means together.

Terms in Crochet.

Ch—Chain; a straight series of loops, each drawn with the hook through the preceding one. Sl st—Slip stitch; put hook through the work, thread over the hook, draw it through the stitch on the hook. S c—Single Crochet; having a stitch on the needle (or hook) put the needle through the work, draw the thread through the work, and the stitch on the needle. D c—double crochet; having the stitch on the needle, put the needle through the work, and draw a stitch through, making two on the needle. Take up the thread again, and draw it through both these stitches. T c or Tr—Treble Crochet; having a stitch on the needle, take up the thread as if for a stitch, put the need e through the work, and draw the thread through, makin r three on the needle. Take up the thread and draw through two, then take up the thread and draw it through the two remaining. S t c—Short Treble Crochet; like treble, except that when the three stitches are on the needle, instead of drawing the thread through two stitches twice, it is drawn through all three at once. L t c—Long Treb e Crochet; like treble, except that the thread is thrown twice over the needle before inserting the latter in the work. The stitches are worked off two at a time, as in treble. Extra Long Stitch—Twine the cotton th ee times round the needle, work as the treb e stitch, bringing the cotton through two loops four times. P—or picot; made by working three chain, and one single crochet in first stitch of the chain.

Can any one give directions for knitted cotton fringe, for a counterpane? and oblige a subscriber.

A sister wishes directions for knitting a jersey for a medium sized person. MRS. W.

Can some one send directions for gentleman's outside knit jacket? and oblige H. S.

Directions for Panay Mats were given in July number, 1884.

Can any of our readers give correct and tried directions for crocheting a sailor collar for a child? I. H.

"L. A. H." will find full directions in Macrame Lace Book. Price 25 cents. Send to the Barbour Brothers Co., 134 Church St., New York.

Will "K. G.," who sent directions for mittens with row of hearts down the back, tell us what is wrong in the second round? it comes out one too many, third round two too many and so on; does not make anything to resemble hearts. The directions were given in October number of JOURNAL. L. B.

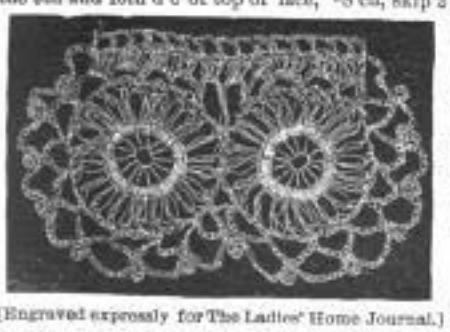
E. BRIDGEWATER, MASS., Oct. 25th, 1886.

DEAR JOURNAL:—In answer to "E. A. C." in Nov. number: White stamping powder *will always* disappear when pressed with a hot iron. Wrap the back side of the work around a hot stove funnel, or turn up the face of the flat iron, and lay the back side of work on that for an instant, and I think you will find no further trouble. I have good success, and that is my method. N. S. B.

Ring Lace.

Begin this lace by winding the thread 35 times around the edge of your thumb, slip off, and crochet 50 s c's around this ring, and fasten in first stitch.

6 ch, skip 1 stitch, 1 d c in next st, *2 ch, skip 1 st, 1 d c in next st; repeat from the star, clear round the ring. There will be 25 d c's when done. Now begin at the beginning again, and make another ring as far as the first d c, then fasten to the first ring by the following directions: *Put the hook in any d c of the first ring, and draw thread through, 2 ch, skip 1 st, 1 d c in next st; repeat from star twice, (only putting the hook in the *next* d c instead of *any* d c.) Now proceed and finish the ring the same as the first ring. In fastening the third ring to the second ring, only leave 10 d c at the top, and 10 d c's at the bottom of ring, (all the rest of the rings are fastened like the above) fasten the thread between the 9th and 10th d c of top of lace, *8 ch, skip 2



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

d c, fasten with a s c; repeat from star until you come to where the rings are joined. 8 ch, 1 d c in the place where the rings were joined. 8 ch, skip 1 d c, fasten with a s c. *8 ch, skip 2 d c, fasten with s c; repeat from the last star until you come round to the bottom of the lace where the rings were joined. 3 ch, skip 1 d c in next ring, fasten with s c, *8 ch, skip 2 d c, fasten with s c; repeat from star until you come round to where you started. 3 ch, fasten in center of first loop. 4 ch, 2 d c in same loop, *3 d c's in next loop; repeat from star 8 times. 9 ch, fasten with s c in the centre of the same loop that the last 3 d c's were in, 5 ch, fasten with s c in same st. *9 ch, fasten with s c in centre stitch of next loop, 5 ch, fasten with s c in same st; repeat from star until you come round to the loop before where the rings were fastened. 9 ch, fasten in centre of next loop. 5 ch, fasten in same loop; repeat from star until you come round to the top. Fasten with s c in first d c, 3 ch, skip 1 st, 1 d c in next st, *2 ch, skip 1 st, 1 d c in next st; repeat from star clear across top. The centres of the rings are filled in with a needle and thread the same as in rie-rac. DOLLY.

Normandy Lace.

Cast on 30 stitches. Knit across plain.

1st row—Knit 3, over, narrow, knit 4, narrow, over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 7, narrow, over, knit 3, over, knit 2. (31)

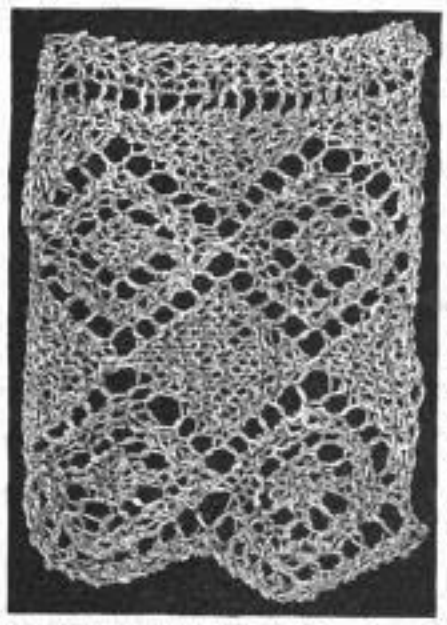
2d row and every other row plain.

3d row—Knit 3, over, narrow, knit 3, narrow, over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 5, narrow, over, knit 5, over, knit 2. (32)

5th row—Knit 3, over, narrow, knit 3, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1, over, knit 1, over, knit 1, narrow, over, narrow, knit 3, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1, over, knit 1, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 2. (33)

7th row—Knit 3, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1, over, knit 3, over, knit 1, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1, over, knit 3, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 2. (34)

9th row—Knit 3, over, narrow, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1, over, knit 5, over, knit 1, narrow, over, slip 1, narrow, pass slipped stitch over, over, narrow, knit 1, over, knit 5, over, knit 1, arrow, over, knit 2. (35)



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11th row—Knit 3, over, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1. (34)

13th row—Knit 3, over, narrow, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 1, over, slip 1, narrow, pass slipped stitch over, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 1, over, slip 1, narrow, pass slipped stitch over, over, knit 1, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1. (33)

15th row—Knit 3, over, narrow, knit 4, over, narrow, knit 3, narrow, over, knit 7, over, narrow, knit 3, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1. (32)

17th row—Knit 3, over, narrow, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 9, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1. (31)

19th row—Knit 3, over, narrow, knit 6, over, slip 1, narrow, pass slipped stitch over, over, knit 11, over, slip 1, narrow, pass slipped stitch over, over, narrow, knit 1. (30)

20th row knit plain.

Repeat from first row. MRS. P. W.

A Pretty Fascinator.

Make a chain of 4 stitches; join.

1st row—34 t c in the ring.

2d row—*7 t c in first stitch, 1 d c in next, skip 1 stitch;* repeat from star to star through the row.

3d, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th, same as 2d row, only the 7 t c are made by taking up the two middle threads on top of the shell, then d c over the other d c.

8th row—8 t c, 1 d c all round.

9th row—9 t c, 1 d c all round.

10th row same as the 9th row.

11th row—9 t c in 1 d c, then e and 1 d c three times, *9 t c in 1 d c, 9 t c, then 9 t c 1 d c three times;* repeat from star to star all round.

12th row—9 t c, 1 d c all round.

13th row, 14th and 15th, the same as the 12th row.

16th row—9 t c in 1 d c, then 9 t c and 1 d c, four times, *9 t c in 1 d c, (9 t c 1 d c) three times; repeat from star to star all round. These make the gores.

17th, 18th, 19th, 20th rows, 9 t c 1 d c all round. This finishes the head part. Each row is joined by one s c.

The Tabs or Ends—*1 t c in 1 d c, 6 t c in shell, (made on three of the long rows and one gore;) repeat from star to star three times. Make 39 rows like first one; this finishes one tab. Skip 10 shell, and make this tab same as the other one. Finish with a large scallop all round, composed of 11 long treble. On the front there is a second row, back of the other one eleven shells long. The fascinator is edged with silk, and a pretty bow of ribbon in front. M. A. H.

Panel of Snow Balls.

Take one short white tissue paper, cut in squares 3 inches by the same, fold 4 times, cut the edge in three scallops, open it, you will have a circular piece surrounded with long narrow scallops. Twist each one of these near the end, which will leave a round piece size of finger nail. Make ten circles, push fine wire through the centre of each, bunch all together. It will round up into a very natural looking snow-ball. Place three on a panel. G. R. P.

Correction of Handsome Fan Lace given in Dec. number.—In the 9th row of second scallop 6 d c should be left out. After finishing the second scallop, the next row is ch 3, make a shell, ch 5, 1 d c in middle of fan, ch 3, 1 d c in same, ch 5, make a shell, ch 6, 1 single crochet in small loop, next to shell of last row. Then repeat from second row of first scallop.

Narrow Crochet Edge.

Make a chain of 12 stitches; turn.

1st row—1 t c in 8th stitch of chain, 3 t c in 10th stitch of chain, ch 2, 1 t c in last st of ch; turn.

2d row—Ch 5, 3 t c under ch 2 of last row, 1 t c in top of 4th t c in last row, ch 2, 8 t c in loop made at commencement of first row; turn.

3d row—Ch 4, 1 single crochet in top of 2d t c, ch 4, 1 single crochet in top of 4th t c, ch 4, 1 single crochet in top of 6th t c, ch 4, 1 single crochet in top of 8th t c, ch 5, 1 t c in top of 1 t c, 3 t c, under ch 5, ch 2, 1 t c in 3d st of ch 5 at end of row; turn.

Repeat from 2d row.

These terms correspond with those given in Sep. No.

Hair-Pin Crochet.

This work is made with either a large common hair-pin, or with a bone imitation. It may be done either with fine silk, when it makes lace-like trimmings, or with white crochet cotton, when it makes excellent washing edgings, as it is strong. To work: Hold the hair pin in the left hand, the round part upward, twist the cotton around the left prong, pass it over the right prong to the back of the hair-pin and lay it over the left fore finger. Take a crochet hook and draw this bar thread to the front, under the first crossed one, and make a chain by taking up fresh cotton and pulling it through. Take the hook out, and turn the hair-pin;* the cotton will now be in front; put it over the right hand pin to the back, hook into loop, and make a chain by drawing the cotton through, then put the hook through the twist on the left hand prong, and make a chain having two stitches on the hook, make a stitch, drawing cotton through these two loops, so that only one loop is left. Take out the hook, turn the work, and repeat from the star.

The Daisy Tidy.

Materials: one piece of serpentine braid No. 30, one-half ounce of buttercup-yellow worsted; one yard of ribbon No. 16; one and one-half yards torchon lace.

Begin by counting nine points of braid, then double it, join the ends firmly together, and cut the braid loose. Pinch each point one after another and draw all the points closely together, being careful to tack each one as it is drawn up. When all the points are gathered up, the shape of the daisy will appear. Sew the daisy by the centre to a small piece of crape net, which is trimmed off so as not to be seen. Fill in the centre of the daisy with the worsted in any pretty way. Make 36 daisies and join them in squares containing nine daisies each. Cut the ribbon in half, and fray out the ends an inch and a-half deep. Cross the 2 pieces of ribbon and baste in the centre to keep in place. Join each square of daises to each centre of the ribbon. Full on the lace; let the ends of ribbon come out over it. M.

Photograph Holder.

Take Japanese open fan, cut out a circle, or square opening, in any part of the fan. Cover the fan with silk, satin or velvet, (cretonne looks well) cut and pull through opening. Now make of card board, another fan, just the size of one covered; cover with silesia, overhand the edges together, leaving a space at the top, to put photograph through. Sew on the edge of fan, also edge of photograph opening, chenille or cord; tie a ribbon bow on the handle, sew 2 small rings on back, to hang up with.

Narrow Feather Edge.

1st row—Fasten the thread in first loop of braid, 2 d c in same loop, *2 ch, skip 2 loops, 2 d c in next loop;* repeat what is written between the stars once. Put the hook back in the d c that was made in the first loop, draw the thread through, thread over, and take off both stitches, 3 ch, skip 3 loops, 3 d c in each of the next 3 loops, 3 ch, and repeat from the beginning to end of row, (that is until the lace is the desired length.)

2d row—Commence on the other side of braid,

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]

*2 d c in each of the first 10 loops, skip 6 loops, and repeat from star to end of row.

3d row—Now work on the other side (over the first row) 3 ch, 1 d c (in the place made by drawing the d c's together in first row) 3 ch, 1 s c in each of the next 9 stitches.

4th row—Now work on the other side 5 ch, fasten with s c between each group (of 2 d c's;) repeat to end of row.

5th row—5 ch, fasten with a s c in the centre of each ch of 5 of last row; repeat to end of row. DOLLY.

Cracker Sachet.

Cut two pieces of crinoline size of a square soda cracker; cover each with silk as near the color of cracker as possible. Place a layer of cotton wadding between the halves, sprinkle with sachet powder, and over-hand together. Tack the surfaces together to imitate the little dents seen in the cracker. Lastly, pass a hot iron lightly over it to give the natural brown tinge. G. R. P.

A very pretty ornament can be made of a small, very porous flower pot. Put a cork in the bottom of pot, (in the hole left for drainage) fill the pot with water, let it stand twenty-four hours. Then empty out the water. Roll the pot in grass seed, until the outside is thickly covered. Then fill the pot with water, set it in the sunlight; in a day or two each seed will germinate, and soon cover it with a tender vegetation. Keep the pot full of water, as it evaporates rapidly. I hope the little readers will try this. G. R. P.

BOX 1300, NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.

A Complex Case.

One of the most widely known men in the United States, particularly in the extending circles of Temperance organizations, is the Prohibition candidate at the recent election for governor of the State of New York, A. A. Hopkins, Esq., of the City of Rochester. He did not receive sufficient votes to elect, but one thing is certain, from the test of his qualifications in the editorial chair of a very widely circulated newspaper, he possesses the ability to fill the position with credit had he been chosen. The physicians to whom he writes the following letter, therefore, have reason to value it very highly as a voluntary testimonial:

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 2, 1885.

DRS. STAREEY & PALEN,—Gentlemen:—Permit me to express my hearty recognition of the good your Compound Oxygen treatment has done in my own household. One of our family has been several years afflicted with a combination of lung, head and nerve difficulties very severe, and resisting every form of medical application. He had tried physicians literally by the score; changes of climate South and West; and had grown hopeless nearly altogether. You know how complex was his case, and how apparently beyond help, for he visited you in person when just able to be off his bed. You did not think him curable. Nor can I say that he was cured; but he was amazingly helped. He tried the Compound Oxygen with little faith in it, and his cough grew less, his strength greater. His nervous condition improved steadily. Whenever the Oxygen was omitted for a time he lost ground. Last Spring he became so well and strong that the Treatment did not seem necessary, and he gave it up. He had regained his former weight; his cough was rarely ever heard, by night or day; he walked about with vigor, and attended actively to business. His wonderful improvement surprised himself and all who knew him.

Yours, etc., A. A. HOPKINS.

DRS. STAREEY & PALEN, 1529 Arch St., Philadelphia, the dispensers of this remarkable curative agent, will send, without charge, their Treatise on Compound Oxygen, giving all desired information in regard to it, to any applicant.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

BRUSH STUDIES AND HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

NEW SERIES—NO. XV.

BY LIDA AND M. J. CLARKSON.

Landscape Painting in Oils. Decorative Hints and Novelties. Queries, etc.

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In response to a large number of requests, we begin this month a series of lessons in landscape painting, a line of work which is full of interest to amateur and artist alike, and one affording opportunities for earnest study. The ground already gone over has been a good preparation for this new departure, for to one who can handle the brush successfully in the representation of flowers and still life, the progressive step to landscape is not a difficult one. We speak more particularly at the beginning, of copying from the flat, that is copying the productions of others, before composing original pictures.

This is not only a pleasure in itself, but a means of self-improvement, and much can be learned in this way without a master. An inefficient, incompetent teacher is more to be dreaded than any faults which may be acquired in copying. An artist of note says: "Copying fine pictures is a real amusement which makes study a pleasure. It has been the pastime of the greatest masters, and is an achievement as easy for talent which aims higher, as for the amateur who is not ambitious of overcoming the utmost difficulties." Another writer says: "I consider copying studies and pictures, provided they be good, very desirable. They are not subject to those changes, which are constantly taking place in natural objects, and as each painter has some peculiar execution, or method of producing results, there is much knowledge of materials and their capabilities to be acquired by practice. Pictures should be studied chiefly with a view of acquiring a knowledge of the *principles* of Art.

"Execution may be obtained afterward by copying nature with the same correctness and attention requisite to produce a perfect picture."

The old homily that progress begins at the foot of the ladder and gradually works up may be applied to Art as to any pursuit in life. It would be folly in the beginner to attempt an elaborate composition. The more simple the object, the less discouragement, and the surer the success. So with this view we consider copying from the flat, a ladder which will ultimately lead the more aspiring and gifted to something higher, while it satisfies the less ambitious who care for the beautiful for its own sake, content to take it from the hands of others. For first lessons in landscape oil colors cannot be too strongly recommended, as not only affording greater facilities for practice, but also for economy's sake.

There is almost always a tendency with beginners to exaggerate color, if we may so express it. There frequently what is either not there at all, or else being there, so well balanced, and harmonious, and so influenced by certain laws as to be always pleasing.

With this false conception they are prone to load their color boxes with a variety of paints, dangerous and unmanageable in unskilled hands. Emerald greens, chromes and carmines, which turn outcrude coloring offensive to the trained eye.

This crudeness, or rawness of color is very apt to appear in the first efforts of the amateur, even when there is genius, or an eye for color. Later he learns the advantage of a simple palette, as well as to tone down too brilliant colors to as subdued tints, and to modify them by combination, thus giving what artists term quality and tenderness.

While copying from the flat, the student may be at the same time the most careful observer of nature, constantly employed in taking notes from that great book so generously opened for instruction. It will be found by such observation and study, that greens and foliage partake largely of the aerial tones surrounding them, that there are in fact no *positive* colors in nature. If there were, where would be found the delicate gradations, and atmospheric effects, the subtle reflections which make up a natural landscape!

In the forcible language of a well-known writer upon Art, "*positive* color is paint such as is furnished by the dealer in artist's materials, but to be fine, or brilliant, or beautiful, as these terms are understood in painting, it must be contrasted by, and blended with other colors, its original quality *concealed* and broken up, so that the observer may be puzzled to know of what color any particular part is composed."

It will be seen then very readily that the palette should be simple; in fact many of the best artists use and recommend such, to their pupils. We shall name those colors only at first which are really necessary to the beginner. Afterwards a few others can be added to the list at pleasure. White occupies the first and most prominent position on our list and palette, because a much larger quantity of it is required than any other paint. Silver white is to be preferred to other preparations of lead, as it is the finest, purest, and most brilliant white to be had, and not so apt to turn yellow with time as other kinds. Yellow ochre is a favorite with all artists and enters largely into nearly every palette. The cadmiums, light and medium, are the safest yellows; expensive, it is true, but strong in tone, so that a very little goes a long way. These, combined with other colors, help too, in simplifying our list, for with them we may dispense with Naples, Indian and lemon yellows, and yet obtain results in every way as satisfactory. Orange cadmium is also to be preferred to any other orange. Vermilion is a valuable color when used with caution. Burnt sienna ranks in our list next to white, as it is largely used, being invaluable and having no satisfactory substitute.

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]
BUTTERFLIES FOR VARIOUS METHODS OF DECORATION.

Light and Indian reds rank among the useful and necessary paints, with raw umber, also a favorite with artists. Terre vert, so useful in middle tints, shadows and foliage, has much to recommend it. Light and dark zinnober green, are colors very helpful to the beginner who finds mixing tints a difficult matter. Madder lake of different degrees of intensity, according to No., is a slow drier, but one of the best and safest of reds. Our choice is the German *Krapplack mittel*, or deep rose, a pure, deep red. The blues most needed are Antwerp and cobalt, while permanent blue is also useful. Vandyke brown is a favorite with us, it being a rich transparent brown; so also madder brown, which furnishes a range of delightful shadow tints, from a warm, rich brown, to a delicate gray. It is a very permanent and reliable color. Ivory black completes our list, which summed up, will be found simple and involving little expense. This may seem a needless repetition to earlier readers of "Brush Studies," but it should be remembered that there are many beginning the year with us, and the queries as to proper outfit seem endless.

While the easel is not an absolute necessity in flower painting, it cannot be dispensed with in this work.

The best easels have a rack, or shelf for paints and brushes, and a ratchet arrangement for raising or lowering the canvas at will. These are not so expensive as they once were. Very good easels can be had now from $6.00 to $11.00 in price, and even the cheaper kinds are very fair. One feature not to be overlooked in the purchase of an easel, is the supports, which should be applied in such a way as to brace the legs firmly, so that it cannot be toppled over by a knock, or jar.

A large, light palette of walnut, or mahogany well oiled is another necessity, as also a flexible palette knife, and a tool known as a canvas scraper. The uses of these tools will be fully explained as occasion requires. A box, or receptacle for paints, brushes, etc., is both a luxury and convenience. One of japanned tin large enough to take a good-sized palate is the most useful. These vary in price from $1.50 to $4.00 according to size.

Next to paints the brushes are the most important consideration, as nothing is more vexatious to the worker than poor tools. A dozen bristle brushes, assorted sizes, from 0 to 12, will be found useful. In this assortment there should be several of the short, stubby kind, known as "Bright's," and one at least of the long thin "Landseers." Three red sables, flat pointed, No.'s 3, 5 and 11, will be sufficient for a beginning. There are various preparations styled mediums, used in mixing paints, but we know of none better than boiled linseed oil. Get the refined oil, and keep it free from dust. For a drier a fluid called *Siccatif de Courtrap* is the best and cheapest. A bottle of turpentine, and one of varnish will also be needed. The turpentine is used sometimes for the first lay-in of a painting, and is also necessary in cleaning brushes. The varnish most highly recommended is Soehnee Frere's French Retouching Varnish. The genuine article has their name on the bottle, and is also labeled "*Vernis a Tableau.*" It is an amber colored liquid, strongly scented with lavender, and should not be confounded with the numerous mixtures sold under the name of French varnish. The price is 25c. per bottle, and it can be had of nearly all dealers in art materials. We have but one more article to complete the outfit; that is the board, or canvas, upon which our pictures are to be painted.

Academy board is very useful and economical for early practice. It comes in sheets which can be cut in different shapes and sizes as required. Later on, canvas may be substituted for the board, which is to be preferred for all nice work, but of this we will speak in future lessons.

Provided with the simple outfit described, you are ready for a first attempt at landscape painting, which will be fully discussed in subsequent "Studies."

HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

Perhaps of all the graceful designs which have been introduced into decorative work, there are none more attractive than butterflies in various forms, and attitudes of flight. We meet with them in the paintings and embroideries of all countries. In Japanese, and other foreign art-work they are very frequently introduced, perhaps because they afford an opportunity for brilliant dash of color, or for pleasant contour of design. At all events we find them in all sorts of fancy work. In painting, applique, embroidery, bronzes, modeling in relief and other minor branches, this fairy-like insect plays a conspicuous part. In lustra, or bronze painting, these designs are not only a pretty addition to any kind of fabric decoration, but are highly ornamental upon pottery and lincrusta Walton.

The following directions for painting butterflies in metallics, will doubtless prove acceptable to those especially interested in this branch of Art.

In reply to the numerous queries as to the necessary outfit for lustra painting, we would say that the proper way to obtain such an outfit is to write direct to some reliable dealer in these materials for price list, and then to make selection of such colors as will be needed. A box of thirty colors with mediums for mixing can be purchased for $3.50, but many of these colors may be omitted if only occasional work is done, and the ordinary oil paints substituted for what are termed the dull colors.

For the butterflies the following list will answer: Rich gold, silver, lemon, orange, fire, carmine, peacock or brilliant green, and copper. In metallics, or flitters, a very great variety of shades can be had, many of them lately introduced, such as delicate rose, Nile green, sapphire blue, moss green, etc. These are to be used where greater brilliancy is wished than can be had with the lustra powders, and when judiciously introduced, for high lights and sparkling touches, are very effective.

The large butterflies are painted, one in carmine lustra, with spots of rich gold, another in purple with iridescent touches of moss green, and still another in orange and fire shaded with bronze. The smaller insects may be painted respectively with bronze, steel, blue and terra cotta metallics. Other combinations are light blue, with silver metallics, gold and bronze green, and Nile green, with markings of violet and gold. The pale rose pink metallics combine prettily with the silver or bronzes. There are also frosted copper, silver and gold which work in richly with the lustra, or plain oil colors. The largest butterfly can be given a delicate mother-of-pearl tint, by mixing together silver, violet, bronze-green and pink. The method of applying the lustra powders is to simply mix with a medium. Ordinary furniture varnish No. 1 will answer the purpose nicely, where the regular medium cannot be obtained. The coarse metallics are applied over the tube paints, which should be laid on heavily to cause the flitter to adhere. In one of our exchanges we note that readers are advised to apply with pincers. If it were not for the grave character of the advice we should think it intended as a joke. To apply metallics with pincers might furnish employment for a criminal sentenced to life-long imprisonment, whose only object is to kill time, but for busy workers we can imagine nothing more tedious. Load the design, or that part of it to be filled in with one color, well with paint, then take up the metallics on the blade of the palette knife and dust them over it. Now reverse the fabric, and holding between the thumb and fore-fingers shake smartly over a sheet of paper placed under to catch superfluous flitters. Apply only one color at a time. This information is given in answer to a large number of requests asking for explicit directions for iridescent painting.

SPECIAL QUERIES.

"Miss M. M.," New York:—Your questions as to landscape painting will be answered in an early No. of "Brush Studies."

"Helen:"—The birch baskets sold at the fancy stores cost from 75c. to $1.00. They are decorated with ribbon, and sometimes have a frill of silk or plush at the top, and can be lined or not, according to fancy. A more durable article can be made of Lincrusta Walton, which may be had in a design exactly imitating bark. This is glued to boxes, or other articles. The bark pattern makes very trim window boxes or *jardinieres*.

"Anxious Inquirer:"—Yes, you can make your own stencil cards if you so desire. Vellum, or parchment is the most suitable material, although a light card-board can be used. The easiest way of cutting the designs is to run them through a perforating machine. Attachments to be used with different sewing machines can be had at a small cost. These may be so operated as to cut out the stencil figures very neatly.

Another way is to use a long sharp knife, one with a blade sloping to a sharp point is necessary.

We draw the following useful hints upon stencil cutting from *The Decorator and Furnisher*: "In cutting, the knife should be held firmly between the fore-finger and thumb, the thicker part of the blade resting lightly against the tip of the second finger. In cutting a curve draw the paper gently but steadily away from the body, and consequently against the cutting blade in the direction required by the degree of curvature shown in the design. A square of polished plate glass is the best material for cutting on. Perforations of a circular form are made by the use of a leather punch, procurable at any tool warehouse. These punches are made in various sizes, and are so constructed that the pieces cut out of the stencil paper pass into the body of the punch and are easily removed at the opening in the upper portion of the tool. It is not necessary to strike the punch, a firm pressure of the hand is generally sufficient, slightly turning the wrist at the same moment. It is a frequent mistake to make a stencil on too stout a paper. The strength of paper does not depend on its stoutness; a closely woven thin paper often possesses greater tenacity than much more bulky specimens."

"Nellie G. W."—You failed to give your full address or your query would have been immediately answered by mail. You made a mistake in using spirit varnish for your umbrella stand, as you will see if you will see if you refer to Oct. paper on pottery painting. This was recommended as a finish for water color, not oil painting. Try French Retouching Varnish, and if this does not restore your ground, rub down with a strapper, or emery cloth, and repaint, finishing with copal varnish or enamel glaze.

DECORATIVE HINTS.

Small screens, two or three leaved, made of fancy wood and plush, are pretty to hold photographs.

Bolting cloth makes neat curtains.

Very attractive effects may be produced on ground glass with metallic colors.

***

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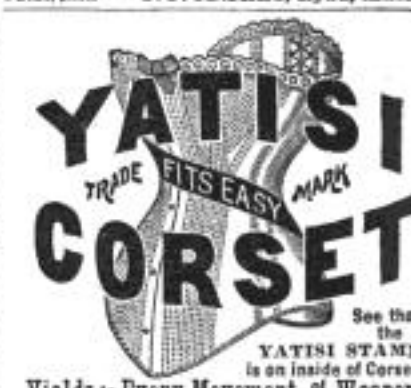

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W. S. NILES, MANAGER.

Our New York Office is for the transaction of business with New York advertisers.

Subscribers should not address any letters to that office.

Philadelphia, March, 1887.

Subscriptions must begin with the number current when subscription was received. We do not date back, even upon the most urgent request.

In fourth line of recipe for oyster croquettes, in Dec. number, it should read pinch of soda instead of pinch of salt.

We have a new hand-bill, the size of a page of the JOURNAL, handsomely printed and illustrated; which club raisers should send for, and have them conspicuously posted in all public places. They are a wonderful help in raising clubs. The handsome printing and illustrations attract everyone to read them, and create a desire to see the JOURNAL itself.

Our readers will be glad to learn that we have secured the services of the well-known Will Carleton to furnish us with a number of poems. Those who know his "Betsey and I Are Out" and "Over the Hills to the Poorhouse" (and who among our readers does not know these?) need no further introduction to this very popular student of human nature. We can safely promise you a treat in these poems, which will appear from time to time.

A circulation of over 400,000 copies each issue, which the L. H. JOURNAL now has, is the highest figures ever attained by any newspaper or periodical in America. Yet we are after another hundred thousand, and we offer pretty strong inducements to get them.

Speak to your neighbor about it. Show her a copy of the JOURNAL. We have many nice presents to give those who help us in getting that round half million subscribers.

"Behold how great a matter a little fire kindleth." A family of benevolent turn of mind, living in Camden, N. J., was so stirred by Miss Holley's account of the "Charity of the Jonesvillians" that they immediately sallied forth with their arms full of "pound-packages," and lo! right at their door almost, they found a "Smedley Family" suffering for the barest necessities of life. Stories like this, which carry conviction with the hearts of the people, do more good than the writer dare hope for.

We have numerous inquiries for a list of our "other periodicals." We wish to state clearly and distinctly that we publish but one periodical, a monthly issue, called THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL AND PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER. This is all one name, and the name does not represent two periodicals, as has been supposed by a few who have sent indignant protests to the effect that they "have only received one paper, THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL; where is the other one promised, THE PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER?"

We have been very much disturbed lately by complaints, from Lawrence, Clinton, Lowell and Leominster, Massachusetts, from parties who had subscribed through a man giving the name of J. B. Russell. They "desire to know where the papers are." J. B. Russell's plan has been to charge anywhere from twenty-five cents to ninety cents per year for the JOURNAL, and promise within two weeks to send two chromos, either with frames or without, as the parties might desire. In short Mr. Russell has been very obliging both as to the price he was willing to receive and the premiums he was willing to promise.

Now we want to say most emphatically

1, That we never offer any premium for one subscriber.

2, That we have not in the establishment a chromo of any description (either framed or unframed,) and never had.

3, That Mr. J. B Russell is a most unmitigated humbug and has never turned in one cent of the money he has collected, or sent us a single name.

POSTAGE TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

A discrimination in the rates of postage to city subscribers is made between weekly and monthly periodicals, to the great disadvantage of the latter for, while the weeklies can be mailed to city subscribers for one cent per pound, monthlies can not be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent for each two ounces, except where the subscribers go to the post-office for their mail. And as the JOURNAL in its present form weighs over two ounces, we are, therefore, obliged to ask Philadelphia subscribers twenty-four cents extra postage, unless the paper is addressed at the post-office to be called for, or to any P. O. box.

AN OPEN LETTER TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

Owing to our remarkable and magnificent postal service, the unusually fine article, prepared by Jennie June for our columns this issue, *has been entirely lost in the mail*, between New York and Philadelphia.

Jennie June had given special attention to this work, having had the illustrations made three times before they were satisfactory.

It is bad enough to have our papers lost by the hundred, but to have even the MS. lost beyond recovery, while traveling from New York to Philadelphia, is discouraging indeed.

We have said a good deal about the manner in which we are called upon to suffer at the hands of the ignorant and careless postal officers, but as we daily smart under fresh wrongs without redress, we feel that there is much more left to be said.

It certainly is a satisfaction, if a very selfish one, to know that we are not alone in our complaints, and that Philadelphia publishers are making general complaint. Otherwise, we might think the trouble was in our own office. But when we receive letter after letter from subscribers saying in effect "we have taken your JOURNAL for two or three years and never had any trouble in receiving it until the last few months; what is the trouble?" Comment is hardly necessary, but we like to tell them what the trouble is.

If we are subjected to such gross carelessness and ignorance at the hands of the General P. O. (which it has heretofore been Philadelphia's pride to feel was well regulated,) what chance is there for our subscribers, whose mail must be handled a hundred times perhaps before reaching its final destination, by people if anything more careless and ignorant than those into whose hands it first falls.

We can only hope that our subscribers will "possess their souls in patience" until the postal regulations are such, that one may post a letter or paper with a reasonable expectation of its reaching any point within a radius of twenty miles, in something less than a week.

A NEW WRINKLE.

"What a pity," remarked Mrs. A. of Mrs. B., "that she will frown so at nothing. It is such an ugly habit. I met her this morning as she was walking in the sunshine, and she had her face all screwed up. There is no need of any one frowning like that because of a little sunshine. A little self-control is all that is necessary. When Mrs. B. grows old, instead of having one of those lovely, smooth skins, her beautiful face will be all wrinkled. If people all knew enough to keep calm under the most trying circumstances, women's complexions would be preserved way on into old age. Every time any one frowns she adds a new wrinkle somewhere, they say."

Whether a "lovely smooth complexion" is altogether a beauty in a fine-looking old Lady, is an open question. A face unmarked by past emotion, unseamed by events; a face upon which the finger of experience has traced no lines, the chisel of deep thought has made no furrows, is deemed by many to be characterless, and, as such, unattractive.

Be that as it may, it is not to be doubted that many of the ugly lines which really disfigure the face in old age, are entirely under the control of the possessor.

The curve of scorn, the frown of impatience, become as deeply cut, as firmly set by frequent recurrence, as though nature had marked them with her finger in babyhood, or adverse fate had drawn them with the cruel pen of circumstance.

The lines drawn by sadness and those marked by passion are two entirely different things. And so marked in this distinction, that the beholder in after years has no difficulty in deciding from which cause the lines have sprung.

It behooves all, therefore, to keep the mind as nearly in equipoise as possible, if they would avoid making, unnecessarily, "a new wrinkle."

OUR OWN STAMPING OUTFIT FREE TO JOURNAL SISTERS.

MRS. Louisa Knapp, the editor of THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, has designed an entirely new and *practical* embroidery Stamping Outfit, expressly for subscribers to this paper. It will be given as a free present to any subscriber who will send us ONLY TWO subscribers at 50 cents per year each. We have never before offered our Outfit for less than Six subscribers; now, we can give you a BETTER Outfit, for only Two subscribers, having made a *special* contract for 50,000, to be made solely for us *and no one else*. This Outfit is far superior to any dollar outfit ever yet advertised, every pattern being full working size and consisting of the prettiest and most useful designs, ever yet invented; all entirely new and original, and including the very latest ideas in embroidery work of all kinds. Mrs. Knapp, with the aid of experts in artistic needlework, personally supervised the construction of this Outfit, visiting the manufacturer for this purpose. A full description will be found on the 17th page of this paper.

We are obliged to make a discrimination in regard to our Canada subscribers, when sending premiums.

Below is appended a list of the *only articles* which we can send by mail.

All other premiums must go by express, and pass through the custom-house at the expense of the receiver.

Rug-Maker, butter-knife, sugar-shell, outfits, tissue paper outfit, lace pins, color boxes, books.

Mrs. Rose Terry Cooke's new story, "Begun Wrong," which we have just placed in the hands of our artist for illustration, is one which young married people and those contemplating matrimony, can ill afford to miss. While it does not deal in any way with what are called "matrimonial infelicities," it pleasantly inculcates a lesson that can but be of lasting benefit to those who read, and we unhesitatingly pronounce it one of the author's best.

In another column of the JOURNAL we announce the fact of our having secured Will Carleton as a contributor. The poem about to appear in our pages is an able argument against the theory, grown only too popular, that the *brain* of women is educated at the expense of home affections and capabilities. He takes the ground that the development of the mind tends to the development of the affections, and in proportion to the degree of "book-learnin'," is the heart keener to feel, the mind more able to appreciate all that a hearty, pure home life means. He contends that the "ologies" and the "isms" do not spoil the *housekeeper*, nor does a knowledge of Greek and Latin affect in any way the living relations existing between children and parents.

CORRESPONDENCE.

SOPHIE:—Coal oil is kerosene.—[ED.]

LILL:—Send to the Warren Featherbone Co., Three Oaks, Mich.

MRS. DOLLY CLARKSON would do well to write for advice to Strawbridge & Clothier, Phila., Pa.

READER, Alexandria, Va.—It would be impossible for a stranger to advise you as to a course of action.—[ED.]

NEW SUBSCRIBER, Scranton, Pa., is informed that the "prepared flour" mentioned in recipe for Almond Cake was Creamery Buttered Flour.

MRS. M. S. T., Canton, Ohio:—Any reliable druggist can give you what you want or tell you where to obtain it.—[ED.]

CONSTANT READER, Chicago:—The 27th day of March, 1849, came on Tuesday.

CULBERTSON, HITCHCOCK CO., NEB.

Can you through your paper give the address of the lady dealing in home-made jellies?

LOS ANGELOS, Dec. 28th, '86.

DEAR EDITOR:—Can you inform one of your subscribers how I can remove champagne stains from a light wooden dress? Respectfully,

MARGARETTE MARKS.

SOFAIA C. SCHNECK, Huntingburg, Ind.—For "Horace Walpoles Letters" write to John B. Alden, 393 Pearl St., New York City.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Was the life of the great violinist, Pagiuinni, ever written? If so, please inform me where I can get the same. L. B.

[Apply to W. H. Boner, 1102 Chestnut Street, for further information.]

ROSLYN ROCK:—Your best plan is to pad thickly with cotton batting, cover tightly with heavy unbleached muslin or burlap, (old burlaps bags are sufficiently good for this purpose) covering again with cretonne, chintz, or ornamented burlap to finish it. Having tacked on the seat cover, it is an easy matter to sew on a ruffled curtain to hang down to the floor.—[ED.]

I SEND you a recipe for indelible Ink which I have found very useful: 10 cents worth of lunar caustic, dissolved in an ounce of rain water. Mix one-half teaspoonful of starch and a piece of saleratus as large as a pea, in water. Wet a portion of the cloth on which to write, and iron it smoothly and dry. Then write with caustic and hang it in the sun. S. BUTTERFIELD.

IN the October number of the JOURNAL a "Subscriber" requests a rule for clear starching and ironing a shirt bosom. The following is my rule which I find very satisfactory:

Dissolve your starch in a weak suds of hot water and fine white soap. Starch, wring dry, roll, and after it has laid a short time, iron, then to give it a gloss, dip a cloth in the starch water that remains, rub over the linen once and iron again, and I think you will be satisfied with the result. MRS. C. S. LINCOLN.

TULARE, CAL., Dec. 13th., 1886.

TO THE L. H. J.—"L. S. G.:" If you will set the tension of your sewing machine very tight and the stitch short you can piece carpet rags so that they will never rip as long as the carpet lasts. I have done so. Lap the ends and sew across them, then take the end of one of the pieces and a fresh piece, and repeat without removing from the machine until you have enough for a ball; then remove from the machine, cut apart and wind. B. L. B.

IGNORANCE can probably find Dio Lewis' works at Leary's, S. 9th St., Philadelphia. Second-hand books a specialty. Write to Blakiston, Walnut above 10th St., Philadelphia, for a monograph upon "The Care of Infants" (or "Children," cannot say which,) published by them. This, with some work upon the special anatomy of women, and laws of general health, is all that you need under the circumstances. Would advise as well, if you have the time, a course of elevating, cheerful, tranquilizing reading matter, that shall not have the most remote reference to your condition. —[ED.]

NEW CASTLE, CAL., Dec. 16th, '86.

DEAR HOME JOURNAL:—We take your interesting paper in our family. Can you kindly inform me of any magazine or paper of any kind that would be advisable to take for two small children? I have two little boys aged 7 and 5. Would like something that would come at regular periods that would both interest and benefit them. By an early reply you will greatly oblige MRS. F.

[We would recommend "Our Little Ones and The Nursery," published by the Russell Pub. Co., 36 Bromfield St., Boston, Mass.—ED. JOUR.]

ED. L. H. J.—Will you be so kind as to give price of the improved tailors Square or Drafting Machine, manufactured by McDowell Drafting Machine Co., 6 W. 14th St., New York City? Would also like for some sister to give directions for making a lady's hood that will be high and full over the face, or, in other words, on top of hood. Also, please state kind, and how much wool it will need for hood, and oblige a sister of the JOURNAL. S. K. S.

[Write direct to the McDowell Drafting Machine Co. for price, etc.—ED. JOUR.]

ED. LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Some one in Dec. No. asked for instruction how to sew carpet rags on machine. I sewed enough for fifty yards on mine, a Wheeler and Wilson, and found them smooth and nice. Thread your machine with strong thread, not too coarse, and set the stitch short; then lap your rags about half an inch, or width of two good seams, and stitch in middle of lap to edge of rag; then turn the other end of rag and lay another top of it, the same, and stitch across, and continue until you have a yard or more of stitching, then clip, (do not break them) and wind up. I could sew three-fourths of a pound in one hour.

SILVERTON, SAN JUAN CO., COL., Dec 30th, '86.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, Philadelphia Pa.—I seen in the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL for January, an inquiry for bulbs of the Chinese Lily. You can procure any quantity in Silverton for 15c. each or two for 25c. I cannot give you the name of the Chinese who keep them for sale, but if you will send your orders to me I will get you the best bulbs I can procure and send them by return mail. I have some bulbs growing growing, but not in blossom yet, as I have only had them about one week. Hoping to hear from you soon, I am

Yours respectfully,

MRS. JENNIE E. ROGERS.

CARRIE'S HUSBAND from Eustis, Florida, asks a hearing among the "sisters." He thought perhaps if he came humbly clothed in his wife's name, perhaps they might allow him to sit among them. But his letter, though interesting, is upon a subject on which we have received many and forwarded them to the proper party. So we will be obliged to deny him this time.—[ED.]

"J. E. W.:"—Electricity should be applied by an electrician, for the purpose mentioned.—[ED.]

A DEVOTED READER—We could not give any address as desired, but the process we believe to be the only one permanently effective.—[ED.]

"J. S.,"—We believe there has as yet been discovered no absolute remedy for catarrh that can be applied by home treatment. The advice of a reliable physician is best on such occasions.—[ED.]

ANNA L. HARTMAN, SYRACUSE, NEBRASKA, in answer to a remedy for sore eyes, recommends the use of weak peppermint water, strengthened daily until cure is effected. She says this recipe was given her by a physician and has been used with marked success.—[ED.]

SOMEONE requests the first two copies of HOME JOURNAL. We cannot accommodate, and we know of nobody who can, as we have many requests for early Nos., but no communication from parties desiring to dispose of back Nos. This communication had no name.—[ED.]

JANUARY 10, 1887.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

Dear Madam:—I see by the Dec. No. that a note from "Humanity" is expected in reference to Health Foods. I have tested them thoroughly for the year past, and wish that every invalid who reads the L. H. J. would get some of their "Universal Food" and "Gluten Flour." I can bear testimony as to their efficacy in diseased conditions of the bowels. F. A. D.

THERE is no need of removing the paint from the canvas. If the present picture has been "loaded on," (i. e. the paint put on thick and rough,) take a piece of sand-paper, No. 00 will do, and rub it all over the surface until you have removed all roughness; then if any of lines of picture that is left should annoy you in drawing in your subject, smear any old color over the canvas to obliterate any outlines; the color must not be white. ARTIST.

P. H. D., NORWOOD, N. J.—As you enclosed no stamped envelope we are obliged to answer you through our columns.

"Lanolin" thoroughly rubbed in at night will effect the change you desire, we think, very shortly. The use of this article requires patience as it is of a sticky nature and requires thorough manipulation to incorporate it with the skin. But a sufficient amount of rubbing will cause the Lanolin to disappear entirely, leaving only the effect.—[ED.]

ED. OF L. H. J.—There is an impulse within me, which calls forth a word of advice to the young ladies who read this paper.

There are few of you who have time to consider the best ways of scouring brass or silver; of planning if your last year's clothes will make over profitably; or do you care if babies get their eye-teeth before warm weather. No, you have no time for the little domestic duties, for you must read to make yourself brilliant, you must study to be beautiful, you must learn all the fine arts, as music, painting and embroidery. This is expected of you. For where is the young lady who has none of these accomplishments in this age of the world? If there is such a one she had better remain at home under her mother's wing, for society is no place for her.

Consequently, my advice to young ladies is, to preserve these papers, which are so full of good and useful items. For, beware, after marriage one is expected to be housekeeper, laundry-woman, cook, lady-of-the-house, and lastly, nurse, in this democratic America. If you are not placed so that the actual work devolves upon you, you are expected to understand each of the vocations and be able to superintend and give directions in them all. I do not wish to spoil the happiness of your youth by putting such dubious things before you,—but only wish you to think of them a little, that the change when it comes, may not be so surprisingly great. Very many of these items, which seem of so little importance now, will then be of the greatest value.

To the housekeeper or cook I send this recipe. Brown or graham bread:—1 cup molasses, 1 qt. flour, 1 heaping teaspoonful baking powder, ½ teaspoonful salt. Mix with milk or water to a medium stiff batter. Steam 3 hours. I steam it on ironing days.

WE have many inquiries in regard to silk culture. Below we give a short summary of its progress in this country.

"Every time the culture of silk has been introduced into this country it has met with discouragement and failure, caused by speculators in mulberry trees and primitive machinery. At the present time it is introduced under more favorable auspices, and in States where legislative aid has been extended it is successfully pursued.

"About twenty-five years ago the silk worms of France were diseased and the industry crippled; at that time healthy and fine quality eggs were sent to the silk-growing districts of France from Louisiana; within the past few months a private firm from France has bought thousands of acres in Mississippi, and at present is fitting up a silk farm.

"The United States rank third as a silk manufacturing country, but depends entirely upon imported raw material and skilled workmen. The Woman's Silk Culture Association of the United States was organized in Philadelphia in 1880. Mrs. John Lucas is president, and Mrs. Bishop Simpson one of the vice-presidents. The association was formed to create an interest in silk culture, to give reliable information to culturists and to make a market for cocoons. The ladies of the association used their own money for this, until Government aid was furnished in 1885, when a government experimental station in silk culture was established in Philadelphia, and Mrs. John Lucas was appointed superintendent of an experimental station, to demonstrate the filature department of the silk industry, which was done at 1222-26 Arch street, Philadelphia, and this silk reeling station did good service."

This industry, the progress in which is due entirely to the zeal and undaunted courage of women, bids fair to be one of our chief industries.

Silk underwear even is being made in Chicago, the silk native to America being specially firm and fine and well adapted to this purpose.

Out of five successful silk raisers in Massachusetts, four are women.

There is a wide field open for women in this direction, both as raisers of mulberry trees and raisers of cocoons.

The Silk Growers' Association report a great advance in quality of the cocoons of *this* year over those of last. The industry is growing slowly, but the best results are being worked out by women who have taken up the work.

All of the sisters who desire full information on the subject, should address their inquiries to the headquarters of the silk association in Philadelphia, No. 1226 Arch St., being careful to enclose stamp for reply.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

COTTAGE DINNERS.

MARCH.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

The cry of the forlorn young housekeeper in "What Katy Did," "I wish some one would invent a new animal!" arises to the lips of every family caterer at this season of the year. Nor are new vegetables more plentiful. Never was an epithet more apt than that which describes the period preceding the advent of Spring viands as "pinch time." The housewife's ingenuity is taxed to the utmost to tempt the flagging appetite that weary of Winter fare. Constant study of ways and means will produce surprisingly satisfactory results from unpromising materials, nor will the conscientious director of the culinary department consider labor and thought thus expended as wasted.

SUNDAY.

Boiled Chicken and Macaroni.
Whipped Potato. Creamed Parsnips.
Jonquil Blanc-mange.

BOILED CHICKEN AND MACARONI:—Stuff as for roasting a pair of fowls of medium size. The stuffing directed for turkey in the December number of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL will answer admirably. Sew up each chicken in a piece of tarlatan or cheese cloth, binding down legs and wings witout twine. Put over the fire in hot water and boil steadily, but not violently for nearly an hour, testing the fowls with a fork to ascertain if they are done. When they are about three-fourths cooked take out a cupful of the liquor, strain and season it and cook in it a cupful of macaroni, broken into inch lengths. Twenty minutes should suffice to stew it tender. Form into a broad mound upon a platter and lay the chickens, released from their bonds, upon this. Garnish with parsley and serve with drawn butter.

WHIPPED POTATO:—Boil the potatoes as for mashing, but in lieu of the potato beetle, beat hard with a fork until very light, whipping in butter, milk and salt to taste.

CREAMED PARSNIPS:—While the parsnips are boiling, prepare in a double boiler a sauce of half a cupful of hot milk, thickened with a tablespoonful of butter rolled in flour and seasoned to taste. When smoking hot, lay the cooked parsnips, scraped and sliced, in the sauce for five minutes, turning them two or three times. Serve very hot.

JONQUIL BLANC-MANGE:—Three cups milk, two eggs, half package gelatine, one cup cold water, one cup sugar, one teaspoonful vanilla, one cup cream.

Soak the gelatine in the water for two hours. Heat the milk to boiling, adding a tiny pinch of soda and the sugar, stir in the gelatine and cook until dissolved. Beat the yolks of the eggs light and add the boiling mixture to them little by little, to prevent curdling. Return to the fire, cook for two minutes, stirring constantly, flavor and pour into a wet mould, with a hole in the centre. This should be done on Saturday. Just before dinner on Sunday, whip the cream light with a Dover egg beater, add the whites of the eggs beaten to a meringue, and fill with this the opening in the turned out bowl of blanc-mange. Heap about the base as well.

Fancy cakes are a pleasant addition to this dessert.

MONDAY.

Chicken Soup.
Chicken Short-cake. French Beans with Sausages.
Baked Potatoes.
Hot Crackers and Cheese.

CHICKEN SOUP:—Break up the carcasses of yesterday's chickens, having first carefully removed every particle of meat from the bones. Put them over the fire with fragments of skin and gristle, parsley and a chopped onion. Cover them with cold water and simmer gently until this is reduced one-half. Add to it the liquor in which the chickens were boiled the day before, skim, strain and return to the pot. Add one cup of hot milk, pepper and salt to taste, and five minutes before taking from the range stir in Cerealine Flakes, in the proportion of one cupful of the flakes to each quart of the soup. Boil up once and serve.

CHICKEN SHORT-CAKE:—Two cupfuls flour, one cupful milk, half cupful butter, two teaspoonfuls baking powder.

Rub the baking powder and the butter into the flour. Stir in the milk and make a soft dough, just stiff enough to roll out very thin. Bake in round jelly cake tins, in a quick oven. Have ready the bits of chicken left from yesterday's dinner, minced fine with a sharp knife and warmed in a little gravy. Spread between and on top of the short-cakes, and serve with gravy or drawn butter.

FRENCH BEANS WITH SAUSAGES:—Turn the liquor off from canned French string beans and stew them until tender in boiling water. Drain very dry, mix in a couple of teaspoonfuls of butter and mound on a hot platter. Have ready sausages, fried, and carefully freed from grease and lay them about the beans.

BAKED POTATOES:—See previous directions.

HOT CRACKERS AND CHEESE:—See LADIES' HOME JOURNAL for January.

TUESDAY.

Frost Fish with Tomatoes.
Browned Potatoes. Pickled Beets.
Oranges and Bananas.

FROST FISH WITH TOMATOES:—Drain the liquor from a can of tomatoes and set it aside for soup. Butter a baking dish, lay the tomatoes in the bottom of this and sprinkle with bread crumbs, pepper, salt and bits of butter. Lay the fish on this, placing them as closely together as they will lie. Cover with bread crumbs, season, and dot plentifully with butter. Moisten the whole with a half cupful of oyster liquor, bake covered fifteen minutes, uncover and brown.

BROWNED POTATOES:—See LADIES' HOME JOURNAL for January.

PICKLED BEETS:—Boil four hours, scrape, slice, and butter lightly. When cold, pour vinegar over them.

ORANGES AND BANANAS: These fruits are apt to be cheap and excellent at this time of year and make an easily prepared dessert for ironing day.

WEDNESDAY.

Tomato Soup.
Liver and Bacon.
Cannelon of Potato. Cold Slaw.
Bread and Marmalade Pudding.

TOMATO SOUP:—Slice and fry a small onion in two tablespoonfuls of sweet dripping, placed in the bottom of the soup pot. Pour in the tomato liquor together with the cups of boiling water. Cook fifteen minutes, season and strain. Return to the stove with a half cupful of boiled rice and a teaspoonful of sugar. Cook ten minutes more and thicken with two teaspoonfuls of butter rubbed smooth with as much flour. Boil up once and serve.

LIVER AND BACON:—Have both liver and bacon sliced thin. Fry the latter crisp, transfer it to a hot dish and fry the liver in the fat left in the pan, first rolling each slice in a little flour. Place the liver in the dish with the bacon and keep hot while you prepare a sauce by thickening the fat with a tablespoonful of browned flour, adding a cupful of boiling water and a little pepper and cooking all together for three minutes, stirring constantly. Pour over the meat in the dish.

CANNELON OF POTATO:—Prepare as for mashed potato, beating in, besides the usual milk, pepper salt and butter, a raw egg. Heat in a greased frying pan, stirring until quite stiff. Shape into a long roll, rub with raw egg and sprinkle with fine crumbs. Brown quickly in the oven, transfer to a hot dish and pour a cup of drawn butter over it.

COLD SLAW:—See LADIES' HOME JOURNAL for January.

BREAD AND MARMALADE PUDDING:—Make according to directions given in November issue for Bread and Apple pudding, substituting some nice jam or marmalade for the apples.

THURSDAY.

Veal Rissoles.
Baked Hominy. Boiled Potatoes.
Peach Dumplings.

VEAL RISSOLES:—One pound of raw veal, chopped very fine, one small cup fine bread crumbs, two cups milk, one tablespoonful butter, pepper and salt to taste.

Let the bread crumbs cook in half of the water until they form a smooth, soft paste. Stir in the minced veal, butter and seasoning. Let the compound cool, and when it can be handled form into small croquettes. Dip these in raw egg, roll in flour and fry to a light brown in really nice dripping. If you have none nice enough, use butter. Take them from the pan with a split spoon, and thicken the gravy with a tablespoonful of cornstarch. Stir in a cupful of boiling milk and season to taste. Put this sauce into a double boiler, drop in the rissoles and stew gently one hour.

BAKED HOMINY:—Two cupfuls boiled hominy, one cup and a half milk, one egg, two teaspoonfuls butter, one tablespoonful sugar, one saltspoonful salt.

Rub the hominy very smooth, beat in the melted butter, the whipped egg, the sugar salt and milk. Beat thoroughly and bake in a pudding dish. Eat soon, as it is apt to fall if left standing too long.

BOILED POTATOES:—Prepare as directed in LADIES' HOME JOURNAL for November, cooking a larger quantity than is needed to-day, in anticipation of to-morrow's dinner.

PEACH DUMPLINGS:—Two cups flour, one tablespoonful lard, one tablespoonful butter, two teaspoonfuls baking powder, one and a half cups sweet milk, pinch of salt.

Cut the lard and butter into the flour, dissolve the salt in the milk and make a soft dough, just stiff enough to be handled. Roll into a thin sheet and cut into neat squares. In the centre of each place a canned peach, quartered. Sprinkle generously with sugar, pinch the sides of the dumpling together, and bake with the joined edges underneath. Eat with hard sauce, made as previously directed.

FRIDAY.

Oyster and Salmon Pie.
Potatoes Hashed with Cream and Browned.
Stewed Celery.
Suet Pudding.

OYSTER AND SALMON PIE:—One pint oysters, half pint oyster liquor, one can salmon, one large tablespoonful of butter rolled in flour.

Drain the liquid from the salmon and save it. Remove all bits of bone and gristle from the fish. Place a layer of this in the bottom of a greased pudding dish. Salt, pepper and sprinkle with bits of the floured butter. On this lay a stratum of oysters, then more salmon and so on until all the materials are used. Pour in the oyster and salmon liquor and make a top crust of pastry as directed in December issue. Bake in a steady oven.

POTATOES HASHED WITH CREAM AND BROWNED—Cut the cold boiled potatoes left from yesterday into neat dice. For two cupfuls of the potato heat in a double boiler one cupful of milk, thickened with a tablespoonful of butter rolled in flour, and seasoned with salt and pepper. Into this stir the potatoes, letting them remain on the fire just long enough to become smoking hot throughout, but *on no account let them boil*. When well heated, turn them into a greased baking dish and brown in a quick oven. If rightly prepared, this is a delicious dish.

STEWED CELERY:—Prepare as directed in January number of LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

SUET PUDDING:—One and a half cups flour, one cup molasses, one cup milk, one cup suet, half cup seeded raisins, half cup currants, carefully washed and dried, one teaspoonful soda, one saltspoonful salt.

Free the suet from strings and rub it fine. Work it, with the soda and salt into the flour, add the milk and molasses, and after beating thoroughly, stir in the fruit, dredged in flour. Pour into a well greased brown bread tin or small pail with tightly fitting top, set this in boiling water and boil hard three hours. Eat with hard sauce.

SATURDAY.

Stewed Beef's Heart.
Kidney Beans with Sauce.
Mashed Potatoes.
Cerealine Flakes Hasty Pudding.

STEWED BEEF'S HEART:—Wash the heart thoroughly, and soak for two hours in cold water, slightly salted. Stuff with a forcemeat made of a cup of bread crumbs, two or three slices of salt pork, minced very fine, pepper, salt and a teaspoonful of chopped parsley, half a teaspoonful of sweet marjoram and the same of chopped onion. Moisten with two teaspoonfuls of melted butter. Fill the heart closely with this, sew up the opening and tie up firmly in a piece of cheese cloth. Put on the fire in a saucepan of enough boiling water to nearly cover the heart and stew gently three hours. The water should by this be reduced to not more than a pint. Take out the heart, remove the cloth, and dish. Set aside a cupful of the gravy and thicken that left in the saucepan with a tablespoonful of butter rubbed smooth in one of *browned* flour. Boil up, pepper and salt to taste and after taking from the fire add the juice of half a lemon and two tablespoonfuls of cooking sherry. Pour over the heart. A savory and inexpensive dish. Carve heart in slices across the top.

KIDNEY BEANS WITH SAUCE:—Soak the beans over night and in the morning boil them until soft. Twenty minutes before dinner drain the beans from the water in which they were cooked, and put them over the fire with the cupful of gravy taken from the beef's heart. Simmer fifteen minutes and serve.

MASHED POTATO:—Prepare as previously directed.

CEREALINE FLAKES HASTY PUDDING:—One quart milk, three cups Cerealine Flakes, one tablespoonful butter.

Heat the milk to boiling, stir in the flakes and cook five minutes. Add the butter and a pinch of salt. Eat with powdered sugar, cream, and a little grated nutmeg.

HOME COOKING.

ORIGINAL RECIPES CONTRIBUTED BY THE JOURNAL SISTERS.

BANANA CAKE.—1 whole egg and yolks of 2, 1 cup sugar, piece of butter size of an egg, 1 cup sweet milk, 2¼ cups flour, 2 teaspoonfuls Royal baking powder. Bake in two large sized jelly tins.

Filling:—Beat the whites of the two eggs stiff with sugar, slice four bananas, or "enough to cover one layer of cake," put part of frosting over the bananas, put second layer on top, and frost plain. MRS. W.

CHOCOLATE PIE.—2 cups of milk, yolks of 2 eggs, ⅔ of a cup of sugar, 2 tablespoonfuls of corn starch, 2 tablespoonfuls of grated chocolate. Heat the milk, sugar and chocolate together; when hot add the corn starch, mixed in a little of the cold milk; then add the beaten yolks; let all come to a boil; line a pie tin with good pie crust, bake, then pour in your chocolate cream; beat the whites of the eggs to a stiff froth, with two tablespoonfuls of white sugar, pour over the pie and set in the oven to brown.

ANGEL CAKE (by request.)—Whites of 11 eggs, beaten to a stiff froth in the dish you intend to make the cake in, ½ pint of sifted flour, and sift it four times, and then add one even teaspoonful of cream of tartar, and sift all twice more; ¾ of a pint of granulated sugar, sifted four times, add two teaspoonfuls vanilla. Have flour and sugar all ready before beating the eggs, and then add lightly the flour and cream of tartar, then the sugar and vanilla; don't grease the pans. Bake forty minutes.

PRESERVED CITRON.—Pare the citron, take out seeds, and cut in small pieces; put in cold water and let boil until very tender. When about half done put in one teaspoonful of dry saleratus, and a piece of alum about the size of a small walnut. When perfectly clear take them up and place on a large dish to drain. For the syrup use one-half pound of sugar to a pound of citron. To five pounds of citron take three lemons, wash and cut in thin slices, remove all the seeds, and add to the syrup with two oz. of green ginger; when done, put in air-tight jars.

CHICKEN PIE.—Boil chickens in water barely to cover them, forty minutes. Skim the water carefully. Take them out in a dish, and cut them up as they should be carved if placed upon the table. If the skin is very thick remove it. Have ready, lined with a thick paste, a deep dish, of a size proportionate to the number of chickens you wish to use; put in the pieces, with the hearts and livers, in layers; sprinkle each layer with flour, salt and pepper, and put on each piece of chicken a thin layer of butter; do this until you have laid in all the pieces; put rather more of the spice, flour and butter over the top layer than on the previous ones, and pour in as much of the liquor in which the chickens were boiled as you can without danger of its boiling over. Lay on the upper crust, and close the edges very carefully with flour and water; prick the top with a knife; cut leaves of crust and ornament it. Bake two hours. The crust for chicken pie should be twice as thick as for fruit pies. Use mace and nutmeg if you wish.

YOUNG HOUSEKEEPER'S FRIEND.

RELIABLE DOUGHNUTS.—Two eggs, beaten to a froth, one cup sugar, one cup sour milk, (buttermilk makes them better) 1 good sized teaspoon saleratus, one small nutmeg, and some salt, flour enough to handle, that is, roll them out and cut as soft as can be handled; have plenty of good hot fat, and I will warrant they will be good. I have several other good recipes which I will send at some future time if you would like to have me.

Respectfully, MRS. JOSEPH WEEKS.

[Shall be glad to receive your choice recipes.—ED.]

***

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

"C. A. T." requests recipe for making elderberry wine.

"Mrs. A. L. B." wishes directions for making cherry, peach, or pear butter.

"Mrs. S. E. Simpson" asks for pop-corn ball recipe.

"Charleston" wishes recipe for chocolate and orange cake, also float dressing for chickens.

"Amelia M." wants to know how to keep tartar from grape jelly.

"Inquirer" asks if aqua ammonia is ever used in cooking. Bakers often use it for the rapid rising of cakes, but housekeepers would better use only any of the reliable baking powders advertised in our columns, or the old-fashioned cream of tartar and saleratus—two parts of the former to one of the latter.

"Mrs. A. M. S."—For drawn butter we give the following: Put pint of hot water in saucepan, and add to it two tablespoonfuls of flour mixed smooth in a little water; stir slowly until flour is cooked. To this add about a half teaspoonful of salt, and pepper to taste if desired. Lastly add about a half cup of butter, and serve as soon as melted.

***

WANTS.

Directions for canning green peas in glass jars. (Mrs. F. E. Wade.)

Recipe for making potato salad as made by the Germans.

Do the sisters know that a nice icing is made by dissolving one tablespoonful of gelatine in four times as much warm water, and beating well with sufficient pulverized sugar? This cuts much better than icing made of egg, and looks just as well.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

NEW DRESS GOODS:

Useful and Ornamental Creations in Cotton. Silk-Warp Novelties in Jet and Blue-Black. Gleanings from Here, There, and Everywhere.

BY MRS. JAS. H. LAMBERT.

During the latter part of February, special exhibitions of Spring novelties in silks, woolens, and camel's hair, will be announced; but strange to say, the first openings, which are even now transpiring, are of cotton goods, more particularly intended for late spring and summer service. The reason given for the earlier showing of such fabrics is this: some of the choice specimens in cotton are used for handsome costumes, but the greater number are designed to meet the everyday necessity in school dresses for children, costumes for misses, and working gowns, and walking suits for ladies.

While of course such toilettes should be neatly, prettily, and even stylishly made, still, ladies are not so exacting in regard to their formation, as they naturally are of the shape of their best dresses, but are content to fashion cotton costumes after the models designed for intermediate seasons, or in some favored style of the year past; when to make their robes in silk, satin and velvet, and fine woolen stuffs, they wait for models until the very latest styles are introduced and accepted, as very few ladies are willing to assume the responsibility of introducing an entirely new style, before it has become familiar to the public, by being exhibited in the stores.

The latest out of useful and handsome cotton goods are the Cleghorn novelties, in solid colors, in two tones of the same hue, and in the most delicate shades, and positive colors, forming elegant and odd combinations. Among these materials are refined reproductions, in cotton, of some of the favored woolen stuffs of last winter, as for instance, in one piece, the ground, or plain chambray stripe, is in dark blue, while an inch wide moss stripe is in old gold, evidently copied after the fabrics with alternating etamine and plush stripes, which were so fashionable in the fall. Red and blue, or cardinal with blue, gold, green, and bronze, pink and garnet, two blues, various browns and drabs, are among the choice selections in these tufted materials.

Other Cleghorn novelties show self-colored ground with imitation braid or embroidery lines in clusters or groups of two, three, or more stripes, each line interspersed with loops or bourette effects in another shade or color, than that shown in the ground. These ornamental stuffs are accompanied by plain materials in the ground effect and color, and are intended to form certain portions or trimmings of most stylish and useful home dresses and street suits for ladies and misses.

Another material worthy of consideration, has perhaps been tested by some of our readers; it is known as *Toile du Nord*, and is a cross between a closely woven chambray, and a fine, even threaded gingham. These goods come in all shades of all colors, in plain specimens, in two tones, and in pleasing combinations in checks, plaids and stripes, all warranted to wash and wear well.

The Alicienne seersuckers are to be specially commended to ladies who find difficulty in having dresses laundried, for these crinkle goods do not require to be ironed; they wash nicely, and when partly dry, can be pulled into shape. As they are not hurt by exposure to salt or damp atmosphere, they are most useful for seaside or country wear. These seersuckers come in rich dark colors, and in neutral shades, for everyday, while others for evening are in pearl, cream, pink, blue, and in dainty combinations for evening.

For information about, and samples of novelties in cotton goods thanks are due Denny, Poor & Co., manufacturers' agents, New York.

FASHIONABLE BLACK FABRICS.

Everything in black is *en regle* for Spring wear, and while ladies have to wait a little longer, before seeing colored novelties in silken or woolen dress goods, it is well to know that the foreign importations of black silk-warp fabrics in novel varieties and handsome grades, have already been received by commission houses, and many are now on sale at our leading retail dry goods houses.

From the celebrated English Bradford Mills come real curiosities in camel's hair diagonals, with silk-warp, in no less than seven or eight designs, consisting of single, double, or cluster cords or lines, lighter or heavier, running diagonally across the surface of the fine yet firm ground or body.

A new mourning cloth with silk warp, shows the hairs of the camel scattered over its smooth, even surface; this divides favor with the plain silk-warp camel's hair, the serge, and the equally popular twill in the same materials.

Japanese crape, which comes in black and white, commends itself for the beauty of its up and down all over crape effects. It is quite unlike the camel's hair crape in black, and the white Canton crape from the same manufactory; the latter being crinkled but not striped.

Silk-warp Aly's cloth in light and medium weight is also new, and in fancy weaves, in woolen goods, there are some nine neat and odd designs. All these black goods are perfect in finish and coloring, will wear splendidly, and do not easily crease or rumple, and every wrinkle made by tight packing or compression, will come out if the dress is hung up over night, and well shaken.

For specimens in costumes and samples of B. Priestley's varnished board novelties in black silk-warp dress goods, thanks are due Sharpless Brothers, Philadelphia, Pa.

DOMESTIC SILKS AND ELASTIC CLOTHS.

A best silk dress in either black or in colors is a feminine necessity, and while ladies are anxious to find a silk that looks well, the most sensible are equally desirous that the dress should be long-enduring. Imported silks are certainly very handsome, and many of them wear well; still the experienced silk buyer knows that a good American silk is of more real value than one costing the same money, from abroad, for in the end it will give greater satisfaction in wear.

Noticeable among the domestic silks, are the Cheney novelties in hair line and stripe surahs, in black, and in such useful colors as blue, green, bronze and garnet, with single or double lines in white or in a lighter shade than the stripes. These fabrics are of pure silk, free from loading or the gum which renders some silk so objectionable, hence they do not change weight, and will wear well, and are not injured by rain, or damp atmosphere. They come in good width, and when self trimmed make up into useful, neat, very pretty and inexpensive materials for Spring and Summer service.

Plain black and solid color surahs, and *faille Francaise* from the same mills are superior in finish, as are also the new and old Tricotines, which should be classed among the Cheney novelties.

For Spring and Summer suits, no material will be more popular than the new Jersey cloths, which really have no feature of the old fabric bearing that name, except in being elastic, for the novelties are in all colors, in stripes, bars, and with tufted and embroidered figures in other tones, or in contrasting colors over a solid color ground.

The most popular idea ever introduced is that of supplying customers with boxes, each containing a ready-made waist of elastic cloth, with enough of the material to form a skirt, which is to be made at home or by any competent dressmaker. These box elastic waists, with skirt material, cost $10, $12, $14, $15, $16 and on up to $25 for box with Spring novelties, which will differ materially in cloth and construction of corsage or waist, from those shown in the Fall.

For samples of new Cheney silks thanks are due James McCreery, New York. For specimens of elastic waists and skirt fabric, we thank Lewis S. Cox, manufacturer and wholesale and retail dealer in Jersey and elastic cloths, Philadelphia, Pa.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"J. L.'s daughter."—Adjustable dress forms can be procured from S. T. Taylor's Fashion Emporium, 930 Broadway, N. Y. Write to that house for further information.

"Ettie Gray," Temple, Texas.—There are quite a number of systems for dress cutting and fitting. Demorests is very much liked, and so is S. T. Taylor's. The fashion book that best answers your description is a foreign publication. It contains a large supplement with black and colored illustrations, descriptive fashion articles, points on home decoration, and a number of serials and short stories. It is called "The Young Ladies' Journal," and can be procured by writing to the International News Co., 31 Beekman St., New York.

"Ida Moor."—Good, faithful girls who can sew neatly, can always find employment in large cities. Still, if you can make any sort of a living in the country, stay there.

"Nellie S. A.," "Annie C. J.," and others, who ask about the made waists of elastic cloth, in box with sufficient material for skirt.—Information, samples and prices can be obtained by writing direct to the manufacturer, Lewis S. Cox, 1220 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

"Mrs. L. B. J.," of Va.—Yes, will be very glad to know all about the "bread-raiser" you refer to.

"Mrs. Fannie H."—No, San Juan, Cal., and "Mrs. L. B. J.," Va., and others.— E. Ridley & Sons, Grand and Allen Sts., New York, keep all manner of household and kitchen conveniences. Write direct to that firm for catalogue and price list of kitchen utensils and dining-room furnishings in dishes and other articles.

"Prospective Mother."—Who is not able to hire a nurse and extra washwoman during her confinement, wants to know if there is any way she can save work at that time. Yes, she can escape the usual heavy and unpleasant wash, by using the sanitary towels, which are comfortable, absorbent, and antiseptic, and after use the towel or napkin is simply burned. The nurses package contains sheets and towels, while the ordinary package for ladies who desire to travel, or have to be away from home for any length of time during the day, there are packages of sanitary towels, of two qualities: No. 1, sent by mail for 60c. a package, No. 2 for 85c. a package, each containing one dozen towels or napkins. If you have to pay the usual price per dozen for washing such articles, it is cheaper to buy these sanitary towels and burn them, than to pay the laundry bill for a dozen ordinary towels. Yes, you can procure them by writing to this department of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

"Stout Friend."—You can be relieved of some of the skirt fullness by wearing a "Patti" skeleton skirt band. For price and particulars write direct to Canfield Rubber Co., 53 Howard St., New York, and say you were told to do so by Mrs. J. H. L., of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

"Myrtle," "Miss Rosa King," "Lottie M.," and others.—Sent your letters direct to Sharpless Brothers, who will send you samples of Priestley's silk-warp black dress goods, and colored cloths for Spring suits.

"Inquirer."—The Spring number of Kursheedt's Fashionable Specialties is just out. For particulars see advertisement on opposite page.

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Will continue to send all Goods purchased through Their MAIL ORDER DEPARTMENT, by Mail, Express or as Freight, to any part of the U. S **Free of Cost for Transportation.**

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Black Camel's Hair Twills, 56-inches wide, 75c. a yard, splendid value at $1.25.
46-inch Black Cashmere, Henrietta Finish, at 75c., worth $1.00.
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For Information, Prices and Samples, write to

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LEWIS S. COX,
1220 Chestnut Street.

The regular, customary prices at The New Store have been banished for a time; the whole place is given up to the Clearing-Sale. The policy of the New Store has been, and is, to keep only New goods—at whatever cost. Broken lots, consequent of a successful season, are now being offered at a reduction of from one quarter to one-half their original value. That this is essentially a *Bargain* era—a novelty in itself at The New Store—is conclusively shown.

Our time is now wholly given up to the disposal of the remnants of a plentiful stock; the goods are not "old" in the sense applied by our neighbors: they may have been here a month, not possibly more than three months—as we are but three months old ourselves—yet they are in the way, we want the room, and it is your opportunity to get big value in Wraps, Jackets and Newmarkets for little money: you have been waiting, perhaps, for this very time at The New Store; we've arranged the prices to conform to the times.

Children's Garments of all styles and qualities are going fast under this temporary regime: the prices we are giving you in the papers are thronging the store; we shall give you a few more presently.

Ladies' Waists, with enough of same material for Skirt, are off one quarter in price for the few that remain; they must be got rid of to make room for the same idea (so largely successful with us) for spring sales, for which we are now in active preparation.

Avail yourselves, friends, patrons, well-wishers of The New Store of the opportunity presented of obtaining, at phenomenal prices, Ladies' and Children's Garments of all grades, the quality recognized wherever they have gone.

LEWIS S. COX,
1220 Chestnut St., Phila., Pa.

For further information read article on "Dress and Material" in this number of LADIES' HOME JOURNAL and please mention this paper in letter of advice to Lewis S. Cox

PRIESTLEY'S CAMEL-HAIR FABRICS

Include a complete line of *Camel-Hair Goods*, for both costumes and wraps, of extra quality, the *Real India Cloth*, uniting the Camel-Hair effects with the graceful folds of Indian draperies; and new *silk-warp diagonals* and *serges*, the softest and most luxurious of fabrics, yet firm in texture, and equally suitable in and out of mourning. None genuine unless rolled on a yellow "*Varnished Board*," showing the grain of the wood, which is the Priestley Trade-Mark.

They are for sale by all the principal dealers in the large cities.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

PRACTICAL DRESS.

BY JENNY JUNE.

A Toboggan Costume.

There is a "rage" for tobogganing this winter, as there was for roller skating rinks, a few years ago, and as there was last season for "progressive" euchre. Doubtless the Canadian sport will be talked about, and written about, until every little town has its slide, and its club, and plays for a little while at tobogganing. But after all, this is make believe, and no more like the real thing, than the mixture of costumes, and styles, at the New York Polo grounds, is like the genuine toboggan suit, as seen upon its native heath.

The costume illustrated is an exact reproduction of the tobogan blanket suit as made, and sold, and worn in Montreal. It is made of actual blankets, or material as thick, and woolly, striped to match the striped bordering, used as trimming.

The suit consists of skirt, and sac-paletot, half-fitting, double-breasted, and trimmed with bands of the stripe, stitched on to outline braces, and belted in, with a band stiffly lined, and also formed of the stripe. The skirt is straight, full at the back, slightly plaited on the hips, and plain in front. It is also bordered with the stripe, and faced, not lined. There is a removable hood which may be drawn over the knitted cap, if necessary, and a sash of soft, thin wool, red, or blue to match the cap, which is knotted at the side, and gathered, and tasseled at the ends. The suit is made so loose that it can be worn over an ordinary dress of wool, with straight, plaited skirt, and Jersey waist, and is very warm, while leaving the arms more free than would be possible with the ordinary outdoor garment, and containing "nothing to hurt," even if the wearer does get "left" in a snow-bank. We recommend to mothers as affording a good suggestion for a winter school costume.

A HOME-MADE WALKING-DRESS.

A few days ago, a young lady displayed to me a gown she had herself designed, and made for the coming Spring. It was composed of one of the new woolen materials, being a soft shade of grey, very nearly resembling ashes of roses, so strong a suggestion of pink was there in its tint. There was a jacket, cut off square at the waist-line, and ending behind, in a couple of box-plaited tails. In front, it opened over a full vest, the soft, irregular-looking folds of which were laid diagonally, instead of lengthwise. The waist was defined by a belt, coming from the side seams, and buckled with small steel clasps. The overskirt was simple, being formed of soft diagonal drapery, (matching the vest in its effect,) caught high on the left hip, and falling in a long point, just to the right of the middle, near the bottom of the skirt. The back was managed in much the same way, there being no looping, and the drapery being merely formed from the diagonal folds. The back of the underskirt, to the front breadth, was perfectly plain, with a broad hem continued up the sides as well as at the bottom, and outlined with three rows of herring-bone stitching, in three shades of grey silk—one, the exact color of the dress, and the other two, darker. The front breadth was entirely formed of side-plaitings, in rows of threes, each one outlined with the herring-bone, as were also the straight collar, the cuffs upon the plain, tight sleeves, and the belt. The latter, however, was nearly covered with it. The dress was very simple, and easy to make, when once designed, and the stitching in herring-bone gave a rich and original effect.

Another, quite as simple, was composed of bottle-green woolen goods, combined with a small dark green and pale grey check. The tightly fitting basque, of dark green, was cut away from the throat in a deep point, several inches deep, and provided with wide lappels, the extreme points of which extended so far as to touch the seams of the arm-holes. The basque did not meet, down the front, by the distance of an inch and a-half, but was laced across the checked vest, with heavy green silk cord. Little pockets of the checked material were set in upon each hip, and laced across with the same cord, which was tied in a little bow-knot at one side of each pocket. The back of the basque was slashed up toward the waist in a deep, wide point, with a lappel turned back from each; and the space was filled in with a heavy plaiting of the check. The skirt was not draped at all in the back, but was laid in box-plaits which formed an overdress. From beneath these plaits, at each side, came a flat panel, with islet-holes at its front edge, and through these holes the heavy cord was laced across the space which separated the side panels from a plain narrow piece forming the front of the overdress. The underskirt, which did not show behind, except to give a tiny glimpse at the bottom, was of the checked goods, and at front and sides, where it was revealed, was made of rather narrow side-plaitings. This, of course, need only extend so far as was necessary for the effect, and could be sewed on a plain underskirt of silesia.

Neither of the dresses required a great deal of material, but the first took less than the second.

Still another gown was of light brown camel's hair, with a Norfolk jacket, and broad belt. The front of the skirt was of uncut velvet, one shade darker; and the back was formed of one solid piece of drapery, slightly looped behind, plaited into shape at the sides, and buttoned on to the front, between the plaits. The jacket had a collar of uncut velvet, both standing and turned over, and the cuffs, and belt, were of the same. A hat covered with the camel's hair, and made over a shape very much resembling the Derby, went with this suit.

HOW I RECONSTRUCTED MY WARDROBE.

"It was the old story, desire to dress as well as my neighbor, and but little money to do it with. The first view of my resources in the way of wardrobe, was rather hopeless. An unbecoming grey camel's hair, trimmed with worn grey velvet, and cold steel ornaments. A couple of hours work sufficed to redrape the skirt, remove the velvet, and brighten the buttons, and buckles. I was struck then with the bright idea of replacing it with ruby velvet. I obtained one yard, a remnant, fortunately, and put it on the waist, as one long, pointed revers, straight high collar and cuffs, and small revers at back of basque. Enough is left to make diagonal straps, two inches wide, through which we draw the steel slides which hold the drapery upon the left side. There are five in all, placed five inches apart, and when properly arranged they form a very handsome paneled finish. The drapery is arranged long, and full across the front, but it is drawn to one side, with loops of grey, and ruby ribbon, while the back falls free.

"There are a dozen cut-steel buttons still to be disposed of, and these are placed, three on the revers, two on each sleeve, three on the back of basque, leaving two for lost, or emergencies. I always like to provide for emergencies, or 'shrinkage,' as my mother used to say, when she packed her butter. The grey dress, when it was completed, was a great success, the ruby velvet warmed it up, and like good plum-pudding, it was better warmed over, than it was at first.

"It gave me courage to attack my second item, a half-worn black silk, out of which I wanted to evolve a 'party' dress. Happy thought! Cover it with the pretty black imitation Chantilly, the skirt entirely, waist also, first cutting the basque shorter, less round, and more pointed. The neck also was made pointed, the lace drawn full, and high at the throat, the sleeves full to the elbow, without lining; one finished with full, lace edge; and ribbon loops, and bows, the first on the top of the left shoulder, and at the right of the belt, the left of the skirt, the second at the bend of the arm, above the edging of lace. I used black gros-grain ribbon, with picot edge, but any colored ribbon can be used. Seven yards of lace, forty inches wide are necessary to remodel this costume, from three to five yards of ribbon, and a yard and a-half of lace edging for sleeves.

"These two dresses have quite set me up, they are so convenient, so ready, and look so fresh, and handsome. Nearly all my friends think I have acquired two costly new dresses, and an old lady said the other day, I should be the 'ruin' of my husband. I don't mind that in the least, however, for he thinks fifteen dollars well spent in the materials, which 'made over' the two principal items in my winter's wardrobe."

MAUDE K.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HINTS UPON ETIQUETTE AND GOOD MANNERS.

BY MRS. S. O. JOHNSTON.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

"Lou" asks:—1st, "On a gentleman's departure, after calling upon a lady, should she ask him to call again?" 2d. "Is it proper for a young lady to ask a gentleman to write to her, if he is going away?" 3d, "How long should a girl of nineteen dress in mourning for a brother? and would it be etiquette to go with a young man while dressing in mourning?"

Answer: 1st, Yes, if she wishes him to do so. 2d, No, a young lady should be very careful not to show any interest in a young man, for frequently she will expose herself to ridicule among the sterner but not more courteous sex. 3d, One year is the custom of wearing mourning for a brother or sister. After six months a young lady can accept the escort of a young gentleman to concerts, operas, theatres or lectures, but she will not go to parties, receptions or balls, until a year is passed. Weddings, and wedding receptions, among intimate friends, are the exceptions which prove this rule.

"Clara" writes:—"Do you think in all cases a lady should prefer an introduction to a gentleman, particularly at a skating rink? Should like to know the origin of Hallow-e'en.

Answer: Yes, a lady will always insist upon an introduction to a gentleman before speaking to him, and especially at a skating rink. Many a young girl is now bitterly deploring her ignorance concerning the "Etiquette of Society." Skating rinks have proved an abomination in the land, to such an extent that the Catholic clergy have denounced them from their pulpits. And no young lady will make an acquaintance at such a place, without an introduction from a reliable person. Under sheep's clothing wolves haunt such folds. Do not know the origin of Hallow-e'en. Can any of our numerous readers give the desired information?

"Sarah asks":—1st What answer can a young lady give a gentleman when he asks to escort her to any meal, or to promenade, or to dance with her, either accepting or declining? And what answer should she give on being asked by a gentleman to take her home, either accepting or declining. 3rd. What thanks should she give on reaching home?"

Ans.":—If she desires to accept the invitations she can say, "Thank you, I should be pleased to do so," or simply, "thank you." "Thanks, yes," or "thanks, no," are too abrupt, and the adding of the pronoun, you, is always to be given by courteous young ladies. If declining she can say, "thank you, but I have a previous engagement." 2nd. She can say, "thank you, I should like your escort." If declining, say, "thank you, or many thanks, but I have a previous engagement." 3rd. Arriving at her door, she need only say, "thank you," but if she pleases she can say. "I have had a pleasant walk," and if the acquaintance is an intimate one, can add, come and see us soon." But do not stand outside the door and chat only for a minute, as it may attract the attention of passers by.

"Hattie Bell" asks:—1st, "Should a lady thank a gentleman for his kindness in seeing you home from church, party, etc.? and if so, what should she say?" 2d, "What would be a polite answer when he asks for her company home?" 3d, "If a gentleman is keeping company with a young lady, and should accompany yourself and a friend of the young lady's home from a place of amusement, would it be proper for you to invite him to call without inviting the lady he is keeping company with? And in what manner should she invite him?"

Answer: 1st, Of course thanks are due to your escort, always. You can simply "Thank you," or "Thank you, you are very kind." 2d, "Thank you" is a sufficiently polite answer. 3d, Certainly, and you can say: "Come and see us sometime." "Keeping company" is not, however, a phrase used in polite society. You should say "paying attentions to a young lady."

"X. Y. Z." writes:—"A married gentleman of 45 was introduced to me last summer, and offered his hand. It was a new custom to me and I responded awkwardly, and the consciousness of it sent the blood to my face, and added to my embarassment. Later in the summer, while visiting a friend, I met an unmarried gentleman three times, and had ten or fifteen minutes conversation with him each time. The last time he was about to leave on a short journey, and I expected to return home the next day. His final remark was: 'I hope I shall see you again,' and I replied, 'I hope you will.' My friend criticised me for my reply, and said I should have invited him to call on me. Would his remark properly be considered as expressing a desire to call? Also in regard to the first mentioned gentleman? Did I transgress the rules of courtesy by not inviting him to call? Is it customary to offer the hand to a lady when introduced? or is it a New England custom to do so?—the gentleman living there—or is it customary among older people, or among married people?"

Answer: 1st, You might have replied, "I should be pleased to meet you again, and if you come to our place, at any time, I hope you will call." Yet a great deal depends upon the gentleman's manner. Such phrases are often conventional, merely used as a polite form of saying adieus, and the answer was not so very much out of the way, but it would have been better to have said, "I hope we shall meet again." Young ladies should be chary of their invitations to young men to call upon them. As a general rule such invitations had better come from their elders, 2d, It is the lady's place to extend the hand when introduced if she wishes to give the gentleman a cordial reception; but being so much your elder, it was not a great breach of etiquette for the gentleman to do so. Shaking hands at an introduction depends much upon the formality of the occasion. At the West and South, however, the custom prevails much more than in New England. A cordial, hearty manner, whether one is married or unmarried, young or old, is a good passport to any society; and very soon you will recover from all embarassment.

"A. B. C." asks:—"Is it proper for a young lady to give a young gentlemen with whom she is acquainted but not engaged, a birthday present? Please mention a few things that would be appropriate."

Ans.—There would be no impropriety in doing so, unless the young man might feel that he must return a gift upon the lady's birthday, and that might entail upon him an outlay that he could not afford; therefore young ladies should not be too profuse in giving presents to young men, as an usual thing. You might make a toboggan cap, or embroider his initial in a nice handkerchief; or paint a paper-cutter and book-mark combined; or make a blotter with a water-color painted cover. Something of one's own work is usually more highly prized, if it is only a linen tidy, in outline work, than any article that has been purchased.

"A. E. S." asks:—1. "When a young man takes a young lady out riding, or asks may he take her down town and treat her to ice cream, if she goes with him, would it be proper to thank him politely, and express her enjoyment on the occasion, or not thank him at all, but only express your enjoyment?

"2. When a young man calls on a young lady, must she invite him to call again?

"3. If I meet a young man for the first time at a friend's house, would it be improper to invite him to call on me?"

Ans. 1. It would be very ill-bred not to say when the gentleman takes leave of you: "*Thank you; you have given me a very pleasant time,*" or its equivalent. Thanks are so easily spoken that they should never be withheld on any occasion when they can be given—and do not say "thanks" but "thank you."

2. That is at her option; but if his acquaintance is a desirable one, it is well to ask him to call again.

3. No, not an improper thing to do, but it depends upon circumstances whether it would be good form. If the gentleman is an intimate acquaintance of your friend, and you desire to meet him again, would be polite in you to say: "We should be pleased to have you visit us." Give the number and street of your residence.

"Ignorance" asks:—"After witnessing a marriage ceremony should a lady congratulate both the bride and groom, or bride only? Should she shake hands or speak to the groom? Also should a lady's escort introduce her to bride and groom as 'Mr. and Mrs. So and So,' before the lady offers congratulations?"

Ans.—The lady should congratulate both the bride and groom, and shake hands with both. The congratulations can be given in one sentence to both by saying: "I congratulate you both, and you have my best wishes for prosperity and happiness." If it is a ceremonious wedding, with many guests, one of the ushers will present them. If the bride is an intimate acquaintance, however, it will appear formal to be introduced, yet the escort can do it if he pleases.

It will be impossible to answer any questions in the next issue of THE JOURNAL.

"Clara Edith Welden" asks:—"1. What will make the complexion clear? 2d. Is it well to believe in fortune-telling, also dreams? 3d. Is there any harm in waving at a young man with whom you are well acquainted, but on merely friendly terms? 4th. Is it proper for a lady to meet a young man away from home, when her parents are opposed to her keeping company with that same young man?"

Ans. 1st. A good digestion and a clear conscience. 2d. Only the silly-minded and the superstitious ever believe in them. It is from the folly of others that that fortune-tellers thrive. 3d. We do not understand your question. No lady will make herself conspicuous by any act in intercourse with a young man. 4th. Decidedly improper; and if a lady (?) continues to do so, she will learn by sad experience the folly of her actions. Parents are usually wiser than their children, and should be obeyed in all such matters.

"Bert" asks:—"Is it correct for a young lady to ask a gentleman to call upon her?"

Answer: Yes, if her mother is not present to give the invitation; and the young lady has been introduced to a young gentleman, and desires to retain his acquaintance, it is perfectly correct for her to give him the invitation to call upon her, and she could also say: "My mother would be pleased to meet you."

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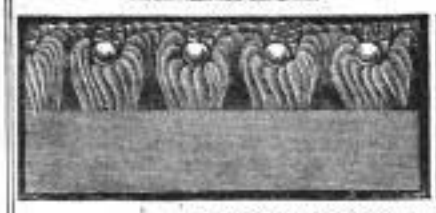

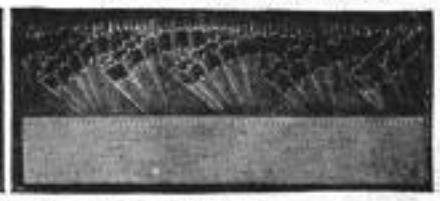

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

One of the very best Fuchsias of recent introduction is the Phenomenal. It is not very different from many of the old varieties in shape or color, but it is quite different from any I have ever had in size and habit. It is truly a phenomenon among Fuchsias, being nearly, if not quite, twice as large as any other with which I am acquainted. Indeed, unless one has plenty of room for the plant to fully develope in, so that there will be some correspondence of room and plant, it is not as desirable as some of the smaller-flowered kinds. But if you have a bay-window, in which the plant can grow up tall and broad, you will be delighted with it, and for a conservatory or greenhouse plant I know of nothing more desirable.

The plant is a remarkably strong grower. It is stout and self-supporting, to a great extent, though most plants of this class require a stake or something of that sort at the central stem when well-laden with branches, as the wood is rather brittle, and therefore easily broken when the top is heavy, in moving the plant about. The flowers are scarlet and purple, like the old Elm City, which variety they resemble very much in shape and color, but in size this new kind is far ahead of the old kind. Indeed, some of the flowers are as large across the corrolla, when it is fully expanded, as Roses of ordinary size. It is very double, and I am inclined to think that the flowers remain considerably longer on the plant than those of most other varieties. The buds are a bright color for some time before the flower opens, and are therefore very ornamental. It is an exceedingly free bloomer, and as it branches well, a well-developed plant will be covered with flowers and buds. As a large standard plant it is the best of all the dark Fuchsias, to my mind, and I notice that many of the florists are of the same opinion. Vick says it is the healthiest of all Fuchsias, and recommends it very highly.

FUCHSIA.

It is to be regretted that more attention is not given to the culture of herbaceous flowers among those whose time for floriculture is limited. It is true that plants of this class do not give as many flowers as the annuals, and their season of flowering is not so long, but they require so little care each year, and are good for such a long time after becoming well established, that they are especially suited to the wants of those who have but little time to devote to the garden. About all the care they demand is an annual digging about to keep the grass away from them, and the application of some manure, and in some cases a covering of litter, leaves, or evergreen branches, in the fall. These attentions are easily given, and one does not find them as laborious as making beds, sowing seed, and pulling up weeds—something she will have to do in the cultivation of annuals, if she would be successful with them.

PORTULACA.

The Campanula is not a new plant, but it is a *good* one, and that is saying far more for it than can honestly be said about many of the new ones. It is often seen in old gardens from which the rage for something new has not driven out really meritorious plants, and generally you find it known by those who grow it as Bluebell, a very fitting name, as its flowers are of a drooping habit, and are bell-shaped. But all varieties are not blue. The white ones are very fine to grow among the blue ones, the contrast being very pleasing. A clump of these flowers in full bloom is a charming sight, and one which the lover of the beautiful will thoroughly appreciate.

They are easily grown. They like a moderately rich soil, made deep and mellow, and in order to have them do their best you must see that the grass does not crowd them out, something it will attempt to do, and something it will succeed in doing if you do not take means to prevent it. The manure which you give should not be fresh, but old and thoroughly rotted. Dig it in well about the roots. After the plant has become well established, it is a good plan to cut away some of the older portion of the roots each year, as they are likely to become diseased, or, if not diseased, so weakened that they are not strong enough to flower well a second or third season. Keep the plant strong by leaving only the newest roots for next year's work. In this way all kinds of herbaceous plants can be prevented from becoming weak and consequently unsatisfactory.

SELECTING SEEDS.

I receive a great many letters during the year from correspondents who complain of failure with seeds bought for the flower garden from persons whom they considered reliable. In many cases, the cause of the failure is not in the poor quality of the seeds, but in the cultivator's method of sowing them. In order to secure plants from seed, you must have the soil in which they are sown fine and mellow, and you must not sow them until the ground has become warm. If you hurriedly scramble a rake or hoe over a piece of ground, and call that making a bed, and sow the seed as soon as the frost is out of the soil, you may quite safely expect failure, and have no reason to blame the florist who sold you the seeds for it. But if you wait until the ground and the weather is warm, and then sow seed in beds which you have worked over until the soil is light and fine, and they fail to grow, then you may blame the dealer, for under these conditions most seed will grow readily.

It is always a good plan to buy of some dealer whom you know by personal experience, or the experience of your friends, to be reliable, and trustworthy. When you have found such a man, stick to him. The reliable dealer in seeds does not dare to sell poor seeds, for he knows that if he were to do so he would soon lose trade. It is for his business interest to keep the standard of the seed he sells up to the highest point, and he tries his best to do this. Sometimes he may have seed which he honestly believes to be good which proves to be poor, but in this case he feels worse about it than you do, and he would be willing to make good your losses fourfold, if you would tell him about them.

In order to get the best seed,—and you want nothing but the best,—stick to a reliable man when you have found him; and there are scores of them in the seed business.

A DRY-WEATHER BED.

If you want a flower which will do well in dry weather, or in a bed in a dry and hot situation, in some place near the path or the house, you can not do better than to get Portulaca. It is a low-growing plant, and on this account must have a place in front of almost any other plant, or it will be completely hidden. It will stand more drought than any other plant I have ever grown. It has thick and fleshy stems and leaves, and these store up moisture in themselves very much after the manner of the Cactus, from which they seem to draw in time of need. Their flowers are about as large as a silver dollar, freely produced, and ranging through all shades of red, with white, yellow, and variegated kinds. Of late, we have many double ones, which resemble little Roses. When the hot sun comes out in full strength the flowers unfold, and a bed of them is a perfect blaze of brilliance. They bloom almost the whole summer, and require as little care as any annual you can select. Last summer was an exceptionally dry one with us, but the Portulaca was finer than I ever knew it to be before.

NOT TOO MUCH.

I have often urged the importance of not getting more seed than you need, and it becomes necessary to repeat this caution each year, as the letters begin to pour in, in which enthusiastic amateurs write about what "a lot of flowers they mean to have the coming summer." You know about what an amount of time you can devote to the garden, and it is best to be governed in your selection of seed by the amount of time you will have to give your flowers. If you can spend but a small amount of time among them, do not get more than half-a-dozen kinds. If you can give them an hour or two daily, during the season when they need most attention, then you will be justified in getting a dozen kinds. But few women who have the household affairs to look after can give an hour a day to plants. Always aim to grow a few plants well, rather than many indifferently. One good plant is vastly more satisfactory than a dozen inferior ones. In fact, there can no comparison be made between them, for a good plant will always afford pleasure to the lover of flowers, while to such a person a poor one will always give an unpleasant feeling, and the more of them there are the more this feeling is intensified.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Amelia Brandt."—The Aspidistra is not a flowering plant; that is, it is not a plant which is grown for its flowers. It has a thick, rich, dark green leaf, about a foot in length and from four to six inches wide. These leaves are borne on stalks which are thrown up directly from the root. The plant has no branches. An old plant will have from a dozen to twenty of these leaves, and the pot will be covered with them. For a north window it is one of the best plants we have, as it does well without any sunshine. It is one of the best plants we have for cultivation in a hot, dry room, as its thick leaves are able to resist the influences of hot air and dust. There is a growing appreciation of plants with fine foliage, and those who find beauty in green leaves as well as in brilliantly colored flowers, will find the Aspidistra a good plant for the sitting-room collection, as it is attractive all the year round. It requires about the same care that one ordinarily gives a Geranium,—that is, a good soil, and water when needed, with a frequent syringing to keep the foliage free from dust. I have never found an insect of any kind on my plants. As the plant gets age, it will require to be shifted to a larger pot, in order to keep up a vigorous growth of foliage. The flowers are very peculiar. They are of a dingy purple, and are borne just at the surface of the soil. You would never dream of their existence if you did not take pains to look for them. They seem to come at irregular intervals, so that I can not tell you what time of the year to look for them. Keep watch of the plant and you will find them when they put in their appearance.

"A. D. D."—I have to repeat what I have often said to other correspondents in answer to your inquiry; and that is, that the Coleus is *not* a good plant for the sitting-room windows in winter. If you had a house in which you could grow what florists call hot-house plants, you could succeed finely with the Coleus; but there is too much fluctuation of the atmosphere in the sitting-room to suit it, and it is too dry there. It likes moisture, and a pretty high and even temperature.

"Mrs. Rhodes."—The Aristolochia is not a house plant, but a vine which is extensively used to cover summer-houses, training up about verandas, and around windows. It has large, heart-shaped leaves which over-lap each other and furnish a dense shade. I am inclined to think that what you ask about is the Hoya, or Wax Plant a greenhouse plant with very thick, leathery leaves. Its flowers are small, flesh-colored with a darker center, star-shaped, and borne in clusters. This is a favorite plant, and is seen in most collections, and is, I presume, what you mean. You can get it of any florist. If you send for it, ask for Hoya carnosa and you will get the best known variety.

"Sarah N. Osgood."—This correspondent asks: "What shall I do with my Chinese Primroses in the spring? Can I summer them over and get plenty of flowers from them another winter, or would you advise me to get new plants for next winter?" Get new plants, by all means, either by growing them yourself from seed, or by purchasing them of some florist. I prefer to buy mine, rather than be to the trouble of raising seedlings. Plants which have blossomed one season are not good bloomers a second year, as a general thing, as they exhaust themselves and do not seem able to recover lost vitality.

"Miss L. N. H."—The Pyrethrum or Feverfew is a very satisfactory plant for house-culture. The best variety is one which was introduced two years ago, and is called "Little Gem." Its flowers are quite as large as those of the old variety, and are borne more profusely.

"Mrs. R. R. Strong."—This correspondent writes: "I used Tobacco water on my Pelargoniums, as you advised, to kill off the green lice, and I have not only killed the insect, but the plant, to all present appearance. I did not make the decoction too strong, I thought,—it was about the color of tea as we use it on the table. I used the kind of Tobacco sold in the stores for chewing. I could not get leaves or stems. What do you think the trouble was?" I think you used a Tobacco which had been fixed up with drugs to give it a flavor or smell, and improve its appearance, and that it was this drug, or drugs, which brought about the results of which you complain. I have used a similar article once or twice, but my plants were not affected as you say yours were. But the decoction did not seem to do any good. There was no real Tobacco smell or strength to it. If you cannot obtain stems or leaves there, you can easily get them by sending to some town where cigars are made. I presume your Pelargoniums will start into growth soon as they are not easily killed.

"Anna N. H."—The Vallotta is a member of the Amaryllis family. It blooms in fall, or late in the summer, and is quite as attractive as many of the Amaryllises grown in greenhouses and conservatories. It is generally set in the ground and allowed to bloom there, after which the bulb is taken up and dried off, and kept over the winter as Tuberoses are. Sometimes it is kept in pots all the year round.

CAMPANULA.

"Mrs. Lane."—The Earl of Beaconsfield Fuchsia is a single variety, with very long flowers. The sepals are a pale red, tipped with green. The corrolla is a darker red. It is a very profuse bloomer, and a strong grower, and you will find it a pleasing addition to your collection of these favorite flowers. Another good one of recent introduction is Storm King. There is a dwarf-growing kind, with large double flowers, sepals red with a full, spreading white corolla. It is a very free bloomer. The Rose of Castile is an old variety, with sepals tinged with pink and a dark violet corolla which fades into magenta after the flower has been open for a day or two. It is single. It is a very floriferous sort. It is a stout, bushy kind, needing no support. If you want the best double kind of the scarlet and purple class, and one which will develope into a very large plant, you cannot do better than to get the kind described at the beginning of this month's "talk."

"Mrs. D. C. Smith."—The Geranium you inquire about is probably the variety known as Dr. Livingston. This variety has finer foliage than the Rose Geranium, but is not as fragrant. The leaves are finely cut, and have a fern-like appearance which makes a plant of it very attractive. It is extremely useful for small bouquets, and for bunches of corsage flowers which need some light, fine green foliage to set them off. Another good Geranium of the Rose class is Lady Plymouth, which has a pale green leaf, shaped like that of the Rose, with an edge of creamy white. A large plant of this variety, well trained and symmetrical in shape, is an ornament to any collection. Its fragrance is not as agreeable as that of the Rose.

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WOMAN AND WORK.

The somewhat recent discovery of woman's varied abilities and the many new ways in which she may acquire money or even wealth, has given rise to a tendency that is dangerous. Dangerous because the stream is as narrow as the current is strong. Working for wages is not only offered as a universal remedy for the ills of domestic drudgery and dependence, but it is regarded by many as the one great means for developing woman's talents and enabling her to become, in the highest sense of the word—useful.

It cannot be denied that comparatively easy and remunerative employments have aroused and stimulated many formerly latent powers in what is erroneously termed the weaker sex. A pecuniary reward for labor has proved itself to be as enticing to woman as to man. And though this money motive is a low one, by bringing about the culture and use of a greater number of human faculties, it has been a lever for progress, and its effect to a limited extent, nothing but good.

The danger point is reached when the extravagant praise given to women who earn their own living, and the prominence too often accompanying their special or unusual money-making achievements, lead to a contempt for home life, with its simple, and apparently unprofitable, domestic and social duties. The ranks of working women are even now filled with many who are actuated neither by necessity, nor taste, and whose duty calls them elsewhere. There is a false sentiment thus being created, which cannot fail to have a baleful influence upon many, who would otherwise be conscious of lives well spent in the privacy of home. Girls who ought to be "mother's right hand" or "father's comfort," and who though poor need never feel the sting of dependence, have their minds thrown into confusion by something they hear or read, which seems to tell them that they too should be out in this busy world, helping to fight its battles. They enter the arena for which they are usually unfitted, and exchange for filthy lucre, their opportunity for a really noble and useful life.

The case is still more serious when a married woman, dissatisfied with a moderate living of her husband's providing, or, tempted by some real or fancied ability for business, endeavors to combine domestic duties with some money-making employment. The glitter of imaginary gold hides the probability of failure, at least in the direction of home life. And to the world is exhibited, too often, the sad spectacle of a husband rendered contemptible, and his own spark of manliness extinguished, by the greater, unnatural and unnecessary, prominence of his selfishly energetic, business wife.

Then from a money point of view, observation seems to credit the belief that the poorest families in any class of society, above that of the idle and vicious, are those in which each member works for wages. Their poverty is a natural result of the opposition between individual and family interest. Want of real home life leads the different members of the family to seek independent pleasure and comfort elsewhere, and this in turn encourages personal extravagance as well as selfishness. Labor and energy are thus scattered abroad, which, if concentrated around a true home, would be most fruitful in good financial, as well as moral, results. True homes are those in which good women centre their chief interests, and to which they give the greater part of their attention and sympathies.

When women having natural protectors work for wages, they usurp places which, all other things being equal, belong to the really needy. There is certainly a lack of human kindness in unnecessarily increasing the great competition in all kinds of employments, and thereby making the struggle for life more keen. Philanthropists might welcome more heartily the constantly increasing opportunities for women "bread winners" if the best places were not so frequently filled with those who are neither specially needy nor meritorious.

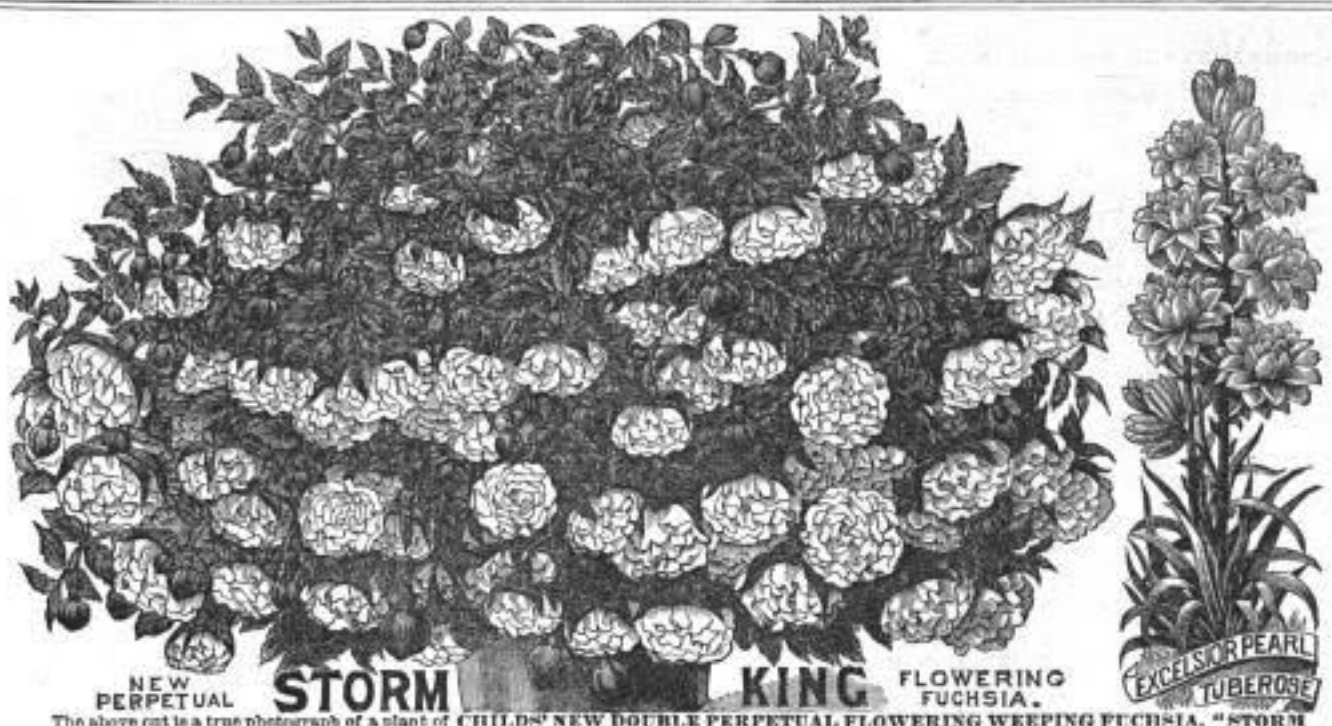
Again, the woman who works simply for money she does not really need, often injures her poorer sisters, by turning her wages into fine raiment and showy adornments, setting an example which others of her class though less able are sure to follow. In this way a taste for tawdry and cheap finery is aroused, and soon a false idea of dress, which plainer clothes might have prevented, adds its vulgarizing touch to poor, weak, undisciplined characters. Furthermore there is the danger of attaching to labor not absolutely necessary, a peculiar merit which would in a manner make a degradation of necessity, otherwise most naturally an honorable appendage to all wage-working.

But this matter should be regarded chiefly from a still more serious point of view. The formation of character is the highest object in life. Public life, without the exalted motives of necessity or taste, is certainly not conducive to the noblest character in woman. In a crowded factory she is exposed to bad influences, which seem to have a peculiar power in such a place. In a business life her modesty is endangered by constant contact with men of all descriptions, while her sense of honesty is subjected to the dangerous pressure of temptations to shirk and lie. And too often the amenities of polite life are forgotten, in her, perhaps compulsory, but always disagreeable self-assertion. Even school-teaching, though naturally regarded as work especially adaped to women, has its peculiar dangers. The public school-teacher especially, needs to arm herself with a spirit of love and disinterested devotion, if she would pursue her vocation without losing sight of the noblest standards of life.

Finally, a woman who permits herself to become thoroughly imbued with a money-making spirit, almost inevitably grows sordid, grasping, narrow and unwomanly.

What we need at this time is more women of intellect and culture for the domestic circle, the sphere they are pre-eminently fitted to rule, and to adorn. We need more homes made sweet, wholesome and widely influential, through the concentrated thought, and consummate skill of noble women. There never was a time when the home guards required so thorough an equipment, or such singleness of purpose. The loose divorce laws, the "Mormon leprosy," and intemperance, are threatening the dissolution of all true social, and domestic ties. The only way to combat these terrible evils successfully, is to make our homes the strongholds of truth, purity and all virtue. This is the grand work which offers itself to every woman. And the position is no sinecure; it requires true womanly ability, sympathy, patience, self-sacrifice, tact and the highest moral and religious principles. It is not more money that the world is suffering for, but more virtue; not more homes of luxury, but more homes of real refinement, happiness, goodness and love; more sterling women who realize what is their noblest and truest sphere of usefulness; more men who will carry into the world the aroma of homes lovely in every sense.

MARY E. CARDWELL.



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And a very pretty climbing plant it is. Perfectly hardy, the stem dying down every autumn, but growing again so rapidly in the spring, as to completely cover any trellis or arbor very early in the season. Is as easily cultivated as the Madeira Vine, and is produced from tubers which will make from ten to twelve feet of vine, and with its beautiful heart-shaped leaves, bright green peculiar foliage, and clusters of delicate white flowers, sending forth a delicious cinnamon odor, render it by far one of the most desirable climbers in cultivation. A tuber planted near a door or window, and the vine trained over and about it make an ornament worthy the admiration of all. The tubers will stand our most severe winters without any protection, and when well grown will measure two feet in length, and they are fully equal to the best potatoes for eating, either baked or boiled. J. P. RUNG, Tyrone, Pa., says: "The vine has grown about eighteen feet, and was very full of bloom, with a delicious odor, scenting the air for a long distance. The foliage is very much admired, and is withal, a desiratum in the way of vines." When first introduced here from Japan, the tubers sold for $10 each. I will send two tubers packed in moss, post-paid, for only 50 cents, or five for $1.00—12 for $2—remit by postal note, or money order. If these cannot be obtained, send silver or stamps. Mention this paper. Address,

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This new and valuable variety for field culture is the most prolific bean yet known; it is what its name indicates, a Tree Bean; grows to the height of 18 to 20 inches, branching out in all directions, bearing its grain so high that the pods do not touch the ground, enabling it to stand a wet spell without injury to the crop. They yield from 130 to 250 pods to the vine. G. P. BARNHART, of Massillon, Ohio, grew a plant on which were 530 FULL-SIZED PODS—or over TWO THOUSAND BEANS FROM ONE! The average yield is about sixty bushels per acre, while they have yielded on small plots of ground, at the rate of 116 bushels to the acre. Quality excellent; will give perfect satisfaction.

$50 In Prizes Given Away.

I have put up exactly two ounces of the Prolific Tree Beans, in a bottle, which will not be opened until May 1st, 1887. They will then be counted, and the person who will guess the number, or nearest to the number, of beans contained in the bottle, will receive $25 in cash; the person who will guess next nearest, will receive $10 worth of choice Seeds; next, $7 worth of Seeds; next, $5 worth of Seeds; next, $3 worth of Seeds. Due bills will be sent giving every one a chance to make their own Selection of Seeds from my Catalogue. I made a similar offer last season; the following persons won the prizes:—Geo. H. Miller, Epping, N. H., 1st.; Julie Mills, Kendallville, Ind., 2d.; W. H. Locke, New Wilmington, Pa., 3rd.; A. H. Newton, Mount Alton, Pa., 4th.; Catherine Lowry, Knoxville, Ky., 5th.

For 25 cents, in silver or stamps, I will send a Package of Beans—enough to plant 150 hills—by mail, postpaid. Every person sending 25 cents for a Package is entitled to compete for one of the above Prizes. Do not delay, but enclose 25 cents and make your guess. And be sure and remember **every person** answering this advertisement will receive a **present** worth, at least, 25 cents, and a chance to win one of the above Prizes. Address, at once. **FRANK FINCH,**
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One of the most beautiful vegetables ever grown in this or any other country. It grows on a vine like a cucumber, and is very productive, as many as 30 or 40 perfect fruits have been grown on one vine, the product of one seed. They are the exact size, color, and shape of an orange, only the skin is smoother, being as smooth as glass, and are the handsomest little vegetables ever brought to public notice. The flesh inside is pure white, and is valuable for many purposes. Pared and sliced and fried in butter, they are "delicious," being equal, if not superior, to parsnips. For mangoes and preserves they are "splendid." It is seldom we have the pleasure of introducing to our customers a novelty combining such valuable qualities with beautiful appearance. For only 15 cents, silver or stamps, I will send a packet of Vegetable Orange, and also a packet of my superb Pansy Seed, many colors mixed, with my Catalogue for 1887. Mention this paper. Address,

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

SOME HINTS ON MONEY MAKING.

BY ELLA RODMAN CHURCH.

III.

What are our impecunious sisters thinking of, that they do not oftener direct their attention to *Bee-keeping?* Those invaluable little black slaves, who literally store up gold while they think they are making honey, and whose requirements are so small in comparison with the returns, are frequently overlooked by those to whom they would prove the most valuable.

Keeping Bees need not interfere with Poultry-raising, nor with many other occupations; and the ready sale for honey seems a tacit invitation from the public to supply it. Ninety pounds a year is considered a moderate yield from one hive; and twenty-five hives can be supported on one acre of land. Bees fly far and wide for most of their food; and with clover, fruit-trees, gardens, and wild-flowers, within a radius of a mile or so, they would find an abundant variety.

Even children and old people can care for Bees, and every instance of an apiary managed by a Woman has been successful. Some one has said that any woman who has the ability to make a good loaf of bread can succeed in Bee-keeping, provided she has a taste for the pursuit. One can cultivate a taste, however, for almost anything that has the elements of money-making in it when the money is a necessity. In order to make good bread, according to the same authority, every operation in its manufacture must be performed at the right time; and it is the same in Bee-culture. Vigilance is the price of success.

A Bee outfit is not very expensive, as enumerated in the Bee manuals,—to which some victim has added, "lots of patience and no fear of stings." The little, old-fashioned, black Bee is like an animated coal of fire; but the large, gold-banded, Italians, the only kind worth keeping, do not indulge in chronic ill-humor. With the protection of chloroform, veil, and gloves, the hives can be robbed with impunity; and Bee-keeping has often been carried on for the mere pleasure of it.

Bees will in a great measure take care of themselves, if provided with proper dwellings in the right situation,—well protected from winter cold and summer heat. To insure the former, an enthusiastic experimenter provided his Bees with comfortables of a suitable size,—besides doing various other works of apparent supererogation; but his Bees and his honey more than repaid him, and his laughing neighbors were forced to acknowledge that his method had less madness in it than they had supposed. In many places, no such protection would be needed; but usually, wherever rose-bushes must be swathed in straw to keep them from perishing, it will pay to bestow the same care upon the Bees.

There are two or three women in the United States who manage immense apiaries, and market great quantities of honey and wax every year, besides selling numerous hives of Bees; and they find it a very profitable business. It is an occupation that especially commends itself to those who do not find it necessary to join the ranks of acknowledged bread-winners, while they feel the desirability of increasing an income that leaves little margin for luxury. Ten or twenty hives of Bees, if properly managed and in the right situation, would earn a very convenient sum of money in the course of the year, besides constantly increasing in value. Bees can be sold, as well as honey; and with fifty hives in successful operation, bread and butter, with occasional jam, may be looked upon as a certainty.

But fifty hives would be an embarrassment of riches, or of Bees, for a beginner; and from three to five colonies could be depended on to furnish at least enough work and care for an experiment. These busy workers increase raidly; and the five hives would double, treble, and quadruple themselves, before the amazed owner felt ready for such rapid increase. It does not all come at once, however; and in the care of these valuable insects, a slight acquaintance soon deepens into interest and friendly regard.

Spring is the best season for beginning a Bee farm,—although the Bees are dearest then from the care and expense of wintering them. But, once established, in the month of May for instance, they go immediately to work, and pay their house rent and other expenses with commendable promptness. It must be remembered, however, that they will not thrive *anywhere*. In very cold regions, they die, or make but little honey,—a damp situation is productive of disease,—and scant or distant pasturage means very little honey. Like most farm products they like a southern exposure; and the French lady's æsthetic accommodations for her poultry would have been fully appreciated by high-class Bees.

Even in country towns and cities where flower-gardens are frequent, and orchards and blossoming trees not too far off, a few hives may be kept profitably and with the advantage of an unfailing market close at hand. Not that people consume such vast quantities of the over-sweet syrup on their tables,—for one does not often see it in the city—but that it enters into the manufacture of many other articles and is largely used by druggists. Put up in attractive shape, it is generally regarded as a luxury, and will bring from twenty to thirty cents a pound.

Akin to Bees in some respects are Silk worms, which also belong to the order of working insects and give large returns for the care and expense bestowed on them. They are not, however, so generally known as the honey-gatherers and are more capricious or rather difficult to raise—for their wants do not change. They insist upon a mild climate, mulberry leaves, and wonderful cleanliness; but with these essentials constantly provided, they will go quietly about their business and accomplish an immense amount of it.

The climate of the Southern States is particularly favorable for Silk Culture,—the Spring being so much earlier than at the North, while the mulberry tree is quite at home there. In some places, there are trees enough already grown to set up a respectable cocoonery; and when it is necessary to plant them they grow very rapidly. It has been proved, too, that Silk-raising will absolutely pay better, with light labor, than cotton, rice, sugar, or tobacco, with heavy labor.

The work of caring for the Silk-spinners lasts for only about six weeks, unless a second crop is desired: and this can always be had if the eggs have been well protected during the Winter. The labor is very light for at least half of the time, and does not interfere with other occupations; while there is always a market for the cocoons at the Silk Association in Philadelphia, where they bring the current market price, usually about $1.00 a pound.

It is generally supposed that the raising of Silk-worms, or the preparation for raising them, involves much labor and expense,—but good authorities declare this a great mistake. Any unoccupied room that is large, dry, and well-ventilated, will answer for quarters; but the sunshine should come in everywhere, so long as it does not fall directly on the worms. A generous-sized cocoonery was lately in successful operation in the upper part of a barn; and wherever situated, it should be carefully protected from animals and insects,—rats, mice, spiders, ants, and other tramps of that order, doing incalculable damage whenever they can get at the busy workers.

Four thousand worms, it is stated, can be raised in the space of an ordinary kitchen table; but, although this seems a liberal quantity for the room, four thousand worms would amount to very little in the way of silk. "If a man planted three or four berry-bushes," says a Silk-culturist, "he could not expect to make a living or even a little money from them,—but if he planted a hundred, or ten thousand, he might make money. Just so with Silk-culture. To make money at it, you must raise a number of worms. One thousand worms will certainly not give a great return, but a hundred thousand would pay well for the time and trouble given to them."

The greatest expense in Silk-culture is the cost of setting out the mulberry-trees when they do not already exist; for less than an acre would scarcely be worth trying, and it would cost from $50 to $100 to plant this space with trees. Cuttings and seeds are also used; and the former, if properly treated, will grow from two to six feet in a season. If planted two or three feet apart, every other one can be stripped to feed the worms the first season; and should these die, the others will soon spread out to fill their places.

In China and India, mulberry seed is sown; and when the plants are a foot high, they are cut down and given to the Silk-worms. They soon make a fresh growth, and sustain no injury from this severe treatment. An ounce of seed can be bought for twenty-five cents, and this amount contains the germs of five thousand trees. This style of mulberry culture can be practiced wherever the Springs are mild and early; and with the rich, well-worked soil which the mulberry trees require, vegetables can be raised between the rows with very little more labor for the two crops than for one. The profit from one acre of mulberry trees, used as food for Silk-worms, has been stated at from four hundred to over one thousand dollars; and the worms are born, spin, and die in the short space of six weeks.

It is claimed by the advocates of Silk-culture that there is no industry in the world which can be made so immensely profitable; and there is certainly none that yields such returns for a short period of work. A useful little pamphlet of instruction is sent free to all applicants by the Silk Association, and larger books on the subject can be found at the libraries.

LADIES wishing pleasant and profitable employment would do well to send 25c. to the Madison Art Co., Madison, Conn., (whose advertisement appears on page 16 of Feb. issue) and receive their beginners' outfit for making paper flowers. They also furnish outfits for 50c. and $1.00, suitable for persons more advanced in the Art. Book of instructions with sixty pages clearly illustrating many flowers and fancy articles made from Tissue paper, also a full line of samples of Paper, and price list of materials used in making Flowers mailed, on receipt of 15c.

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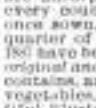

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(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

SOME MINOR ACCIDENTS, AND HOW TO TREAT THEM.

BY J. B. MINICK.

I purpose in this article to deal with some of those minor accidents which are liable to happen to everyone in spite of the most vigilant care, and which if unattended to, or badly attended to, may have troublesome and even serious consequences. To know just what to do in such cases is, therefore, a matter of much importance. One of the most common of these accidents is the lodgment of foreign bodies in the eye. In traveling in a railroad car for instance, sitting by an open window, one is very liable to receive sparks, live smuts of soot or coal, or even what is called "fire," minute particles of iron or steel. Traveling by night we see a constant flight of these bright sparks towards us. But by day they are invisible; and we are therefore not aware how easily we may be visited by them. When you are aware of any foreign body having entered the eye, the worst thing you can do—it may produce dangerous results—is to rub it. If a piece of steel, for example, has entered, you are likely, by so doing, to fix it in the eye; or if it is a piece of mortar or lime—which causes great pain, and, unless quickly removed, injury—you are likely to break it up into separate parts, making its removal more difficult and uncertain, and spreading the injury. Besides, rubbing dries the eye, and nature has arranged that pain usually causes an increased flow of tears, an overflow, which is usually sufficient in itself to wash out, either by the nose-passage, or over the cheek, the offending substance. The usual safest rule is to close the eye for as long as possible, allowing the tears to wash out the eye, except in the case of lime. Blowing the nose helps; and a pinch of snuff causing violent sneezing, is an old-fashioned and often successful cure. If this is not sufficient, take hold of the upper eyelid and pull it forward, and push up the under lid under it. Let them go, and when they resume their natural position, (as they will do without your aid,) you may do this again two or three times. In this way the lower lid sweeps the inner side of the upper lid. If this does not succeed, immerse the face in a basin of water and open and shut the eye several times in the water. These methods are almost sure to wash out any ordinary irritating body. If, however, they should be still unsuccessful, as for instance, if a piece of steel is fixed, the next course is to examine the eye further by turning out, or *everting* the lids. It is quite easy to evert the lower lid and to sweep it inside with the corner of a fine silk handkerchief, a camel's hair brush, or a leather wet with lukewarm water. To turn out, or evert the upper lid, stand behind the patient, put a towel over his head, and let it rest against your chest. Then lay a pencil or penholder along the eyelid about half an inch above its edge, pushing the lid back upon the pencil or penholder, and you can then examine both the inside of the lid and the ball of the eye. Suppose you see a piece of steel or anything else fixed in the eye, drop a few drops of olive oil into the eye, and lay outside the lid a pad of either cotton, or wool, or a clean piece of linen rag folded and dipped in water, pressing a little to keep the eye steady, bandage it over and take the person to the doctor. If it is mortar or lime that has gone into the eye, the eye should *immediately* be well washed out with vinegar and water, one teaspoonful of vinegar to eight tablespoonfuls of lukewarm water. Turn out the lids as described above, and be sure that all the particles are washed out. Then two or three drops of olive oil with soothe it. If acids have entered the eye it should be washed out with a solution of soda (five grains of bicarbonate of soda to four tablespoonfuls of water,) followed by the oil and wet rag as above; and in a case of gunpowder the eye should be thoroughly washed with tepid water. Then proceed as above.

Another not infrequent accident is the getting of foreign bodies into the ear. Here too the worst thing you can do is to rub or meddle much. The passage, (or canal) of the ear is about an inch and a quarter in length, and has no opening at the inner end, but ends in a delicate membrane or skin, something like a piece of tissue paper. This is called the drum or drum-head of the ear. Its right name is Tympanum. It is so delicate that it may be ruptured by a blow on the ear, or by the concussion from a discharge of a canon. It is, therefore, most important that any foreign body which has entered the opening or orifice, of the ear should not be pushed further in towards it. Many instances of serious mischief have been caused by unskilled meddling in such a case, for should the hard substance be pushed through this membrane, it may produce inflammation, which may not merely cause deafness, but even, should it extend to the brain, result in death. If a foreign body is just inside the ear, and you *know* that you can get it out without doing mischief, you may either wash it out gently with a little tepid water, or, as in the case of insects, (though insects rarely enter this canal, and it is a fallacy that they enter the head,) drown them by a few drops of olive oil, or by a piece of wire with a tiny hook at the extreme end passed carefully above the body you can tilt it forward and out, but this must only be attempted if it lies at the opening, in your view. If a doctor is "within twenty miles," it has been well said, send for him rather than try fruitless or dangerous experiments. Children often place hard substances, such as peas, beads, etc., in the ear, and it is the meddling with such that is especially dangerous. One writer mentions the bone end of a pencil being pushed through the membrane, and death following. Another, the end of a common lead pencil. If you know a pea, or bead, or anything else, to be in a child's ear, tie the hands to prevent its inadvertently pushing it further in, and take it to the doctor. The same may be said about the nose. But a pinch of snuff or pepper may be used to cause sneezing, or the patient may blow their nose violently, or make the air escape two or three times from the nostril where the foreign body is by blocking up the other. But do not put any instrument up the nose. No surgeon would do so without strong artificial light to enable him to know exactly how to direct it.

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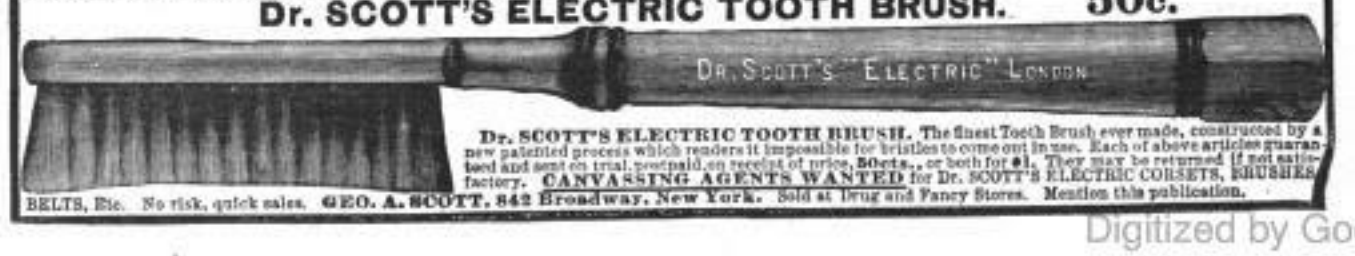

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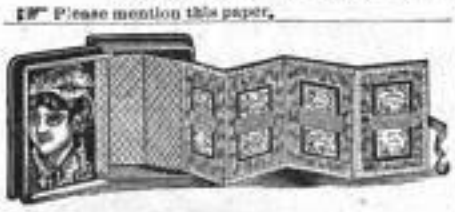

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OF SMALL MEANS in the **New** lucrative business of **"HOME PHOTOGRAPHY,"**

By the recent great discovery of substituting a **Dry Gelatine** film for Wet Collodion, the entire material is now prepared in large Photo. Factories, and SOLD READY FOR USE, similar to Cartridges for a Gun; Enabling Men or Women with **no experience,** to produce superior Photos to what formerly required long years of difficult practice; costing less than **50 cts.** for one dozen large photos, that sell for **$4** to **$6.** In paying big with **other business** in stores or shops, or at **home,** or from House to House. The novel surprise of a man with complete apparatus, appearing at the door ready to photo. anything, Persons, Groups, Buildings, or Animals, secures profitable orders in nine out of ten houses; Affords **Steady Work** and pays **300 per cent.** profit.

To EARNEST applicants (one copy) of *Process Illustrated,* FREE, Sample Photos, **10** cents. FRANKLIN PUTNAM, M'f'r & Dealer in Photo. Apparatus, **483, 485** Canal St., N.Y.

Don't You Marry,

At least until you have read our new book entitled *Don't Marry.* Some marry too soon; others wait too long. This book will tell you how, when, and whom to marry, besides giving you valuable hints and helps not found in any other book. It contains 100 pages, paper covers, and is worth $10 to you. Sold by all booksellers, or mailed on receipt of 25 cents, by

J. S. OGILVIE & CO., Publishers,

31 Rose Street, New York.

FARMS on James River, Va., in **Claremont Colony. Illustrated Circular Free. J. F. MANCHA, Claremont, Va.**

LADIES' TRACING WHEEL.—Agents wanted everywhere. 2 doz. mailed for $1.00. Sample 10cts NOVELTY WHEEL CO., 24 Congress St., Boston, Mass

250 Scrap Pictures & Verses with new samples for **1887. 5c.** S. M. FOOTE, Northford, Ct.

LADIES' BOOKS 1 Ladies' Guide to Fancy Work (93 Illustrations), 1 Home Cook Book, 1 Book: How to make Poultry Pay, &c. All three postpaid, 12 cents. DIME CO., North Haven, Conn.

LADIES! Richly illustrated book sent sealed on receipt of 10c. for packing, postage, &c. Valuable, indispensible. MRS. THOMAS, 343 State St., Chicago, Ill. **FREE TO YOU**

360 Imported Embossed Pictures, by mail, only **10c.** Address National Card Co., Camden, N. J.

CARDS ELEGANT SAMPLES, Hose-Fly Catalogue, Agents' terms, all for 3c. stamp W. C. Griswold & Co., Centerbrook, Ct

40 Frosted and Silk Fringe, Transparent, &c. Cards, name on all & 14 Songs, 10c. Clinton Bros., Clintonville, Ct.

$50 WEEKLY EASILY EARNED!

We want Agents for our celebrated Oil Portrait. No experience required! **4** orders per day gives the Agent $50 *Weekly Profit!* Our agents report from 4 to 30 daily sales! Send at once for terms and full particulars. **$2 outfit free. SAFFORD ADAMS & CO.,** Mention L. H. Journal. **48 Bond St., N. Y.**

FAVORS FOR "THE GERMAN." Book of Figures Sent Free. BERNARD MEYER, 59 and 62 Fulton St., N. Y.

SPECIAL OFFER for 30 days only. To introduce goods, will send, postpaid, 1 pair of Genuine Buckskin Gloves or Mitts, lined or unlined, as preferred, for **75c.** Address, Buckskin Glove Co., Gloversville, N. Y.

FUN CARDS, Scrap Pictures & Books of Beautiful Sample Cards, 2c. A. H. HINES & CO. Cadiz, Ohio.

LADY AGENTS actually clear $20 daily. I have something entirely new for LADY AGENTS that sells at sight in every house. A minister's wife sold thirteen the first hour

MRS. H. L. LITTLE, A. 2, Chicago, Ill.

Ladies READ THIS! The most complete outfit of garments ever offered. Infant's outfit, 15 patterns 50c. First Short Clothes, 15 patterns, 50c. Latest styles with direct'ns. 1 garment free with each set. LADIES PAT'RN CO., Rutland, Vt.

HANDSOME

Silver-Plated Sugar Shell

Or Butter-Knife

Given for Two New Subscribers at 50 Cents Each per Year.

A new, handsome, neat and stylish pattern, tripple-plated, on finest English white steel. Will wear for years. Almost as good as solid silver. All the objectionable qualities of German Silver and brass, which are known to have a disagreeable taste, and are, when a little worn, poisonous, will be avoided in the use of these goods. They are also stronger, and of greater durability than any goods produced.

A Butter Knife will be given instead of the Sugar Shell, if prefered.

For 6 subscribers we will give a set of Tea Spoons, same quality, and for a club of 10, a set of forks.

At 50 cents per year, in clubs of four or more, every lady in the land can afford the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. Send for sample copies to distribute among your friends and neighbors. Address:

LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, Phila., Pa.

A GOLD WATCH FREE.

The publishers of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL will give a thoroughly first-class—solid gold—Ladies Watch, to any one sending a club of only 180 subscribers, or for a club of only 100 subscribers, and $10 extra in cash, or for 50 subscribers, and $13 extra in cash, or for 25 subscribers, and $17 extra in cash. 180 subscribers can easily be secured, by simply showing a copy of the JOURNAL to your friends and neighbors, and explaining the low price. There is no trouble at all in securing large clubs anywhere, the price is so low, every woman can readily afford 50 cts. for so good a paper as the JOURNAL, and it is always wanted, after once seeing a copy. We are receiving a dozen or more clubs every day in the week, of from 20 to 100 subscribers. Ladies write us, who have never before tried to procure subscribers, that they have not the slightest trouble in procuring from 20 to 40 subscribers, by simply showing the paper to their friends, as they come in, or taking a copy to the sewing circle, or at social evening parties, or church entertainments, you can easily get subscribers enough if you will but try it. If you start and get but 100, or 50, or even but 25, and you want the watch before you can get the full number required, then you can have the watch by paying the small difference in cash, as per our special terms, announced above.

This watch is a heavy, solid gold case, made by one of the largest and best manufacturers in the country—a concern who make only the very best grade of goods—and is warranted by them for 20 years. The movement is of the celebrated Elgin National Watch Co., is a stem-winder, beautifully engraved, and is as good a time-keeper as is possible to have. The regular price of this watch is $35. It is warranted by us, strictly first-class in every respect, and can be returned if not entirely satisfactory. We would not offer the JOURNAL sisters a watch that we could not warrant in every particular. This is a watch worth having, and worth working for.

It can be sent by mail for 25 cts., and registered for 10 cts. extra, or can be sent by express to any part of the country at a small cost. Ladies desiring to earn a good gold watch, now have an opportunity of getting a good one, without its costing them any money. Send to us for sample copies of the JOURNAL to distribute among friends and neighbors, and there will be no trouble in getting subscribers after they have once seen a copy. If preferred, send us the names and addresses of people you intend calling upon, and we will mail sample copies direct. Get a friend to help you, or write your friends in other towns to join your clubs, and we will send them sample copies. Address the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, Phila., Pa.

Ladies Shopping Bags.

☞ **WE OFFER AS A FREE PRESENT, to any lady who will send us 10 subscribers at 50 cts. per year, one of our newest and latest styles of Shopping Bags.**

If preferred, it will be given for only 8 subscribers, and 25 cts. extra, or for only 6 subscribers and 40 cts. extra, or for only 4 subscribers and 60 cts. extra.

This is a very popular shopping bag with ladies, and is a very convenient arrangement for carrying purse, handkerchief, and other such small articles when on the street or shopping. It has nickel trimmings and is made of fine leather. The style in shape is constantly changing, and we will send the best shape or style at time it is ordered.

Given as a premium for 10 subscribers at 50c. each.

Price, including one year's subscription, $1.65.

CRESCENT LACE PIN.

Given as a Premium for a Club of Only Two Subscribers at 50 Cents Each.

A little beauty, of the latest style with crescent of Oxidized Silver and spray of Forget-me-nots in frosted silver. These pins are exceedingly neat and pretty, and are very easy to secure. Given for only two subscribers at fifty cents each. We sell them, postpaid, to any address for only 50 cents.

ENTIRELY NEW, ORIGINAL AND PRACTICAL--OUR OWN Special and Exclusive, New 1887

EMBROIDERY STAMPING OUTFIT!

FREE TO ANY WOMAN WHO WILL SEND US ONLY 2 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS PER YEAR EACH, or, if prefered we will send it free, for only 4 subscribers for 6 MONTHS at 25 cents each.

Given to the Philadelphia LADIES' HOME JOURNAL Subscribers Only!

Designed under the supervision of Mrs. Louisa Knapp, Editor of the Philadelphia LADIES' HOME JOURNAL AND PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER, Expressly for the Subscribers of that paper.

A Woman Knows What a Woman Wants.

We feel sure that the ladies of this country have had enough of the Outfits containing only small patterns, and that they will appreciate an Outfit in which every pattern is made for practical use. With this idea in view, Mrs. Louisa Knapp, editor of THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, has designed an Outfit which will meet this long-felt want, and which is worth for real use, **DOUBLE ANY $1.00 OUTFIT** heretofore offered by us or by any other party in the country.

We are well aware that this Outfit contains a less number of patterns than those described in **FLASH ADVERTISEMENTS,** but the aim has been to produce an Outfit **EVERY PATTERN OF WHICH WILL BE USED,** instead of having an immense number of worthless bugs and butterflies, so crowded together as to render them entirely useless.

THIS OUTFIT CONTAINS NO TRASH!!

Mrs. Knapp has discarded the tidy, silks, needles, etc., and has put the **ENTIRE VALUE INTO THE PATTERNS,** adding only a box of powder, distributor and book of instruction.

The Outfit comprises patterns for every branch of needlework and flower painting, and **EVERY PATTERN IS THE FULL WORKING SIZE.**

The several Flannel Skirt patterns are each a full length strip, instead of a short section of the pattern, and **EACH BORDER HAS THE CORNER TURNED.**

Among the designs are two very beautiful sprays for the end of a table scarf, one of Roses, and one of Daisies and Ferns each 15 inches long, six exquisite fruit designs for Napkins and Doylies: Cup and Saucer, Sugar Bowl, etc., for Tray Cloths.

Design for Slumber Pillow, full set of Outline designs for Tidies, and complete set of Initials, large enough for Towels, Napkins, Handkerchiefs, etc. Besides these the Outfit contains Bouquets (not little twigs) of Poppies, Bachelors Buttons, Pond Lilies, Roses, Daisies, and many others, and a beautiful new design for Tinsel work.

ALL THESE DESIGNS ARE ENTIRELY NEW and as Mrs. Knapp has designed the Outfit expressly for the readers of the L. H. J., it can be procured from no other source.

Each Outfit is accompanied by directions for Stamping by **Parker's New Patent Method** without Paint or Powder, and with no dash.

We have made a contract for 50,000 of these Outfits, to be delivered during the season, and shall **Give them away right and left,** to any one will send us only two (2) subscribers at 50 cents each per year, or, if prefered, we will send it free for only 4 subscribers for 6 months, at 25 cents each.

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FREE!

For only 2 Subscribers at 50 cts. per year each.

A Book Heretofore Sold for ONE DOLLAR.

The greatest inducement ever offered!

Cookery FOR Beginners,

By Marion Harland, Author of "Common Sense in the Household" Etc.

The book, "Cookery for Beginners," has always been catalogued and sold in cloth binding at the low price of $1.00. But we have made a new edition in oiled, waterproof covers, containing the same number of pages as the previous editions. It consists of plain, practical lessons for girls and young housekeepers of small means. Its directions are to be relied upon, and its results are invariably delicate, wholesome and delicious. It possesses the advantage of being perfectly adapted to the needs of beginners. Mothers cannot give their daughters a more sensible and useful present than this volume. It is a most valuable addition to the home library.

Talks with Homely Girls.

Talks with Homely Girls: On Health and Beauty, their Preservation and Cultivation. By Frances Smith.

A manual of advice and instruction upon the general care of the health, exercise, bathing, the care of the head, hair, teeth, hands, feet, and the complexion, with chapters upon dress, manners, conversation, and all topics pertaining to a young lady's appearance and deportment. The twenty chapters are replete with information on Grace and Beauty of Form, Bathing Exercise, Care of the Head, Hair, Teeth, Face, Hands, Complexion, Carriage of the Body, Dress, Deportment, Conversation, and General Care of the Health. A very useful book for every lady. Handsome cloth binding.

Given for a club of only 3 subscribers at 50 cents each. Price, 50 cents when sold alone.

A CHATELAINE WATCH.

A Good and Reliable Watch for the Girls.

GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF 40 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS PER YEAR EACH; or given for only 20 subscribers and $2.00 extra in cash; or given for only 10 subscribers, and $3.00 extra in cash. Regular price $6.00.

These chatelaine watches are now very popular and fashionable. Every lady wants one. They are nickle silver of the best quality, stem winders and stem setters, nickle movement, covered by an extra glass cap over the movement. They are good timekeepers, and first-class in every respect. They are furnished to us by one of the largest and leading manufacturing firms in this country, whose reputation is well known for the best quality of work. 40 subscribers can easily be secured. Send for sample copies to distribute, and get your friends to help you. Send subscriptions as fast as received, for which we will give you credit, until the full number is obtained.

LADIES SILVER BAR PIN.

Given for only 2 Subscribers at 50 Cents per Year Each.

A Silver Bangle Lace Bar Pin, with four bangles handsomely engraved. One of our best premiums for ladies. They are very fashionable, and cannot be bought in any store for double the money we ask for 2 subscribers at 50 cents each.

LACE BAR PIN.

Given as a Premium for a Club of Only 2 Subscribers at 50 Cents Each per Year.

A very pretty and stylish Pin of frosted silver. They are the very latest style and are very popular. Given for a club of only two subscribers at 50 cents each, or sold for 50 cents and sent, postpaid, to any address.

The Bijou Embroidery Frame,

Is the handiest and most useful frame for holding small pieces of work, and is indispensible. Given for only two (2) subscribers at 50 cts each per year.

☞ Plants, Roses, etc. *Free* to subscribers as per our offers on pages 18 and 19 in the February LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. Curtis Publishing Co., Philadelphia.

☞ A SPECIAL OFFER TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS ONLY!

$1.00 Worth of Flower Seeds Free

TO ANY PERSON SENDING US ONLY TWO SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.

By a special arrangement with one of the largest and best seed growers in New York State, we have secured especially for the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, the best dollar's worth of flower seeds ever grown, which we propose to GIVE AS A FREE PRESENT to every person who will secure for us only 2 subscribers for one year at 50 cents each, or 4 subscribers for 6 months, at 25 cents each. A full dollar's worth free.

COMPRISING THE FOLLOWING VARIETIES:

Phlox Drummondii, all colors, mixed.	Portulaca, all colors, mixed.	French Marigold, all colors, mixed.
Carnation Poppy, " " "	Petunia, " " "	Japan Coxcomb, " " "
Double Zinnia, " " "	Balsam, " " "	Fragrant Candytuft, " " "
Gilia, " " "	Aramanthus, all " "	Ice Plant, " " "
Sweet William " " "	Sweet Peas, " " "	
Perrilla, " " "	Acrocilinium, " " "	

☞ These flower seeds are put up in well-filled packets, and wrapped in bundles, each containing the sixteen varieties; they are guaranteed to be first-class in every respect; the same that seedsmen sell for more than $1.00. On the whole they consist of a careful selection of the very best varieties for ordinary garden culture, and will make a superb and brilliant display from June until long after frost. With but little attention you can produce all the cut flowers and bouquets desired, during the Spring, Summer and Autumn months. They are what our conviction and experience tells us will result most acceptably to all. Last season we sent out thousands of premium flower seed packages, every one of which gave the greatest and most unalloyed satisfaction, which we can prove by innumberable testimonials at present on file in our office.

Does your subscription expire this month? If so you can easily induce your neighbor to subscribe and thus secure these seeds free for the two subscriptions sent at once. Remember that two 6 mos. subscriptions always count the same as one yearly.

Address: CURTIS PUBLISHING COMP'Y, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

A Splendid Parlor Organ Free!

TO ANY ONE WHO WILL SEND US 350 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS PER YEAR EACH, OR TO ANY WHO WILL SEND US 300 SUBSCRIBERS and $5 EXTRA IN CASH, OR FOR 250 SUBSCRIBERS and $10 EXTRA IN CASH, or for 200 SUBSCRIBERS and $15 EXTRA, or for 150 SUBSCRIBERS and $20 EXTRA, or for 100 SUBSCRIBERS and $25 EXTRA, or for 50 SUBSCRIBERS and $30 EXTRA.

Remember that 2 six months subscriptions count the same as one yearly subscription.

Eastern Cottage Style.

Dimentions: Height, 73 in; Depth, 23 in; Length, 42 in.

Manufactured by James T. Patterson, Bridgeport, Conn., and shipped direct from his factory.

This Handsome Parlor Organ, Containing Four Sets of Reeds, Nine Stops, Two Knee Swells.

New Style 800, Five Octaves, Containing Four Sets of Reeds, viz:

One DIAPASON of 2 Octaves, 8 ft. Tone; one DULCIANA of 3 Octaves, 8 ft. Tone; one PRINCIPAL of 2 Octaves, 4 ft. Tone and one CELESTE of 3 Octaves, 8 ft. Tone, 9 useful Stops as follows: DIAPASON, DULCIANA, CELESTE, PRINCIPAL, DULCET, ECHO, CELESTINA, HAUTBOY, FORTE, Grand Organ Swell, Improved Knee Swell, and every modern improvement that leads to the perfection of tone and and general durability; attractive Walnut Case (exactly like cut), handsomely decorated, and will adorn the homes of the wealthy as well as those of moderate circumstances. Such an Organ, if bought through the Regular Channels of Agents and Dealers, would cost double what we ask for it, and is usually catalogued by them at from $200 to $250.

How to get it. This beautiful instrument can be easily obtained in a very short time by following our instructions. First, send to us for sample copies of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL to distribute among your neighbors and friends. We will supply you with as many as you can use. Get a friend to help you, and put a sample copy into the hands of every lady in town, also, the adjoining towns. Remember that it makes no difference to us how many different post offices we send the paper to. Distribute your samples thoroughly before you commence to solicit subscriptions. You will then have no trouble in getting a subscription from nine out of ten ladies after they have once read the paper and noticed the small sum of money required for a yearly subscription.

It is easier to get 350 subscribers for the JOURNAL at 50 cents per year, than to get 20 subscribers for a $1.00 or $2.00 periodical; every woman can afford 50 cents. We refer to the following who have secured an organ recently, by getting subscribers for the JOURNAL:

H. H. COLBURN, Elizabeth, N. J.
LENA M. HEWETT, Gaines, N. Y.
LIZZIE L. NEWBOLD, Trenton, N. J.
THOS. P. SMITH, Cape May, N. J.
G. W. ELDRIDGE, Centreville, R. I.
LIDA CLARKSON, Pleasant Valley, N. Y.
JENNIE DANIELS, Scranton, Pa.
MRS. W. MEYERS, Syracuse, N. Y.
MISS CARRIE BEACH, Holly, N. Y.

The organ we now offer is a new style, has more sets of reeds and more stops than the organ we formerly offered.

Send in the names as often as you choose, and we will keep count for you until the desired number is obtained. If you prefer, we can send sample copies direct by mail to the people you intend to call upon, instead of distributing them yourself, if you will send us their names and address.

A First-Class Parlor Organ.

This splendid premium can be easily earned in a short time by any bright boy or girl or young lady in want of a good instrument. See the special, easy terms, on which this Organ can be secured, printed below. With the aid of a friend the required number of subscribers could be secured in a week. Many ladies have secured as high as 40 subscribers in a single day to THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. You can do as well if you but try.

SPECIAL TERMS.

We have made special arrangements with the manufacturer for this Organ for our subscribers, and therefore can make such easy terms as to put it within the reach of hundreds of families who could not afford it at the regular price.

This Organ will be given for 350 subscribers at 50 cents each.
Or given for 200 subscribers, and $15 in cash extra.
Or " " 100 " " $25 " "
Or " " 50 " " $30 " "

☞ This is one of our Best Premiums.

☞ OTHER PREMIUMS WILL BE FOUND DESCRIBED IN BACK NOS. OF THE JOURNAL. SEE NOVEMBER, DECEMBER AND FEBRUARY NUMBERS.

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Good Books for Only Four Subscribers!

And 10 Cents Extra for Postage.

A MOST EXTRAORDINARY OFFER!

We will send any address, any one of the following books, for a club of only 4 subscribers at 50 cts. per year,—provided 10 cts. extra in sent to prepay postage on the books.

We have before offered these books for 6 subscribers, we make this offer as a special inducement.

DICKENS' WORKS:

The books are all handsomely bound, good print and good paper, and are sold in all book-stores for $1.50 and $1.75 per volume.

Pickwick Papers.
Martin Chuzzlewit.
Oliver Twist, Pictures from Italy, and American Notes.
Nicholas Nickleby.
David Copperfield.
Child's History of England. By Charles Dickens. New edition, large type.

Robinson Crusoe. By Daniel De Foe.
Arabian Nights Entertainment.
Swiss Family Robinson.
Orange Blossoms. By T. S. Arthur.
Bar Room at Brantly. By T. S. Arthur.
Cook's Voyages Round the World.
Vicar of Wakefield. By Oliver Goldsmith.
Pilgrim's Progress. By John Bunyan.
Gulliver's Travels. By Jonathan Swift.
Ivanhoe. By Sir Walter Scott.
Waverly. By Sir Walter Scott.
Guy Mannering. By Sir Walter Scott.
Tom Brown's School Days at Rugby. By Thomas Hughes.
Scottish Chiefs. By Jane Porter.
Thaddeus of Warsaw. By Jane Porter.
Children of the Abbey. By Regina Maria Roche.
Don Quixote. By Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra.
Paul and Virginia. By Bernardin de St. Pierre.
Æsop's Fables. With over 500 illustrations.
Dog Crusoe. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Gorilla Hunters. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Wild Men of the West. By R. M. Ballantyne.

We have recently added the following books to the list. Any one given for only 4 subscribers and 10 cents extra for postage.

We will mail the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL one year, and give any one of these books, for only **$1.25.**

Daniel Webster. Life of. By F. Teft.
Napoleon. Life of. By M. A. Arnault.
George Washington. Life of. By Bancroft.
Daniel Boone. Life of. By Edw. S. Ellis.
David Crockett. Life of. By Edw. S. Ellis.
Henry Clay. Life of. By Epes Sargent and Horace Greeley.
Andrew Jackson. Life of. By John S. Jenkins.
Zachary Taylor. Life of. By H. Montgomery.
Henry VIII and His Six Wives. Life of. By Henry William Herbert.
Oliver Cromwell. Life of. By Henry William Herbert.
Empress Josephine. Life of. By Cecil B. Hartley.
Duchess of Orleans. Life of. By Marquis de H——.
Catherine II, Empress of Russia. Life of. By Samuel M. Schmucker.
Joan of Arc, Maid of Orleans. Life of. By David W. Bartlett.
Lady Jane Grey. Life of. By David W. Bartlett.
John Quincy Adams. Life of. By William H. Seward.
William H. Harrison. Life of. By H. Montgomery.
Patrick Henry. Life of. By William Wirt.
Travelers in Africa. By Charles Williams.
In the Arctic Seas. By Captain McClintock.
Children's Bible Stories. By Mrs. Gilespie Smith.
Lady of the Lake. By Sir Walter Scott.
Queens of American Society. By Mrs. Eliet.
Complete Letter Writer.
Evening Amusements. By Frederic D'Arros Planche.
Gavroche, the Gamin of Paris. By Victor Hugo.
A Million Too Much. A Temperance Tale. By Julia McNair Wright.
Gascoyne, the Sandlewood Trader. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Freaks on the Fells. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Shifting Winds. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Floating Light. By R. M. Ballantyne.
Bear Hunters. By Anne Bowman.
Kangaroo Hunters. By Anne Bowman.
American Family Robinson. By D. W. Belisle
Pique. A Tale of the English Aristocracy.

DECORATED TEA SET AND TRAY.

GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY SIX SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS EACH PER YEAR. Or given for only 4 subscribers and 25 cents extra; or for 2 subscribers and 50 cents extra.

A SPLENDID PREMIUM FOR THE GIRLS!

This is a beautiful China Tea Set consisting of 15 pieces, richly decorated with gold and floral designs; and also has a handsome Japanese tea tray, as shown in illustration. It will please any parents to see how delighted their child will be to get one of these lovely China Sets. Large enough for three little girls and boys to have a stylish party and each to have a separate cup and saucer, or, the saucers (which are quite large) can be used as plates. 6 Subscribers can easily be secured in half an hour by simply showing a copy of the paper to your mother's friends. Postage 35 Cents Extra. Sent to any address by mail.

NEEDLE-WORK

Needle-Work: A Manual of Stitches and Studies in Embroidery and Drawn Work. **Edited by Jenny June.**

This manual is an attempt to systematise and arrange in an order convenient for workers, the modern methods in Embroidery and Drawn Work. The author has felt the desire and the responsibility involved in aiding women to a true and practical guide to the beautiful art of needle-work. When the Angel of Mercy begged that woman might not be created because she would be abused by man, as the stronger, the Lord listened, but felt that he could not give up the whole scheme of creation, so he gave the loving Angel permission to bestow upon her any compensating gift she chose, and the Angel pityingly endowed her with tears and the love of needle-work. This book is printed on fine paper, has a handsome cover, and contains

200 Illustrations

The list of stitches, with illustrations, are: Buttonhole—Hemstitch—Brier Stitch—Crow's Foot—Herring Bone—Fodder Stitch—Two Tie—Three Tie—Drawn Work—Stem Stitch—Twisted Chain or Rope Stitch—Split Stitch—French Knot—Solid Leaf—Satin Stitch—Padding—Darning Stitch—Skeleton Outline—Couching, Kensington, Filling, Coral, Italian, Leviathan and Holbein Stitches—Applique—Interlaced Ground—Weaving Stitch—Gold and Silver Thread—Arrasene Ribbon Work, etc.

Designs in Needle-Work are given to decorate My Lady's Chamber, My Lady's Robe, the Dining Room, Parlor and Library, and for Linen and Cotton Fabrics, including embroidery designs for Mantel Scarfs—Bed Spreads—Child's Quilt—Pillow Covers—Cushion Boxes—Screen Scarfs—Table Covers—Chair Backs—Morning Sacques—Artist Jackets—Walking Dress—Afternoon Dress—Evening Dress—Handkerchiefs—Muffiers—Fichus—Piazza Wraps—Sashes—Fans—Slippers—Bonnets—Parasols—Aprons—Work Bags—Opera Bags—Glove Case—Sachets—Lunch Cloths—Dinner Cloths—Napkins—Doilies—Table Mats—Corn Napkins—Fish Napkins—Tray Covers—Tea Cloths—Curtains—Panels—Banners—Screens—Sofa Cushions—Piano Scarfs—Chair Scarfs—Sofa Rugs—Photograph Cases—Book Covers, etc., etc. This will be found to be the only standard book on the subject of needle-work.

Given for a club of 3 subscribers at 50 cents each per year. Price, when sold alone, 50c.

Other Premiums will be found described in back numbers of the JOURNAL. See November, December, and February numbers particularly.

THE PEARL RUG MAKER.

GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 6 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS EACH PER YEAR; or given for only 4 Subscribers and 25 cents extra, or for only 2 Subscribers and 50 Cents extra.

LADIES!

Save Your Rags

DELIGHTFUL AND PROFITABLE EMPLOYMENT. FASCINATING AND EASY TO LEARN.

MATERIAL COSTS YOU NOTHING!

USE YOUR RAGS, YARN AND SCRAPS, AND MAKE THEM INTO HANDSOME RUGS. BEAUTIFY YOUR HOMES.

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Knitting and Crochet.—A guide to the use of the Needle and the Hook. **Edited by Jenny June.**

In arranging this work the editor has taken special pains to systematise and classify its different departments, give the greatest possible variety of designs and stitches, and explain the technical details so clearly, that any one can easily follow the directions. There are a large variety of stitches and a great number of patterns fully illustrated and described, which have all been tested by an expert before insertion in this collection. The aim of the editor has been to supply women with an accurate and satisfactory guide to knitting and crochet work. The book is printed on fine paper, bound with a handsome cover, and contains over

200 Illustrations.

The knitting stitches illustrated and described are: To Cast On with One and Two Needles—To Narrow—To Widen—To Purl—To Cast Off—To Slip a Stitch—Round Knitting—To Join Together—Edge Stitch. PATTERNS.—Peacock's Tail—Vandyke—Looped Knitting—Cane Work—Leaf and Trellis—Triangular Kilted—Gothic—Coral—Knotted Stitch—Diamond—Wave—Cable Twist—Stripes, etc.

MACRAME STITCHES.—Solomon's Knot—Simple Chain—Spiral Cord—Waved Bar—Spherical Knot—Slanting Rib—Open Knotting—Picot Heading—Cross Knot—Fringe—Tassels, etc.

CROCHET STITCHES.—Chain Stitch—Single Crochet—Double Crochet—Half Treble—Treble—Double Treble—Cross Treble—Slip Stitch—Tricot—Muscovite Tricot—Shell Pattern—Basket Pattern—Raised Spot Stitch—Ring Stitch—Hair Pin Crochet—Crochet Lace, etc.

DESIGNS AND DIRECTIONS are given to Knit and Crochet—Afghans—Undervests—Shirts—Petticoats—Jackets—Shawls—Insertion—Trimming—Edging—Comforters—Lace—Braces—Socks—Boots—Slippers—Gaiters—Drawers—Knee-Caps—Stockings—Mittens—Clouds—Purses—Counterpanes—Quilts—Rugs—Infants' Bootines—Hoods—Caps—Shawls—Dresses—Bed Quilts, etc., etc. Every lady will find this the newest and most complete work on Knitting and Crochet published.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MILDRED'S CONVERSATION CLASS.

NO. XVII.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

"I've just been reading a very comical incident about Berg, the humanitarian, Miss Wilson," replied Edith Stocker to a question from that lady.

"Is Berg a humanitarian?" inquired Miss Wilson.

"Why, certainly, Miss Wilson," answered Edith, surprised. "You know, Berg, the great S. P. C. A. man."

"Yes, that is the person to whom I supposed you were alluding, but I do not *think* he is a humanitarian. He may be, but I never have heard of it. Did the paper call him that?"

"Yes, it spoke of him as Berg, the great humanitarian, and I'm sure I cannot see what is the matter with that, for if anybody in this world was devoted to acts of humanity, Berg is the man."

"I see what you mean," replied Miss Wilson. "Have you the paper with you?"

"Yes, right here."

Miss Wilson read the article slowly, and then said:

"True, the paper does speak of him in that way, but it is an utter perversion of the word humanitarian. Nevertheless, I have heard it so used, and once before, I saw an newspaper in which the word was used in that way. But it is absolutely incorrect in every way."

"What does 'humanitarian' mean, if it is not 'devoted to acts of humanity'?" asked Sarah Tasker.

"Cannot some member of the class tell you?"

But the "Class" declared unanimously that it had always supposed that to be the legitimate meaning of the word.

"A humanitarian is one who denies the divinity of Christ, believing him to be a mere man."

"Isn't that funny—curious, I mean!" exclaimed Mildred. "I always thought it meant the other thing!"

"Many persons think it means 'the other thing.' In fact, I believe this mistaken impression to be prevalent, at least among the daily press."

"Isn't this comical, Miss Wilson?" said Sara Tasker.

"'Droll!' is a rather better word than 'comical' for circumstances that one commonly terms 'funny,'" interpolated Miss Wilson.

"Well, isn't this droll, then," repeated Sara Tasker, as she took from her pocketbook a little slip, evidently cut from some newspaper. "Listen! 'Small busts of the fair President's wife are now being made from the pulp of mutilated bank notes.'" The 'fair President's wife' isn't that funny or droll?"

"It is indeed. That certainly is the first time I ever heard the term 'fair' applied to a man of his age, or indeed to a man at all. How very ridiculous a sentence becomes, when turned in that way."

"Girls, this, as you know, is the last time we shall meet in this way. I leave for home tomorrow, so I think it would be as well to deal with generalities a little. Let me hear first if any of you is in difficulty upon some particular point."

"Yes, *I* am," spoke up Georgia Gleason promptly.

"And what is the difficulty, Miss Gleason?"

"O, nothing, except that I think you could give me courage to talk when I go out in company."

"I can hardly do that; but I can tell you what I believe to be the trouble with you, as with many others: *you do not practice at home.* Why should you do your *talking* at *home*, but reserve your *conversation* till you 'go out in society'? There is nothing like practice, practice, practice, for all arts, the art of conversation included. Honestly, girls, I do believe that the reason that so many girls have little or nothing to say in company is that they do not consider it worth their while to be entertaining at home. They habituate themselves to talking about the utmost common-places in the most common-place language."

"What a droll idea!" said Edith Stocker, musingly, "to entertain one's family! I never imagined I *could* entertain them."

"That is just what I supposed. Conceit is a bad thing, but one *must* have a certain amount of self esteem in order to go safely and successfully through the world, be it in society, or out of it. If something entertaining has happened to you, why not tell it? In fact, it is your *duty* to do so, as well as being greatly to your advantage."

"Please, Miss Wilson," said Mildred, "in what way is it our *duty*? I can see it to be to our advantage."

"My dear, let me tell you a circumstance that happened some years ago. 'Once upon a time,' as all stories begin, there lived in a house, a mother and two daughters. Circumstances necessitated a change of neighborhood and a loss of old friends, and one daughter was obliged to go out into the world, while the other daughter stayed at home with the aged mother. The life of the 'out-of-doors daughter,' as we will call her, was anything but a path of roses. It was hard work from morning till night. But, when she came home at night, she always had something pleasant to tell, and that something was told in the most entertaining way. Her mother and sister never for a moment suspected that all the spirits she brought into the house were mainly on the surface. I did not become acquainted with her till many years after this epoch in her life. She was so easy and delightful in conversation that once upon a time I asked her how she had attained such a point of ease. I shall never forget her answer: 'I acquired it by entertaining my family;' and then she told me her history, adding, that, as her mother and sister were shut in the house, and she was the only one who saw what little there was to be seen, she had felt it her *duty* to bring the outside world into their home as much as possible. She made it a rule to note or read, and tell some little incident every evening. She said that the number of things she learned to see, as well as to tell, was astonishing, and the ease with which she learned to express herself, increased in the same ratio. What she learned to do then was of incalculable benefit to her all her life, and as she grew more prosperous, and mixed with the world as she had more time for society and less for business, she found that she was never at a loss for conversation. She overheard her sister say once, 'We look forward all day for Annie's return, she has so much to tell that is pleasant to hear. She is our only link with the outside world.' Remember, girls, that your mothers are very much kept at home, and they hail with pleasure the relation of any little entertaining or instructive circumstance, which you can store away in your mind, to be brought forth for the benefit of the home circle, related in good language, (with an entire absence of 'thingumbobs' and 'what-do-you-call-'ems,') in a clear, distinct, low-pitched voice."

"Well, I'll try," said Sara, with a sigh. "I know my brother will laugh at me, and tell me I'm 'coming out,' because I hardly ever say anything at home."

"Suppose that he should say you are 'coming out.' Is not that exactly what you wish to do? And will not his words be a direct argument in favor of what I have said?"

"And now, my dear girls, I am sorry to be obliged to say farewell, but I shall hope that when I meet you sometime in the future 'in society,' you will *all* have 'come out,' to quote Sara's words."

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W. G.—"Pictures hung on either side of the room" would be considered correct, some authorities using "either" in the sense of "both."

"One of *the* cases" would perhaps be better, but I think that "in which" or "where" is optional.

"WHAT is meant by 'free alkali,' Doctor? I see it mentioned in the advertisements of IVORY SOAP."

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There are many white soaps, each represented to be "just as good as the 'Ivory';" they ARE NOT, but like all counterfeits, lack the peculiar and remarkable qualities of the genuine. Ask for "Ivory" Soap and insist upon getting it.

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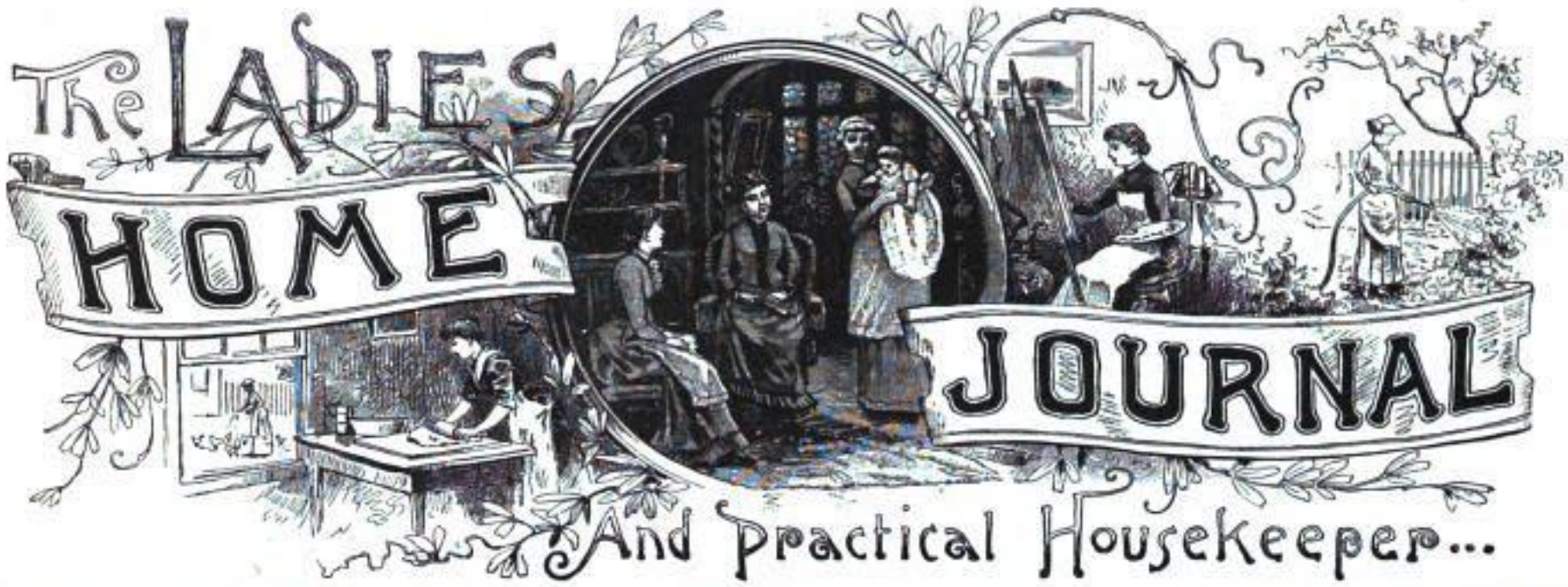

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

WORRIED ABOUT KATHERINE

BY

WILL CARLETON*

GRANDAM.

I'm glad that it suited you, Schoolma'am, to spend a few days here with Kate:
You're both of you fine-wove and crisp-like, an' take to each other first-rate.
When woman-hearts tangle together, they twist round again and again,
An' make up a queer sort o' love-match, I never have noticed in men.
And, Schoolma'am, I'm thriftily anxious about this smart gran'-child o' mine,
An' want to talk candid about her, with present an' future design.

She's hungry for other folks' knowledge, an' never too full to be fed;
She's packed every book that I know of, all open-leaved, like, in her head;
The 'rithmetic makes its home with her; the grammar is proud of her tongue;
She spells words as if she had made 'em, 'way back when the language was young.
She knows all the g'ography found yet; she'd feel in a manner at home,
If dropped in the streets of Jerus'lem, or woke up some mornin' in' Rome.
She's studied the habits of planets—knows how to call names at a star—
She's traced their invisible railroads, an' tells what their time-tables are,
She's learnin' the words of old heathens that good-minded people abhorred—
A-thwartin' the old Tower of Babel—undoin' the work of the Lord.
Yes, Teacher, our dear, pretty Kath'rine is very sleek-minded an' smart;
But still I can't help but to worry concernin' the breadth o' her heart!

TEACHER.

Why! sympathies need not to narrow, because the brain clambers above;
The more that a genuine heart knows, the better it knows how to love.
A gem was all crowded with splendor, unseen in the gloom of the mines:
'Tis not now the less of a diamond, because it is polished, and shines!
The flower that was hunted by wild weeds, thinks never to bloom the less fair,
Because it is borne to a garden, and tended with wisdom and care.
A lamp in the sky had been tarnished by cloud-birds that flew from afar;
The wind swept the mist from its brightness—it gleamed, all the more of a star!
Whate'er is at fault in your grand-child, her learning makes easier withstood;
Whatever is good in your grand-child, her learning makes only more good.

GRANDAM.

That's nice, soothin' sentiments, School-ma'am, an helps all that works in your line
It's one o' your golden opinions—I wish that it also was mine!
But, Teacher, suppose that she marries:—the knives of her brain bright an' keen—
An' knows all creation, excep' how to keep her house cosy and clean!
Suppose when her husband comes home tired, the cheer o' her table to seek
She feeds him with steak that is soggy, an' tells him its meanin' in Greek!
Suppose that her coffee is muddy as if it was dipped from a trench:
Will that make his stomach less homesick, because she can tell it in French!
Suppose that her help is her master, along o' the things she don't know:
Can algebra make up the diff'rence, or grammar books give her a show!
Oh Schoolma'am, those women keep house best (with nothin' to say ag'in you),
Who've learned to keep house o' their mothers, an' worked all its alphabet through!

TEACHER.

Your grandchild must take for her husband, a man with an intellect wide,
Who makes of the well-guarded body a place for the soul to reside:
Whose home is a God-made cathedral, with heart-blessings clear-voiced and sweet;
Who comes back at night for soul-comfort—not simply what he can eat.
Who thinks with her—feels with her—helps her;—has patience, for both of their sakes;
Who celebrates all her successes, and takes stock in all her mistakes.
Who treasures her well-taught advantage o'er one who unstudied begins;
Who welcomes with sweet-whispered pleasure each step of the race that she wins.
Who leads her to minds that are kindled with brands from the watch-fires of fame;
Who's glad that her lamp has been trimmed well, to catch the clear sanctified flame.

GRANDAM.

An' if she shouldn't find this cur'os'ty!

TEACHER.

Then let her as single be known;
And thank God her training has taught her to work out life's problem alone.

GRANDAM.

But, Schoolma'am, admittin' your arg'ment (if one can "admit" what one don't)
We'll say that she'll marry an angel (though likelier 'twill happen she won't);
But s'posin she does, an' her children are sent, same as others, to school:
I'm worryin' 'bout whether she'll let 'em be taught by the brain-stuffin' rule.
It hurts me to see 'em build over a child into somebody's pride,
Through givin' him heart-aches each week-day, by poundin' his head from inside!
They make 'em bite books with their teethin'; grown studies run all through their play;
They're killin' the children by inches, with five or six studies a day.
They load 'em with large definitions—as big as the children are small;
Ah me! it's a wonder the poor things twist up into grown folks at all!
There's many a poor little cre'tur' with other folks' words over-filled,
Not only "made mad" by "much learning" but weakened an' sickened an' killed!
There's many a green little grass-mound, whose tenant would say, could it talk,
"I died by their tryin' to run me, before I was able to walk!"

TEACHER.

A blessing's no less of a blessing, because by some 'tis abused;
The air, fire, and water can murder—and yet they all have to be used.
The steed that we drive to the river, is tempted, not tortured, to drink;
The child should be given thought-burdens—but only to teach him to think.
Take comfort from now for the future; for Katherine, with all that she knows,
Is bright as a dollar just minted, and fresh as a new-blossomed rose.

GRANDAM.

But, Teacher, I'll tell my main trouble (though less than the ones I have said);
I'm gettin' behind the times daily, while Kate keeps a gettin' ahead.
She'll grow a fine lady, and nothin' between us in common there'll be;
Now don't you think, some time or other, that Kate'll be shamed, like, of me!

KATE (entering, and kissing GRANDAM)

Ashamed of you! Never!—I'd give more for one silver hair of your head,
Than all of the studies I know of, and all of the authors I've read!
Do you know, you absurd dear old Grandma', your heart and your brain are more aid,
Than all of the sciences heard of, and all of the books ever made!
No process that man has discovered, will act out affection's pure part;
The brain of the head is a failure, compared to the brain of the heart!
Ashamed of you? Let your grand life-work an answer unqualified be!
Pray God that my life may be lived so you'll never be "'shamed like" o' me!

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HIGH TEA.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

(By request.)

The most popular form of small entertainment that can be given at present is a tea. Not the old-fashioned "hearty tea" of our grandmothers. That was a repast under which the board groaned and for which preparation must be made days beforehand. The more delicate dishes, such as salads and croquettes were not thought of then, but meats of many kinds must be cooked, six or eight sorts of cake compounded and every plate must be surrounded by an array of saucers, each holding a different variety of preserve or sweetmeat. Such a "spread" demanded a greater expenditure of time, labor and money than would suffice now to provide a fashionable dinner *a la Russe*.

The afternoon tea is a far simpler affair and does not quite fill the requirement. A cup of tea or chocolate and a macaroon, while it is all that is needed by guests who drop in for half an hour on their way to their own homes and a substantial dinner, is insufficient as provision for a social evening. Accordingly, there was something devised resembling the English "high tea" which supplies a pretty, dainty meal, less heavy and formal than a dinner, more cosy and home-like than a kettledrum.

For such an entertainment, guests are usually invited at any time from six to eight o'clock p. m. with the understanding that they are to remain the rest of the evening. In cities, dress coats and light gowns are considered essential, but in small towns or in the country, gentlemen may appear in Prince Alberts and ladies in pretty afternoon or evening costumes. The invitations may be either verbal or written and are informal. As a rule, the number of guests does not much exceed twenty and may be less.

Small tables are generally used, of a size to accommodate from four to six persons apiece. The tables are covered with large napkins and spread with plates, knives, forks, spoons, glasses and napkins. Each should bear salt and pepper cruets, sugar bowl and creamer. It is an excellent plan, in setting the table, to give each guest two or three forks, knives and spoons,—in short, all the silver required for the successive courses, if the state of the family plate will allow this. It saves much time and trouble in changing the silver.

A roll or a thick half slice of bread should be laid between the folds of each napkin. This should be placed at the left side of the plate, the knives, with their edges *from* the plate, in a row on the right, and beyond them, the forks, while the spoons are laid above the plate, at right angles with the other silver. The glasses should be filled beforehand, to save as much time as possible when the real business of eating begins. Where there are two rooms, such as dining-room and parlor, or two parlors, the tables can be laid in one room, while the guests are assembling in the other. Often, however, the hostess can command but one large room in which to entertain her friends. In this case, the little tables can be brought in by a servant and spread in the presence of the guests without the least breach of propriety. After the meal is over, the dishes are quickly carried out on trays and the tables either taken from the room or left where they stand for cards or any of the many popular pencil and paper games that are pleasant at such gatherings.

One waitress, if quick and deft, can readily wait on a dozen people, especially if all the necessary articles for changing the courses, plates, silver, etc., are arranged on a side table in the room or outside the door. An excellent plan is that of writing out a full list of the various dishes to be served, and their order, accompanying each item with a memorandum of the china and silver to be used. It is an exceptionally dull-witted servant who with a little preliminary drilling will not manage such an affair without very obvious blunders.

In seating guests, judgment must be used. Congenial companions should be placed together, or if strangers, those who will be likely to enjoy meeting one another. It is not pleasant to have as one's next neighbor or opposite, through a meal that may last an hour or more, some one whose society is distasteful or with whom one has nothing in common. The places may be marked by cards, bearing the names of those who are to occupy them. The dainty hand-painted cards with appropriate designs and mottoes add to the beauty of the table and set the conversational ball rolling, besides furnishing pretty souvenirs. If these are not attainable, plain cards may be used, or the hostess may inform her guests with whom they are to sit. If one is not quite sure of making judicious arrangements, she may leave her visitors to choose their own companions and seat themselves.

There are many attractive menus that can be suggested for teas, but the following seems to demand as little home labor for satisfactory results as any other. The word *tea*, by the way, is something of a misnomer, as at these entertainments the beverages are almost invariably coffee or chocolate, or both, tea being left entirely out of the question.

MENU.

Bouillon.
Bread. Crackers. Celery.
Pickled Oysters. Chicken Salad.
Pinard Sandwiches.
Olives. Salted Almonds.
Chocolate. Coffee.
Ice Cream.
Fancy Cakes.
Fruit.

Serve the bouillon in cups and be sure that it is very hot. Have a thin slice of lemon floating on the surface of each cup. Pass crackers (the Zephyr or Snowflake brands are best,) with this, and choice blanched celery. If the tables are set before the guests arrive, it is well to have a couple of short stalks of celery laid at each plate and spare that amount of waiting. Have each cup and saucer set in a plate, and take all three pieces off at once. Either tea or coffee cups may be used, and it is, of course, unnecessary to have them match. Harlequin sets are a charming device for people of slender means who have to pick up their pretty china here and there, a bit at a time.

The pickled oysters, with not too much liquor, may either be served on the same plate with the salad or separately. Glass or china dishes may hold the salad and oysters. Forks should be used with this course. The sandwiches must be neatly piled on fringed napkins on bread plates, and must be passed several times, and the olives and salted almonds may fill small glass dishes. The olives may be helped with a fork or spoon or with the fingers, the almonds may be served with spoons. The coffee and chocolate should be poured out at a side table and sugar and cream passed with them to each person.

The ice cream should also be served off the table and passed in the plate or saucer from which it is to be eaten. The cakes should be prettily arranged in a cake dish with a doyley under them. The fruit should be placed on a flat salver as high piled dishes are apt to be top-heavy and difficult to pass. Oranges, bananas, grapes, the last cut into rather small bunches, make a pretty array. Each guest must be supplied with a fruit plate, doyley, finger bowl, fruit knife and fork or spoon.

BOUILLON.—Four pounds beef, chopped fine at the butchers.

Four quarts *cold* water.

Put the beef on in the cold water and let it take at least an hour to come to a boil. Cook very slowly, simmering at the side of the stove and never boiling hard. Keep this up four or five hours until this water is reduced to about two quarts. Let the meat get cold in the liquor. All this should be done the day before it is to be used. Next day remove the grease and strain the liquor through a chick cloth, squeezing every drop of moisture from the shreds of beef. Put the liquor on the stove, bring to a boil and stir in the white and shell of an egg. Boil about two minutes and strain the soup once more. The result will be a clear amber colored fluid. If desired, this may be darkened by the addition of a little caramel.

Of course, the bouillon may be made weaker, but these directions will, if followed exactly, produce most satisfactory results. Two quarts will prove enough for sixteen or eighteen medium sized tea cups, or for twenty after-dinner coffee cups.

PICKLED OYSTERS.—Eighty fine oysters, two small cups *white* vinegar, twelve whole cloves, twelve whole black peppers, twelve blades of mace, two small red peppers, salt to taste.

Heat the oysters and liquor in a porcelain lined kettle. Just before they reach the boil, take out the oysters with a split spoon, and set aside in jars. Add the cloves, mace, pepper and vinegar to the liquor, boil up once and pour, while still scalding, over the oysters in the jars. Cover and put in a cool, *dark* place. They will be fit for use next day. If they are to be kept for a week, the jars must be air tight.

CHICKEN SALAD.—Boil full grown fowls until they are so tender that the flesh almost drops from the bones. Cut the meat into neat pieces, rejecting all bits of skin or gristle. Mix with it an equal amount of cut celery, and proceed according to directions given for canned chicken salad in "Cottage Dinners" in December issue of LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. Full directions are also given there for mayonnaise dressing.

PINARD SANDWICHES.—Purchase what are known as finger rolls. They are about four or five inches long and quite thick. Split these and scrape out most of the crumb. Butter the inside of the shells thus left and fill the hollows with finely chopped meat, tying the two halves of the roll together in the middle with narrow ribbon. A pretty variety may be made by using ribbons of different colors, as pink or red for tongue sandwiches, pale blue or green for chicken, etc.

THE ANXIOUS AND AIMLESS.

LECTURE III.—PART II.

BY REV. F. E. CLARK, BOSTON.

Another sister of aimlessness is cowardice. Courage is not thought to be a womanly virtue, more's the pity, and I suppose that is the reason that cowardice, however reprehensible in a man, is considered rather amiable in a woman. To scream at the sight of a harmless mouse, and go into spasms over a spider, and have convulsions because of a striped snake on the garden walk, seem to be considered in the light of accomplishments rather than otherwise, and the confiding terror that catches hold of the masculine arm at sight of a harmless cow in the pasture, is supposed to show unsophisticated innocence. I do not think, however, that weak nerves should be cultivated as a boon to the human race, or that hysterics should be looked upon with any more favor than small-pox or mumps. They both are inevitable sometimes, but both disfigure and make unlovely the true woman.

Not that I think that women are naturally more cowardly than men. All history proves the contrary. There is a deep fund of courage and fortitude in every woman's breast which only needs the spur of a great occasion and an earnest aim, to bring it to the front. Witness the martyrs who have died for their faith, witness the heroic sacrifices of women in sick rooms and hospitals, witness the uncomplaining heroism of many an invalid wearing her life away on a sick bed, with a smile on the face which sought to conceal from watchful friends, the long anguish.

"The noble behavior of the soldiers on the sinking Birkenhead," says Miss Cobb, "was not greater than was that exhibited by the twenty poor nuns who, in the French Revolution, stood together on the scaffold chanting the *Te Deum*, till, one by one, the sweet voices dropped in silence beneath the axe of the guillotine; still, the survivors sang on, with unfaltering lips, till the abbess, left alone, gave forth the last amen, and the glorious hymn was over. Or, to take another phase of courage, what man or woman is there who would not have found it easier to ride with the Six Hundred, in broad daylight, into the Valley of Death at Balaklava, than to have spent a night in the dark in that awful *tete a tete* of which we have read of Sister Dora and the man dying of small-pox?"

And yet, as Miss Cobb intimates, many of these same women might have shown the white feather on a very small provocation. The mouse on the chamber floor, the cow in country lane, might have been too much for their nerves, and have made those blanch whom the guillotine could not scare.

So I feel like calling upon you all to understand and use the treasures of courage which are really yours. Just as we would say to a miserly millionaire: "Your money is yours only to use, not to hide in a napkin; it is a shame for you to place your bonds in an iron box while you bury the box in the ground, when thousands are starving, and nations are perishing for lack of the gospel." So we say to you, young women, with your fund of real courage: "The world needs it. It is perishing for lack of brave souls who dare to go ahead and do great things for God. For humanity's sake do not think that the soft, shrinking nature, afraid of its own shadow, afraid to speak a brave word, or to do an unconventional deed is peculiarly womanly and admirable in you. The world cannot be regenerated without the help of brave women, as well as of brave men. It has been too long thought that courage was the prerogative of a man, virtue or purity of a woman. We shall never reach the true plain from which we can, altogether, men and women, with united effort, lift up humanity, until we realize this truth, that a man must be pure as well as brave, and that a woman must be brave as well as pure."

As one of your friends finely puts it: "One of the principles which I am fond of enunciating is that men should be pure as well as women, and that women should be courageous as well as men."

"I believe that there should be equality of the sexes in one particular, at least, and that is in virtue; and that all women should insist on this so far as their influence reaches."

How shall you attain this moral courage without having a great aim in view? The soldiers who have a fort to storm, or an order to carry out, are the soldiers who do not flinch. If they know not and care not for what they are fighting, they lack the very foundation of courage. You cannot make much of a hero out of a hired Hessian. Cowardice is almost always the sister of aimlessness.

"Womanly, unaffected, dignified frankness," writes another friend, (and this is only another name for courage), "will allow a girl to express her convictions without losing the respect of her acquaintance. I know from having tried it a good many times," she continues, "that a young lady loses no friendships worth retaining by saying: 'I made a resolve, years ago, that I could never have anything to do with men who were not true gentleman at heart.' Furthermore, I know that in our hands lies the power of working genuine reforms along this very line." Says another: "I tremble for two young girls whom I know, as I hear their names coupled with two young men, and see to all appearances the strong attachment existing between them, and the talk of marriage at no distant day. Both of the young men are irreligious and intemperate. If every young woman would take a decided stand on the side of temperance, and refuse the attentions of a young man that drank, it would do more good than all the temperance lectures in the world." But that requires courage and courage that is coupled with the highest aim to do right cost what it may for Christ's sake. Remember, my young friends, that it is your right and duty to be courageous, as well as virtuous; and that courage is borne of a high, noble aim, in the highest sense, you cannot be pure without having the *courage* of virtue, as well as its *spotlessness*.

Another sister of aimlessness is invalidism or semi-invalidism. The ill health of our American women is notorious. What is the cause? Over work? Yes, to some extent, but under work is a greater cause. Where ambition—the straining at too large an aim—has one victim, aimlessness and idleness has two victims. In many a New England farm kitchen, in many a nursery, there are, doubtless, women broken down prematurely by hard labor. But, in many another house, humble or wealthy, are women equally broken down by the wearing effort to do nothing, and do it genteelly; by the worry of having no worthy aim, and living up to it.

"Teach your girl honesty of purpose and practice," says Marion Harland, on this point, "and to call things by their right names. Show no charity to the faded frippery of sentiment that prates over romantic sickliness. Inculcate a fine scorn for the desire to exchange her present excellent health for the estate of the pale, drooping, human-flower damsel; the taste that covets the fascination of lingering consumption; the sensation of early decease, induced by the rupture of a blood-vessel over a laced handkerchief, held firmly to her lily mouth by agonized parents, or distracted lover.

"I was cheered," she continues, "as by the finding of a treasure, the other day, at overhearing a young girl say, scornfully, to a schoolfellow: 'I should be ashamed to be sickly! No! I won't call it delicate. It is very indelicate to my way of thinking. I say the word out plainly—sickly. It is as much my duty to keep well, as to keep clean. Of course, accidents will happen in spite of precautions; but no one is proud of having fallen in the mud.'"

If in the line of duty ill health overtakes you, that is another thing. If in nursing and care, and loving ministration, you wear your life out, I am not talking to you. Such ill health is as honorable as a soldier's scar or empty sleeve. But, if you are frittering away life and health at balls and late parties, and by aimlessness and lack of energy which can never arouse itself to stem trouble and disease, then, remember, that *slow* suicide of this sort is no more honorable than a dose of strichnine, or a plunge from railing of the bridge. I have all honor for the worn mother whose pale cheek and wrinkled brow tell of loving vigils, and constant care for loved ones, but I have no honor or respect for the aimless, lackadaisical young person, whose pale cheek tells only of chalk, and slate pencils, and chocolate creams, and late hours. There is nothing interesting or pathetic about her.

There is another matter which I must not fail to dwell upon while mentioning the sisters of aimlessness. It is the intellectual food which these sisters feed upon. It is the fuel which keeps alive the bale fires of a wasted life. It is the solace of a weak mind, the comfort of aimless hours. Let me write, if I can, a strong word against the weak, trashy literature which, more than anything else, if you indulge in it, will condemn you forever to the hopeless ranks of the aimless and anxious.

You are not so much attracted by revolvers and bowie knives and infant Indian exterminators, but there is a kind of trash which is just as common, and just as harmful, and which low panderers to evil tastes will write and print, because, such as you, furnish a market for it. You do not care to ride over the Texas plain with Buckskin Buck, a six shooter stuck in every crevice of his saddle and belt, as the boys like to do, but the same devil paints for you a languishing young beauty with a husband whom she ought to love, honor, and obey, who devotes her life to some scoundrel who has a wife of his own. She ought to horsewhip him for his dastardly attempts to make love to her, but she complaisantly listens to him, as he talks twaddle about fate and destiny and affinity and so on.

Better never learn your letters, than to read about unholy love and seduction and divorce; and the horrible sins that are gilded and painted white in these miserable novels. Shun all this class of stuff as you shun leprosy. Better have the leprous scales on your face, where they will only ruin physical beauty and comliness, than have them on the heart where they will ruin the purity of the soul. Scarcely a week goes by, but I find some of this trash thrust into my own house, for my children to pick up and read. Flaring advertisements, advising my children to read about, "Little Lillie Lee," or the "Child Guard at Gen. Grant's Tomb," or "The Child Wife," or "A Desperate Woman." Horrible pictures of murder and violence decorate them all. It is a shame that we have to submit to an invasion of our homes by such literary diet, and that the law does not at least abate this nuisance. If once a week regularly some city scavenger should open my front door and throw in a load of garbage from the gutter, or some ill-disposed person should thrust an adder into the letter-box, hoping that my children would get stung; they would do me no greater wrong than these panderers to a cheap, vile taste that delights in murder, seduction, and adultery, do, when they thrust into my house their "Little Lillie Lee's," and their "Child Wives," and their "Desperate Women." If the desperate woman would come herself, she could be turned over to the police. If Little Lilly Lee should come in person, I could send her to the little Wanderer's Home; but coming as they do, we need to exercise constant vigilance, fathers and mothers, lest they become, before we know it, the companions of our children. Of all the many wise words that have come for you on this point I can read but from one letter. This good friend of yours says: "Our public library has altogether too many cheap story books kept for the use of children. I often hear such sentences as these from young women: 'I know nothing of history, hated it in school, and forgot it as soon as possible, and never read it now. Biographies are dry, I don't like travels, and I never read a word of Shakespeare in my life, but I am a great reader. I always have a book in my hand.' I heard one young lady make all these statements not long ago, and so I asked her what she liked to best? 'O stories!' was the reply. Is it strange they have a wrong idea of life? that their talk is chiefly about boys and having a good time." I should think it very strange if, with such an intellectual diet, they ever had a sensible idea in their head.

Ah, in these days, it is no great credit to be seen with a book in your hands, unless that book is one of the best. I sometimes think, as I remember the floods of trash that issue from the press, that Cadmus was no great friend of the race after all. And now, young friends, in a closing word let me plead with you very earnestly to respect your womanhood, and to fill your life full of noble aims and lofty purposes. Root out the weeds, but do not forget to fill the empty garden of your heart with flowers and fruits. Throw away the bad book, but take up the good book, just as soon as you lay the other down. Do not simply be busy, but be busy for a purpose, with a prize in view, with long plan of a useful life to work out. Do not simply be brave, be brave that the world may be better, by reason of your cheery courage. Do not simply be well and strong, be well and strong in order that something of your vigor and strength may pulsate through another's life. Remember, there is no such thing as a superfluous woman, as we sometimes hear them facetiously called, unless you choose to make yourself superfluous. There are high motives enough to go around among you all. There is a noble aim for every one. There is a Christian womanhood for the most lowly and shrinking, and beyond this, if you comprehend all that the words imply, there is no higher destiny in store for a seraph or an archangel.

The Value of Prompt Action.

"I shall move immediately upon your works," was the strong language of General Grant at one of the crises of his historical career. Such should be the declaration of every man and woman who feels himself or herself assailed by some lurking foe to health, and especially strong should be the resolution to act if the enemy has already intrenched himself in some vital part of the system. Consumption, Asthma, Neuralgia, Rheumatism and kindred ailments become dangerous only when neglected. They can all be cured by Compound Oxygen if grappled with in proper season. Drs. STARKEY & PALEN send a Home Treatment that enables any one to cure himself in his own home. Send to them at 1529 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa., for a pamphlet giving testimonials. It costs nothing to obtain it.

A very pretty and stylish Pin of frosted silver. These are the very latest style and are very popular. Given for a club of only 2 subscribers at 50c. each, or sold for 50c. and sent, postpaid, to any address.

A Great Reward

will be secured by those who write to Hallett & Co., Portland, Maine. Full information will be sent you, free, about work that you can do and live at home wherever you are situated, that will pay you from $5 to $25 and upwards a day. A number have earned over $50 in a day. Capital not needed; Hallett & Co. will start you. Both sexes; all ages. The chance of a lifetime. All is new. Now is the time. Fortunes are also nicely made for the workers.

I caught her hands: "Now listen, Nannie,
Why is it, dear, you sweeter grow?"
She said, and laughed, "It's Frangipanni,
Which comes from ATKINSON, you know."

Dickens Works, handsomely bound, given for only 4 subscribers to the JOURNAL and 10c. extra for postage.

The Pearl Rug Maker described in the March number, given for only 6 subscribers, is a popular premium.

"DOMESTIC" SO LIGHT SO SIMPLE SO STRONG
STAR THAT LEADS ALL THEM
DOMESTIC SEWING MACHINE
Imitated by Many, Equaled by None.
Send for Circular.
Domestic Sewing Machine Co., New York.

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[FOR THE LADIES HOME JOURNAL.]

SADIE DANFORTH'S PHOTOGRAPH.

"I'm going to do it, Em."

"Oh, Sadie! don't. How dare you! What if you should get found out!"

"No danger of that; not a bit. I shan't give my own name,—only send the photograph with a fictitious address. Won't that fellow stare, though, when he sees my pretty face popping out from his letter! Oh! Em Danforth, it's the richest joke I ever played. Uriah will think, sure, the Fates decree I am to be his sweetheart, and there he is, already engaged to Gertie Perkins. How the poor fellow will roll his round, white eyes at me, and sigh those oxy sighs of his, and fail to studying his tea grounds and magic cards still closer! Oh, I shall——"

"But Sadie," interrupted the younger and more cautious sister, "Uriah is sincere, only foolishly superstitious and terribly in earnest just now, trying to wrest from the Fates if this Gertie Perkins is to be his future wife and if she is the right one for him to marry. The fellow means well, why do you want to bother and befool him still more, when you know he is already dreadfully worried over his matrimonial affairs!"

"Oh, Em! It's such fun! He is so easily fooled and ready to believe anything and everything that rusty old horse shoes or tea and coffee settlings tell him, and always studying the dirty creases in his big, clumsy hands, trying to read his fortune; he deserves to be punished for being so superstitious in this enlightened age. When he has pledged himself to marry a girl, what an insult to her, his writing to a stranger, and a humbug, too, inquiring if she is the right wife for him! Wasn't it fortunate I read that advertisement this morning!"

The two girls, Emma and Sadie Danforth, had been set a task of picking and sorting several fleeces of washed wool, in the wide, open chamber of their farm home. In the centre of the floor was a great heap of wool, as light as down, from which the girls had picked every tangle and dirt speck for easier and cleaner carding into rolls.

To reach this work-room, the girls must need pass through the chamber of one of the farm hands, Uriah Stevens, and pausing a moment to glance over the flashy story paper that lay on his table, Sadie caught sight of this advertisement:

"MADEMOISELLE HORTENSE DE PAUL,
NECROMANCER.

The future unravelled for fifty cents. Send lock of hair, color of eyes, age, with photograph of self, and receive by return mail a correct likeness of your future husband or wife, with name, and date of marriage.

Lock Box, 1132."

The moment Sadie's quick eye had read the address of this pretended sorceress, she remembered seeing the same name on a fat envelope she had mailed that morning for Uriah.

"There! Emma," she exclaimed, carrying the paper with her into the work-room, "if that foolish, superstitious fellow, Uriah Stevens, hasn't answered this advertisement! It was his picture and fifty cents that made the letter so heavy which I mailed for him to day. Now he will watch the mails as closely as a hawk a chicken till he hears from this Mademoiselle Hortense. What fun it would be to send her my photo with the request she inclose it in the reply she mails him! These clairvoyants are always ready to seize upon any grain of information or truth that is thrown them, for they——"

"Girls, be sure and have those fleeces finished by noon," rang a clear voice up the stair-way. "Your father is going to the village after dinner and I want to send that wool to the carding mill."

"That means less talk and work, Sadie. Do stop studying that silly old fortune-teller's advertisement, and pick wool faster. Mother wants to commence spinning next week."

Sadie tossed the flashily pictured sheet aside, and with quick snips and jerks loosened tangles and matted hay seed and nettles till the wool rolled from her fingers in fluffy, white clouds.

"I'm going to do it, Em!" was the exclamation that warned Emma her headstrong, fun-loving sister was still thinking of the matter. "I am going to mail Mademoiselle Hortense a letter, also, to-day, and it will reach here at the same time as Uriah's bulky envelope. I shall enclose one of my photos, sign myself—dear me, what name shall I give?—Sadie Perkins, that will be a cute one to mystify poor Uriah still more, and write her that although I do not doubt her powers of necromancy in the least, for the sake of a rich joke and a certain young man's peace of mind, I beg she will return the enclosed picture to one Urian Stevens who has consulted her in regard to his future, stating that on the twelfth day of December next, he will be united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Sadie Perkins, the original of the likeness."

"Oh, Sadie! How dare you send a photograph of yourself to a perfect stranger! This Hortense Du Paul may be some bad-hearted man for all you know, and who will——"

"Hush! Emma, mother is coming up-stairs. She must never hear a word about this. She would say it wasn't lady-like or proper. But there isn't a bit of harm in it, only fun for us and a good punishment on Uriah for being such a goose as to patronize fortune-tellers."

Before noon the great, white, wooly heap was sacked ready for the carding loom and a letter had slyly been penned to the clairvoyant of lock box 1132, containing a likeness of Sadie's bright face: a likeness so striking with its arching brows and long, dark curls, and so true to life, that a stranger would easily have recognized the pretty, country girl by the picture.

Caleb Danforth little thought that among the budget of mail matter he carried to the office that day, that one letter of his daughter's was addressed to a vile den of a great city—a trio of black-hearted-men, who under the assumed, innocent sounding title of Mademoiselle Hortense, solicited correspondence from unsophisticated and innocent country boys and girls, by artful advertisements in newspapers most likely to reach them. Men who would not scruple to use any means to gain their ends; as evil-eyed and artful and with purposes as vile as Satan's servants can learn this side of Hades. Oh, what a den into which to send the fair face of a pure, young girl! What advantage might the take of its possession! What elues, and deep, hateful schemes might this trio of bad men track and plot till they had this innocent, thoughtless girl netted within their toils or wrested from her parents their hard-earned dollars as "hush money," till they had brought them to poverty and shame!

The next few days were days of feverish impatience for Uriah and Sadie. Both eagerly watched every mail, but the great, awkward farm hand, who sat opposite Sadie at table and parted his shock of dirty white hair exactly in the middle to gratify the taste of his affianced, Gertie Perkins, little suspected that Sadie had any interest in his expected letter.

The fifth day it came—an official looking document in a bulky blue envelope which Uriah stealthily opened behind his plate, but not so slyly as he thought, for both Emma and Sadie caught sight of the latter's photograph before he sufficiently recovered his astounded senses to conceal the bit of card-board.

"Oh, Em! wasn't it fun watching his face when he opened that letter!" Sadie exclaimed as soon as the girls were alone. "First he turned white, then red, then purple. He rolled those white eyes of his at me and kept slyly peeping at the picture of his supposed lady-love, between enormous mouthfuls of his dinner till I nearly screamed with the fun of it. I wonder what he will tell Gertie when he next visits her. I expect he will keep his sweetest smiles now for me until the climax is reached, and then I shall tell him just what a big simpleton we think him: how our letter reached the prophetess as soon as his own, and we trust that in the future he will spend his half dollars more wisely.

"It would be a good lesson for Uriah, Sadie, and your picture has come back all right, but supposing Mademoiselle had copies of it taken to distribute among silly and wicked young men who write her for a likeness of their future wife!"

"I never thought of that, Emma," Sadie said, suddenly checking her merriment. "But the woman would have no right to copy my picture, and of course, would not do so."

"I am afraid, Sadie, that people of her sort have very little principle. Anything is right to them that will coin them a dollar. But, I do not want to frighten you. Perhaps the picture was not copied or your post-office address noted, and when Uriah has had his lesson and returned your photograph the matter will end."

But it didn't. Hardly a month had passed after Uriah's sentimental, worried, mystified heart had been set at rest by Sadie's laughing explanation, and Gertie and himself placed on the same sweet terms as of old, a letter reached her from a dissipated, low-characteered fellow who lived in an adjoining town. He wrote with insulting freedom, claiming her as his future wife because the Fates had so decreed it. Asserting that he had consulted a sorceress of wonderful clairvoyant powers, who in answer to his queries had sent him a perfect likeness of her own pretty face with the assurance that "Sadie, a farmer's daughter of Newton Center," would be his life companion.

"Oh! Emma, Emma! What shall I do! That wretched creature did copy my picture, or Oscar Trombly, that miserable saloon-keeper at the east village, declares he holds one which he received from a necromancer that he consulted. And, worse yet, Emma, he writes he shall drive over next Saturday to commence our acquaintance. Emma, what shall I do!"

"Tell mother."

Her sister's answer was very brief and decided.

"I can't, Emma. Oh! I can't! It will almost kill mother to know my photograph may be in the hands of a legion of bad men, and that Oscar Trombly dared write me. Whatever shall I do! Oh, I wish I had never meddled with Uriah's affairs."

"You must tell mother, Sadie, there is no other way. She will think of some plan to get rid of that fellow so he will not trouble you."

A very quiet, shamed-faced girl it was that closeted herself an hour with her mother that afternoon, wholly unlike the flippant, spirited Sadie of old. When she again met Emma there were traces of tears on her flushed face.

"Mother is a darling; mother is tried gold," was all she said as she hurried past to her own room, for her heart was too full, then, to tell of the long, tender talk she had had with her mother, how she, Sadie, had promised to be more thoughtful, and not give way to her rash, venturing spirit, and that the mother had agreed to receive Mr. Trombly alone, if he should fulfil his word, and explain matters and secure the photograph so that her likeness should not be bandied about among the low fellows who haunted his saloon.

"And mother says," and here Sadie's voice trembled as though the title had suddenly grown very precious and sacred to her, "and mother says, father need never know a word about this for it would only worry him, and it shall be a little secret between herself and you and me. She is quite sure Oscar will not call here to trouble me but once."

He did not. Mrs. Danforth received him alone with gracious, lady-like dignity, which roused all the chivalry there was in the man, and when explanations had been given and he drove away, the picture he had obtained of Sadie, her mother held and also the promise that he would wholly drop the subject.

One other insult Sadie suffered in consequence of her rash act. The western mails soon after brought her a letter from an ignorant backwoodsman in the Michigan forests, saying a "gardner" of his had once met her in her home, and that he was "ready to swear" the inclosed picture was a likeness of herself which he had obtained from a clairvoyant woman who had agreed to send him a picture of the girl he was to marry. If she thought well of it, he wanted her to come out to "Pitch Pine station, Michigan," where he would "join her" and they would "git married."

Sadie read the missive with scarlet cheeks, then crowded both letter and photograph under a blazing fire brand, thankful one more of those hateful pictures was safe and could do no further mischief.

The old post-master at Newton Center could have told her—only he knew not that she was the one to tell—that half-a-dozen missives directed to "Sadie Perkins," waited delivery their allotted time at his office and then were remailed to the Dead Letter Office.

Well was it for her peace of mind that she did not know, and that the father never received the threatening note that was inclosed him by one of Mademoiselle's confederates, demanding two hundred dollars, else the "copying and distribution of your daughter Sadie's photograph among men and houses of ill repute will be continued."

HELEN AYRE.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE FIRST STEPS IN GAMBLING.

A little child in his mother's arms laughing and crowing over his ball of prize pop-corn, and a young man with flushed face and trembling hand bending over a gaming table, considered together form pictures apparently wholly incongruous, and as far apart morally as two worlds. Yet there is a subtle and magnetic link between the two, which if not severed in time, may, and probably will, make the last picture a fulfillment of the first.

Man as a rule despises the day of small things; Satan does not. And if, as seems to be the case, the gambling evil in its worst forms is seemingly more and more wide-spread, there is no occasion for surprise; a systematic training for it is now begun in earliest childhood, from which no class of people is exempt. With the first prize confection he is permitted to purchase, the baby, in whom some reason has dawned, takes his initial lesson. He draws from the package the brass ring or other knick-knack, for which he thinks he has not paid, and he is innocently delighted. He inhales with terror the miasmatic infection of getting something for nothing—a free gift—through the fascinating medium of uncertainty or chance.

As he grows older his training continues in multiplied lessons, on every hand, in every guise, suitable in attractiveness to his years and to his disposition. It may be a prize show, or some other gift enterprise; a competitive guessing match, or a so-called advertising scheme in which baits in the form of prizes are used to catch unwary customers for articles not salable through their own worth. It may be a mask of pleasure is adopted, a parlor game of poker, or progressive euchre including favors or prizes, of so trifling a nature, the immoral principle connected therewith seem scarcely apparent. It may be the lessons assume the form of schemes for benevolent or religious purposes; a raffle for the benefit of some needy person, or a grab-bag, the buying and selling of votes for the most popular person, or beautiful young lady, and similar means used for raising money at church fairs.

It may be said however, parenthetically, church fairs with gambling attachments are becoming year by year gratifyingly less common.

What is the logical, nay almost inevitable sequence to a young man who has been brought up in the corrupting atmosphere of prizes, and rewards of chance? Is it not that he is ready and eager for the new and more serious gambling engagements offered him by opportunity? He finds betting an essential element, in the otherwise healthy amusement he obtains from base-ball matches, horse-races and regattas. He raffles for his own benefit, and buys lottery tickets with perfect impunity from his conscience. Finally his blood becomes thoroughly poisoned, and he is under the complete control of the gambling malaria. With feverish recklessness he risks not only his own, but other peoples' money in Wall street, in grain speculations, etc.; he usually loses in the end, and although up to that time, his life has been what the world with its many lax opinions calls respectable, he ends his career in a prison, or in foreign lands, a fugitive from justice, or perhaps more frequently the raging fever demands quicker satisfaction; it leads its victim to the gambling saloons, where a votary to the hopes of chance, and the dupe to its delusions, he spends night after night, till money, reputation, health, and sometimes life are sacrificed.

It would not be necessary to recount these unpleasant and well-known facts, if the real sin, the lack of principle underlying all gambling, was more generally recognized and acted upon.

It is doubtless often argued with truth, that the worst fate is not inevitable to those who to rough life engage in the many forms of petty gambling. Yet this worst fate is the consequence which the gambler invariably risks, just as the wine-drinker risks the possibility of becoming a confirmed inebriate. And no matter what are the final results to the gambler's worldly prospects, or to his physical nature, his moral nature never escapes injury, if it is not irreparably damaged, by continued indulgence in any, even the smallest form of gambling. It is almost self-evident that the practice is wholly inconsistent with a high sense of honor or scrupulous honesty. Therefore, besides the direct and discernible effects of the gambling spirit, we may without exaggeration attribute to its demoralizing influence many other lapses from the straight path of virtue.

But, many will say "we know too well the sorrowful effects of gambling, and we realize the sin; tell us of a remedy." The only positive remedy for gambling is conviction of its sin. But moral reformers and others have discovered how almost impossible it is to define the actual sin in gambling in such a way, as to clearly convince the vast number of people who see no other harm in it than that which is connected with its financial results. And for this reason the ounce of prevention is, most emphatically in respect to gambling, worth more than the pound of cure. For while conviction of sin is indispensable to the perfect reformation of those who are old in sin, the innocent child may be readily taught to avoid that which he is simply told is sinful.

It is a fallacious and mistaken idea to suppose, where children are concerned, moral teaching should always be accompanied with a reason for the rightness or wrongness of human action. The formation of good habits in earliest childhood is universally conceded to be the surest method of attaining the best development of character. Parents and teachers the elore, must, in many things, exact blind obedience from children until the reasoning powers of the latter have become strong enough to be appealed to. And to cause moral teachings to sink deep into their hearts, and become a part of their lives, children need nothing more than faith in the love and wisdom of their parents and teachers. And experience has taught us the power of a moral precept to find acceptance from the reason and intellect, after it has first caused a good habit to become early and firmly fixed. In other words, the virtue which follows faith will almost certainly in its turn be followed by knowledge.

Women, it is sometimes asserted, have stronger intuitions and finer moral perceptions than men. If this be true, there is a peculiar responsibility resting upon all women, and upon mothers in particular, in regard to the gambling evil. If mothers alone could be roused to a sense of their duty and power in this matter, they would certainly give it more serious thought and by their increased vigilance, prevent the entrance of any form of the evil into their households.

Oh that the innocent little ones at least, fresh and pure from the hands of their Creator, might be more carefully guarded and more frequently warned! For a sin so complex in the nature of its sinfulness, and so insidiously attractive is the most certain to entrap the innocent and unwary.

From a strictly social and economical point of view, though the law permits many of these minor forms of gambling to exist, a society or community which looks upon them lightly, or otherwise than dangerously vicious, is playing with fire. It is the toleration of these lesser forms of the evil, that creates a social atmosphere favorable to the growth of the greater. It is these lesser forms which furnish most abundantly the oil for the flame of the terrible gambling spirit so disastrous to the welfare of society, and which is to so great an extent responsible for the social troubles in our country.

MARY E. CARDWELL.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE LAST DAY.

BY JOSIAH ALLEN'S WIFE.

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Wall, from that night, Miss Newman Coon attended to the meetins at the Risley school-house, stiddy and constant. And before the week wuz out Peleg Jackman had walked home with her twice.

And the next week he carried her to Jonesville to get the cloth for her robe, jest like hisen, white book muslin. And twice he had come to consult her on a Bible passage, and twice she had walked up to his mother's to consult with her on a passage in the Apockraphy. And once she went up to see if her wings wuz es deep and full es hisen. She wanted 'em jest the same size.

Miss Jackman couldn't bear her. Miss Jackman wuz a woman who had enjoyed considerble poor health in her life, and she had now, and had been havin' for years, some dretful bad spells in her stomach, a sort of a tightness acrost her chest.

And Newman's wife argued with her that her spells had been worse, and her chest had been tighter. And the old lady didn't like that at all, of course. And the old lady had took thorough —jest for 'em, and Newman's wife insisted on't that thorough wert wuz tightenin'.

And then there wuz some chickens in a basket out on the stoop, that the old hen had deserted, and Miss Jackman wuz a bringin' 'em up by hand. And Mother Jackman went out to feed 'em while Newman's wife wuz there, and Newman's wife tosted her head and said "She didn't approve of it—she thought a chicken ought to be brought up by a hen."

But Miss Jackman said, "Why the hen deserted 'em; they would have perished right there in the nest."

But Newman's wife wouldn't gin in, she stuck right to it "That it wuz a hen's business, and nobody else's."

And of course she had some sense on her side, for of course it is a hen's business, her duty, and her prevelege, to bring up her chickens. But if she won't do it, why then, somebody else has got to, they ought to be brung."

I say Mother Jackman wuz in the right on't. But Newman's wife had got so in the habit of findin' fault, and naggin' at me, and the other relations, on Newman's side, and hern, that she couldn't seem to stop it, when she knew it wuz fer her interest to stop.

And then she ketched a sight of the alpacker dress Melinda wuz a makin', and she said that "Basks had gone out."

And Miss Jackman wuz over partial to 'em, (most too partial, some thought) and thought they wuz in the height of the fashion. But Newman's wife ground her right down on it.

"Basks wuz out, fer she knew it, she had all her new ones made polenay."

After hearin' 'em argue back and forth for more'n a quarter of an hour, Melinda put in and says, (she thinks all the world of Mother Jackman,) "Wall, I s'pose you won't take much good of your polenays, if you have got so little time to wear 'em."

And then Newman's wife, (she wuz meen-dispositioned, anyway) said sumthin' about "hired girls keepin' their place."

And then Mother Jackman flared right up, and took Melinda's part. And Pelek's face got red; he couldn't bear to see Melinda put upon, if she wuz makin' fun of his religeon. And Newman's wife see that she had gone too fur, and held herself in, and talked good to Melinda, and flattered up Pelek, and he went home with her, and staid till ten o'clock.

They spent a good deal of this time, a huntin' up passages to prove their doctrine, in the Bible, and the Apockraphy, and Josephus, and others.

It beat all how many Newman's wife would find, and every one she found Pelek would seem to think the more on her. And so it run along, till folks said they wuz engaged, and Josiah and me thought so, too.

And though Melinda wuzn't the one to say anything, she begun to look kinder pale, and manger. And when I spoke of it to her, she laid it to her liver. And I let her believe I thought so too. And I even went so far as to recommend tanser and camomile tea, with a little catnip mixed in—I did it fer blinders. I knew it wuzn't her liver that ailed her. I knew it wuz her heart. I knew it wuz her heart that wuz a achin'.

Wall, we had our troubles, Josiah and me did. Newman's wife wuz dretful disagreeable, and would argue us down, every separate thing we tried to do or say. And she seemed more high-headeder and disagreeable than ever sence Pelek had begun to pay attention to her. Though what earthly good his attention wuz a goin' to do, wuz more than I could see, accordin' to her belief.

But Josiah said "He guessed Pelek wouldn't have paid her any ottention, if he hadn't thought that the world wuz a comin' to a end so soon. He guessed he wouldn't want her round if it wuz a goin' to stand."

Says I, "Josiah, you are a judgin' Pelek by yourself." And he owned up that he wuz.

Wall, the mornin' of the 30th, after Josiah and me had eat our breakfast, I proceeded to mix up my bread. I had set the yeast over night, and I wuz a mouldin' it out into tins, when Newman's wife come down stairs with her robe over her arm. She wanted to iron it out, and press the seams.

I had baked one tin of my biscuit for breakfast, and I had kep 'em warm for Newman's wife, for she had been out late the night before to a meetin' to the Risley school-house, and didn't come down to breakfast. I had also kep some good coffee warm for her, and some toast, and steak.

She laid her robe down over a chair back, and sot down to her breakfast, but begun the first thing to find fault with me fer bein' to work on that day. She says, "The idee, of the last day of the world, and you a bein' found makin' riz biscuit, yeast ones!" says she.

"Wall," says I, "I don't know but I had jest es soon be found a makin' riz biscuit, a takin' care of my own household, es the Lord has commanded me to, es to be found a sailin', round in a book muslin Mother Hubbard."

"It hain't a Mother Hubbard!" says she.

"Wall," says I, "I said it for ortiory. But it is puckered up some like them, and you know it." Hers wuz made with a yoke.

And Josiah sat there a fixin, his plantin' bag. He wuz a goin' out that mornin' to plant over some corn that the crows had pulled up. And she bitterly reproved him. But he says, "If the world don't come to a end, the corn will be needed."

"But it will," says she, in a cold haughty tone.

"Wall," says he, "if it does, I may as well be a doin' that, as to be settin' round." And he took his plantin' bag, and went out. And then she jawed me for upholdin' him.

And says she es she broke open a biscuit, and spread it with butter previous to eatin' it, says she, "I should think respect, respect for the great and fearful thought of meetin' the Lord, would scare you out of the idea of goin' on with your work."

Says I calmly, "Does it scare you, Newman's wife?"

"Wall, not exactly scare," says she, "but lift up, lift up far above bread, and other kitchen work."

And again she buttered a large slice, and I says calmly, "I don't suppose I should be any neerer the Lord than I am now. He says He dwells inside of our hearts, and I don't see how He could get any neerer to us than that. And anyway, what I said to you I keep a sayin', that I think He would approve of my goin' on calm and stiddy, a doin' my best for the ones He put in my charge here below, my husband, my children, and my grand-children," (I some expected Terzah Ann and the Babe home that day to dinner.)

"Wall, you feel very diffrent from some wimmen that wuz to the school-house last night, and act very diffrent. They are good, Christian females. It is a pity you wuzn't there. P'raps your hard heart woul' have been melted, and you would have had thoughts this mornin' that would soar up above riz biscuit."

And es she says this she begun on her third biscuit, and poured out another cup of coffee. And I, wantin' to use her well, says "What did they do there?"

"Do!" says she, "why it wuz the most glorious meetin' we have ever had. 3 wimmen lay at one time perfectly speechless with the power. And some of 'em screemed so you could hear 'em fer half a mile."

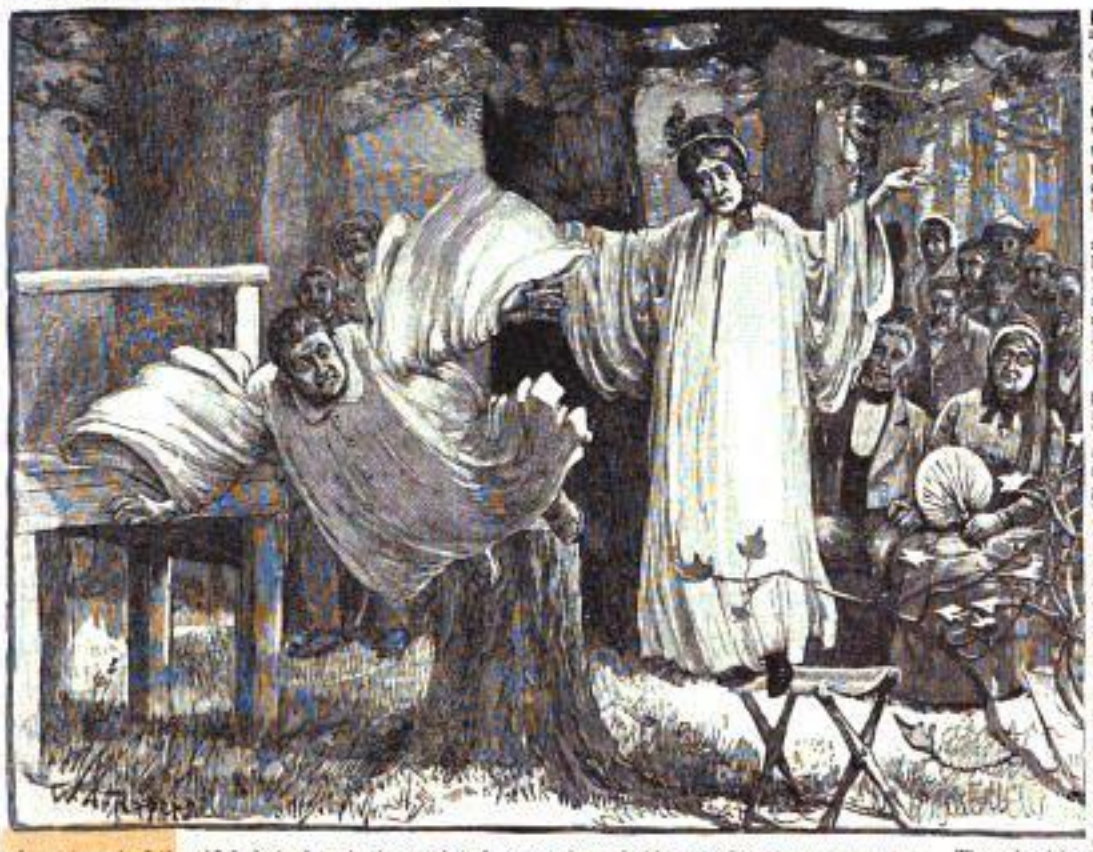
I kep on a mouldin' my bread out into biscuit, (good shaped ones too, if I do say it) and says calmly: "Wall, I never wuz much of a screemer. I have always believed in layin' holt of the duty next to you, and doin' some things, things He has commanded. Everybody to their own way. I don't condemn yourn, but I have always seemed to believe more in the solid, practical parts of religeon, than the ornimental. I have always believed more in the power of honesty, truth, and justice, than in the power they sometimes have at camp, and other meetins. Howsumever," says I, "I don't say but what that power is powerful, to the ones that have it, only I wuz merely observin' that it never wuz my way to lay speechless or holler much—not that I consider hollerin' wrong, if you holler from principle,—but I never seemed to have a call to."

"You would be far better if you did," says Newman's wife, "far better. But you hain't good enough."

"Oh!" says I resevdly, "I could holler if I wanted to, but the Lord hain't deef. He says specilly, that He hain't, and so I never could see the use in hollerin' to Him. And I never could see the use of tellin' Him in public so many things es some do. Why He *knows* it. He *knows* all these things. He don't *need* to have you try to enlighten Him es if you wuz His gardeen—es I have heard folks do time and time agin. He *knows* what we are, what we need. I am glad," Newman's wife, says I, "that He can look right down into our hearts, that He is right there in 'em, a knowin' all about us, all our wants, our joys, our despairs, our temptations, our resolves, our weakness, our blindness, our defects, our regrets, our remorse, our deepest hopes, our inspiration, our triumphs, our glory's. But when He *is* right there, in the midst of our soul, our life, why, *why* should we kneel down in public and holler at Him?"

"You would be glad to if you wuz good enough," says she, "if you had attained unto a state of perfection, you would feel like it."

That kinder riled me up, and I says: "Wall, I have lived in this house with them that wuz perfect, and that is bad enough for me, without bein' one of 'em myself. For more disagreeable creeters," says I, a prickin' my biscuit with a fork, "more disagreeable creeters I never laid eyes on."



Newman's wife thinks she is perfect, she has told me so time and agin. Thinks she hain't done anything wrong in upwards of a number of years.

But she didn't say nuthin' to this, only begun agin about the wickedness and immorality of my makin' riz biscuit that mornin', and the deep disgrace of Josiah Allen keepin' on with his work.

But before I could speak up and take his part, for I *will* not hear my companion found fault with, by any female but myself, she had gathered up her robe, and swept up stairs with it, leavin' orders for a flatiron to be sent up.

Wall, the believers wuz all a goin' to meet at the Risley school-house that afternoon. There wuz about 40 of 'em, men and wimmen. And I told Josiah at noon, I believed I would go down to the school-house to the meetin'. And he, a feelin', I mistrust, that if they should happen to be in the right on't, and the world should come to a end, he wanted to be by the side of his beloved jardner, he offered to go too. But he never had no robe, no, nor never thought of havin'.

The Risley school-house stood in a clearin', and had tall stumps round it in the door-yard. And we had heard that some of the believers wuz goin' to get up on them stumps, so's to start off from there. And sure enough, we found it wuz the calculation of some on 'em.

The school-boys had made steps up the sides of some of the biggest stumps, and lots of times in political meetins men had riz up on 'em to talk to the masses below. Why I s'pose a crowd of as many as 45 or 48, had assembled there at one time durin' the heat of a campain.

But them politicians had on their usual run of clothes, they didn't have on white book-muslin robes. Good land!

Wall, lots of folks had assembled to the school-house when we got there, about 3 o'clock p. m. —afternoon. Believers, and world's people all a settin' round on seats and stumps, for the school-house wuz small and warm, and it wuz pleasanter out-doors.

We had only been there a few minutes, when Mother Jackman and Melinda walked in. Pelek had been there for some time, and he and the Widder Coon wuz a settin' together readin' a him out of one book. Melinda looked kinder manger, and Newman's wife looked haughtily at her, from over the top of the him book.

Mother Jackman had a worsted work-bag on her arm. There might have been a night-gown in it, and there might not. It wuz big enough to hold one, and it looked sort o' bulgy. But it wuz never known—Miss Jackman is a smart woman. It never wuz known what she had in the bag.

Wall, the believers struck up a him, and sung it through—es mournful, skeerful sort of a him es I ever heard in my hull life; and it swelled out and riz up over the pine trees in a wailin', melancholy sort of a way, and wierd—dretful wierd.

And then a sort of a lurid, wild lookin' chap, a minister, got up and preached the wildest and turbidest discourse, I ever heard in my hull days. It wuz enough to scare a snipe. The very strongest and toughest men there turned pale, and wimmen cried and wept on every side of me, and cried and wept.

I myself didn't weep. But I drawed neerer to my companion, and kinder leaned up against him, and looked off on the calm blue heavens, the serene landscape, and the shinin' blue lake far away, and thought—jest es true es I live and breathe, I thought, that I didn't care much, if God willed it to be so, that my Josiah and I should go side by side, that very day and minute, out of the certainties of this life into the mysteries of the other, out of the mysteries of this life, into the certainties of the other.

For, thinks I to myself, we have got to go into that other world, pretty soon, Josiah and me have. And if we went in the usual way, we had got to go alone, each one on us. Terrible thought! We who had been together under shine and shade, in joy and sorrow. Our 2 hands that had joined at the alter, and had clung so clost together ever sence, had got to leggo of each other down there in front of the dark gateway.

Solemn gateway! so big that the hull world must pass through it—and yet so small that the hull world has got to go through it alone, one at a time.

My Josiah would have to stand outside and let me go down under the dark, mysterious arches, alone—and he knows jest how I hate to go anywhere alone, or else I would have to stop at the gate and bid him good-bye. And no matter how much we knocked at the gate, or how many tears we shed onto it, we couldn't get through till our time come, we had *got* to be parted.

And now, if we went on this clear June day, through the crystal gateway of the bendin' heavens—we two would be together for weal, or for woe. And on whatever new strange landscape we would have to look on, or wander through, he would be right by me. Whatever strange inhabitants the celestial country held, he would face 'em with me. Close, close by my side, he would go with me through that blue, lovely gateway of the soft June skies into the City of the King. And it wuz a sweet thought to me.

Not that I really *wanted* the world to come to a end that day. No, I kinder wanted to live along for some time, for several reesons: My pardner, the babe, the childern, etc.; and then I kinder like to live, for the *sake* of livin'. I enjoy it.

But I can say, and say with truth and solemnity, that the idea didn't scare me none. And es my companion looked down in my face as the time approached, I could see the same thoughts that wuz writ in my eyes a shinin' in hisen.

Wall, es the pinter approached the hour, the excitement grew nearly, if not quite, rampant. The believers threw their white robes on over their dresses, and coats, and es the pinter slowly moved round from half-past-three to quarter to 4,—and so on—they shouted, they sung, they prayed, they shook each others' hands—they wuz fairly crazed with excitement and fervor, which they called religeon—for they wuz in earnest, nobody could dispute that.

Pelek and Miss Coon kinder hung together all this time—though I ketched him givin' several wistful looks at Melinda, as much as to say "Oh, how I hate to leave you, Melinda!"

But Miss Coon would roust him up agin, and he would shout and sing with the frienziedest, and most zealousest of 'em.

Mother Jackman stood with her bag in her hand, and the other hand on the puckerin' string. I don't say what she had in the bag, but I do say this, that she had it fixed so's she could have ondone it in a secents time. And her eyes wuz intent on the heavens overhead. But they kep calm and serene and cloudless, nothin' to be seen there—no sign, no change—and Ma Jackman kep still and didn't draw the puckerin' string.

But on, how excitement reined and grew rampant around that school-house! Miss Coon and Pelek seemin' to outdo all the rest, (she always did try to) till at last, jest es the pinter swung round to the very minute, Pelek, more than half by the side of himself, with the excitement he had been in fer a week, and bein' urged onto to it by Miss Coon, es he says to this day, he jumped up onto the tall stump he had been a standin' by, and stood there in his long white robe, lookin' like a spook, if anybody had been calm enough to notice it, and he sung out in a loud clear voice—his voice always did have a good honest ring to it:

Farewell my friends,
Farewell my foes;
Up to Heaven
Peal Jackman goes.

And jest es the clock struck, and they all shouted and screemed, he waved his arms, with their two great white wings a flutterin', and sprung upwards, expectin' the hull world, livin' and dead, would foller him—and go right up into the heavens.

And Newman's wife bein' right by the stump, waved her wings and jumped too—jest the same direction es he jumped. But she only stood on a camp chair, and when she fell, she didn't crack no bones, it only jarred her dretfully, and hurt her across the small of her back, to that extent that I kep bread and milk poultices on day and night for three weeks, and lobelia and catnip, half and half.

She a arguin' at me every single poultice I put on, that "it wuzn't her way of makin' poultices, nor her way of applyin' of 'em."

I told her I didn't know of any other way of applyin' 'em to her back, only to put 'em on it.

But she insisted to the last that I didn't apply 'em right, and I didn't crumble the bread into the milk right, and the lobelia wuzn't picked right, nor the catnip.

Not one word did she ever speak about the end of the world—not a word—but a naggin' about everything else.

Wall, I healed her after a time, and glad enough wuz I to see her healed, and started off.

But Pelek Jackman suffered worse and longer. He broke his lim in 2 places and cracked his rib. The bones of his arm wuz a good while a healin', and before they wuz healed he wuz wounded in a new place.

He jest fell over head and ears in love with Melinda Filkins. For bein' shut up to home with his mother and her (his mother wouldn't bear to Melinda's leavin' her for a minute) he jest seemed to come to a full realizin' sense of her sweet natur, and bright, obleegin' ways; and his old affection for her bloomed out into the deepest and most idolatrous love—Pelek never could be mejum.

Melinda, and good enough for her, held him off for quite a spell—but when he got cold and relapsed, and they thought he wuz goin' to die, then she owned up to him, that she worshipped him—and always had.

And from that day he gained out. Mother Jackman wuz tickled most to death at the idea of havin' Melinda for her own girl—she thinks her eyes on her, and so duz Melinda of her. So it wuz agreeble, es anything ever wuz all round specelly, if not agreebler.

Jest es quick es she got well enough to walk, and before he got out of his bed, Newman's wife walked over to see Pelek. And Pelek's mother hatin' her so, wouldn't let her step her foot into the house. And Pelek wuz glad on't, so they say.

Mother Jackman wuz out on the stoop in front of the house, when Newman's wife got there, and told her they had to keep the house still; that is they say so, I don't know for certain, but they say, that Ma Jackman offered to take Newman's wife out to see her chickens, the ones she had brought up by hand, and Newman's wife wantin' to please her, so's to get in, consented. And Miss Jackman showed her the hull 13 of 'em, all fat and flourishin',—they wuz well took care of. And Miss Jackman looked down on 'em fondly, and says:

"I lay out to have a good chicken pie the day that Pelek and Melinda are married."

"Married!" says Newman's wife, in faint and horrified accents.

"Yes, they are goin' to be married jest as soon as my son gets well enough. Melinda is fixin' a new dress fer me to wear to the weddin'—with a bask," says she with emphasis. And es she said it, they say she stooped down, and gathered some sprigs of thoroughwort, a mentionin' how much store she set by it, for sickness.

But if she did, Newman's wife didn't sense it, she wuz dumbfoundered and set back by the news. And she left my home and farewell, the week before the weddin'.

They have been married over a year now, and Melinda wuz here a visitin' yesterday—and she asked me in confidence (and it *must* be kep, it stands to reason it must,) "If I s'posed that book-muslin robe would make two little dresses?"

"And I told her, "Good land! yes, three on 'em," and it will.

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70 THIRD ST., LOWELL, Jan., 29, 1887.

ED. HOME JOURNAL:—I have just received the February number of the JOURNAL, and see that my old subscription has expired I enclose the amount for another year, as I think it the best paper of the kind I ever saw, *especially* for so *small* a sum; and I should miss it very much if it failed to make its appearance when due.

I do not know that I can select any especial part, that I enjoy, unless it is the "Mother's Corner," which I am interested in, having been the mother of four little ones, the eldest now a few months over four years, and the youngest, two months old, and writing of them makes me think that I have something to suggest in the way of a bed, which may help some of the mothers who read the JOURNAL.

I wished to have two of my little ones (aged respectively three and four years,) sleep together in a room adjoining my own, but I did not dare trust them without a protection against falling out of bed. I put on my "thinking cap," and having had it on for several days, I finally interviewed a carpenter, and telling him the result of my thoughts, had him make a piece similar to the side of a crib, which sets down between the springs and the side of the bed. It is perfectly stationary without any fastening, then I had him make another piece which divides the bed the *other way* and hooks on to the springs at both sides, putting it on over the mattress after the bed is made up with one sheet, as I would for any bed—then I made upper sheets and blankets to fit my *two* beds, which are *longer* and *wider* than any crib that you can buy, and will last the children for several years. I use the side that comes next to the wall for the head of the beds.

This would be especially nice for any one short of rooms, as it does not injure the bedstead, and takes apart, so that you can use the bed as usual any time you like. I have used mine about a year, and it works to a charm. The children sleep separately, and are in no danger of falling out to injure themselves in any way.

Perhaps my bed will help some other mother, who has a number of young children near of an age, to stow them away safely at night.

Yours truly, MRS. W C. K.

DEAR JOURNAL SISTERS:—Can any one tell what we are to do, when our beloved JOURNALS, through much handling, finally fall to pieces? I have mine all fastened together, but the oldest ones are getting so woefully tender that I am almost afraid to handle them at all. I wish they were like the nursery books—printed on cloth. But, "too bright too beautiful to last," will have to be said of them as well as of a good many other things. * * * * One thing that I have never seen mentioned in the JOURNAL is—lancing babies' gums while teething. When our first baby was cutting his teeth, he had several feverish spells, and two or three times, his fever was so high as to cause spasms. Of course, we sent for a physician, who after giving him medicine to quiet him, and lessen the fever, would examine his gums, and if they were much swollen and inflamed, would always lance them. I watched the operation closely, and noted the good effect that always followed, and concluded I *could* do that myself, as well as to send for a physician. Our children nearly always have spasms if they get feverish, and we have to be careful to remove the cause, and if I notice them closely and see they are nervous and not just right, and find the gums swollen, I do not wait for them to get sick, but just deliberately sharpen my little knife, and cut the gum down to the protuding tooth, and the bleeding that follows, causes instant relief. "Oh, the horrid creature!" I hear some of you exclaim. Well, you can suffer from the dread of those spasms as I have done, and I think you will get so you might do even that. And besides, I do not believe it causes them any great pain. As proof of this, when one of my little girls was about twenty months old, she had a double tooth that was very slow about coming through, and was very much inflamed; and fearing I would have trouble with her, I concluded to lance it. I knew she would struggle if I tried to hold her, and she was so large she was almost more than I could manage. I thought I would try another plan. I said "Baby, if you will let me cut your gum, I will take you across the street to Auntie ——'s," a place she dearly loved to go. She nodded her bright little head and coming up to me opened her mouth. I told her she must be still, and steadying her chin with my hand cut through the gum down to the tooth, deeper, than I expected to have cut it, but she never flinched, and coolly spitting out the blood, said, "Now where bonny" (bonnet.) The tooth soon came through without further trouble. The doctor said, in speaking of it afterwards, that the gum became so tough that it was almost impossible for a tooth to come through.

THORNY POPPY.

BLACKFOOT, IDAHO.

DEAR FRIENDS:—Do you want to hear from one who lives

Where the lonely winds do blow
On the plains of Idaho?

I can sympathize with the lady from Texas in her appreciation of the JOURNAL. In these isolated places one really *lives* only at mail times. Still we manage to exist pretty comfortably at other times.

I want to come in as a minor echo to "Thorny Poppy's" talk about "rocking the baby to sleep." While we all know that children, especially young babies, need a great deal of letting alone, still the mother love must be about them like an atmosphere, and a mother should have time to cultivate her own and the child's affections. I pity the mothers who can snatch only a few hurried moments to give to their darlings.

"I don't know what I would do if it wasn't for the baby," said a tired mother to me as she sat down to nurse the little fellow.

I looked out at the half-dozen noisy children playing in the yard and then back at the thin face, bent form and worn hands, all telling of toil far beyond her strength.

She saw my puzzled look and her face flushed, "It rests me so," she said half apologetically, "to take his soft little body in my arms and hear his baby talk. See how he loves me!" How many a mother "puts off" the baby with an aching heart because work must be done or she thinks so. I know many are situated so that it is inevitable, but if it is possible to economize time in other ways, do it, and enjoy your babies while you can.

"Judie," I am a Yankee on my mother's side. Though born and brought up on the Pacific coast, I often feel the *Yankee* in me.

"Fanny Ferry," you are right about the folly of giving to children food which they cannot properly masticate. I have seen mothers give unpeeled apples to babies with only four teeth, two above and two below, and complacently watch them in their earnest endeavors to swallow the chunks they could bite off.

"Well, she just will have it," laughingly remarked one lady by way of excuse.

I saw a mother give her little girl of three, a huge slice of bread thickly spread with butter, then a handful of candy, then an apple, *then* a dose of worm medicine, all within two hours of breakfast time.

"Poor child, she don't eat anything at the table," said the mother. How could she?

"One last remark I wish to make," if any one encourages me I will tell how I made a satisfactory play-house for my baby.

Yours in suspense, L. A. G.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HOME-MADE TOYS.

BY FREDERICA KUNZE.

Why is it that children care so little for expensive toys? One reason may be, that they are so frail as well as elegant, that the child has to be constantly cautioned not to injure them, and the restraint thus put upon him destroys all pleasure in the toy.

But I think by far the greater reason is, that the toys of to-day, though wonderful in mechanism, and beautiful to look at, are so elaborate and complete that they leave nothing for the child to imagine; and what is childhood worth without the vivid imagination which changes the most prosaic surroundings into a very fairy-land. Are any French china, or even, silver-plated little dishes, half so lovely or so prized as the pieces of broken crockery, or scraps of tin with which our country children decorate their cob houses, and which are palaces of beauty, because they can "make believe" anything they please about them.

Something, no doubt, vastly more splendid than the mind of man can conceive of, and which only a child can appreciate and enjoy.

The trouble with children now-a-days, is, that they have too many toys. Consequently, the instant the novelty is worn off the toy is of no further use to them, and they throw it aside and ask for something new; whereas, an old home-made toy is always new, if the child's own fancy is allowed full sway.

My feet are resting now upon a green wooden bench, named Willy, which for seventeen years has been the joy of our nursery. It is almost impossible to tell of the many forms it has assumed, since it propped Grandma's feet, while she gave the first baby his first bath. Sometimes a horse, sometimes a boat, or one of a train of cars, but always Willy, when dolls fell short, or an extra audience was needed. How that bench has been hugged and kissed, bathed, and put to bed! I believe it has even died and been buried, some rainy days, when a melancholy mood pervaded the nursery.

There's old Sarah, too, a rag doll of most extraordinary features, who is dearly loved, though she retires into the closet sometimes for weeks together, (or so long as the wax and bisque beauties of the holidays survive,) always reappearing bright and smiling as ever, without a shade of jealousy or disapproval on her beaming countenance.

One stormy winter a party of young folks were droneing about the fire, wishing for something to pass away the time, for they lived several miles out of town, and had been "snowed up" for more than a week, the deep drifts and cold winds making it unsafe for even horses to venture out. Suddenly one exclaimed, "Why! to-morrow will be Baby's birthday! How can we get him any presents?"

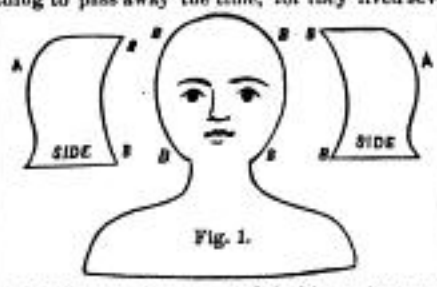

Fig. 1.

Immediately all were alive. Martha rushed to the store-room to see if there were raisins and citron enough for a birthday cake, while Mary retired to the window-seat to compose a hymn for the occasion. John and Nellie, the "boys" of the family, discussed ways and means till a bright thought struck Nellie: "Jack! I If you will carve a sheep, I'll cover it with my old lamb's wool muff."

So Jack searched the wood-shed for a soft block of wood, while Nell rummaged through the trunks in the garret, for the little muff which had been the pride of her childhood, and before long they were merrily at work. Jack, who was a born whittler, soon fashioned a very respectable lamb's head, and when the body was covered with the soft wool, and four legs inserted, with a little touching up with white paint, the whole family was called to admire, and never were such encomiums passed upon the most gorgeous lamb that ever came from top-shop. Baby's birthday was a most happy one, and the sheep was treasured and admired by little nephews and neices, after Baby himself had gone to college. A few years later, the same deft fingers which made the never-to-be-forgotten sheep, carved also, a set of wooden chess to while away the dreary hours in hospital, and now, chessmen and lamb are laid away as relics of the "laddie who was lost in the war."

But I've wandered from my subject. A lady once said to me, "I don't enjoy Christmas half so much, now that I can afford to buy toys for my children, as when I used to have to make them all." And no wonder, for her home-made toys were the most delightful things, calling forth all her ingenuity and skill. Let me try to describe some of them. First the doll. The body was copied from an old "boughten" one, but the head cost many an anxious thought. Finally the cloth was cut in five pieces, see figures 1 and 2. The two side-pieces in Fig. 1 were sewed together like a hood at A, forming the back of the head, and the face was joined at B. The two pieces (Fig. 2) joined at C make the back of the shoulders. Fig. 3 represents the completed head. It was covered first with two coats of flesh-colored paint, and then the hair and features were added. Such a doll as this has been known to last five years, and the paint is still bright and clear notwithstanding its frequent washings, to say nothing of its lying out in the rain for days together. A very pretty cradle can be made out of a ten cent basket, the top of a flour barrel (unless papa is ingenious enough to whittle out a more respectable pair of rockers,) some pink or blue paper-muslin, and thin white stuff to cover it. If the handle of the basket is not enough to shape the top of the cradle, strips of barrel hoop, or thick wire may be used (see Fig. 4) and as they are covered with the muslin, no one will be the wiser. Try it, and see what a strong, pretty cradle you will have, and how you will enjoy the making. The recipe for making a Horse, is this: Paint an old broom-handle, (after cutting off the broom part,) then take a black, or brown, cotton sock, cut a slit in the toe, about two or three inches long, for the mouth of the horse. Line this with pasteboard, covered with red flannel or stocking, and make a tongue of the same. Make round holes above the mouth for nostrils, also lined with red. Then stuff the head with cotton, or rags, and tie it to the broom-stick, covering the strings, etc., with a diamond shaped piece of stocking the same color as the head. Sew on two ears stiffened with pasteboard, make bridle, etc., of red braid, and eyes of large, flat buttons, (Fig. 5.) A white fur coat of baby's, which had outlasted its usefulness, was transformed into a whole menagerie of cats, dogs and rabbits, which were certainly quite as pretty as those in the shops.

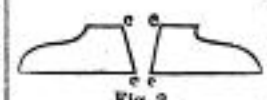

Fig. 2.

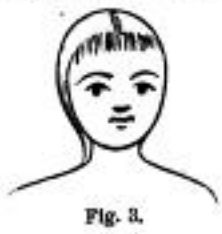

Fig. 3.

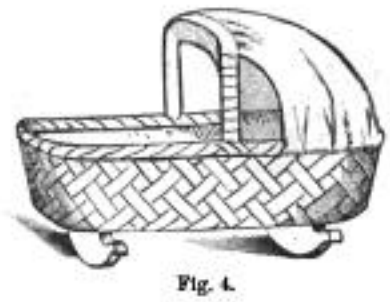

Fig. 4.

Elephants of grey cotton flannel are easily made, and very durable. Patterns of these, and other animals, may be procured at almost any pattern store. I saw once a beautiful home-made donkey, with basket panniers filled with make-believe vegetables, and a fantastic driver perched between. We have tried Steam-cars of wood, iron, tin and every available material, but none are more pleasing in the long run than paper boxes strung together with a cord, and a large spool for a smoke-stack. The reason children never tire of blocks, is because they can convert them into all sorts of things, making houses, cars, etc.; in fact, creating their own playthings. I find find also, that they enjoy the paper dolls and animals cut out by themselves much more than those they buy, the moral of all which is, that the ideal nursery should be stocked with a *few* good, well-made toys, and *plenty of material* upon which the child may exercise his fancy and ingenuity, thereby developing a dexterity and individuality which no child can gain, whose fond, but mistaken parents tire and bewilder him with a mass of toys, leaving him no chance to invent amusements for himself. One of these pampered children of a toy-shop nursery, looked disdainfully at a tail-less leg-less, nose-less horse with which a small boy was amusing himself. "Your papa ought to buy you a new horse." The little fellow looked up surprised, then with a tender, wistful glance at the battered beast who had shared so many frolics with him, he answered: "But I *like* Nell yet." Which child, think you, extracts most real happiness from his toys? It will be a mournful day for all the family when Nell's last fragment is consigned to the ash-barrel.

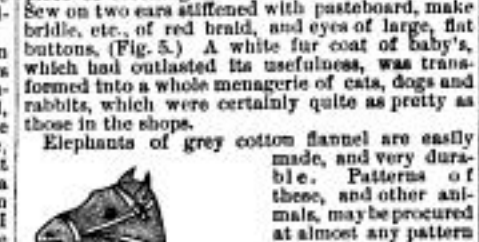

Fig. 5.

Before closing, let me describe an article, which is not exactly "home-made," since the assistance of a carpenter was needed, but the design originated in a mother's brain. It is an open horse-car, a low platform on castors, two or three seats securely fastened to the platform, four slight posts to support a canopy over the top, a high dash-board in front, a little gong, with a cord running along the roof, for the conductor's benefit, a brake of heavy wire with spool handle, and a box of paper toy money. The whole thing does not take up more room than an office table, and affords a world of enjoyment, to say nothing of its economy, in the saving of chairs and stands from destruction. A couple of chairs or a trunk with carriage robe spread over it, makes an excellent team, and as many children can be packed in as are grown folks in the horse-cars.

Fig. 6.

Season after season the dealers in cheap novelties, have endeavored to injure the reputation of our outfits, by offering a larger number of patterns, or a wonderful lot of articles *of a fabulous value.*

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For fifty cents I will send ten patterns for a baby's newest, a Health Wardrobe, or ten patterns first short clothes, Health Garments, at same price. Full directions for each pattern, also kind and amount of material required for each. MRS. F. E. PHILLIPS, (FAYE) Brattleboro, Vermont.

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

MARY F. KNAPP, EDITOR,
No. 20 Linden St., S. Boston, Mass.

Terms Used in Knitting.

K—Knit plain. P—Purl, or as it is sometimes called, Seam. N or K 2 tog—Narrow, by knitting 2 together. Over—Throw the thread over the needle before inserting in the next stitch. This makes a loop which is always to be considered a stitch, in the succeeding rows or rounds. Tw—Twist stitch. Insert the needle in the back of the stitch to be knitted, and knit as usual. Sl—Slip a stitch from the left hand to the right hand needle without knitting it. Sl and B—Slip and bind—slip one stitch, knit the next; pass the slipped one over it, exactly as in binding off a piece of work at the end. * indicates a repetition, and is used merely to save words. "Sl 1, k 1, p 1, repeat from * 3 times"—would be equivalent to saying sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1. Tog means together.

Terms in Crochet.

Ch—Chain; a straight series of loops, each drawn with the hook through the preceding one. Sl st—Slip stitch; put hook through the work, thread over the hook, draw it through the stitch on the hook. S c—Single Crochet; having a stitch on the needle (or hook) put the needle through the work, draw the thread through the work, and the stitch on the needle. D c—double crochet; having the stitch on the needle, put the needle through the work, and draw a stitch through, making two on the needle. Take up the thread again, and draw it through both these stitches. T c or Tr—Treble Crochet; having a stitch on the needle, take up the thread as if for a stitch, put the need e through the work, and draw the thread through, makin r three on the needle. Take up the thread and draw through two, then ta e up the thread and draw it through the two remaining. S t c—Short Treble Crochet; like treble, except that when the three stitches are on the needle, instead of drawing the thread through two stitches twice, it is drawn through all three at once. L t c—Long Treb le Crochet; like treble, except that the thread is thrown twice over the needle before inserting the latter in the work. The stitches are worked off two at a time, as in treble. Extra Long Stitch—Twine the cotton three times round the needle, work as the treble stitch, bringing the cotton through two loops four times. P—or picot; made by working three chain, and one single crochet in first stitch of the chain.

"Victoria" should sign her real name and address.—ED.

Can any one send directions for child's crochet leggings and drawers combined? READER.

Will some one tell me how to knit the old-fashioned shell tidy for back of chair?
C. A. MANN.

Can some one send tried directions for knitting or crocheting a sleeveless jacket for house wear?
K. E. S.

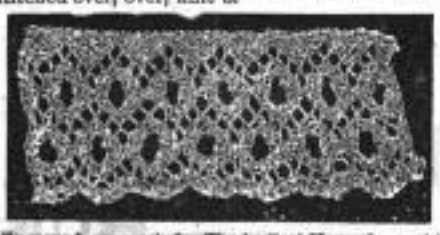
The 11th row in Deep Shell Lace, in Nov. No. should read thus: sl 1, k 1, o n, o n, k 7, o n, o n, over and narrow 4 times, k 16, o t, p 2 tog, o, p 2 together.

"Young Girl," Delphos, Ohio.—Send your name and address with 3 two-cent stamps to M. F. Knapp, 20 Linden St., S. Boston, Mass. I will send you the sample of chain you asked for.

If "Maggie," Trenton, will send her address with five 2 cent stamps enclosed, I will send her the directions she asks for. They have been in the JOURNAL, and cannot be reprinted.
M. F. KNAPP.
20 LINDEN ST., S. BOSTON, MASS.

English Lace.

Cast up 16 stitches, knit across plain.
1st row—Knit 2, thread over, knit 5, thread over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, thread over, knit 4,
2d row—Knit plain. (17 stitches.)
3d row—Knit 2, over, knit 1, narrow, thread over 3 times, slip 1, narrow, pass slipped stitch over, knit 1, over, slip 1, narrow, pass slipped stitched over, over, knit 5.



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

4th row—Knit plain to the three loops, make 3 stitches of the loops, by knitting 1, seaming 1, knitting 1, rest plain. (18 stitches)
5th row—Knit 1, narrow, over, narrow, knit 3, narrow, over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 3.
6th row—Knit plain, 17 stitches.
7th row—Knit 1, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 2.
8th row—Knit plain. (16 stitches)
9th row—Knit 1, narrow, over, slip 1, narrow, pass the slipped stitch over, over, knit 1, narrow, over 3 times, slip 1, narrow, pass slipped stitch over, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1.
10th row—Knit same as 4th. (15 stitches)
11th row—Knit 2, over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 3, narrow, over, knit 3.
12th row—Knit 16 stitches.
MRS. . McC.

Knitted Leaf Edging.

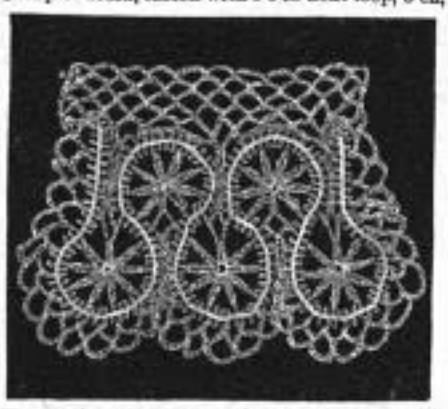
Cast on 14 stitches.
1st row—Thread over, knit 1, over, knit 3, narrow twice, knit 2, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1.
2d, and every alternate row is to be purled.
3d row—Thread over, knit 3, over, knit 1, narrow twice, knit 1, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1.
5th row—Thread over, knit 5, over, narrow twice, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1.
7th row—Over, knit 3, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, narrow, knit 1. Repeat from first row. LODEMA E. WHITE.

Bracket Lambrequin given as a present for a club of only 3 subscribers, at 50c. each per year. These lambrequins are made of felt, the same as the tidies, on any color you may choose; they are 12x30 inches in size, and are exceedingly ornamental when finished. We will send one of these lambrequins and the book of stitches, for only 2 new subscribers to the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

Feather Edge Braid Lace.

Fasten the thread in the first loop of braid, * 5 chain, skip 2 loops of braid, and fasten with single crochet in next loop, repeat from star twice, 11 chain, fasten with s c in the 4th stitch from the end of the ch; this forms a little ring at the end of ch of 11 stitches, *5 ch, skip 3 loops of braid, and fasten with s c in next loop, 5 ch, fasten with s c in the ring at the end of 11 ch; repeat from star seven times. 3 ch, fasten with s c in middle of ch of stitches below the ring, 3 ch, skip 3 loops of braid, fasten with s c in the next loop. *3 chain, fasten with s c in centre of ch of 5 stitches, which were made in the beginning of lace, 3 ch, skip 2 loops of braid and fasten with s c in next loop; repeat from star twice, 1 s c in the next 7 loops with 1 stitch crocheted between each loop.

Repeat from the beginning until you have the lace as long as desired, then begin on the other side of braid, *6 ch, skip 2 loops of braid, fasten with s c in next loop, repeat from star twice, 6 ch, skip 1 loop, fasten with s c in next loop, repeat from star once. *6 ch, skip 2 loops, fasten with s c in next loop, repeat from star 4 times. *6 ch, skip 1 loop, fasten with s c in next loop, repeat from star 3 times. 6 ch, skip 2 loops, fasten with s c in next loop, *5 ch, skip 2 loops, fasten with s c in next loop, repeat from star once. 10 ch, fasten with s c in 4th stitch from the end of chof 10 stitches, (this forms a litttle ring,) 5 ch, skip 1 loop of braid, fasten with s c in next loop, 5 ch,



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

fasten with s c in the ring. *5 ch, skip 3 loops of braid, fasten with s c in the next, 5 ch, fasten with s c in the ring, repeat from the star 5 times, 5 ch, skip 3 loops, fasten with s c in the next, 5 ch, fasten with s c in the ring, 2 ch, fasten with s c in the centre of ch below the little ring, 2 ch, skip 1 loop of braid, fasten in next loop, *2 ch, fasten in the centre of the ch of 5 stitches on opposite side of braid, repeat from star once. *6 ch, skip 2 loops, fasten in next loop, repeat from star once. *6 ch, skip 1 loop, fasten in next loop, repeat from star 3 times. 6 ch, skip 2 loops, fasten in next loop. *5 ch, skip 2 loops, fasten in the next loop, repeat from star once. Now crochet a ch of 10 stitches, and proceed as before. The second row of open work around the bottom is made by crocheting a ch of 7 stitches, and fasten with s c in centre of each loop of open work of preceding.

For the open work across the top, crochet a ch of 6 stitches and fasten with s c in every 4th stitch. As many rows of open work can be made across the top as desired. DOLLY.

Infant's Sacque in Crazy Stitch.

Materials: Three ounces Saxony, and a No. 1 bone hook.

These directions are for shaping the sacque not for teaching the stitch.

Make chain of 76 stitches.
1st row—Work 19 squares.
2d row—Work 5 squares, widen 1, work 9, not counting the one widened, again widen, work squares plain to end of row.
3d row—Work 10 squares, widen. This begins the widening for middle of back. Work squares to end of row.
4th row—Work 4 squares, widen, work 3, widen, work 8, widen, work 2, widen, work squares to end of row.
5th row—Work 13 squares, widen, work squares to end of row.
6th row—Work 4 squares, widen, work 5, widen, work 9, widen, work 5, widen, work squares to end of row.
7th row—Work 17 squares, widen, work squares to end of row.
8th row—Work 5 squares, widen, work 6 squares, widen, work 10 squares, widen, work 6, widen, work squares to end of row.
9th row—Work 18 squares, widen, work squares to end of row.
10th row—Work 6 squares, widen, work 7, widen, work 11, widen, work 7, widen, work squares to end of row.
11th row—Work 21 squares, widen, work squares to end of row.
12th row—Work 6 squares, join the point of the 7th to the point of the 15th of the preceding row. This forms the armhole. Continue till you reach the 30th square, join the point of this and the point of the 38th for the second armhole; work squares to the end. There will be 9 squares in each armhole.
13th and 14th rows—Plain without widening.
15th row—Work 6 squares, widen, work 6, widen, work 7, widen, work squares to end of row.
16th and 17th rows—Plain, without widening.
18th row—Work 7 squares, widen, work 8, widen, work 7, widen, work squares to end of row.
19th and 20th rows—Plain, without widening.
21st row—Work 8 squares, widen, work 8, widen, work 8, widen, work squares to end of row.
22d, 23d, 24th, 25th, 26th rows—Plain, without widening.

The work is turned at every row instead of breaking the thread.

Make a border of shell stitch with 6 double crochet stitches in each scallop, finishing with a purl edge, making 3 chains and fastening down with a short crochet stitch. Work the border across the neck for a collar.

In making the sleeves the work must be turned each round so that every other round is worked on the right side, same as the body of the sack. Work 9 rounds before putting on the border.

In many rows the number of squares beyond the widenings is uneven, so in finishing the row the number of squares is not given. The unevenness cannot be avoided on account of the peculiarity of the stitch; but if the sacque is worked exactly like directions it will be in good proportion and shape.

Long Crochet Purse.

Use Eureka purse silk F; three spools makes two purses, two bunches of steel beads, No. 8. Make a ch of 84 stitches, work once across in single crochet, then join it together. Work 3 rows more in s c, then work in 6 steel beads, then 6 plain stitches, repeat the 6 beads and 6 stitches, through the row; work 5 more rows like the last; this gives you a steel block and a plain silk block.

Alternate by working 6 beads over the plain silk block, and a plain silk block over the steel block. Do this until you have 6 rows of blocks. Work 4 rows plain. Now commence the opening in the centre, by making 2 ch and 1 d c in every third st through the row. At end of row turn, and work back, making 2 ch and 1 d c in top of 1 d c in last row. Repeat this last row until you have 21 rows, then join, and work 4 plain rows, (be sure and have 84 stitches) in s c, then put 1 bead in every st for one row. Next row—5 beads, 1 plain st, 5 beads, 1 plain st. Next row—4 beads, 2 plain stitches. Next row—3 beads, 3 plain stitches. Next row—2 beads, 4 plain stitches. Next row—1 bead, 5 plain stitches. Then 4 rows plain. Next row—1 bead, 5 plain stitches. Next row—2 beads, 4 plain stitches. Next row—3 beads, 3 plain stitches. Next row—4 beads, 2 plain stitches. Next row—5 beads, and 1 plain st. Then 7 rows with a bead in each st. The remaining rows, a bead in every st, narrowing off 6 stitches in each row, bringing the end to a point. Sew a tassel on this end, and fringe on the other end. After crocheting the opening, (d c) slip on both rings. In crocheting any bead work, the side held towards you is the wrong side. Make 3 ch at commencement of each row at the opening, in centre of purse.
M. F. K.

Knitted Wash Rag.

Take No. 12 white knitting cotton, and 2 of the largest steel needles that can be found. Cast up 54 stitches, knit ten or twelve rows plain; then begin the next row, knit ten stitches plain, thread over, slip the next stitch as if purling, knit 2 together and so on through the row, knitting the last ten stitches plain. Repeat the last row until the rag is sufficiently long, then knit ten or twelve rows plain like the first part. This rag is soft, and pleasant to use for infants. It may have been used a long time with some, with others it may be quite new. E. B. W.

Knitted Ball, in Sections.

(By request.)

Use zepayr worted or Saxony yarn. Cast on 30 stitches. Knit 20, turn, knit the 10 centre stitches, turn, knit 11, turn, knit 12, turn, knit 13, turn, knit 14, turn, knit 15; continue turning and knitting 1 each time back and forth, until the 30 stitches are all knit, then join on another color, knit in the same manner. When you have 4 of each color, (8 in all) bind off, fill with cotton, and sew up. I made one of coarse yarn and used wooden needles; my little boy calls it his foot-ball. They can be made to rattle by putting a small box inside with beans in it.
WEST POINT

Roman Stripe for Afghan.

1 row of white, 1 of blue, 1 of pink, 1 of blue, 1 of yellow, 1 of pink, 1 of white, 12 of blue.
1 row of white, 1 of blue, 1 of pink, 1 of blue, 1 of yellow, 1 of pink, 1 of white, 12 of black.
1 row of white, 1 of pink, 1 blue, 1 yellow, 1 white, 1 pink, 1 blue, 10 white.
1 blue, 1 white, 1 pink, 1 blue, 1 yellow, 1 pink, 1 white, 16 pink.
Repeat this to end of stripe. This is very pretty with plain stripes of black, or garnet. Mix 1 thread of yellow with three of color of plain stripe, for fringe.
This is more showy done in star stitch, although very pretty in afghan stitch. EVA.

Gentleman's Necktie Case.

Buy 14 inches of plush, 18 inches wide, and ¾ of a yard of surah silk or contrasting color. Take 2 pieces of pasteboard, 18 inches long and 6 inches wide; cover them with cotton wadding. These are put between the outside and lining; leave a space between them an inch and a quarter in the centre, so the case will fold easily. The plush is plain, finished with a large ribbon bow, same color as the lining. Shir the surah at top and bottom, leaving a little frill. Then put 3 bands of ribbon, (1 inch and a quarter in width same color as lining,) 1 in the centre "across," and the other two about 2 inches from each end. The middle one is stamped "Blest Be The Tie That Binds." The bands are caught down 3 times across. L. F.

BEAN BAG GAME.

Size of board: 28 inches long, 16 inches wide. Hole 5 and ½ inches square, 6 inches from the top, support 7 inches high, put on 4 inches from the top. 8 bean bags 6 inches square before the seam is taken, 1 bean bag 8 inches square, 1 teacup of beans in small bags, 2 in large. Any number can play, five times round is usually a game. Stand 15 feet from the board, try to throw all the bags into the hole, 100 is the highest you can get. The small bags count 10 in the hole, 5 on the board, minus 10 off the board. Jumbo, or the large bag, counts 20 in the hole, 10 on the board, minus 20 off the board. The one getting the highest number playing 5 times round wins the game.

Linen Splashers given as a present for a club of only 2 subscribers, at 50c. each per year and 10c. extra for postage and packing. These are designed to be placed back of a wash-stand to protect the wall from being spattered. They are embroidered mostly in outline with embroidery cotton or etching silk, and are washable. They are finished by fringing and drawn work, according to taste. We will send one splasher and three skeins of French cotton for a club of only 2 subscribers and 10c. for postage. We have all the new and latest designs. One of the most popular premiums we have to offer. Only six subscribers required to secure it. Easily done, by simply showing a copy of the paper to your friends and neighbors. Splashers mailed to any address, postage paid.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

BRUSH STUDIES AND HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

NEW SERIES—NO. XVI.

BY LIDA AND M. J. CLARKSON.

Landscape Painting Continued. A Novel and Beautiful Glass Screen. Queries, etc.

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It would be a difficult matter to lay down precise rules as to landscape painting, for innumerable are the methods in use with artists, no two, perhaps, being exactly identical, and yet each in its turn leading to a very similar result.

We can only give you what we consider the best system because based upon excellent authority, and tested in our own experience; and our aim will be to help, not to confuse you with perplexing theories and technics.

Our libraries are teeming with excellent works, both practical and theoretical, treating of color, principles of perspective, composition, etc., etc., so that it would be a folly for us to fill these columns with such matter. While we may sometimes touch upon these points lightly, we shall avoid, as far as possible, anything of this character.

"Keller's Elementary Perspective," "Cave's Color," "Fielding's Tints," are all books to be commended to the ambitious student; but their contents introduced here, would prove an infliction to the majority of readers.

The first thing to be done is to make your sketch. In landscape, as in flower painting, this is the beginning of a picture. The academy board is to be cut the proper size, and you then proceed to draw what we will term the skeleton of your landscape, for a landscape may have its skeleton as well as the human form. We may, with equal propriety, speak of the sketch as the anatomy of landscape. A tree, a building, a mountain, or mass of cloud may have its skeleton which will be useful to you in giving correctness of form, which is altogether necessary to the success of your picture. The surest way to secure it, is by means of this skeleton sketch, so called, because it gives only the main lines of construction, not the minute detail. The body of your skeleton is afterward put in with the brush, when clothed in masses of light and shade, it is made a complete whole.

Draw then at first the main outlines of your picture. The amount of time and care bestowed upon the simple sketch will not be thrown away, for by it is laid the basis of all the after work, besides which you acquire a certain familiarity with your subject, and an intelligent understanding of what you are about to do. Our advice in a previous number of Brush Studies is here reiterated. Make a sketch in black and white before proceeding with color, which is an excellent way of studying its values. When you are ready for the final painting, do not use the brush to sketch in the outlines. This will do very well for the experienced artist, but to model correctly with the brush implies a degree of facility possessed by very few. The average pupil is almost always so eager to get to painting, as to neglect the careful frame-work of the picture, which ought to have the most serious attention. We are emphatic upon this point, because so many failures may be traced directly to the cause—a hasty, incorrect sketch. Begin, therefore, by sketching your subject with exact precision as to form. "But," exclaims some one, "my outlines are so soon lost when I begin to paint, it seems like time wasted to take so much pains with them." This is a mistake; for if you proceed from the outline to filling in your skeleton in its first lay-in of simple masses, your drawing is preserved even when the outlines of your forms are obliterated. Details may be lost it is true; and it is for this very reason that the sketching of minute detail is unnecessary and useless. In all preceding studies we have, so far as possible, avoided the introduction of foliage into any of our designs; for while it is one of the chief beauties of landscape, it is also one of its greatest difficulties to the beginner. But there are some simple rules which will greatly assist you in this direction, and it is now necessary to turn our attention to this feature, as very few landscapes are devoid of foliage.

Our illustration shows a clump of trees, with the simplest of landscape accessories. A mass of foliage, of which a free outline sketch should be made, as also the form, or mass of earth in the foreground. The broad, free handling of the present day admits of liberties which would have been pronounced, at one time, venturesome, to say the least. The canvas is often covered at a sitting, getting all the broad effects in one painting. Then, if there is time and the picture is not too wet, the smaller variations of each mass—shadows, reflections, etc.—are carried on. Glazings and scumblings are resorted to but seldom; everything is painted in solidly at once. A great deal of color is laid on with the knife, a favorite instrument with artists for what is termed impasting; that is the painting of heavy projections, lights on water, or any points requiring opaque color. But this is something requiring experience to accomplish successfully, and is not to be recommended to the beginner. While the broad, free style of handling is our favorite method, we are not going to advise you to adopt it fully at the start. In time you will be able to do so, and will find it pleasanter, and more satisfactory than the older method. But some experience should be had in the mixing of tints, the modeling of form, and the study of general effect first. Instead, you will begin with what is termed the *dead coloring*, which is a sort of sepia drawing, or a stain, or wash, to be laid on thinly.

Study the scheme of light and dark, carefully noting each distinction of form, putting this color on the darks, thinner on the medium darks, and darker in the deepest accents of shadow, leaving lights clear. This under painting will dry very quickly, and while it is drying the sky may be painted, after which the other colors can be worked in. A flat, bristle brush, one of those termed "Brights" is best for the first, or dead coloring. Take out upon the palette a little burnt sienna and black, thin with turpentine, and after tracing over the charcoal lines, outline each form, for every shadow has its distinct form, and there is a line where shadows and lights meet. These shadows are next to be covered flatly, giving the simple effects alone; and is considered an advantage in imparting a certain degree of warmth to the after painting.

The process very much resembles a wash drawing in India ink, where the paper is left clear in the lights, the masses washed in with different degrees of intensity in order to give them the necessary gradation of tint.

The one thing to be borne in mind, at this stage of the work, is the true form and position of each shadow. If these are rightly determined, little difficulty will be experienced with the after painting. While the first, or dead coloring is drying, begin with the sky. Use the short bristle brushes, and take short strokes crossing each other something in the form of a letter x, using plenty of color. The sky in our study is a dull neutral tint covered with fleecy white clouds, showing gray in the shadows. The combination, or palette for sky, is silver white, black, cobalt, and a trifle raw umber.

White is largely used in all sky tints, and other colors must be cautiously added, as a surplus of blue, black, or brown would spoil the effect. There is no rule for the proper admixture of tints, except that of the well-known painter who informed a questioner that he mixed them *with his brains*. Experience and observation will, in time, teach the proper proportion of each color. With a good study before you, it will not be found difficult to match tints, something as you would match the delicate wools, or floses of your crewel work, or embroidery, by trial and comparison. Now the masses of cloud are to be introduced, and you will note that the highest light is not upon their extreme edges, neither are the deepest shadows, which would fail to convey the idea of their spherical form. Paint them while the sky is still wet, softly blending their edges in with it. You will find that clouds require as careful modeling as to form, as does foliage. The more minute forms are painted in while the general mass is still wet, while the highest lights, when a trip and distinct, may be left until the work is nearly, if not quite dry. This will give brightness and solidity, and the paint can be laid on thickly without danger of mixing with the under color, producing what is termed "woolliness."

To make all this still clearer, we will sum up the method of procedure as follows: Paint your sky first, letting it encroach somewhat upon your cloud outlines. Next paint the cloud masses up to the outlines, then put in your middle tints, and finally the deepest shadows.

The foliage and bank claim our attention next. As a rule, you will find it better to paint your foliage in masses leaving details to be elaborated afterward. Lay these forms of light and shadow in properly, and you will be surprised to find how easily a few decided touches will give finish to your work. Beginners are apt to think that foliage is to be painted one leaf at a time, by stippling touches with a fine brush. To work up details thus in foliage is to detract from the general effect, and unless in the immediate foreground very little detail should be given to it. As already stated in description of clouds, the forms of the shadows should be carefully studied. The general mass of shadow has been already laid in with your dead color, now the middle accents of shadow may be painted, and afterward the lights, noting carefully their shapes, remembering that each light, and each dark, has its particular form, and it is the correct modeling of these forms, which gives you the right effect.

The shadows are now strengthened in the deepest accents, and any necessary detail added in finishing. Sable brushes, flat pointed, 5 and 11, are useful for final touches, while "Bright's" bristles are used for the general work. For dragging the lights and shadows together, or softening edges, or outlines, use a "Landseer" which is a long, thin bristle brush.

The bank in the foreground is a broken green, requiring same palette as for foliage:—That is for a general tone permanent, or Antwerp blue, white, light cadmium, ivory black, light red and raw umber. In the shadows, burnt sienna, white, raw umber and black. More cadmium and white will be needed in the lighter touches.

The rest of sketch is merely suggestive; little, if any detail, being given to it. The water, at left, repeats the sky tints, but is deeper in tone. Add more black and treat in same manner as the sky. You will always find that the expression of a picture depends upon its harmonious contrasts, not upon violent opposition of color. The amateur in his first efforts to transcribe nature, sees sky and water blue, and foliage green in a *positive* rather than a *comparative* manner, and fails to note the gradation of tone, the contrast of contrast, if we may be allowed the expression, the subtle effects of atmosphere, with the varied reflections of light and shade. But all this we will endeavor to make clearer in future lessons.

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]
SIMPLE LANDSCAPE STUDY.

HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

Our second illustration shows a novel fire screen which will doubtless find many admirers because of its cheapness and simplicity.

Procure from the sash factory, a window frame, one of the old-fashioned sort, set with at least twelve panes of glass. Have your carpenter set it upon strong block feet, as shown in design. The addition of trunk castors to these feet is an improvement and a convenience. The frame is to be stained, painted, ebonized, gilded, or bronzed, as suits the fancy. There are several methods of decorating this screen. The most desirable is that in imitation of stained glass. For this, glass or crystal colors can be had which are specially adapted to the purpose. They come in tubes, and are mixed with a flux, or medium. The more transparent colors should be used for the general work such as light gray, ultramarine blue, grass green, blue green, yellow, orange, sepia, purple, and crimson. Some tracing black is also necessary, with white for opaque effects. These colors may be used with stencils, or the pattern can be traced, by outlining the design on the reverse side of glass.

Ordinary tube oil paints, thinned with oil and varnish, will answer very well as a substitute for the regular crystal colors. Only the transparent, and semi-transparent colors should be used, in order to obtain the stained glass effects, and the work is carried on in the following manner:—Mix a little drying oil and mastic varnish for a medium, and outline at first the design, using either black, or a pale tint of the color to be employed in executing each design. After the outline is dry, lay in the color inside, thinning your paint to the proper consistency with the varnish and oil. If you have opportunity to study a good specimen of stained glass so much the better; you will be able to work in your tints more harmoniously. Lay on the paint as smoothly as possible, a small badger blender will assist in this. If the color does not dry quickly enough, add a little gold size to the oil. Instead of painting heavily, it is better to glaze a number of times until the required depth of color is had. Dry between each color, either in the open air, or by the fire, turning the painted side of your glass down to avoid all dust. If the colors are not sufficiently transparent, a coat of varnish afterward will render them more so; in fact, the whole painting should be thoroughly varnished when dry. For those unable to paint, or unwilling to make the attempt, there are glacier decorations very handsome, and easily applied. These are both effective and durable. Only the best imported kind is to be recommended. The mere paper imitations of stained glass are cheap in every sense of the word.

Yet another pretty method of decoration for this fire screen is, to have it set entirely with ground glass instead of the plain window glass. The rough, or grained surface, takes the paint easily, and affords a charming ground for floral designs. Delicate backgrounds can be given each pane, by painting upon the plain side with brilliant color, while the design itself is executed upon the rough surface.

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]
GLASS FIRE SCREEN.

This screen is rich and effective, and before the fireplace, or a sunny window, makes a warm and brilliant color piece.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"E. K.," Ills.—Treatment of Nasturtiums will be given in next number.

E. E. K.," Rochester, N. Y.—Your "November" sketch will be fully described in landscape lesson next month with sketch.

"C. L. C.," Ga.—Your query was answered by mail; but as your address was not given in full, letter may not have reached you. The address of Raphael Tuck and Sons, is No. 298 Broadway, New York.

"C. Moe," and "J. H. C.," Pa.—The October number of Brush Studies gave very explicit directions for pottery painting. This can now be had in "Second Series Brush Studies," in book form. The metallic effects may be had by using the bronze, or lustra colors. A dead color of paint and turpentine should be laid upon the glazed surface. After this is dry you can paint in the usual manner. Finish with ceramic glaze, or varnish. To obtain the deep red, required for the Jacqueminot rose, repeated glazings of madder lake are necessary. Into this glaze paint your shadows and high lights. The velvety appearance can only be had by a careful study of the lights. Such a surface absorbs, instead of reflecting light, and this effect is not to be obtained by the use of certain paints, as many ignorantly suppose, but by the proper disposition of light and shadow. Cherries were fully described in September number of Brush Studies.

"J. M. F."—You will find "Fowler's Hand Book," on Oil Painting, very useful. We have now "Brush Studies" second series.

"M. R. B."—An original and attractive design for mirror decoration will be given in next number.

"M. A. B.," N. Y.—For your three-leaved screen we would suggest, either some pretty floral design, or simple landscapes. The "Flamingo," "Owl," and "Heron" panels have been much used in combination for screen, and are very suitable. Canvas is the most durable and economical material you can use for mounting screen. A frame fastened together by hinges in the manner of inside window blinds, can be made by any good carpenter. Cover with lincrusta walton, and decorate to imitate any hard wood, or gild, ebonize, or bronze, as suits the fancy.

Several queries stand over to be answered next month.

***

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AND

PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER.

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Receipts.—The fact that you receive the paper is a proof that we have received your remittance correctly. If you do not receive the paper promptly, write us that we may see that your address is correct.

Errors.—We make them so does every one, and we will cheerfully correct them if you will write to us. Try to write us good-naturedly, but if you cannot, then write to us any way. Do not complain to any one else or let it pass. We want an early opportunity to make right any injustice that we may do.

NEW YORK OFFICE: Potter Building, 38 Park Row, Room No. 1.

W. S. NILES, MANAGER.

Our New York Office is for the transaction of business with New York advertisers.

Subscribers should not address any letters to that office.

Philadelphia, April, 1887.

Subscriptions must begin with the number current when subscription was received. We do not date back, even upon the most urgent request.

A handsome Shopping Bag given for only 10 subscribers. See full description on page 17 of the March number.

Your little girl can secure a lovely China Tea-Set, by getting up a club of only 6 subscribers. Another good premium, for the girls is the lovely Doll described in the December number.

Twenty pages again this month to accommodate advertisers. We have not curtailed the reading matter, and we never intend to, no matter how our advertisers crowd us. Our first duty is to subscribers. We shall always give them what we promise, and what they pay for.

Do you know there is the most valuable kind of information, to be found in our advertising columns? Women who never read advertisements make a great mistake and lose a great deal of interesting and instructive reading matter. You can make money reading these columns, oftentimes.

Old Father Time is stringing our days as beads upon a string.

If we take up this string and examine it, we find the colors varied—some black with despair or grief—some blue with depression—some green with envy—some red with shame—some white with the incense of good deeds, but all are there, every one—not one bead missing.

We will send a table scarf 18 inches wide and 50 inches long, made of any color felt desired, stamped on each end ready to be worked, with designs of your own choosing, either for Kensington embroidery, ribbon work, tinsel or outline embroidery. Given for only 4 subscribers to the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. For 15c. extra we will send 25 skeins of silk, assorted colors, with which to work the designs.

Tissue Paper Flower Outfit given for only 2 subscribers at 50c. each per year. The latest craze, and a very pleasant occupation. Our outfit consists of Book of Instructions for making paper flowers, our 60 samples of imported tissue and flower papers, samples of flowers, made up patterns and materials. Everything complete. Book of instruction gives every possible and minute detail, so clearly that any person can, with a little practice become an expert in this fascinating and beautiful art. Secure 2 subscribers and we will send this outfit postpaid.

THEORY vs. PRACTICE.

When men and women first start out in the world with all the enthusiasm and egotism of youth about them, they have quantities of theories as rules of action. To be sure, the long, steady rub with the world at large, modifies these theories vastly, and in some cases even reverses them; but there are some few who cling clear to the end, to some idea which no amount of adverse experience will shake. Prominent among these theories are those pertaining to health, and more especially to dress. Not long ago, some man propounded the theory, that neuralgia, in women, was owing to the fact that they drew their hair up to the top of the head, and left the back of the neck exposed. Candidly considered, is the back of a woman's neck any more exposed by a high dressing of the hair than is a man's neck, by having his hair cut with the clippers all the winter round, as do hundreds of men? Or, even theoretically, is neuralgia any more common now, than it was in the days when women wore their hair low on the neck?

With another it is perhaps red-flannel, one enthusiast going so far as to assert positively, that if one will wear red flannel one will never be sick, because he wears red flannel and he has excellent health. While, in point of fact, within a half-block of his house dwells a neighbor, encased in red flannel the year round, who is, nevertheless, in wretched condition. But does that shake the theory of No. 1? Not a bit of it!

It is always well for the youthful and enthusiastic to be reserved about giving their theories prominence, lest the time should arrive when, in the face of experience, they may desire to retire gracefully from some assumed *theory* in favor of *practice*, and may find it difficult so to do.

HONEST ADVERTISEMENTS.

We have wondered whether the publishers of prominent periodicals and newspapers, ever for a moment realized what a tremendous power for good or evil they commanded in their advertising columns. It seems to make little difference whether the paper be religious or secular, the result is the same; four-fifths of the publishers seem to be absolutely conscienceless in this respect. And yet surely, in all moral law they should be held as "accessory before the fact" to the frauds perpetrated through their pages.

Once in a while, even with the utmost caution, one will be deceived, and a bogus advertisement will creep in. But that is an accident which happens seldom in even a life-time of editorial work, and a conscientious publisher will do all in his power to make reparation for a wrong to which he is party, even though himself deceived.

When starting the JOURNAL, we made its a rule, fixed as that of the Medes and Persians, that every advertisement offered by us should be *genuine*. To this rule, and to the exceeding care we have exercised to keep rigorously to it, may be attributed much of our success. Reliable advertisers prefer to make themselves known in good company, and when they come across a paper which makes acceptance wait upon investigation, that is the paper for them.

Why, we have refused thousands of dollars worth of advertisements, cash down, because we did not consider the party likely to keep faith with our subscribers, or the article itself just what it should be.

What of it? We are bound to keep our pages free from reproach, and by this course we have gained the confidence, not only of the advertising but of the purchasing public.

When an advertiser sees his name in our columns, he has the satisfaction of knowing that the public will believe in the truth of his statements—when the purchasers see the advertiser's name in our columns, they have the satisfaction of knowing they will receive fair treatment at his hands. So that our system is satisfactory all round—no less to ourselves than others.

We do not pretend that we have no complaints of our advertisers, because occasionally we do, (some people would not be satisfied with anything,) but we always investigate and try to adjust the affair, and in every case we find the trouble due either to impatience upon the part of the purchaser or unavoidable delay upon the part of the advertiser.

Now we have but one more thing to say. The rigid care heretofore exercised will not be one whit abated in the future, and we do not hesitate to affirm that you will find in our columns such a collection of *reliable* advertisements as you will see in few other periodicals. Read them and see for yourselves.

PERIODICALS A MEANS OF EDUCATION.

There is much discussion among the learned, and those who give the matter thought, as to whether "ephemeral literature" as it is termed, does really some harm or good.

The verdict depends much upon whether education is to be regarded as a means, or as an end. From our point of view, education, to the masses, is a means and not an end. Those who acquire education for education's sake are so comparatively few as to be hardly worth mentioning. The tendency is to absorb rather than to acquire education, and now-a-days, many a man, woman and child is educated without knowing it, as it were. One may have neither time, money nor inclination to take up a solid book for thorough study, and at the same time find it literally impossible to read, even cursorily, a modern periodical, without getting information on almost every subject that engages the immediate attention of mankind at large.

Let us then have newspapers—dailies, weeklies, monthlies—periodicals and magazines of every description, for by them most surely is a practical literary education brought within the grasp of all. It is certainly a hopeful sign of the times that the old established "Readers" have been set aside in the Boston schools, and current publications allowed to take their place. Such a change indicates healthy revolution. Children have been taught reading too commonly without being made to comprehend its every-day usefulness. Within the last twenty years many a boy or girl of twelve, who was able to plod quite respectably through the dreary platitudes of a reader, could not read either intelligibly or intelligently a paragraph of news in a daily paper.

It is believed by some that our intellectual super-activity is largely the effect of the ephemeral literature which floods our land. May it not rather be considered the cause? We are impatient, restless, eager; prone to cultivate brain at the expense of brawn. The Press is at once our stimulant and our safety. In its wise conservation rests the foremost educational hope of the age. A civilization may follow this which will demand a return to slower methods of thought and expression, but to-day we hasten toward the other extreme. And while those who would still fill up a life-time with study, for study's sake, may do so without interruption, the wider and swifter avenues to learning are open freely to all.

POSTAGE TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

A discrimination in the rates of postage to city subscribers is made between weekly and monthly periodicals, to the great disadvantage of the latter; for, while the weeklies can be mailed to city subscribers for one cent per pound, monthlies can not be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent for each two ounces, except where the subscribers go to the post-office for their mail. And, as the JOURNAL in its present form weighs over two ounces, we are, therefore, obliged to ask Philadelphia subscribers twenty-four cents extra or postage, unless the paper is addressed at the post-office to be called for, or to any P. O. box.

A WORD WITH YOU.

We have issued a complete Premium Supplement, and shall be glad to mail it to any subscriber who will send for it. Any premium offers made in these columns during the last six months are good at any time. Just look up your back numbers and see what can be had for very little work. Better still, send for the new Supplement, and find them all together with some new ones. Sample copies and posters are free to club raisers.

We have bought some 1500 volumes of Louisa Alcott's famous books for girls, at a special bargain. No more can be had at the same price. We offer them, while they last, for only 8 subscribers, or for only six subscribers and 25 cts. extra.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"MRS. JOHN C. ALMY."—There is no such paper published.—ED.

"A SUBSCRIBER" who asks about gilding on glass decanters.—No.

"E."—Impression paper can be found at almost any reliable stationers.—ED.

"PANSY," SACRAMENTO, CAL.—The 23d day of April, 1870, came on Saturday.

LAUREL, KIRKWOOD, N. J.—There is no premium on pennies of the dates mentioned.

"MR. M."—Your query should be addressed to farm journal or veterinary surgeon.—ED.

SUBSCRIBER, WHITE RIDGE, VA.—If the half dollar of date mentioned, is in good condition, it is worth fifty cents.

WILL Mrs. Hettie P. Mansfield send her address to LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. It has been mislaid and we wish to communicate.—ED.

WE have many inquiries as to *Book News* mentioned in "Mildred's Conversation Class." This is to be found at John Wanamaker's, Phila. 50c. per year. Published monthly.—ED.

JAN. 26, 1887.

EDITOR L. H. J.—Can one of your many readers inform me through your paper, how to make a rug out of rabbit skins, and the way to preserve them? BONNIE.

ED. L. H. J.—I would like to know how to keep nickle bright on my stove. Will some one please tell me through the L. H. J.?

Yours respectfully, MRS. WM. PIERA.

[Try Electro Silicon.—ED. JOUR.]

EDITOR OF LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.—Dear Madam:—If the sister who signs herself "Doc's wife" in correspondence column, November No., will send her address to P. O. box 874, Clinton, Mass., I will tell her of a still better method which I use in running my machine. EUREKA.

ALLEN, MICH., Feb. 12th, 1887.

KIND FRIEND:—Will some one please tell me through the L. H. J. how to wash a white cashmere shawl, and not have it streaked or yellow? Something they have tried. And oblige M. R.

[Soap-bark will be the nicest thing to use for cleaning your white cashmere shawl.—ED.]

NEWARK, N. J.

SIR:—Will you please inform me throught the JOURNAL, which is the *purest* soap, Ivory or Cashmere Bouquet? and oblige a new subscriber. E. A. A.

[There are both most excellent soaps. The Cashmere Bouquet is a toilet soap, while the Ivory can be used for any purpose, and is guaranteed by the proprietor to be absolutely pure.—ED. JOUR.]

DEAR HOME JOURNAL:—Do you like letters of commendation? Here is one from St. Joseph, Missouri: "The two papers you so kindly sent me, came Saturday evening. I like them *exceedingly*. They are *full* of subjects that us women particularly love to read and learn about. In fact, I call them perfect little *gems*. I am very much obliged to you for so kindly remembering us." This seems to voice the general sentiment and is heartily echoed by M. K. S.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 19, '87.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—If possible will you kindly tell me through the columns of your JOURNAL, how to gild a chair? also is there any preparation for ebonizing wood? IDA L. A.

[Bronze powder mixed with a little linseed oil and applied as you would apply paint, will gild your chair nicely. Directions for ebonizing have been given before. Miss Clarkson will give you such directions if you enclose a stamped envelope to her to Pleasant Valley, N. Y.—ED. JOUR.]

SOME one in the last paper asks how white silk handkerchiefs could be washed so they will not turn yellow?

I wash mine in my own bowl with white soap and cold water and rinse them in cold water. When nearly dry, fold them nicely and put them under a weight—a board with a cold flat iron on it or something of the sort. They will look as if they had been ironed and never grow yellow. White flannel, if washed and rinsed in cold water with white soap put *into the water*, will look like new flannel when it is old and will not shrink. L. V.

EAGLE, PA., Jan. 28, 1887.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.—I have received two copies of the JOURNAL, and think it just splendid. I don't think I can ever do without it again. I am very much interested in the "Mother's Corner."

A subscriber wants to know in the January number how to take cherry stains out of a linen lap spread. Rain water, 3 qts.; anotta, 4 ozs. Boil in a copper kettle till dissolved, then put in a piece of potash the size of a walnut, and keep on the fire ½ hour longer and it is ready for use. Bottle for keeping. MRS. A. D.

"MRS. W. W. R.," GRAND ISLAND, NEB.—Lincrusta Walton (pronounced as spelled) is a preparation of putty upon cloth. It is sold by the yard in various shades of hard wood colors. The putty is spread thickly over the surface of the muslin, stamped with dies of divers shape, allowed to dry, and is then painted, and when finished presents the appearance of carved wood. It is applied to a smooth surface with strong glue. We have seen rooms where the whole wall was covered with the article, the effect being very fine. It is used not only in ornamenting houses, but in decorating household furniture, boxes, chairs, book-racks, etc., and is very useful in that way, as it can be cut any desired size or shape as one might cut oil-cloth.

DEAR FRIENDS:—Did every one who sent to me for the China tree seed receive it? If any have failed to, please let me know, and I will send again, and still have plenty of them at home. I am here for some length of time, in the Summer Land State—Florida. The climate is delightful. The tropic and evergreen scenery very beautiful. Here alligators and orange trees are more numerous than snow birds at the north. The famous long grey southern moss is found here in great abundance, especially near lakes and rivers. It grows in the tree tops, and hangs from the branches in graceful festoons, one and two yards in length. In the twilight it presents rather a lone, weird appearance, silently swinging its huge, arm-like pendants, to and fro, with the breeze, like some midnight spector, out in the stilly night. I can send this moss to any one who wishes it, and will send stamps for postage. Send half-dozen or more stamps, and I will send you Florida moss. I feel confident the opportunity will be appreciated by those who want the moss, and it will be but little trouble to me. I can send the moss until June 1st, not later.

MRS. F. A. WARNER.

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA.

ED. LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Will you hear my modest knock and let me in the corner long enough to say a little piece?

Lately I found the following, in an obscure corner of a daily paper. I want to say to the sisters that I have tried it and it is a *Revelation* and will make a *Revolution*:

"Fill a good-sized wash-boiler with water, adding a pound of ordinary washing soap, shredded fine, and when the soap is dissolved two and a-half tablespoonfuls of headlight oil. When the water has come to a boil put in the finest white goods, turning them over occasionally and taking them out in ten minutes; then place in clear (hot) rinsing water and from that into the bluing water. No rubbing is required ordinarily, and the clothes are soft and of a dazzling whiteness. Should any speck of dirt remain, a slight rubbing with the hands will remove it without the addition of more soap.

"When the finer goods are taken out of the boiler coarse goods can be put through the same process, then flannels (white) and then towels, after which the water is still serviceable to wash colored goods. Should the water boil low add more, and also half a pound of (shredded) soap and another spoonful of oil. That is all there is about it; and if these simple directions are followed the terrors of wash-day will belong only to the past, and hundreds of toil-worn women will take on a new lease of life."

Dear sisters, please try it and you will say that it alone is worth ten year's subscription to the JOURNAL. JENNIE.

NEW CHESTER, PA.

EDITOR L. H. J.—As I do not see many letters from this State, I will try and write one, if the ladies of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL will permit a farmer's son to come and chat a little. Mountain Lilies grow wild around here in large quantities; I feel that I have no right to sell them, but I know that there are many readers of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL that would like to have one or more, so I will send them to any one for nothing who is willing to pay the postage on them, which is three cents, as they are very large, and have to be wrapped very careful. The bulbs are entirely different from other bulbs, these being double-bulbed, out of which a stem will grow the first year and die down, and will allow the other part of the bulb to grow a stem the second year, and so on. But should there be two stems grow from one bulb the first year, one of them should be cut off, then the other one that is left growing will bloom nicely. They should be planted about eight inches deep in very dry ground, for they grow here on the mountain sides where there is no water or rain for several months in a year. The flower grows about four inches in length and is of a pure waxy white, dotted with very faint black spots, and is so exquisitely fragrant that when a bouquet of them is placed in a room it perfumes it for several days after. It is something similar to the Lilium Auratum, which is sold from 25c. to 50c. in stores, only this one is of a pure white color, and is a great deal more fragrant. Last fall I sent a good many to several parts of the United States, and this year most of them have written saying that they bloomed nicely. It will be a great pleasure to me to send some to the readers of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, for when I have some spare time I will gather some (for they do not cost me anything,) and ask nothing for my trouble except the postage, which I would pay also, but a few hundred would amount to something to me while to the senders it is but a few cents to each.

GUSTAVE H. SCHUBERT.

NELSON POINT, CALIFORNIA.

DEAR EDITOR:—May I add a word again, to the many "mites" you receive?

In a recent article entitled, "Woman and Work," there is much sound, hard, common sense with a few ideas which will, I think, bear modification.

"It is not more money that the world is suffering for," says the writer of that article, "but more virtue; not more homes of luxury, but more homes of real refinement, happiness, goodness, and love; more sterling women who realize what is their truest and noblest sphere of usefulness; more men who will carry into the world, the aroma of homes lovely in every sense."

She should have added, (no doubt she forgot it) "*and more men worthy and appreciative of such a home.*"

She speaks in the earlier part of the article quoted, of men becoming contemptible and losing their "spark of manliness," but perhaps if she will make more than a surface observation of the human race, she will find that it is the women who have been sufficiently unfortunate to discover that their husbands, or other masculine connections, already *lacked* that "spark of manliness" (the loss of which is certainly much to be deplored, whatever the cause of that loss) before they turned out for themselves.

The "spark of manliness" and the love of home comforts, supposed to be implanted in every masculine breast, do not, unfortunately, "make the pot boil"; and if the writer of "Woman and Work," will go a trifle more deeply into the subject, make notes and draw up a set of statistics for herself, I think she will find that it is *necessity*, and not love of display, of money, or of power, which drives most women to work in public places. Even the career of school teaching, (which she *almost* condemns), with its alluring prospect of money and fame (!) is not entered into by many because they *will*, but because they *must*.

When, too, there is more than one daughter at home, and the family can "get along" (nothing more) "on father's salary," that extra daughter is reprehensible who does not turn out and "do something," in order to provide the luxuries for the parents, who, in their older life require something more than mere "getting along," at the hands of the children for whom they have toiled and striven all their anxious lives.

Sometimes, too, "protectors" die, (perhaps from the very strain of "getting along")—then what?

Useless as far as combatting the world is concerned; helpless from having been taught to consider that their sole duty was to "shed the aroma of sweet, womanly influence" around the domestic hearth, they sink into that most deplorable of all positions—"poor relations."

In these days, when marriage seems to be such a lottery, and so many women have found themselves, most unexpectedly, obliged to support not only themselves and their children, but their very "protectors," who have failed to appreciate the beauties and "aroma" *and ties* of the home circle, it seems as if it would behoove every woman to, at least, fit herself for that which the French tell us is to be expected at any moment, the unexpected, even if by so doing she is obliged to work outside of her own home.

PRUDENCE PARSONS.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

COTTAGE DINNERS.

APRIL.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

The advisability of rendering dishes attractive by dainty serving is not enough appreciated by the busy housewife. It seems so much easier to dish the meat and vegetables "anyhow," than to use the extra exertion needed to make them pretty that she is apt to grow careless. Habit is everything in such matters. The practice once acquired of arranging the food to please the eye, as well as the palate, the added labor is taken for granted and seldom observed.

For instance, take the various styles of serving potatoes. When baked or boiled in the skins, they should always be wrapped in a large, white napkin folded to a quarter of its size and laid in a deep dish with the corners turned over the contents. Sweet potatoes should receive the same treatment. Fried potatoes, after having been drained entirely of fat, should be heaped on a small, fringed, white napkin, lining a dish. Like those cooked in the skins, they "sweat" and become soggy, if laid directly on the china. Stewed potatoes should be sprinkled with finely minc'd parsley and mash'd potato neatly mounded.

Bread must be smoothly cut, then piled on a little doyley or Japanese paper mat laid in the plate. The same course should be pursued with cheese and with crackers. A napkin or doyley should always be placed on the bottom of a cake basket. Croquettes of all sorts should be served on a napkin. Celery should be freed from green or rusty stalks, and arranged in a tall glass or long celery dish.

Meat dishes should be garnished with sprays of parsley, water cress or celery tops; fish with these and with sliced lemon. Carrot tops, or young beet leaves, make a pretty garnish, as do lettuce leaves. The gravy should be served in a boat, unless it is some sauce expressly intended to be poured over the meat or fish, and even then it is better to reserve part of it and help it out separately, as each plate is filled.

A dish of fruit is twice as tempting if decorated with ivy leaves, ferns, autumn leaves, or any graceful sprays of green. A few bright blossoms produce a pretty effect. Bricks or forms of ice cream should be placed on a napkin as they are thus more easily helped, and are less likely to melt and float than on the bare dish. A little thought will easily indicate to the housewife the best and simplest methods of serving various viands and she will devise for herself dainty modes of garnishing and arranging dishes. As has been said before in these articles, whatever tends to make food more appetizing in appearance will render it more so in reality.

SUNDAY.

Boiled Fresh Tongue with Sauce.
Savory Potatoes. Lima Beans.
Celery Salad.
Ambrosia.

BOILED FRESH TONGUE:—Order a beef's tongue from the butcher. A tongue generally weighs from four to six pounds and has very little waste as it contains only a small amount of bone. It is sometimes necessary to bespeak one several days ahead as there is not much call for them. Soak it over night in slightly salted water, wipe dry and trim off a little. Plunge into boiling water and cook steadily for an hour and a half. Take from the pot, rub with a raw egg, beaten, and cover thickly with fine bread crumbs. Bake in a good oven half an hour, basting it from time to time with hot water and butter. While it is baking, the sauce may be prepared.

SAUCE:—Take a cupful of the liquor in which the tongue was boiled, heat it to scalding and skim. Thicken it with a tablespoonful of butter rubbed smooth with a tablespoonful of browned flour. Pepper and salt to taste, add a little chopped parsley and a couple of gherkin pickles, minced very fine. If the flavor is not disagreeable, substitute for one of the gherkins half a pickled onion, minced. Boil up, pour part of the sauce over the tongue as it lies in the dish and send the rest to table in a sauce boat. The remaining liquor from the tongue will make excellent soup stock.

SAVORY POTATOES:—Peel and slice potatoes as for stewing, and lay in cold water for an hour. Put them over the fire in boiling water, throw in a pinch of salt and cook until tender. Drain and pour over them a cup ul of your soup stock, skimmed, strained, seasoned with parsley and a little onion, and thickened with a couple of teaspoonfuls of browned flour rubbed up with one of butter. Return to the fire, cook ten minutes and serve in a deep dish.

LIMA BEANS:—Open the can several hours before using, and pour off all the liquor. Cook twenty minutes in boiling water, drain and toss up with a tablespoonful of butter and pepper and salt to taste. Eat while very hot.

CELERY SALAD:—Wash the celery carefully, selecting the finest and whitest stalks, and cut these into inch lengths. Just before sending to table, pour over it a mayonnaise dressing (which may be prepared on Saturday) made by recipe given in December issue of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

AMBROSIA:—Peel small oranges that are not too tart and divide them into lobes. Place a layer in a glass dish and sprinkle lightly with powdered sugar and thickly with grated cocoanut, scattering a little sugar over this as well. Add another layer of oranges, treat these as you did the first and continue the process until all the materials are used, making the top covering of cocoanut and sugar.

This is a simple and delicious dessert.

MONDAY.

Curry Soup
Salmi of Tongue with Tomato Sauce.
Boiled Potatoes. Corn Pudding.
Tea.
Ginger Snaps.

CURRY SOUP:—Remove all fat from the liquor in which the tongue was cooked, season and let it boil half an hour with a chopped onion and several stalks of celery. Strain these out and add to the soup a half cupful of well soaked rice. Let this cook until tender. Ten minutes before dinner stir in two good teaspoonfuls of curry powder and let simmer until needed. If this proportion of curry should make the soup too hot for the palates of the family, it may be lessened next time. Tastes vary so widely in this respect, that experience is the only reliable teacher.

SALMI OF TONGUE WITH TOMATO SAUCE:—Slice neatly the remains of yesterday's tongue. Heat the remaining gravy and add to it half a cupful of liquor strained from a can of tomatoes. If this seems to thin the gravy too much, thicken with a little burned flour. When the sauce is boiling, drop the pieces of tongue into it and let them simmer about fifteen minutes.

BOILED POTATOES:—Prepare as directed in March number of LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

CORN PUDDING:—See recipe in January issue of LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

TEA AND GINGER SNAPS:—Make fresh hot tea, after the family is seated at the table. So prepared, it is a very different beverage from the bitter brew achieved by allowing the leaves to steep, or worse still, boil on the range for an hour or more. With the tea serve Holmes' and Conit's "Homemade Gingersnaps," the best substitute for the *bona fide* homemade articles that can be found. Crisp, thin, and spicy, they cannot fail to win golden opinions everywhere.

TUESDAY.

Fillet of Sole.
Scalloped Tomatoes. Baked Potatoes.
Stewed Prunes.

FILLET OF SOLE:—Buy the ordinary flounder from a fish merchant. Lay it on a board, cut off head, fins and tail and scrape off the skin. Quarter the fish *lengthwise* and take out the bone, leaving four strips of the flesh. Cut these into pieces about three inches each in length, dip these first into beaten egg and then roll in cracker crumbs. Fry in boiling lard or dripping, having it as hot as would be required for doughnuts. Drain dry of all fat in a colander on soft white or tissue paper. Serve on a white napkin laid on a very hot dish and garnish with bits of parsley and with sliced lemon. Pass quarters of lemon with the fish, as a few drops of the juice squeezed over it greatly improves the taste. This is a capital imitation of the famous English sole.

SCALLOPED TOMATOES:—Of the remains of the can of tomatoes opened yesterday, prepare a dish of scalloped tomatoes according to the recipe given in November COTTAGE DINNERS.

BAKED POTATOES:—See recipe previously given.

STEWED PRUNES:—Put the prunes over the fire in enough water to cover them and stew until tender. Sweeten to taste and eat when perfectly cold. Small sponge cakes or fancy cakes of any kind are a pleasant accompaniment to this dish, or lacking them, nice bread and butter.

WEDNESDAY.

Bean Soup.
Stewed Chops and Peas. Potato Croquettes.
Rice Custard Pudding.

BEAN SOUP:—One cup beans, soaked over night in cold water. In the morning put them on the stove with a quart and a pint of cold water, and boil steadily until they are soft, adding more water from time to time, so that the quantity of liquid may remain the same. Put through a colander when the beans are tender and return to the pot. Thin with milk or soup stock to the required consistency and thicken with two teaspoonfuls of butter rubbed smooth in a tablespoonful of flour and then cooked together. Season to taste and pour on small squares of fried bread laid in the bottom of the tureen. If you have half a cupful of tomatoes left, they may be rubbed through a colander and added to the soup.

STEWED CHOPS AND PEAS:—Lay your chops in a shallow saucepan and pour over them enough cold water to cover them. Sprinkle with salt and pepper and add half a small onion sliced. Stew gently until tender. When they can easily be pierced with a fork, remove them to a hot dish. Have ready a can of green peas from which the liquor has been drained some time before. Cook these ten minutes in the gravy from which the chops have been withdrawn and pour them over the meat in the dish. This will be found an appetizing way of cooking tough or ill-cut chops.

POTATO CROQUETTES:—Boil and mash your potatoes early in the day, unless you have cold mashed potato already in the house. Into two cupfuls beat a lump of butter the size of a walnut, one raw egg and pepper and salt to taste. Form the mixture into croquettes, rolling lightly between the hands to acquire the proper shape and flattening at the ends. Roll them in flour and set aside in a cold place to stiffen. Fry in boiling dripping or lard, drain in a colander and serve upon a napkin in a hot dish.

RICE CUSTARD PUDDING:—Two cups rice, boiled as before directed.
Three cups milk.
Two eggs.
One tablespoonful butter.
Pinch of salt.
Half teaspoonful cinnamon.

Beat the eggs light and add them to the butter and sugar, rubbed to a cream. Stir in the milk, rice, salt and cinnamon, pour into a greased pudding dish and bake covered until firm. Uncover and brown. Eat cold. Cream and sugar are an improvement, although not a necessity.

THURSDAY.

Stewed Liver.
Spinach. Potato Puff.
Orange Fritters.

STEWED LIVER:—One pound of liver, cut into inch squares.
Quarter of a pound of chopped salt pork.
One good sized onion, minced fine.
One tablespoonful of sweet herbs.

Sprinkle the meat thickly with the onion, herbs and a little pepper, place it in a tin pail with a closely fitting cover and set this in an outer vessel of cold water. Bring this to a boil and let it cook steadily for two hours. Uncover the inner pail, transfer the liver with a split spoon to a hot dish, thicken the gravy left in the pail with browned flour, boil up and pour over the liver.

SPINACH:—Wash and pick over the spinach with great care, rinsing it in several waters. Strip the leaves from the stems and cook in slightly salted boiling water for twenty minutes. Drain dry, and chop very fine, until it can be rubbed through a colander. Return to the fire, stir in two teaspoonfuls of butter, two tablespoonfuls of milk, a teaspoonful of sugar, pepper and salt to taste and a pinch of cinnamon. Heat smoking hot, and beat very thoroughly, until it is light and creamy. Turn out on slices of fried bread or buttered toast.

POTATO PUFF:—Prepare as directed in COTTAGE DINNERS for November.

ORANGE FRITTERS:—Two cups milk.
Three eggs.
One and a half cups prepared flour.
Six sweet oranges, peeled, sliced and seeded.
Pinch of salt.

Make a batter of the eggs, milk, flour and salt. Dip into this the slices of orange, and fry them in boiling lard. Drain in a colander on white paper and eat hot with a sauce made by creaming two tablespoonfuls of butter in a cup of sugar and flavoring with lemon juice.

FRIDAY.

Panned Oysters.
Baked Omelet. Stuffed Potatoes.
Tapioca Pudding.

PANNED OYSTERS:—One quart oysters.
One dozen rounds toasted bread.
Two tablespoonfuls butter.
Pepper and salt.

Butter a dozen small patty pans. They should be rather deep, and, if possible, have straight sides. Cut the rounds of toast to fit these and lay one in the bottom of each, buttering them lightly and moistening each with a tablespoonful of oyster liquor. Place on the toast as many oysters as the pan will hold readily, dot with bits of butter, sprinkle with pepper and salt and add a little oyster liquor. Set in a steady oven for from five to ten minutes, until the oysters "crimp." Eat from the pans.

BAKED OMELET:—Five eggs.
Half cup milk.
Half teaspoonful corn starch.
Pepper and salt to taste.

Beat the whites and yolks of the egg separately and very stiff, stir lightly together, add the milk and corn starch, the pepper and salt, and bake in a buttered pudding dish ten minutes, or until firm. Eat quickly, as it soon falls.

STUFFED POTATOES:—Prepare as directed in COTTAGE DINNERS for November.

TAPIOCA PUDDING:—One small cup tapioca.
Three eggs.
One cup sugar.
Three cups milk.
Cinnamon or nutmeg to taste.
Tiny pinch of soda.

Dissolve the soda in the milk and pour it over the tapioca. Let it soak five hours in a warm place. Turn it into a double boiler and bring the water in the outer saucepan to a boil. Let it cook until the tapioca is dissolved. Pour over the sugar and beaten eggs, stir well, add the spice and bake in a buttered pudding dish for three quarters of an hour.

SATURDAY.

Savory Stew of Beef.
Mashed Potato. Stewed Carrots.
Croutons.
Salted Almonds.

SAVORY STEW OF BEEF:—Two pounds lean beef, cut for stewing into pieces not more than an inch square.
One chopped onion.
One tablespoonful minced herbs.
Seasoning.
Three cups cold water.

Let the water and meat come to a boil very slowly, keeping the pot closely covered. Cook gently two hours, add the herbs, onion and pepper and salt and stew an hour longer. Thicken with one tablespoonful of browned flour wet up in a little cold water, boil up once and serve.

MASHED POTATO:—Prepare as previously directed.

STEWED CARROTS:—Scrape and boil three quarters of an hour. Take from the fire and slice. Return to the saucepan with a cupful of weak gravy—you can fish a little from your stew—and simmer twenty minutes. Add two tablespoonfuls of milk and a teaspoonful of butter rubbed into two of flour. Pepper and salt to taste.

CROUTONS:—Cut nice stale bread into slices not more than a quarter of an inch thick, and quarter these slices. Dry in an open oven until the triangles are a delicate brown. Spread with a paste made of equal parts of butter and grated cheese, and set in the oven again until these are dry on top. They are a nice relish.

SALTED ALMONDS:—Shell and blanch almonds. When perfectly dry spread in a dripping pan and stir up with a tablespoonful of melted butter. Set in the oven until they brown, stirring often to prevent scorching. They should be lightly browned. Take them out and sprinkle thickly with salt, tossing them about in it, so that all have a generous seasoning. Eat with the croutons.

AN ACT OF JUSTICE.

The increased interest in household affairs and culinary dietetics during the past few years has resulted in flooding the market with inventions designed for the benefit of the manufacturers first and incidentally of the consumers. So numerous are these modern improvements that the wary housewife recoils with dread from the latest blessing pressed upon her by her grocer. The advertising columns of the daily papers are crowded with announcements of discoveries that are destined to revolutionize the present diet and to render the digestions of the partakers of the wonderful food a joy forever. Each invention is heralded as unique and its production declared the latest triumph of an advanced civilization.

With all this, it is not strange that one becomes cautious and draws back timidly from new departures, inclined to cling to familiar, though imperfect articles, rather than hazard fresh discomforts. This tendency, while natural, would, if persisted in, lead to the rejection of many labor-saving improvements.

As an act of justice it is the business of one whose experience warrants her in making such a statement to include among similar comforts Cerealine Flakes. Much is claimed for it, but not a whit too much. Closer acquaintance only deepens appreciation which casual experiment has taught. An unscientific woman must leave to students the analysis of its chemical properties, but the housekeeper who has used it in her own kitchen is at least qualified to pronounce upon its palatableness. Take it, for instance, in its effect upon bread of various kinds. Its use produces a light spongy texture that can be gained by nothing else. In loaf bread and biscuits this is especially noticeable, while muffins, with a due proportion of Cerealine, are far more delicious and puffy than those made from flour alone. In cake, the same is observable. But it is with pastry that its use is especially marked. Pie crust is rendered as flaky with half the ordinary amount of butter when Cerealine is used, as is rich puff paste without it. All these articles of food preserve their freshness and moisture longer than if compounded in the usual fashion. Nor is this the limit of the advantage of Cerealine. As thickening for soups it is a pleasing variety to rice and sago, while in porridges it is preferable for flavor to either hominy or oatmeal. It makes delicious fritters and griddle cakes which, moreover, leave no dyspeptic sourness, and forms the basis for the most tempting and wholesome puddings, both with and without eggs, that are as acceptable to older palates as to the denizens of the nursery. The duty of the finder of a good thing is to enable her fellow housekeepers to benefit by her happy fortune. In the hope of securing such an end this paper has been written. Careful examination will, it is believed, only verify the result of the tests that have been thoroughly and conscientiously made.

CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

SPRING DRESS GOODS.

Novelties in Silk, Woolen, Camel's Hair and Cotton, Decorative and Plain Fabrics. Late Methods of Combining Materials.

BY MRS. JAMES H. LAMBERT.

Where there is no occasion for economy, the general impulse is, to make the fall suit do service in early spring, and now and then, the carefully laid away dress will be found in a reasonably presentable condition to put on without change, but nine times out of ten, even if the costume is in perfectly good order, the owner desires diversity of style, and if she exercises correct taste with small expenditure, and considerable ingenuity she suddenly appears in a becoming combination toilette, in which unmistakable features of the season's fashions are perhaps more prominently delineated, than they will be, later in the season, in her more costly robes and wraps.

Although the higher grade materials used to create a desired effect, and to give style to made over, and entirely new garments are costly, still, so little is necessary that only the length of the dress skirt, in the rich stuff need be bought, for remember the panel must not be pieced, and after the width for the panel is taken of, the rest of the length and breadth, may be appropriated in vest, waistcoat, plastron, collar and parements of the jacket, basque, or corsage, one yard, a yard and a quarter, or a yard and a half, being the average quantities sold.

There are numbers of these decorative fabrics, and some are beautiful. The newest shown have woolen ground in serge or surah, or fine twill weave, with plush lines in checks and stripes, and Pompadour floral designs, machine embroidered in Oriental colors. Other specimens are in velvet and satin with embossed flowers, and again, the stripes and checks of velvet and plush are mere outlines to the satin, surah, and silk finished blocks and spaces.

Pekins, brocades, and embroidered pieces or sections, designed for skirt and corsage, are all used for the flat complemental parts of the suit, while the softer materials, surah, *faille et due*, *faille Française*, and Rhadames, or veilings, cashmere and Clairette, form more graceful draperies, or the shirred or full parts of the stylish costume or pretty evening dress.

The old-fashioned full skirts, have quite enough material in them to be converted into skirts after lately introduced designs, but usually there is no fabric left over to put with the new stuff used in forming the upper garment, hence the present fancy of making each distinct part of a suit entirely of one material proves most convenient.

A very pretty and ingenious young lady, prior to visiting a city friend, has made for herself two double toilettes, with two skirts, one of brocade in garnet, and the other of plain black silk, a few yards of black and white striped silk, a lace shawl, and an end or so of black Chantilly lace, in a design very near like that seen in the shawl.

The new garnet brocade skirt has a large box plait in front, the sides are plaited or kilted, and three box plaits give fulness to the back widths. A plain waist is made of the garnet silk, which is to be worn under a jacket of black lace, trimmed with removable bows of garnet ribbon; the shawl is so arranged that its centre is draped over the right side, while the ends are tied carelessly, just back of the left hip.

The black silk skirt is self trimmed, has plaitings at its lower edge, and is sometimes worn with the shawl drapery, and lace jacket, adorned with black velvet, or bows of colored ribbon, over plain black silk waist, or with a stylish polonaise of Cheney striped black and white surah, finished with pockets, bretelle collar, and cuffs of black velvet, and also black velvet waist band, secured by silver buckle, and again, for a change, this redingote is worn with the garnet skirt, giving variety to what would be without good taste, an exceedingly modest toilette.

Partly worn dresses in any shade of red, or in cream, can be stylishly made up or over, with black lace, which is to be much worn during the coming summer. One of the new Chantilly designs shows flower on stripe in open lace pattern. Such laces come in nets, in wide flounces, and in edgings varying from an inch and a-half to five inches in depth.

In Spring dress goods, silk and wool, and silk and camel's hair mixtures are noticeable; the silken thread being introduced without regularity, and sometimes creating an odd effect; appearing in certain lights with attractive lustres, and again the threads define plaids or checks, or outline stripes of woolen or camel's hair in various weaves, the twill or serge weave being very much in demand. These goods are in mixtures, alone, that is, like the ground or centre portion of the check fabrics, and forms very stylish suits for Spring and Summer wear.

English woolen checks in new colors are largely used for tailor-made suits, simply finished with collar and cuffs, or perhaps vest or waistcoat of velvet. Then there are armures, serges and beiges, with solid colored cloths, cashmeres, and still more elegant Henriettas, in the most beautiful tones of heliotrope, red, garnet, roses, green, lichen, tabac, bois and other browns, the new blues, and the exquisite tints for evening, with veilings, Clairette, and challies, which are more as if entirely of silk, than of the two combined materials.

The silk-warp dress goods in black are more than usually popular this Spring, and a number of novelties have been added to the list in the old weaves of camel's hair diagonals, in lines varying from a serge stripe to a fine cord. The handsome silk-warp Henriettas, the Princesses and Cairettes are used for full dress, both for mourning, or any purpose; while convent, crepe, and mourning cloths, make neat dresses, for first and second mourning, without other trimming than that formed of the material.

The new elastic cloths for jerseys and entire costumes show some novel features. Some have striped effects, others are embroidered in colors, on solid surface. One in ruby shows a small flower in black, or in white, or in navy blue, and again a circle or raised diamond is seen. Navy blue and gold, red and black, brown and red, and other combinations are shown in many designs, in figures, spots and flowers.

China silks, and the new satines, come in the same ground colors, in odd tones of all hues, and in all manner of surface figures or designs. And among novelties in cotton are the surah ginghams, in small checks and plaids, in woolen colors, but with a silken, surah finish. Others show lace stripe, with gingham or chambray body, to be made up with plain goods. And then there are tufted Cleghorn novelties, with plush or moss stripes, in shaded drabs, browns, blues, and reds, with rich combinations in blue and gold, and brown and orange.

Among the thin tissues may be noticed a lovely French Batiste, which has a silky lustre, and drapes like gauze. It comes in stripes and be-figured effects, and will make dainty gowns for midsummer wear. Other thin fabrics are the cotton crapes with cream, pink, blue, and ecru grounds, with figures in bright colors.

Our readers so often write and ask prices of mentioned fabrics that for their benefit, the average cost should be given. Decorative fabrics range in price from $1.00 to $5.00 a yard; velvets from $1.00 to $3.00 up to $5.00 and higher; *Faille Française* from $1.25 to $2.00 a yard; Rhadames $1.25 to $1.50; Surah and *Faille et Due* $1.00 a yard, in exclusive shades $1.25; velveteen $1.00 and $1.25; English check from 75c. to $3.50 a yard; silk and wool checks from 65c. to $2.50 a yard; imported mixtures and English woolen suitings 50c. a yard; Rubdipore suitings, a kind of homespun mixture, 45c. a yard; beige 45c. a yard.

High-class black goods, Priestley's silk-warp varnished board novelties, from $1.00 to $4.00 a yard; the most useful grades costing $1.25, $1.50 and $1.75 up to $2.50 a yard; these qualities being more durable than those which are so fine, as to be almost like tissue in their delicate beauty.

New French satines are 37½c. a yard; Surah ginghams 45c. a yard; lace ginghams 50c. a yard; plain ginghams to go with the lace ginghams 40c. a yard, and the French batiste is 37½c. a yard.

OUTFITS FOR BABIES.

When the delightful home store of Lewis S. Cox was first opened, customers found therein only outside garments, costumes, and specialties in elastic underwear. These goods ladies bought in quantities, and were so well pleased with them, that they promised to patronize other departments, and in compliance with a general demand, certain sections of the attractive establishment were recently set apart for the exhibition and sale of baby clothes, and children's wardrobes complete; also all varieties of underwear and night robes for ladies, in cambric and muslin, together with stylish corsets and bustles. To gain a clearer idea of the facilities of this store, our readers will do well to write to Lewis S. Cox, 1220 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa., for descriptive price list of Infants' Outfits, Ladies Underwear, and the Box Jersey Waists with skirting, and in letter of advice to Lewis S. Cox, please say that you were directed to write by Mrs. J. H. L. of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, and by doing this our friends and patrons will aid us in showing the extent of the influence exerted by this paper.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"I. L. S.," Manasses:—No, do not wear the crape veil. You have already worn black for seven months, and you can now trim your hat or bonnet with ribbon, in place of crape. Yes, you can wear the collars with black border, or plain white collars now. You need only wear black for a year, for a brother or sister. We give no premiums for one subscriber. The gentleman was right, very few have common sense.

"Mrs. C. A. L." "I. S." "A. R. H." and others:—Delivered your letters to Sharpless Brothers who at once sent samples of B. Priestley's mourning, convent and crape cloths, which materials do not require other trimming than such as may be formed of the material. Also ordered samples of good black silk to be sent to "A. R. H."

"Miss Mary E. Bicon:"—Old black silk can be improved by cleaning it in beer; wipe off with wet cloth, do not iron, but roll or wind up the silk while damp, and when dry it will be ready for use.

"M. E. B." also wants to know if any of our readers would like to buy some pieces of Point and Honiton lace.

"Pansy."—The net comes only one yard wide, and sells at 50c. a yard, for a good quality.

"M. B."—Make an underskirt of the silk, and wear it beneath a new style polonaise of grey or bronze woolen stuff; or, if you like better get some of the silk and woolen mixtures in as near as possible to the dress shade, and make in overskirt and basque. The silk is good quality and in a useful shade of a now fashionable color, and if not too much worn will make a good dress skirt.

[*Continued on page 18.*]

Special Announcement

To

READERS OF THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL

Through the

Mail Order Department,

Sharpless Brothers,

Chestnut & Eighth Sts.,

Philadelphia, Pa.

Purchases can be made of all manufactured garments, Dress fabrics, Trimmings, Millinery novelties and Toilette accessories, with Table Linen and Upholstery Goods, spoken of from time to time, in Hints on Style, and Articles about Dress and Materials, published in this valuable paper.

In letter of advice to Sharpless Brothers, please mention date of LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, *in which you saw desired article quoted.*

LEWIS S. COX,

1220 Chestnut Street.

On Wednesday, the 7th instant, the New Store opened an entirely New line of Ladies' Muslin and Cambric Underwear, Infants' Goods, Corsets and Bustles, in addition to its regular stock of Wraps, Jackets, Newmarkets, etc., in which line of goods we hope to reduce the cost for you as successfully as we have done in Ladies' Outer Garments. We offer the following in UNDERWEAR:

Muslin Mother Hubbard Gown, tucked yoke, with Hamburg ruffle around neck and sleeves, 75 cents.

Mother Hubbard Gown yoke with clusters of tucks, Hamburg at neck and sleeves, 85 cents. Mother Hubbard Gown yoke tucks and inserting. Hamburg ruffle at neck and sleeves, $1.00. Same style, finer, $1.25, $1.50, $1.75, $2.00, $2.50.

Cambric Gowns: Mother Hubbard, tucks and Torchon inserting, in yoke, Torchon edge around neck and sleeves, $1.00.

Mother Hubbard Cambric Gown, tucked yoke and Hamburg inserting, $1.25. Another Mother Hubbard Gown, clusters of tucks and plaits in yoke, Hamburg ruffle around neck and sleeves for $1.50.

Cambric Sacque Gown, bosom clusters of fine tucks, double ruffle of Hamburg around neck, down front and around sleeves, $3.00, and finer Gowns at $2.75, $3.50, $3.75, $4.75 and up.

Plain Corded Band Chemise, 35 and 50 cents. Square neck with Hamburg, 50 cents. Square neck, with Hamburg inserting and edge, 65 cents and 75 cents. Square neck, Hamburg inserting front and back with edge, $1.00. Square neck, of insertings of Hamburg, with ruffle around neck and sleeves, $1.25. V-shaped, with deep Hamburg, Cambric, $1.50. Finer ones, $1.75, $2.00, and upwards.

Lace Trimmed Chemise, from $1.00 to $6.00.

Drawers,—tucked Cambric ruffles, fine tucks above ruffle, 35 cents and 40 cents. Hamburg ruffle and tucks, 45 cents. Hamburg ruffle and inserting, 65 cents. Hamburg ruffle, fine tucks, 95 cents, $1.00, $1.25. Fine Hamburg ruffle and inserting, $1.35, $1.50.

Drawers, taimmed in lace, from $1.00 to $3.75.

Skirts,—Cambric ruffle tucks above ruffle, 50 cents. Skirts, with tucked cambric ruffle, tucks above ruffle, 65 cents and 75 cents. Skirt, with Hamburg ruffle and tucks, $1.00. Finer Hamburg ruffle, with large tucks above ruffle, $1.25. Cambric ruffle, with blind embroidered ruffle on edge, tucks above ruffle, $2.00.

Skirt, with two Hamburg ruffles, tucks above ruffle, $2.00. Deep Hamburg ruffle, fine tucks, $2.25, $2.50, $3.00 up to $5.50.

High neck cambric Corset Covers, Hamburg edge around neck, 25 cents and 40 cents. Square neck, cambric, tucks down front, 60 cents. Fine tucked yoke Corset Covers, inserting and edge down front, edge around neck, 75 cents. Square neck, deep Hamburg, $1.00. V-shaped, of wide Hamburg, $1.25.

Lace trimmed Corset Covers, $1.50, $2.00, and upwards.

Sets of UNDERWEAR, $3.00, $5.00, $7.50, and upwards.

"C. P." CORSETS:

White,	$1.50, $2.00, $2.25, $2.50, $3.00.
Drab,	$2.00, $2.50, $3.00.
Pink,	$2.25.
Blue,	$2.25, $3.00.

"C. P." SHORT.

White,	$2.00, $2.25.
Black, Pink, White, Blue,	$2.50.

"P. D." CORSETS.

White,	$1.50, $2.25, $2.50.
Drab,	$2.50.
Cream,	$3.00.
Black,	$3.00.

"P. D." FOR STOUT PERSONS.

White, Drab,	$3.00.

"P D"—EXTRA SIZE.

White, Drab,	$4.00.

"P. D."—SHORT.

White,	$2.00, $2.25.

WOVEN CORSETS

25 cents, $1.00, $1.25, $1.50.	
Woven Corsets, Extra Long Waist,	$1.00, $1.50.
Woven Corsets, 6-0 bones,	$2.25.
Woven Riding Corsets,	$1.00, $1.50, $2.

"R. G." CORSETS.

Coutil Moulded, White and Drab,	$1.00.
Roth Double Bone, White and Drab,	$1.25.
" " Extra size,	$1.50.
"R. G." Sateen, White, Pink, Blue, Black,	$1.00.
Satin Corsets, all shades,	$1.25.

THOMSON'S GLOVE-FITTING CORSET.

Thomson's Long, White,	$1.00, $1.25, $1.50.
" " Drab,	$1.25, $1.50.
" Short, White & Drab,	$1.00.
" Sateen, White,	$1.50.
" Abdominal, White & Drab,	$1.50.
" Abdominal, Ex. size,	$1.75.
" Nursing, White, Drab,	$1.00.
" " "	$1.25.
Warner's Health, with distended bust and shoulder strap,	$1.15.
Elastic Hip, $1.00 Extra size,	$1.25.
Flexible Hip,	$1.00.
Warner's Misses' with shoulder strap,	68.
Madam Foy's Improved,	$1.00.
Sateen, embroidered in silk,	50.
Coutil, White and Drab,	75.
Ferris' Corded Waist,	$1.25, $1.00.
" "Sensible" for Misses,	$1.00.
" Single, sizes 21 to 28 for Misses,	75.
" Plaited, sizes 21 to 28, for Misses,	80.
Open & Closed Back, sizes 21-28,	80.
Baby, sizes 21 to 34,	75.
"L. S. C's" "Comfort," sizes 22-28,	65.

BUSTLES.

Hair Crescent,	50.
Bon Ton Wire, (finished with kid)	50.
Parisian,	50, 75.
Tampico, small ruffles, 12 inch,	75.
Beauty Wire, 28-inch long,	$1.00.
French Hair Cloth,	$1.00, 1.50
Eight Spring Muslin,	$1.00.
Mus in, 28-inch long, (wires can be removed for laundering.)	$1.15 1.50.
Perfection Woven Wire,	75.

INFANTS' GOODS.

Plain Cambric Night-Slip,	$ 30.
Plaited front,	50.
Tucked yoke,	75.
Tucked yoke edged with embroidery, tucked Skirt,	90, 1.00
Embroidered entire length of front,	90.
Yoke made of five insertings, skirt with tucks and embroidery,	$1.35.
Yoke of fine tucks edged with emb., Skirt, three clusters of tucks, tucked ruffle edged with emb.,	$1 50.
Yoke of four insertings, Skirt two clusters of tucks, wide inserting edged with embroidery,	$2 00.
Yoke of fine tucks and inserting, two cluste s of tucks deep emb. Skirt,	$2 25.
Yoke of two fine tucks, edged with emb., two insertings, three clusters of tucks in skirt, deep emb. edge, $2.50, and finer,	$3 25.
Long Nainsook Slip, tucked yoke and skirt,	$1 25, 1.35.
Yoke of inserting, tucked skirt,	$1 50.
Yoke of tucks with herring-bone stitching, skirt to match sleeves and neck edged with lace,	$2 00.
Round yoke of nine insertings, with inserting in skirt, emb. ruffle,	$3 75.
Square yoke tucks and herring-bone, deep emb. on Skirt, $5.50, and finer to	$10.00

SHORT DRESSES.

Cambric dress, with tucked yoke,	$ 75.
Tucked yoke with herring-bone,	$1.00.
Embroidered yoke, edged with emb. ruffle,	$1.00.
Yoke inserting and tucks, with tucked skirt,	$1.35.
Grecian solid yoke of emb. & tucked skirt,	$1.50.
Grecian tucked yoke, edged with emb., deep embroidered ruffle in skirt,	$1.85.
Round yoke of fine tucks and emb. inserting, & ruffle of fine Swiss embroidery,	$2.25.
Grecian pointed yoke of inserting, with inserting and deep ruffle on skirt,	$3.00.
Short Nainsook, fine tucked yoke, edged with Swiss embroidery, three clusters of tucks in skirt,	$1.00.
Solid yoke of embroidery, tucked skirt,	$1.00.
Fine emb. yoke, edged with herring-bone stitching, two insertings in skirt, five Swiss embroidered ruffles,	$5.00.
Grecian Waist of solid Swiss emb., with embroidered skirt to match,	$4.00.
Yoke of fine insertings & deep emb. skirt,	$5.50.
Yoke of solid Swiss embroidery, Swiss inserting, with deep ruffle on skirt,	$5.75.
Box plaited and fine tucks, front trimmed with pear bottoms, broad collar, and sash edged with embroidery,	$3.50.
Plaited the entire length of front, broad emb. collar, sash edged with emb.,	$5.50.
Fine tucked yoke, inserting of herring-bone, with tucked skirt,	$1.50.
Fine tucked yoke, trimmed with ruffle edged with lace, plain tucked ruffle edged with lace on skirt,	$2.00.
Fine embroidered yoke, two insertings in skirt, plain hem,	$3.25.
Fine yoke of embroidered tucks, tucked skirt, with three insertings, plain hem,	$4.00.
Hand-made hem-stitched yoke, skirt to match,	$4.50.
Grecian tucked body, with inserting of herring-bone, deep flounced skirt,	$2.85.

CASHMERE COATS.

Mother Hubbard—tan, cream, red,	$2.00.
Grecian—tan, cream, red, $5.00 up to	$6.00.
Grecian plain flannel, dark shades, with hoods,	$5.75.
Long Cashmere Cloaks, emb. collar,	$5.75.
Long Cashmere Cloaks, emb. all over,	$6.00.
Long Cashmere Cloaks, emb. collar and skirt,	$6.75.

INFANTS' CAPS.

Good quality shirred Cap, with plaited ruche and cluster shirring, sizes from 12 to 16 inches, 50c.
With Goffered ruche and cluster shirring, sizes from 12 to 15 inches, 50 cents.
Other styles in plain, French caps, at 50 cents, $1.15, $1.25, $1.50, in all sizes.
Shirred Cap, low crown, with full ruche, sizes from 12 to 16 inches, $1.35.
French Cap, with feather stitching and tucks in 13, 14, 15 inches, two qualities, $1.00 and $1.25.
Muslin Cap, with cluster shirring and full high front, low crown, sizes from 12 to 16 inches, $2.50.
Cream Lace Cap, with full ruche and silk lining, 13, 14 and 15 inch, two qualities lace, at $1.25 and $2.50.
Surah Silk Caps, with lace ruche, 12, 13, 14, 15 inch, $2.25.
Fine Lace Caps, for Infants, sizes 12, 13, 14 inch, $2.25 and $3.25.
Embroidered Normandy Cap, with goffered ruche, 14, 15, 16 inch, $3.50.
Babies' Plain and Embroidered Bibs, 8c., 12c., 15c., 20c., 25c., 35c., 45c., 50c., 65c., 75c., 85c., 95c., $1.45.
Children's Table Bibs, 15c., 18c., 25c.

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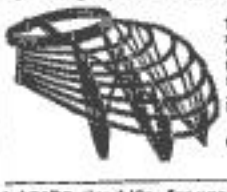

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

PRACTICAL DRESS.

And How to Attain It.

BY JENNY JUNE.

One of the most encouraging signs of the times, among women, is the willingness to take dress into serious, and intelligent consideration. Heretofore it has been the subject of either reform, of slavish subjection to authority, or ignorant contempt. The judgment, and good sense, which distinguish the majority of women in other matters, has been conspicuously absent from this; and it has therefore been the prey of the extremists,—that is to say, the frivolously fashionable on the one hand, and the uncompromising reconstructionists on the other.

The womanhood of the country is however assuming a new phase,—the latest "reforms" have emanated from a Society woman,—a Washington Society woman at that, and thousands of her sex in the Society circles of our large cities, are eagerly enquiring if there is anything in her movement which will emancipate them from the thraldom which in so many ways limits, and retards their growth, their action, and their developement. Until this release has taken place, women will never know how depressing an influence has been exerted upon them.

There are skirts, and the eternal question of distending them. Mrs. Jenness Miller, of Washington, the most recent apostle of a new dispensation, solves the problem of getting rid of all but the dress skirt, and building up her "gown" on perfectly natural foundations.

The two examples of her designs which are given, do not present any specially novel features, except their naturalness of outline, nor is it her intention to attract attention by unnecessary divergence from accepted ideas. The MOUNTING DRESS is just the "Mother Hubbard" about which the Press at different times has been unnecessarily excited, because some ignorant women have supposed that what was good for the house, was good for the street. It is not necessary to

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describe it, the square yoke, the straightly gathered skirt, flowing from the edge of the yoke, are familiar to every one. Under this dress are two layers of clothing, consisting of a woolen, and cotton combination, and trousers to match the gown, which are buttoned on to a bodices, shaped and made with full bust, gathered into a yoke.

The second figure, shows a walking or house dress; the design adapted to any useful purpose, but most effective made in a combination of velvet, with wool. The skirt, and yoke are plain velvet, or velveteen; the overdress, sleeves, and lower part of the bodice, wool, in a fine check, which may prove a little contrast of color, in almost invisible lines. The waist is the natural size, and is broadly belted in. The sleeves are finished with cuffs of velvet, and throat, front of bodice, sides of overdress, and cuffs, ornamented with clasps, or large buttons. The underwear is of course, always the same, except as modified by the character of the dress. Some of Mrs. Miller's published photographs show for instance, a bodice open, below what would be possible, if high woolen "combinations" are worn. It is safe to infer, therefore, that she does not consider the high layer of wool, or cotton essential.

There is no doubt in regard to the freedom from bonds, and encumbrances which this style of dress would bring,—but would women adopt it? Do they want the freedom? Are they prepared for a no corset, no underskirt, and no *fourure* millenium? Experience warrants me in saying that the majority are not. Even sensible women who are anxious to "find a better way," demur at radical, and revolutionary changes. They are willing to abandon the corset, but they want a substitute,—something that will aid in shaping, in forming distinct outlines, and "support" the waist. An authorative writer on Art in Dress, says that no dress can be considered elegant, which does not clearly outline, and define the waist. This is distinctly the modern idea, as opposed to the old Watteau, and other styles of a bye-gone period, and no reform ideas will find general favor which do not take this into account. There are belts, and bands, and corset-bodices worn by actresses, and individuals who cannot work with, or endure the restraint of the regular corset. But they are not in the regular stock of the stores, they are not provided for, or illustrated in the columns of the Fashion Magazines. They say the demand is not sufficiently general to pay to keep a supply in the shops, but demands are often created for more purely artificial, and senseless things than this desirable, and needed link, between the corset, and no corset. The straight and flat back to the gown, is to eyes that have grown accustomed to what is called "style," as objectionable as the natural waist. It is said, and said truly, that a steel, wire, or any other

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kind of cage is quite unnecessary as a part of the clothing of even fashionably dressed women; that these do not wear such things, especially when they are "dressed;" that is attired for formal occasion. But the flounced, and stiffened underskirt to the waist, supplemented by the *pouf* at the back of the dress, requires an amount of experience, cost, preparation, and continued care, not possible to the majority, who buy the cheapest, most available article which is offered as a substitute. This will always be the case so long as women accept the diction that unnatural distension is necessary to a stylish, and elegant appearance.

In considering the subject of Spring clothing, so many ladies ask: "What will be worn? Will combination or plain suits of one material be fashionable?" The simple truth is that as many of one kind are seen as the other, but it is not wise as a rule, to make a combination of two fabrics in a perfectly new suit, because so many utilize this mode for making over last year's costumes, and because it deprives one of the chance for remodeling upon this basis, when parts of the original material have grown shabby. There is a still more potential reason in the necessity that always exists for the possession of a neat, serviceable all-wool dress, and the Spring offers the best opportunity for its acquisition. Its color, its style, must of course depend largely upon what it will be worn with, and the occasion it will

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be worn upon. If it is to be complete, that is accompanied by hat, and jacket, it may consist of any small check, hair stripe, or heather mixture, but if it is to be worn with a wrap, a black wrap, for example, the color, or general tone, may be grey, or almost any dark, or neutral tint, but brown; but brown, and black, particularly dark brown. To put brown, and black together, is like placing two sad people of different language, and nationality together; who can only look gloomy, not talk to each other.

If the Spring suit is to be used afterward for a travelling dress, the simpler and more uniform it is the better. Take for example, the design as given in "Travelling Dress." This is complete in itself, and would only require an ulster, or wrap for warmth, or protection, upon occasion. It is made of camel's hair cloth with a fine stripe, in different lines of color for trimming, the lines so fine that a blended effect is produced, in which the ground shade of the cloth is the only one that predominates. The same style is made up entirely in check, checked cloth cap also, and in cloth-finished flannel, braided. The foundation material is a light, and coarse, but stiff kind of alapaca at twenty-five cents per yard. This is cut into a plain, gored, walking skirt, upon the hemmed, or faced, and bound edge of which is mounted a narrow plaiting of the material. The front breadth is draped across; the lower sides forming a part of the kilted fold of the panel; the upper held by three straps which unite the front, to the back of the skirt. The back hangs in straight folds, except at the top, where it is slightly *bouffant*; and its edge is finished with the stripe of the material, arranged as trimming. The jacket is a habit basque, trimmed with band of the stripe, which come to a deep point in the back, and form the high, standing collar; but otherwise simulate a Norfolk jacket. The high coat sleeves have band, which form cuffs to match. The cap is formed wholly of the material; laid in fold over the crown, the oval sides edged with gold cord, and an aigrette to match the shades of the cloth, set upright in its fold. Four yards to four and a-half of alapaca, and eight of material 44 inches wide, would make this dress.

Loose vests are less fashionable than they were, but they are not quite driven out of street costumes. They are decidedly smaller, more compact however, forming only a sort of shirred, shirt front, which is often made of a crape, or small soft, silk handkerchief, and is separate from the dress. The long, loose fronts, are confined to "tea-gowns," or house-wrappers, which is what the tea-gown means in this country. A pretty design for Spring costumes is of checked wool with vest front of kid, or Marseilles, under a fly jacket, which shows soft folds of silk at the throat, and across the waist-line. The effect is that of full, rounded bands of silk, which are fastened to the inner edge of the jacket on one side, and hooked in on the other. The silk matches the ground shade, or general tone of the material.

All silk is much used for more dressy Spring costumes; the trimming an open lace, like embroidery over a contrast, or lighter shade of the same color. The shades of heliotrope, of sapphire blue, of leather brown, of grey, and drab, may be used in this way. Some very dainty costumes are made of all silk, (*faille Française*) with trimming arranged in fine folds of *crepe de chine* in the same shade. These are Quaker-like in their neatness. A full vest front of the *crepe* may also be inserted. Another way of trimming silk, is with ornaments of open, beaded embroidery, which shows the silk through the meshes, and is lighter than the solid work. These are put on in pyramidal forms, points down, back, and front of the bodice, upon one side to form a panel, and upon the sleeves, as pointed cuffs. The bonnet should be made of the materials, and match a costume dress, unless made entirely of *crepe de chine* or lace.

A pretty dress for a girl which may be arranged very simply is given under the head of a "Dainty Dress." The original design was of embroidered silk muslin, over soft silk, the shade of the little flowerets worked upon its surface. The edge of the underskirt had a narrow plaiting of the silk, and the muslin a tiny scalloped edge which fell over the plaiting. The back of the skirt hung straight, but the front was draped, and festooned with ribbons of reversible satin from right to

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]

left, the loops, and ends descending upon the left side. A belt of ribbon encircled the waist, and a low bodice of silk with fluted front, revealed itself beneath the gathered V shaped bodice of embroidered muslin. The elbow sleeves, drawn full upon the arm, were surmounted with loops of ribbon upon the shoulder.

A simpler dress of sprigged muslin made from this, cost so little, and was so pretty that it is worth noting. The underdress of silk was omitted entirely, the material was only ordinary sprigged muslin, in small cowslip pattern at thirty-five cents per yard. It was hemmed upon the bottom, and the skirt made plain, with a few gathers upon the gored sides, but none in front, the principal fullness massed at the back. A low, square cut lining, edged with lace beading, in which a narrow yellow gros-grain ribbon was run, took the place of the under-bodice. In every other respect the cheaper dress matched the other exactly. The ribbons were cowslip yellow, satin on one side, gros-grain on the other. At a cost of about five dollars, and really very little work, it will be a pretty dress for all summer.

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(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY ERNA E. REXFORD.

TO CORRESPONDENTS:—All inquiries about flowers and their culture will be cheerfully answered to the best of my ability in the columns of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, when they are of general interest. Those of a personal character, and not of general interest, will be answered by mail,—provided a stamped envelope is sent for reply; and not otherwise. If an immediate reply is desired, it can only be obtained by mail, as the matter for the paper is made up several weeks in advance of date, and any reply which comes through the paper will necessarily be delayed. In asking questions about plants which you have failed to grow successfully, tell what kind of culture you have given them, and this will often enable the editor to get at the difficulty, and give you the information you require.

Send all letters directly to the address given below, and not to the office of publication.

SHOCTON, WIS. ERNA E. REXFORD.

A correspondent writes to ask what sort of a Rose the popular *La France* is, and what culture it requires.

It is what is called a hybrid tea: that is, it is a variety obtained by hybridizing a Tea Rose with some other variety, and the result is, a Rose which combines many of the good qualities of each parent, chief among which is the characteristic of very free blooming and large size, with a most delightful fragrance. It is of a rich, soft shade of pink, very double, and a most profuse bloomer. I notice that some dealers advertise it as quite hardy. In the latitude of Philadelphia it may stand our winters, with some protection, but north of that I doubt of its being successfully wintered out of doors. I would advise taking it up in fall, putting the roots into a box of earth, and putting it into the cellar where it is cool and dark; there it will keep dormant until brought up and set out in the open ground in spring, where it will soon start into growth, and, like the Teas, its new growth will soon bear fine crops of flowers, and these crops will be frequent all summer, if one is careful to cut it back well after each season of bloom. In the greenhouse it is a very desirable variety, flowering much more freely than the Marchael Neil, which it resembles somewhat in shape and size.

THE LA FRANCE ROSE.

In sending for plants this spring, I would advise every one having a yard to add a few varieties of out-door kinds to the list. Get hardy kinds, and none others, for the half-hardy sorts, no matter how beautiful they are, require more care than the amateur is likely to give them, and the result will be a failure in every instance where an attempt is made to grow them without ample winter protection.

One of the best late-blooming plants for the border is the white Japan Anemone. This plant is hardy anywhere at the north, and like most border plants it requires so little care that the most inexperienced gardener can easily grow it to perfection. If you plant it in good soil, and keep the weeds and grass down about it, you will soon have a large clump of it from which you will get, in September and October, fine crops of large white flowers which contrast charmingly with the foliage, and which, from the great scarcity of flowers at that season, will be sure to be greatly admired. In order to grow this or any other border plant well, you must not neglect to dig about it with a hoe often enough to prevent the grass from becoming established there, for if this is not done, in a short time it will be choked out by its rival. Grass should not be allowed to grow within a foot and a half of any shrub, and it can only be prevented from coming closer by the frequent use of the hoe or some similar tool. Very often persons have a large, deep box made, without a bottom, which they sink into the ground about plants from which they desire to keep the grass. If this is done, care should be taken to have the box at least a foot deep, or the roots of the grass will work under and come up inside the enclosure. In such a box this plant will do very well, but the best effect is obtained when the plant is planted out in the border, and allowed to spread to suit itself, digging away the grass before it, as it increases. A great clump of it, in full bloom in October, when there is not another flower to be found in the garden, is always a pleasing feature in the landscape of the lawn. It increases rapidly, and new plants can be obtained by a division of the roots.

Another plant which I would advise all lovers of fine flowers to procure this spring for the border, is the double Hollyhock. I know of nothing more effective in positions where a large display is desired. The flower-stalks grow to a height of four or five feet, and two-thirds of their length they will be covered with blossoms as large as Dahlias, and as double, but they will be without the primness and stiffness of that flower. The Hollyhock has a graceful habit of growth, and a dignity which makes it well adapted for use where a good deal of color, in a mass, is required. It shows to excellent advantage when planted in groups on the lawn, and especially so if given a place on a knoll, where it can be made a prominent feature as seen from the path, or the house. It comes in crimson, white, scarlet, rose-color, purple and pale yellow, and by planting such colors as harmonize well together,—the whites and scarlets, for instance, or the purples and yellows,—a very fine effect can be produced. If the pale yellows are used in combination with the dark, rich blue of the perennial Larkspur, a most magnificent result is obtained, the two colors contrasting vividly, and, at the same time being in perfect harmony. By all means, send for a few plants of this flower. Young plants will bloom by the middle of summer. If you were to sow seed in the spring you could raise plenty of plants which would bloom a year later, but the only way to get flowers for this season is to buy plants of the florists.

SOME GENERAL RULES ABOUT THE CARE OF HOUSE PLANTS.

1st.—Never water until the surface of the soil in the pot appears dry.

All rules have exceptions, and this rule applies to most kinds grown in the sitting-room, but not all. The Calla, for instance, requires more water at its roots than it would be likely to get under the above prescription, and so does the Fuchsia, when in active growth; but it will be found safe to treat nearly every other kind usually found in the ordinary collection of the amateur as above directed. The Calla should be kept wet,—not merely moist,—and the Fuchsia should be watered so frequently that the soil is quite moist all through; but both of these plants should have good drainage given them. If this is done, there will be no danger of bad effect from over-watering. If not done, the soil will often become sour, because it retains the water which should run off.

2d.—Remove all flowers as they fade. Allow none to form seed. If you do, all the energies of the plant will be bent toward perfecting it, and as a natural result you will have but few flowers after that.

3d.—Syringe your plants overhead at least twice a week, and once a day is much better. Do this thoroughly, and take especial pains to throw the water up on the underside of the leaves. This is where the red spider lurks, and it dislikes nothing so much as moisture. It is only found in dry rooms, with a high temperature. The only way to keep it away, or to drive it away when it has taken possession, is to use water freely and persistently.

THE JAPAN ANEMONE.

4th.—Never use cold well water. Rain water is best, but hard water will do if not given just as it comes from the pump. It is a good plan to add a few drops of ammonia to each pailful of hard water.

5th.—Keep the aphis, green fly, or plant louse, in check by frequent fumigations with tobacco stems, or by syringing daily, all infested plants with an infusion of tobacco stems, until the pest is routed. Prepare the infusion by pouring boiling water on the stems or leaves. Let them steep for twelve hours, then drain off the water for use. It is about the right strength when the color of weak tea. Used thoroughly, it will drive the aphis away, but it is not as immediately effective as tobacco smoke is. But many prefer to use it because it is not so disagreeable. It is well to apply it frequently when there is nothing seen of the pest, on the principle that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," for it will be found much easier to keep the pest from taking possession of the plants than it is to drive him away after becoming established.

6th.—Turn your plants about every few days, to prevent their becoming drawn towards the light. If this is not done, you will have one-sided specimens which will only look well from the outside of the window.

7th.—If a plant has a tendency to grow tall, and you want it to be bushy and compact, cut the top off, and keep it cut off until you have succeeded in forcing side branches to start.

8th.—Never use very large pots for plants from which you want many flowers. Plenty of root-room induces a vigorous growth of top. When small pots are used, there is less development of branch and more of flowers.

9th.—When you pot or repot plants, always leave a space of an inch between the soil and the top of the pot. This allows you to pour on water without having a good deal of it run off. Fill the pot to its rim with water, and let it soak into the soil gradually.

The following is as good a compost for nearly all kinds of plants as the amateur will be likely to obtain: One-third good garden loam, one-third turfy matter from beneath old sods, the other third made up of equal parts of well-rotted manure and sharp sand. Mix well.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It seems that a good many persons labor under the impression that subscriptions should be sent to me for the JOURNAL. All letters enclosing money have been forwarded to the publication office, where they have doubtless received the proper attention. I wish to say that I have nothing to do with the paper, except as editor of this department, and the only letters that should be sent to me are those which have reference to plants and their culture. All inquiries of any other character should be sent to the publisher or editor. I make this statement to correct a mistake which a large number of persons have fallen into from reading an advertisement which appeared some time in January, in which my name was given as editor of the floral department, and as it appeared at the bottom of the advertisement, several of those who read it, and did not read it as carefully as they ought to have done, got the idea that I was the person to send subscriptions to, and make all manner of inquiries of. I would call attention to the card at the head of this column, and request all who write about flowers to send their letters directly to me, and not to the publication office. This will save time, postage, and considerable work to the editor of the paper.

Katherine Nimmo:—This correspondent asks to have the different varieties of Cacti, Begonias and Lantanas named, and wants to know what a complete assortment will cost, also the mode of cultivation. For information regarding the Cactus, I would advise her to write to A. Blanc, Philadelphia, who advertises a good assortment of the best kinds for general cultivation. To give a complete list of Begonias and Lantanas, would occupy more space than can well be spared but I can give her a list of the best varieties for general use. Begonias: Rubra, rich coral red, very profuse and constant bloomer—one of the best, if not the best; Weltonienisis, rich, shining pink, with beautiful foliage, very free-flowering and a fine variety for summer use; Multiflora, a larger grower than the last variety, but of much the same color—a good kind for winter use; Fuchsoides alba, pure white; Metallica, large foliage of dark green, olive, and red, with a metallic lustre, from which it derives its name; Saundersonii, bright, rich crimson. The best distinct Lantanas are Alba, white, with yellow eye; Grand Sultan, purple and yellow; Mme d'Or, rich golden yellow, dwarf and very free-flowering. The cultivation of these plants is very simple. Give them a good soil, made rich with well-decomposed manure, water as needed, and plenty of sunshine, and you will doubtless succeed in growing and blooming them well. They are excellent window plants, blooming nearly all the time if care is taken to cut them back occasionally to insure new growth, on which the flowers are produced. The Begonia requires less sunshine and more water than the Lantana, and will generally grow into fine, symmetrical plants without much pinching. Plants of each flower can be bought for from ten cents to fifteen cents apiece. I have ordered a catalogue sent from which you will be able to select some very desirable varieties.

"Mrs. J. R. Hazlitt":—Your card was received, but while moving "into the new house" it was mislaid, and has just "turned up" along with several other inquiries. I will answer your question now, though the information will come too late for this season, but you can make a mental memorandum of it. In starting any bulb which you desire to bring into bloom right away, always put it in a dark place to form roots before putting it in the window. A cool place is more favorable to the formation of roots than a warm one, for the latter will start the top into growth, while in a cool place the top will not grow, and in order to get a strong root-growth there should be no growth going on elsewhere at the same time. First roots, then top. With a strong root, the top-growth will be strong; but, as I have said, the root-growth ought to be completed before the top-growth begins, in order to secure the best results. This rule holds good for Freesias as well as for Hyacinths and other plants of that class, and were it generally followed, there would be less failure in securing flowers from bulbs in winter.

"A. S. Buxton:—I think you would find the cellar a better place for your Pelargoniums through the winter than your sitting-room windows are. It would be necessary to bring them up and start them into new growth quite early, however, if you desired a good crop of flowers. They might be left in the cellar until about the first of March.

"An Old Reader":—As near as I could make out from the somewhat damaged specimen leaf you sent me, the plant you asked a name for is a variety of the Cactus,—an Epphillium, I think. If I am correct in this respect, I can tell you the treatment a friend of mine who has excellent success in growing all kinds of Cacti, gives her plants, and that may be of benefit to you. She plants them in clay and sand; when not growing, she keeps them very dry; when they show an inclination to grow or blossom, she gives water quite liberally, and as the buds expand, she waters with some strong fertilizer. She has a profuse crop of flowers, and treats all varieties alike.

"W. K. B.":—This correspondent's letter was among the mislaid ones referred to above, and the information asked for will come too late for this season, but it can be kept in mind for future use. The query is, how to keep a Begonia through winter. The one belonging to the correspondent stands in the kitchen window, facing east, and the leaves are dropping from it. If I knew what variety it was, I could give a more intelligent answer. If one of the summer blooming kinds, I would put it in the cellar, if not too damp and cold. If one of the winter blooming kinds, I venture the "guess" that the dropping of its leaves is occasioned by its having been forced too much out of season, and it is showing an inclination to take a rest, in which desire it should be gratified. If it has not been repotted for some time, the trouble may be due to poverty of the soil. The Begonia exhausts the richness from the earth in which it grows quite rapidly, and this plant may be starving. Or, the air of the room may be too dry, though if it grows in the kitchen, this is hardly likely to be the case. Most plants will do a great deal better in the kitchen than in any other room in the house, because there is so much steam there from cooking, and other household work. I was called in, not long ago, to make a "diagnosis" in the case of a Begonia rubra, the best of all varieties for house culture, and one which, with proper treatment, will always be in bloom, or growing well. This plant had a sickly look, its leaves were small, and not the bright, dark green they ought to have been, and the few clusters of flowers on it were so small that it was difficult to recognize the variety from them. The lady to whom it belonged told me that it had been dropping its leaves for the last six months, and she thought it was dying of old age, as she had had it for three years. I asked her when she had last repotted it? "Not for a year and over," she answered. I advised her to repot it at once, cutting it back well. She did so. I saw it again to-day, and it is starting out beautifully all over the branches, and already buds are showing among the unfolding leaves. It was more nutriment that was needed. The plant was starving to death slowly.

"A Vocalist":—Your letter was one of the number spoken of above. In my reply to Mrs. J. R. Hazlitt, you will find an answer to your inquiry.

"A Southern Californian":—January may be a good month in which to start rose cuttings with you, but, here it would be folly to think of putting any cutting out in the ground and expect it to live. Your climate and ours are so different that I cannot give you the advice you ask for; but, if plants begin to grow in January, I do not see why it would not do to start cuttings then. In regard to starting cuttings in sand, or the open ground, I would say that I greatly prefer sand, in shallow boxes. Clear sand, kept wet and warm.

[Correspondence Continued on Opposite Page.]

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TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

Correspondence Concluded from Opposite Page.

To fifty-three correspondents who have written about the Chinese Lily:—I thank you all for your kindness in giving me the information I asked. Especially Mrs. S. W. McClune, of Watsonville, California, for the bulbs she sent. The plant is, as I expected, from the descriptions given of it, simply Polyanthus Narcissus,—that and nothing more; a charming flower, but a very common one, and one that most persons have in their gardens already. In buying a Chinese Lily they expect to get something new, and I am surprised that some of our reliable florists who must know what it is consent to help along the deception by keeping it for sale and advertising it under that name.

"Mrs. McClune:"—You are at liberty to ask any questions you see fit to, and as many of them, at any time; I will answer them to the best of my ability, willingly.

"M. B."—This correspondent writes: "I should like to know why our Amaryllis does not bloom. It is nearly three years old." How am I to give any opinion, with only the fact to work from that it does not bloom, but is three years old? If persons asking questions of this kind would tell what sort of culture the plants have had, I could form some opinion regarding the matter, and might be able to suggest some treatment which would result in the plant's flowering, but all that can be done in a case like this is to go on and give general directions for the culture of the plant referred to, and if this correspondent will look over the last year's numbers of the JOURNAL she will find an article on the Amaryllis, from which she can get a good idea of what is required in order to grow this plant satisfactorily. She can compare the treatment there spoken of with the treatment she has given her plant, and a comparison will perhaps enable her to see where she has failed to give it the proper culture.

"M. A. Lingle:"—The leaf you send and ask me to give a name for is that of the Euonymus, a very pretty evergreen plant, well adapted for house-culture. From what you say about its dropping buds, I infer that you give it too much water.

"Mrs. Fannie Keith:"—Your letter to the editor of the JOURNAL, in which you ask if an "exchange column" cannot be introduced, has been referred to me, with this note by the assistant editor: "We do not care to open any exchange column, as you already know, but as you have offered something of the kind, we forward this letter to you." In this the writer of the note is mistaken. I have offered nothing in the nature of an "exchange." A correspondent wanted to exchange plants and I gave her address in this department, and advised those who cared to make an exchange to correspond directly with her; but the columns of the floral department have not been offered as a medium of communication. In case any correspondent wishes to "trade" plants for other things, as this correspondent proposes, it is best for them to make the "trade" by letter, as there is not enough room in the paper for a column of correspondence on the subject.

"A. C. L."—This correspondent writes from California to say that she is very much surprised at my saying that the Fuchsia is not a good winter-blooming plant. She says: "I have always considered it one of the best. I have grown but three varieties, Mrs. Marshall, Tower of London, and Purple Prince, and they bloom all the time for me. Perhaps this is owing to the treatment I give them. I pot them in rich soil, and every time I do my week's washing I set the pot in a tub of the suds, and let them soak. When it rains I give them water from the barnyard. I also sprinkle them well, and give good drainage. "A. C. L." must remember that very many flowers are almost constant bloomers in California which with us will bloom only at intervals, and no treatment can make up for the difference in climate.

"Mrs. M. E. B."—The Heliotrope will not bloom in the cool room in which you say you keep your plant, because it likes a good deal of heat. The Carnation ought to bloom well there. You say you water it every other day. I am inclined to think you give it too much water. Do not water until the soil looks dry on the surface. Wait for this, if you have to wait a week.

"S. L. Griffith:"—What has been said about the Chinese Lily will answer your question, I think. A reference to the florists' catalogues, in which the treatment required by the Polyanthus Narcissus is given, will enable you to cultivate this plant successfully in the open ground.

"E. C."—The Begonia with the small green leaf and white flowers is Washingtonana; the one with the dark leaf and pink flowers, is, I think, Metallica; the leaf was so crushed in coming through the mail that I could hardly identify. Metallica has a leaf something like those of the Rex varieties, but without their rich markings, and its stalk is covered with thick, short hairs. I do not heat soil in order to kill worms. I prefer to apply lime-water. You can get an excellent "plant-food" of Mr. Childs. If your Geraniums are healthy I do not understand why the buds should blast. I do not think I ever had any trouble of this sort with these plants unless they were too warm. In a room heated with coal, where the air is very hot and dry, they will frequently drop their buds. The remedy is more moisture, in such cases.

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Siberia is, next to Africa, the least known to us of all the countries of the world. It is the place of banishment for Russia's Nihilists, and its lofty table lands are strange and wonderful. Its animals differ from those we know, and its plants are unlike those of any other part of the world, being odd, beautiful, and with marked characteristics. The weary eye of many an exile on his sad journey has been cheered by the sight of a superb lily, which holds erect, like a bamboo, its spike of dazzling ruby flowers amid its lovely and striking foliage. We have now 50 per cent. of all the bulbs of this grand lily, which have been taken from its native land, and wish that every lover of flowers shall enjoy them.

CORAL LILY OF SIBERIA

Grows to 3 feet, with a grand bloom 5 inches in circumference. Its form is graceful, and its fern-like foliage is a beautiful bright green, and surpasses in delicacy and shining surface any plant we know. Its fragrance is exquisite, but its most striking attraction is the wonderful brightness of its scarlet flame-like bloom. It is the most brilliant red we have ever seen, and exceeds in color the ordinary lilies as sunrise surpasses any work of art.

OUR OFFER.

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HINTS UPON ETIQUETTE AND GOOD MANNERS.

BY MRS. S. O. JOHNSTON.

Slang, Exaggerations, Slander.

"'Tis only man can words create,
And cut the air to sounds articulate
By nature's special charter. Nay, speech can
Make a shrewd discrepance 'twixt man and man.
"It doth the gentleman from the clown discover;
And from a fool the grave philosopher.
As Solon said to one in judgment weak:—
'I thought thee wise until I heard thee speak.'"

And Solon showed his claim to be called a wise man by those words. Truly, by our speech we must be judged; and if we talk flippantly, and load our sentences with slang and exaggerations, we must lose the respect of those who are wiser than ourselves. Slang is defined as 'the contortion of words and phrases,' and the lovers of it will tell you that it has been spoken in all nations since the world began, or at least since their histories were written, and will quote Latin and Greek slang, and strive to convince you that there really is nothing new under the sun, and each nation and century but repeat those that have passed away. Yet it does not make their position any stronger, because human nature is comprised of much the same materials, from the dawn of creation, even to nearly the end of the nineteenth century. To the pure all things are pure; and to the coarse and rude all things must be coarse and rude.

And there are some phrases of slang that are not quite as objectionable as others. But few persons of any sense can help a shudder, when their ears are greeted with;—"You bet"! "Give us a rest"! "Hold on"! "There, you've got me"! or, "You've got left"!" from the coral lips of girlhood, or the faded lips of womanhood. Young girls learn slang phrases from their brothers or young friends, and deem it "so jolly" to repeat them upon all occasions, little thinking how they sound to their elders, or to well-bred young women.

Slang expressions have been styled "the outlaws of language"; and as they usually originate in the slums of society, it is a good title for them. If young girls would form a society among themselves, to exclude all rude, uncultured phrases, and if a fine of three or five cents is levied, for every such speech; and the moneys thus collected are used for some benevolent purpose in their midst, it will be made doubly helpful. If they will form an "Anti-Slang Club," and ask their brothers and their friends to join it, and have occasional meetings at each other's houses to discuss the forms of speech prevalent among themselves; and, also, bring up some literary topic for discussion, they would contribute not only to their own good, but to those of all who associate with them.

In these days of cheap publications of all kinds, and newspapers and magazines in great abundance, it would seem as if mental food was offered to all homes in profusion. And yet, there are many children whose minds are not well fed. Therefore, if every district school would form an "Anti Slang Club," and widen its doors so that all may enter in, and render it useful, not only in purifying their speech, but, also, in giving them mental food in the form of literary discussions; and a club newspaper with selected and original articles to be read each week, incalculable good might arise from it.

The short phrase—"I say"—with which a sentence is so frequently commenced, is very objectionable; and, "See here! I say"! is still more so. Yet, how constantly one hears it among uneducated people; but upon an educated ear, it always strikes like a false note, and directly places the speaker at a low level. The following sentence was spoken in jest by one who had been told that an acquaintance had said that even in a short sentence he would utter the objectionable words "I say," at least ten times:—

"I say, sir! I hear say that you say, I say 'I say,' at every word I say. Now, sir, although I know I say, 'I say' at every word I say, still I say, sir, it is not for you to say I say 'I say,' at every word I say."

It would be safe to say that that young man was cured of the bad habit of saying "I say." And we must all learn to discard all slang from our speech, and remember that—

"Words lead to things; a scale is not more precise,—
Coarse speech, bad grammar, swearing, drinking, vice."

EXAGGERATIONS.

We of the nineteenth century are accused of exaggerations of speech, far beyond those of any other time. And we cannot but plead guilty to the charge. Only listen to the conversation of a bevy of young maidens and youths, and notice how the adverb "awfully" is employed. The words "awfully jolly"! "awfully pretty"! "awfully nice"! fall in great rapidity from rosy lips. Now, the definition of "awfully" is something fearful solemn, direful, appalling. Yet this is not its meaning to the young folks whose conversation we are listening to.

"Just lovely"! is another bit of slang that is considered quite a proper expression. But its application is rarely accurate.

And if you allow yourselves thus to exaggerate, you are the losers; because your listeners will soon place your speech at a low value, and say:—"Who said that?" when anything has been repeated to them. And if you have been its author, will reply:—"I never believe anything that person says."

So there is no worse reputation for a person to acquire than that of an exaggerator.

If you will employ weighty words to express light ideas, when you need the same words of power, you will find their value is lost.

"Fishy stories" is a slang phrase for exaggerated accounts, because fishermen are so prone to give their imaginations free rein when telling of their prowess in that occupation. And hunters, also, enjoy relating great stories about the game they have bagged; and sportsmen have tried the credulity of their friends so often, that they have lost faith in their statements, which are usually to be taken *cum grano salis*.

Every one should commence this year with the determination not to exaggerate in any statement they may make, and the gain to the public welfare would be great. Strive to impress upon the children the need of speaking the exact truth—that and nothing more. They learn to exaggerate with a lisping tongue, and we all think it a very cunning thing to hear them, and yet, we are even then teaching them to lie.

Yes, to lie—for it cannot be called anything else. It has been said: "That a lie would travel over half a continent, while truth is putting on her boots."

And it is a wise maxim, but yet it is a great exaggeration, and I should not like to teach it to my child, without explaining its meaning.

SCANDAL.

Scandal is the worst form of speech that the mouth can utter; and good breeding ought to have the power to extinguish its presence from every household, coterie and assemblage.

"Who stabs my name would stab my person too,
Did not the hangman's axe lie in the way."

Says "Croun, in Henry VII."

And it is, indeed, a murderous act to strive to take away a person's character by hints and insinuations. A well-bred man or woman—which should also mean a large-hearted, kindly man and woman—could never indulge in aspersions of character. It would be an act utterly foreign to their character. And if detractions and slanders are spoken in their presence, they can always turn the edge of the unkind and bitter remarks, by relating something pleasant about the persons. And—

"Happy are they that hear their detractions,
And can put them to mending."

Until the millenium comes—that blessed time which so many look forward to as near at hand—we cannot stifle all slanders, but each one can do a little towards the glorious work.

And I think it a good way to announce boldly that you will not give ear to scandulous accounts of your neighborhood, *i. e.*, the little petty gossip of the every day's doings. But if some fraudulent act has been committed, and it is well known that "so and so" has bitterly transgressed against the laws of God and man, then, I do not call it talking scandal to express one's opinion of the act. Not blatantly and rudely, but to say plainly that it is not an act to be quietly set aside in a God-loving, Christ-following community, but should bear the disapproval of every right-minded person in the place.

If this open seal of reproof were placed upon all wrong-doing, we should have much more courtesy and good-breeding in our midst. But to strive to spy out little faults and foibles, and to relate them with exaggerations, is to be a scandal monger, who is always a very low-bred fellow, no matter what the sex may be. There are those in every community, however, who love to say "hateful things"—words that they know will sting like a hornet, and are worse to receive than blows—words which cause untold agonies, and always murder sleep. Truly, their tongues are like scorpions, and are as deadly as their bites. Yet do not think that these people pass through life unscathed. No, the bitterness of their hearts and souls will turn inward, and their lives will be as wretched, as they strive to make that of others. They may start a low gossip, perhaps hatched in their own malignant brains, and although it will do foul work—work which they must give an account for—it will blacken themselves quite as much as it does others.

Mad. Swetchine wrote:—"A good finished scandal, however fully barbed and equipped, is rarely the production of one person, or even of a single coterie. It sees the light in one; is rocked and nurtured in another; is petted, developed, and attains its growth in a third; and receives its finishing touches only, after passing through a multitude of hands. It is a child that can count a host of fathers and mothers, yet none of them will own it."

Let us beg of our readers who desire to be courteous and well-bred, to put a guard upon their lips, and always to bear in mind that—

"Words have wings, and as soon as their cage, the
Mouth, is open'd, out they fly, and mount beyond
Our reach and past recovery; like lightning
They can't be stopt, but break their passage through
The smallest crannies, and penetrate
Sometimes the thickest walls; their nature's as
Expansive as the light.

"Aw—! Mrs. Goodtaste, what did you say was the name of that jolly scent for the handkerchief you had on the steamer last Fall, and where can I buy it?"

"You mean Lundborg's EDENIA. It is manufactured down town, here in New York, but you can get it at almost any drug or fancy goods store."

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

ECONOMY IN THE HOUSEHOLD.

BY PRUDENCE PARSONS.

What *is* economy?

No doubt this question does not strike you as a new one, nevertheless again we ask, and hope you will also ask yourselves "What is economy?"

"Economy! Why, economy is 'saving.'"

Good! Saving *what*?

"Money," you answer.

Always "money, money, money." Must the love of money be the active principle of the world forever? Is there nothing to be saved but *money*? Let me ask again then, what is *true* economy? No answer. True economy is putting things (not only *money*, take note, but *things*) to their best use. Among said "things" is time ("time is money you know") and to a false estimate as to the value of money over that of time, is due a great deal of loss of energy.

Ever since Benjamin Franklin's grandfather was a baby (and a good deal further back than that for all we know) there has been current a story which sought to teach that for the person who habitually *waties the string* of such parcels as come to him, an independent fortune waits.

Knotless string is a good thing doubtless,—a habit of economy a better one, but can one judge of a man's economy by such a thing as this?

Now when Benjamin Franklin's grandfather was a baby, string, such as we have now, was no doubt scarce and high priced, and as such was to be valued and treasured. In these days however, when it is to be bought for almost nothing, and the world is full-to-overflowing, of unfinished work, to consider him as the true economist who uses half an hour or even fifteen minutes, in saving the hundredth part of a five cent ball of string, is certainly to place a false estimate upon time, which surely possesses as great a face value as any other of the world's commodities. A woman drops her needle and forthwith drops her work and gropes round on her hands and knees looking for it, not to keep it from sticking into some unwary foot indeed, but because it would be extravagant to take another in its place. And with what satisfaction does she come to the surface after ten or fifteen minutes. To be sure she has a "crick in her back"—she has wasted ten minutes, she has torn her dress part way from the band, but she is triumphant, for she has been economical—she has found the needle.

Economy is a great art and the world's salvation, but let judgment be exercised as to which is the true and which the false. It is from this very source of false economy that many people work themselves and others to death.

There is no economy in a man keeping insufficient and inefficient clerks, and himself work night and day to make up the deficiency, thus laying the foundation for present doctor's bills, and a useless old age.

There is no economy in one woman with a large family trying to do the work which three could more reasonably accomplish and thus unfit herself for everything but an early grave.

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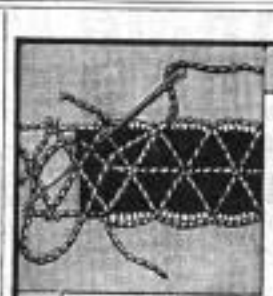

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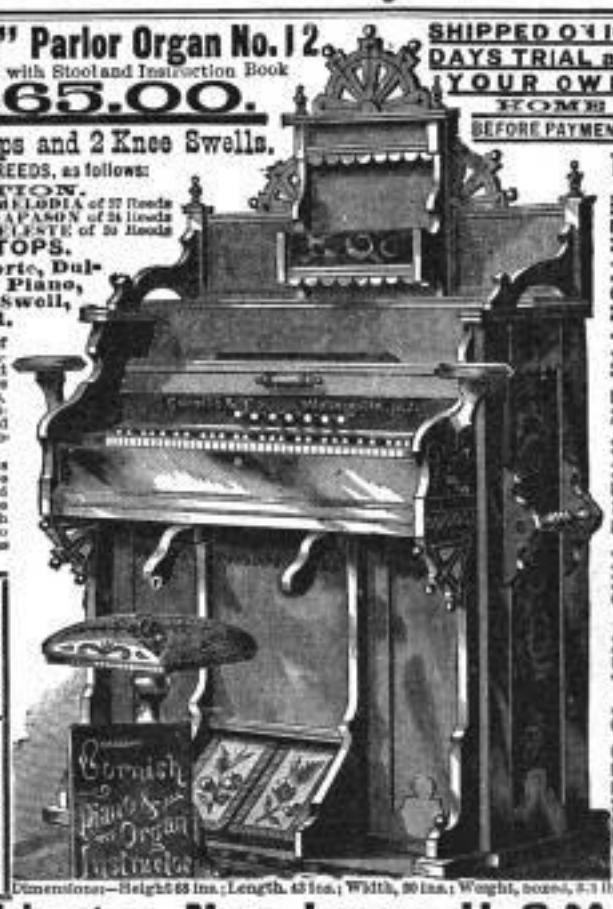

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DRESS vs. COST.

Some Facts About the Cost of Dressing a Woman.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

Among the many fallacies that have attained popularity among men is the one that the dress of the women of the present day is extravagant and expensive beyond description, and that women spend all their time thinking about "dress." That the fashions of to-day (to-day refers to the period covered by the last ten years) are extravagant is not to be denied; that they can be made expensive beyond limit is equally a matter which admits of no denial. That they are necessarily so, is false ground for argument.

There goes a saying to the effect that "Fashions are made for the wealthy," but the present fashions of their very lavishness, paradoxical as it may sound, seem expressly designed for women of limited means. It is because under existing modes, such good effects are possible at so small an expense, that non-thinking (or rather non-discriminating, for it were cruel to accuse him of not thinking over a subject about which he has talked so much) man feels at once a vague sense of uneasiness when he sees upon a female friend a garb which he feels sure could not be so effective without an outlay upon her part, not warranted by the state of her finances.

This is not wilful misunderstanding: merely ignorance of the laws of cause and effect as applied to woman's dress. When, in summer time, a man is pleased with the effect of a soft long dress of creamy yellow white with belt and ribbons or flowers of color to light up the complexion, does he take in the very important detail that the dress material is unadulterated, *unbleached muslin*, at an expense of perhaps seven cents a yard, making the whole costume, ribbons and all possible at an expense of something less than two dollars? Certainly not. The effect is good, and the method of production is to him a profound mystery. Indeed, it is an open question whether being admitted into the secret, his respect for that particular costume would not go down many degrees. It is not that all women put year by year more money into their dress, but that they are learning from day to day, with all the methods of artistic culture going on around them, to do more easily, deftly, inexpensively, those things which were necessarily the work of a "professor" in days gone by. What fashion could be a greater boon to the "limited" many than the present system of "combination?" It is perfectly possible to make such a combination of silks, satins and velvets, that it shall cost hundreds of dollars, but suppose a dress to have been worn and worn and re-worn, as is often the case, till frequent darns and varied stains make it, as a whole, no longer presentable or even wearable. What does a woman do under these trying circumstances? Throw it away (as a man does because he can do no better) or give it to some less fortunate sister? By no means! She rips that thing up and examines it with the eye of an artist, and perception sharpened by necessity, discovers just what it will do (for *something* it *must* do) and then buys enough new material of a contrasting color to finish it out, and finally evolves at a small cost, a neat, tasteful costume which astonishes some of her masculine relatives, as unnecessarily expensive, but through whose dimsy veil of pretention (if she be of the "false pride" kind and ashamed of her economy) her female friends penetrate at a first glance, well knowing from experience all the ins and outs of the shifts to which she has been put. Or perhaps she may own or be the recipient of two half-worn dresses, each totally inadequate itself to form anything like a dress. A judicious combination (supposing them to be suitable), a badly worn piece arranged to come under the basque-tails, an ingenious trimming here to cover a long rent, a line or two of embroidery there to cover up some stains impossible to be eliminated in any other way even by the most economical cutting, and lo! she appears in a costume that as a whole is as stylish and fresh and neat in effect as it is inexpensive. It is not fair to presume each time a woman appears in an unfamiliar rig, that she has on a totally new dress.

All this may be done without "devoting all one's time and thought to the subject of dress." It is possible to-day for a woman to make everything she wears (and many do it because they must or go without) except her shoes, and while one must sew, let taste come to the assistance of ingenuity. Not in multiplicity of ruffles and manifold stitches does a "fashionable costume" consist (though there be many, of course, whose chief charm seems to consist of these,) but in a certain exercise of individual taste which is an intuition to most women, aided by the suggestions of the multitudinous prevailing modes. With this and the patterns and the art education and the cheap, pretty materials of the day, most any woman can make herself "look like other people" (surely a commendable ambition) at a comparatively small expenditure of time, money and labor.

And for the "spending their time thinking about dress," take an average family and the chances are ten to one that the women of that family will not spend half as much thought upon some egregious failure or shortcoming in their wardrobe as the men will upon some infinitesimal spot upon a shirt front or an unexpected wrinkle in pantaloons that were intended to be skin tight.

It seems possible, taking all these things into consideration, if one chose to devote one's time to it, to prove that as a dresser, woman is no more extravagant in the use of time, thought and money, than man, or as this seems a not entirely fair conclusion, as a woman who makes her own clothes must spend more time upon it than a man who gives an order to others, it would be well to reduce the comparison to thought and money.

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With this Outfit you can do your own Stamping and Stamping for others. The Patterns in this Outfit are made on 13 sheets of Crane's best Parchment Paper (size of each sheet 21 x 7 inches). These Patterns are made specially for this Outfit, and are all different from the Patterns in our 1886, $1.00, Outfit. This Outfit contains 8 NEW ALPHABETS (96 Letters each), and

150 LARGE and SMALL PERFORATED PATTERNS: Designs of WILD ROSES and BUDS, 9 x 5 inches—LARGE GARDEN ROSE, 8 x 7—WREATH OF WILD ROSES and DAISIES, 5 x 5—WOODBINE, 6½ x 3—FUCHSIAS, 6½ x 3—PEACOCK, 5½ x 3½—LILY-OF-THE-VALLEY BUNCHES, 12 x 1½—Tidy Design, BUTTERCUPS and DAISIES, 9 x 6½—Outline, GIRL GOING TO SCHOOL, 9 x 3½—Strip of WHEAT, WILD ROSES, DAISIES, etc., 13 x 2—Corner and Border of FORGET-ME-NOTS, 14 x 6—SCALLOP, 3½ x 3—MORNING GLORY, 3 x 4½—4 FRUIT DESIGNS for DOILIES, each 3 x 3—BRAIDING DESIGNS, 4½ x 4½, 7 x 2½—POPPY, 5½ x 6—SET OF FIGURES, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 0—CAT-TAILS, 3 x 5½—CALLA LILY, 2½ x 3—GOLDEN ROD, 3 x 1½—SUMAC, 2½ x 1½—POND-LILY, 2½ x 1½—APPLE BLOSSOMS, 3 x 2½—ACORNS, 4 x 2—OAK LEAVES, 2½ x 2½—CLOVER, 2 x 2½—CHERRIES, 1½ x 2½—3 inch FEATHER, WHEAT, etc., 6½ x 2—SNOWBALL, 4½ x 3—HOSEBUDS, 4½ x 3½—THISTLE, 2 x 3½—Strip of DAISIES, 12 x 3—VENETIAN DESIGNS, CRAZY PATCHWORK DESIGNS, etc., making in all **200 PATTERNS**, including the *TWO ALPHABETS*.

—THIS OUTFIT ALSO CONTAINS—

A **FRINGED LINEN TIDY** and *Materials to Work it.* INGALLS' BIG CATALOGUE, *Latest Edition* (a 256 page book), containing *Thousands of Illustrations of Stamping Patterns.* INGALLS' INSTRUCTION BOOK, giving *full Directions for Stamping*, telling how to make the *Powder, Ingalls' Stamping Paint*, etc.; and our book, HOW TO USE FANCY-WORK MATERIALS. This Outfit also contains an Illustrated Book that tells HOW TO MAKE PAPER FLOWERS and 100 SAMPLES of *Imported* TISSUE PAPER. Also BRIGGS' NEW CATALOGUE OF TRANSFER PATTERNS (a 220 page book), containing *hundreds of illustrations*; SAMPLE of BRIGGS' TRANSFER PATTERNS, and BRIGGS' SILK GUIDE. This Outfit also contains a TUBE OF INGALLS' STAMPING PAINT, used for Stamping Felt, Velvet, Plush, etc.; a STAMPING BRUSH, BOX best STAMPING POWDER and a STAMPING PAD.

We send this Outfit by mail for $1.00.

EXTRA STAMPING PATTERNS: Splasher Design, STORK FEEDING AMONG THE LILIES, 20 x 9 inches, price 25c.—Tidy Designs, GOLDEN-ROD and SUMAC, 8 x 10, price 15c.—IRIS, 6½ x 6½, price 10c.—CALLA LILY, 7 x 10½, price 15c.—TULIPS, 7½ x 10½, price 10c.—DAISIES, 7 x 10, price 10c.—PANSIES, 7 x 6, price 10c.—AUTUMN LEAVES, 8 x 3, price 10c.—SNOWBALLS, 6 x 3, price 10c.—Braiding Design, CORNER and BORDER, 4 inches wide, for Pillow-Shams, etc., price 15c.—Corner Design, CLOVER and BUTTERCUPS, 9 x 9, price 15c.—Spray of WOODBINE for Table Scarfs, 13 x 8, price 15c.—LAMBREQUIN DESIGN, for Tinsel Embroidery, 16½ x 7½, price 15c.—Growing Design, PORTIER, DAISIES, FERNS and BUTTERCUPS, 18 x 7, price 20c.—KNIFE, FORK and SPOON, for Tray Cloth, 12 x 6½, price 15c.

SPECIAL OFFER: *ALL of these* EXTRA PATTERNS *for* $1.15; *or we will send you ALL of these* EXTRA PATTERNS *and the PERFECTION* $1.00 *OUTFIT*—all for **$2.00**, postage paid.

Address: **J. F. INGALLS, Lynn, Mass.**

A CARD TO LADIES.

The manufacturer of **COBB'S COMPLEXION SOAP** would respectfully invite your attention to the merits of this—*the most valuable toilet luxury ever yet produced. Its daily use will keep your hands from chapping; produce a healthful, clear complexion, and leave the skin as soft as velvet.*

MOTHERS—This Soap by its purity and emolliency is unequalled for **BABY'S BATH.**

Letters like the following are constantly being received, proving that the merits of the soap are cordially recognized:

"For the enclosed please send me 4 cakes of 'Cobb's Complexion Soap,' by mail. I have very tender skin and have found your soap far superior to all others I have ever used."
MRS. FRANK HAMILTON, Washington, D. C.

"I recommend its use to my patrons, especially for young children."
L. A. PHILLIPS, M. D.

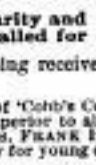
"I am using your soap upon my teeth; it is very sweet in the mouth."
DAVID W. CHEEVER, M. D., Boston, Mass.

Ask your druggist for a **Free Sample Cake for trial** and the Book on the "Care of the Hair, Teeth and Skin." Both sent by mail for 6 cents postage.

A. H. COBB, 33 Batterymarch Street, Boston, Mass.

AGENTS LOOK HERE

E. J. MATHEWS, Stone Station, Mont., on Jan. 19 sold 27 Stove Pipe Shelves. Profit $18.90. Wm. Servis, Phila., Ills., is clearing $9.00 per day. These are only Samples. Catalogue Free. **J. E. SHEPARD & CO., Cincinnati, Ohio.**



SHIRTS BY MAIL

Perfect Fitting **White Dress Shirt** for 50 cts., unlaundried, or 75 cts. laundried, postpaid. Send size of collar worn (13 to 17 inches.) Catalogue free. THE DEN SHIRT FACTORY, 147—149 N. 8th St., Philad'a, Pa

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

SOROSIS.

Nearly all of our readers have heard of Sorosis, but probably many of them do not know what it is. It may be described as the first Ladies' Club of the World.

First, at least, it is, in the order of time. It was founded eighteen years ago, when as yet no women's organizations (outside of church societies) existed. To-day we look upon association among women as a matter of course—we are familiar with the work of the W. C. T. U., societies for organizing charity, visiting hospitals, distributing books and flowers, musical guilds, cooking and tennis clubs, Shakespeare classes, and the Boston and Chautauqua circles for home-study. But, at that time, the idea that women needed the stimulous of contact with others, or anything better than afforded by the conventional society of the day, was unheard of. No wonder that the new woman's club encountered prejudice and misrepresentation at the outset. But, all this is now well-nigh forgotten.

Sorosis was founded by a few ladies who felt the need of something better than was offered by the conventional society of the day, something directly conducive to intellectual growth. Among these were Mrs. G. D. Croly (Jennie June,) and Mrs. Charlotte B. F. Wilbour. The first president was Alice Cary. Succeeding presidents have been Mrs. Wilbour, Mrs. Croly, and Mrs. M. Louise Thomas, the celebrated woman-farmer, of Tacony, Pa. Among the most distinguished members are, and have been, Madame Demorest, Dr. Mary Putnam Jacobi, Dr. Grace Peckham, Phebe Cary, Mrs. Horace Greeley, Mrs. Celia Burleigh, Mrs. Martha J. Lamb, Dr. Anna Dinsmore French, Miss Kate Field, Mrs. Emmie Smith, Mrs. Roosevelt, Mrs. Lizzie W. Champney, Mrs. Mary Kyle Dallas, Mrs. Neymann, Mrs. Hester M. Poole, Mrs. Anna Randall Diehl, Miss Ella Miles, Miss Alice Fletcher, Mrs. May Riley Smith, Mrs. Lucy Thomas, niece of Alice and Phebe Cary, and Mrs. Charlotte J. Bell. The club includes representative women, successful in art, music, literature, philanthropy, business and society—the only imperative rule is, that each must be unquestionably, a lady. Sorosis is not a "woman's rights" club, although, personally, many of its members believe in woman suffrage—but, as it embraces women of all shades of social, political and religious belief, suffrage, politics and theology are subjects never discussed in the meetings.

The headquarters of Sorosis is in New York City, although not all of its members reside in New York—the president is a Philadelphia lady. The meetings are at Delmonico's, on the first Monday in every month. An informal reception is held at 12 o'clock, followed by a lunch at 1. The afternoon is devoted to music, singing, recitations, and the reading and discussing of a paper on art, science, education, music, literature, the drama, or philanthropy. At every meeting, one or more ladies are entertained as guests. These are distinguished strangers visiting the city; or writers, artists, or ladies otherwise talented, whom Sorosis wishes to compliment. To be recognized by Sorosis is considered a great honor, as it means either appreciation of budding genius, or deserved success.

Ladies' clubs, modelled after Sorosis, have sprung into existence all over the country. There is no reason why there should not be something of the kind in every village. Sorosis started with but twelve members, and it now numbers over one hundred and fifty. It does not yet own a club-house, or even possess a furnished room of its own. Every lady pays for her own lunch, and not one bears an undue share of expense.

Let six ladies meet in a private house, in an ordinary sitting-room, any day in the week. They need not be of more than average ability, or education, provided they have the disposition to improve. Street or church costumes will be correct. Let them have a simple lunch, say, sandwiches and coffee. One may sing, another play, a third recite a poem. Then a fourth may read a paper, upon any question suited to the needs of themselves, their families, or their native place, to be followed by a discussion in which all may take part. After several such meetings, let one or more invite a kindred spirit from another place, to be present. If any incidental work grows out of these meetings, let them follow it up. From time to time, let the membership be increased. Whenever any number of women do just this, they do exactly what Sorosis does.

Out of Sorosis has grown the Association for the Advancement of Women, popularly known as The Woman's Congress. Also, various schemes of education and philanthropy, as art classes, and children's hospitals.

The question for discussion may be made to suit circumstances. Thus, in New York, it might be, "How Shall We Reach the Neglected Children of the City?" In a factory-village, it might be, "How Shall We Induce the Factory-People to Cultivate Flowers in their Windows?" In a farming-community, "How Can We Help Farmers' Wives to Read Systematically?" In a small town, "How Shall We Interest the Young in Evening Classes, Music and Art?" Questions upon hygiene, amusements, training of children, higher education, temperance, charity, improvement of domestic service, self-culture, travel, domestic economics, self-support, business training, and so forth, are always in order.

It does not matter what name you give your club. Sorosis primarily means, a cluster of flowers or fruit on a stem—secondarily, a number of individuals united by a common interest. A similar organization in Philadelphia is called the New Century, probably because it was founded Centennial year, thus beginning its existence with the second century of the Republic. Brooklyn has a Woman's Club, known by no other name.

One of the latest ideas is, "Inter-Collegiate Sorosis." That is, a number of young women, representing the various women' colleges throughout the country, have applied to Sorosis for permission to form societies among themselves, to be recognized as auxiliaries. There is no reason why other women, as teachers, store-girls, or farmers' wives should not attempt something of the kind, whether recognized by Sorosis or not.

One thing Sorosis has demonstrated. That is, that it is possible, for women to meet and work together, rising above the petty jealousies of which they are so often accused, and aim for a continual advancement. So may it be everywhere.

MARGARET B. HARVEY.

A Package of Cotton Seed with instructions to cultivate in northern gardens, or as a house or window plant, by mail, 25c. NELLIE GREENE, Tocoa, Georgia.

SEEDS—NEBRASKA GROWN. Write for Catalogue to A. S. Tresher & Co., Grand Island, Neb.

MIKADO SONGS! All of them in a nice book, only 10c. ST. LOUIS CARD CO., St. Louis, Mo.

WARNER BRO'S

9, MILLION worn during the past six years.

This marvelous success is due—

1st.—To the superiority of Coraline over all other materials, as a stiffener for Corsets.

2d.—To the superior quality, shape and workmanship of our Corsets, combined with their low prices.

Avoid cheap imitations made of various kinds of cord. None are genuine unless

"DR. WARNER'S CORALINE"

is printed on inside of steel cover.

FOR SALE BY ALL LEADING MERCHANTS.

WARNER BROTHERS,

359 Broadway, New York City.

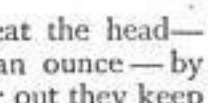
You have probably noticed that some of your lady friends fix their hair very pretty, something like this:

You are of course a little surprised because really you know their back hair is not full and fluffy.—Well the secret is—and we put it in small type—

they wear the Mikado Braided Wire Hair Rolls, which are made to match any color hair.

They do not heat the head—weigh but ½ an ounce—by holding the hair out they keep it from getting musty or gathering dampness from perspiration

They are sold at most of the hair dealers and notion stores two for 25 cents. If you dont find them send price and we will mail them to you. Address

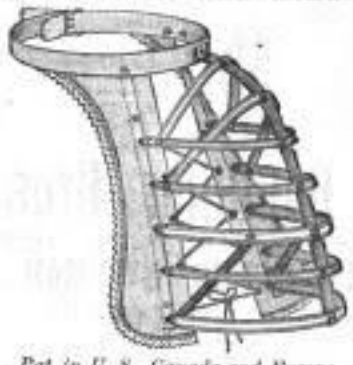


WESTON & WELLS MFG. CO.,

Price Lists to dealers. 1017 Chestnut St., Philadelphia.

New Canfield Langtry REG'D

BUSTLES FOR THE MILLION.



Pat. in U. S., Canada and Europe.

Light, Cool and Adjustable.
Folds up when sitting or lying down.
Resumes its shape upon rising.
Only bustle ever made to fit every lady and any dress.

For sale at all the leading Dry Goods Houses in U. S. Canada and Europe. Samples will be furnished by mail for 50 cents. Every bustle is stamped trademark "Langtry."

CANFIELD RUBBER CO.,
7 Mercer St., New York City.

Canfield Seamless Dress Shields

are Elastic, seamless, waterproof, Absorbent, odorless, strong, yet soft as kid, do not wrinkle, chafe or rip, Can be washed. This is the **only** seamless Shield made. The sales are five times that of any other Shield made in the United States or Europe. **Beware** of imitations. **All Genuine** goods are stamped with the **trade-mark "Canfield." Infringements** will be **rigorously** prosecuted.

Pat. in U. S. and Europe.

Samples sent free on payment of 30 cents.

Canfield Rubber Co., 7 Mercer St., N. Y.

BUY THE WRINGER THAT SAVES THE MOST LABOR

OUR PURCHASE GEAR

Saves half the labor of other wringers, and costs but little more.

EMPIRE Does not GREASE The CLOTHES.

Solid White Rubber Rolls. Warranted. Agents wanted everywhere. Empire W. Co., Auburn, N. Y.

Four New Novels for 15 Cents.

4 NEW NOVELS.

All complete in the APRIL NUMBER of the **Family Library Monthly.**

Only 15 Cents. Of all newsdealers, or THE INTERNATIONAL NEWS CO., New York.

For Children who do not live in New York,

Our new plan for filling orders by mail has made the

more useful than ever. If you require anything for

Boys', Girls', or Babies'

wear this Spring, write to us for particulars. We can be of service.

BEST & CO

60 & 62 West 23d Street New York.

THE FAMOUS CUSTOM-MADE

PLYMOUTH ROCK $3 PANTS.

Any person writing to the **American Express Co.**, in Boston, inquiring about us, will receive a reply concerning our reliability, and particularly referring to our readiness to **refund money** at buyer's request **for any cause**, even when it is clearly the buyer's fault in measuring. We are so seldom called upon to thus buy back our goods that we can well afford to make this offer, for that privilege and the general excellence of these famous pants have won us the confidence of mail buyers from Maine to California. We also refer to **30** of the leading weekly papers of the land.

Send us 6c. for package of samples and rules for self-measurement. Will include good linen tape-measure if you will **mention this paper.** Or, if you cannot wait to see samples, tell us about what color you prefer, and send your inside leg and waist measures, together with $3.00, and 25 cents postage and packing, and we will take entire risk of pleasing you, sending them by mail or prepaid express.

At our office may be seen thousands of testimonials like the following from **Dist.-Attorney Neal**, of Clifton, Dakota, who writes:—"Allow me to acknowledge the receipt of the two pairs of pants reaching me to-day; they are an excellent fit, I may say perfect in every particular—substantial and well-made, with good, deep pockets of heavy material, and are much better than I expected. The same pants, poorly made, would cost here $5.00 to $7.00. Many of my friends have examined them, and you will get numerous orders here. You may put me down as a regular customer."

PLYMOUTH ROCK PANTS CO.,
81 Milk Street, Boston, Mass.

DANIEL JUDSON & SON, Ld.
LONDON and NEW YORK.
For sale by the trade, or sent postpaid on receipt of price. Am. H'quarters, 46 Murray St., N.Y.
A. F. FREEMAN, Manager.

FREE SAMPLES of our celebrated perfumed toilet preparations, etc. Send 4c. postage to SANITARY APPLIANCE Co., Chicago, Ill. Agents wanted.

DR. SCOTT'S ELECTRIC CORSETS AND BELTS.

Corsets, $1.00, $1.50, $2.00, $3.00. Belts $3.00. Nursing Corset Price, $1.50. Abdominal Corset, Price, $3.00.

Probably, never since the Invention of Corsets, has so large a demand been created as now exists for Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets and Belts. Over three thousand families in the City of New York alone are now wearing them daily. Every Man and Woman, well or ill, should daily wear either the Corset or Belt.

OUR CORSETS ARE DOUBLE STITCHED AND WILL NOT RIP.

If you have any pain, ache, or ill-feeling from any cause, if you seem "pretty well," yet lack energy and do not "feel up to the mark," if you suffer from disease, we beg you to at once try these remarkable curatives. They cannot and do not injure like medicine. Always doing good, never harm. There is no shock or sensation felt in wearing them. There is no waiting a long time for results; electro-magnetism acts quickly; generally the first week, more frequently the first day, and often even during the first hour they are worn, their wonderful curative powers are felt. *Every mail brings us testimonials like the following:*

The mind becomes active, the nerves and sluggish circulation are stimulated, and all the old-time health and good feeling come back. They are constructed on scientific principles, imparting an exhilarating, health-giving current to the whole system. Professional men assert that there is hardly a disease which Electricity or Magnetism may not benefit or cure, and they daily practice the same, as your own physician will inform you.

THE CELEBRATED DR. W. A. HAMMOND, of New York, formerly Surgeon-General of the U. S. Army, lately lectured upon this subject, and advised all medical men to make trial of these agencies, describing at the same time most remarkable cures he had made, even in cases which would seem hopeless.

The Corsets do not differ in appearance from those usually worn; we substitute our flat steel magnetods in place of the ordinary corset steels. These Corsets are nearly all equally charged, differing chiefly in quality and design. They are elegant in shape and finish, made after the best French pattern, and warranted satisfactory in every respect. Our Belts for both gents and ladies are the genuine Dr. Scott's, and are reliable.

The prices are as follows: $1, $1.50, $2 and $3 for the Corsets and $3 each for the Belts. The accompanying cut represents our No. 2 or $1.50 Corset. We have also a beautiful French shaped Sateen Corset at $2, a Sateen Abdominal Corset, and a short Sateen Corset at $2. The $1 and $1.50 goods are made of fine Jean, elegant in shape, strong and durable. Nursing Corsets, $1.50. Misses, 75c. All are double stitched. Gents' and Ladies' Belts, $3 each; Ladies' Abdominal Supporter, an invaluable article $12. We make all these Corsets in drab and white only. They are sent out in a handsome box, accompanied by a silver-plated compass by which the Electro-Magnetic influence can be tested. We will send either kind to any address, post-paid, on receipt of price, with 20 cents added for packing and registration, and we guarantee safe delivery into your hands. Remit in Post-office Money-order, Draft, Check, or in Currency by Registered Letter at our risk. In ordering kindly mention this paper and state exact size of corset usually worn. Make all remittances payable to GEO. A. SCOTT, 842 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

N. B.—Each article is stamped with the English coat-of-arms, and the names of the Proprietors, THE PALL MALL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION.

MENTION THIS PAPER.

Trinity Springs, Ind., Jan. 31st, 1887.
Dr. Scott—My wife has suffered acutely from Dyspepsia for 23 years. She has worn one of your Electric Corsets for four weeks and is greatly benefited in her appetite and digestion, and has gained considerably in flesh. My wife desires an agency in our community. Please send terms. (Rev'd) ISAAC CARPENTER, Baptist Minister.

Hollis Centre, Me.
I suffered severely from back trouble for years, and found no relief till I wore Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets. They cured me, and I would not be without them. MRS. H. D. BENSON.

Memphis, Tennessee.
Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets have given me much relief. I suffered four years with breast trouble, without finding any benefit from other remedies. They are invaluable. MRS. JAS. CAMPBELL.

De Witt, N. Y.
I have an invalid sister who had not been dressed for a year. She has worn Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets for two weeks, and is now able to be dressed and sit up most of the time. MELVA J. DOE.

South Abington, Mass.
Dr. Scott—My sister and I are very much pleased with your Electric Corsets. They have given us great satisfaction. For weak stomach and nervousness they are unequalled. I have felt uncommonly well since wearing them, and can confidently recommend them. FLORA E. COLE.

Niles, Mich.
Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets have cured me of acute dyspepsia, from which I had suffered for eight years. His Electric Hair Brush cures my headache every time. MRS. WM. H. PEAK.

Princeton, Minn.
Your Corsets have accomplished wonders in my case. I was previously thoroughly incapacitated, and could not help myself. I have worn your Corsets now for two weeks, and I am able to be up and around helping to do housework, etc. My friends are astonished. With many thanks, etc. JULIA J. MCFARLAND.

Streator, Ills.
Dr. Scott—Your Electric Corsets are beautiful in appearance, wonderful in effect, and elegant in fit and finish. M. J. BRIGGS.

3131 Henrietta St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Dr. Scott—Your Belt has cured me of rheumatism of and around the Kidneys. W. H. UPDEGRAFF.

Dr. Scott's Electric Hair Brushes, $1.00, $1.50, $2.00, $2.50, $3.00; Flesh Brushes, $3.00; Dr. Scott's Electric Tooth Brushes, 50 cents; Insoles, 50 cents; CHEST PROTECTOR, $3.00; ELECTRIC HAIR CURLER, 50 cents; LUNG AND NERVE INVIGORATORS, $5 and $10.

The Dry Goods Trade supplied by H. B. CLAFLIN & CO., New York, Sole Wholesale Agents. Remittances for single articles and applications for Canvassing Agents' Terms must be made ONLY to GEO. A. SCOTT, 842 Broadway, New York.

A GREAT SUCCESS A Good, Live Canvassing Agent WANTED in your town for these splendidly advertised and best selling goods in the market. LIBERAL PAY, QUICK SALES. Satisfaction guaranteed. Apply at once. GEO. A. SCOTT, 842 Broadway, N.Y.

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SPRING DRESS GOODS.

[Continued from page 16.]

"Mrs. J. W. Oliver." Granite, Ind.—The subscription price of LADIES' HOME JOURNAL is 50c. a year. Bali's corsets for ladies sent by mail are $1.40 a pair; for misses are 90c. a pair. The latter have elastic section in centre of back, the first-named under each arm.

"A. E. W." Fond du Lac.—You should be able to procure the mentioned novelties in cotton goods in any large store in your city. The address of the selling agents for the various mentioned brands, is Tebbetts, Harrison & Robins, 75 and 77 Worth St., New York. No, they only sell to jobbers or large dealers, however, if you write direct to them, they will tell you what merchant near you keeps the mentioned specialties.

"Myrtle Doyle."—You can get letters of the alphabet in floral designs, in colored silks, to applique on hat-bands and for other purposes, from the Kursheedt Manufacturing Co., 190 194 South Fifth Ave., New York.

"Mrs. H. C. K.., Kansas.—You can get the short length cashmeres, merino and veilings, in all colors, from Smarpless Brothers, Phila., Pa., or from E. Ridley & Sons, Grand and Allen Sts., New York.

"Anxious Inquirer."—The Quarterly magazine you refer to is published by Strawbridge & Clothier, Eighth and Market Sts., Philadelphia, Pa. Subscription price for four numbers of the magazine, with premium, a useful Dictionary of fancy work stitches, to each subscriber, 50c. a year. No, it is not a regular story journal, but each number contains one story by a well-known author, while other pages are devoted to articles on art, fashion, social topics, and household economy.

"Jessie."—You can wear almost any color if you select the correct shade. Tan, bronze, green, blue, pink, garnet, orange, purple or heliotrope, are all fashionable hues.

"Mrs. B. E. L."—Wash the black grenadine in suds made of Frank Siddall's soap and warm water; after letting the parts soak for about twenty minutes, wrinse carefully, and when partly dry iron between cloth; black is best.

"Mrs. S. E. B." of Lowell, tells about a lamp-chimney cleaner, manufactured by A. White, of Lowell, Mass. A great aid in cleansing gas or oil lamps. Price 15c. sent by mail.

"Mrs. G. W. S."—Make the dress for a youthful bridesmaid of cream cashmere or veiling, or of Clairette. Kilt the skirt, have tunic and drapery looped with ribbon, to be worn with simple basque, or full low corsage and short sleeves.

"Mrs. A. B. W." Scranton, Pa., "May Pertham," "A. R. H." and others.—In compliance with our request, as soon as the Spring novelties in Elastic Waists, with enough material for skirts, called the "Scientific Box Elastic Waists" are ready, Mr. Cox will prepare a descriptive price list for catalogue of underwear, and price list of Jersey box suits, write direct to Lewis S. Cox, 1230 Chestnut St., Phila. Pa.

THE ART OF GUMMING NEATLY.

When gumming a picture upon card, one is often annoyed to find, that, with the greatest care a little of the gum will exude at the edges, and if only a trifle, it is sufficient to disfigure the background card.

This trouble may be avoided by gumming the back of the picture all over and permitting it to dry. When thoroughly dry dampen the gummed back and it will adhere with little difficulty and no superfluous moisture.

When one desires to make a scrap-book, it is a good plan to make two sittings of it. Gum the backs of the pictures on one day, and moisten and put them in on another. A scrap book made in this way, will always presents much neater appearance, for the added reason, that one entirely avoids all possibilities of mishap from any frisky or unbecoming behavior on the part of the gum-bottle, or brush.

S. C. BECK,
Manufacturer of
Human Hair Goods,
36 North 8th St.,
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

On receipt of $5.00 and a sample of Hair, we will forward to any address by registered mail, our Victoria Bang made of the best French natural curled Hair, requiring no dressing; retail price $2.00, and a Human Hair Switch 22 inches long, all long hair, retail price $5.00. All shades from light to black. Either of these articles ordered sent C.O.D., will cost $5.00. On receipt of $1 we will send by mail our Stamped Bang made of natural curled Hair. Gray and dark shades extra. Send for Illustrated Catalogue.

Le Boutillier Bros.,
BROADWAY & 14th ST., NEW YORK.
DRY GOODS BY MAIL.
NEW SPRING GOODS.

WASH FABRICS.
New French Satines, best quality, choice designs 25c.; Palm Satines, 20c.; Norrell ds, Bordered, etc., 20c.
New Domestic Satines, French designs, 12½c.
New Plaid and Striped Ginghams, 12½c.
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Fine Lyons Satins, black and colors, 50c.
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Inclose stamps for postage on samples.
Broadway & 14th St. New York.

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LABEL, FOR SOFT FINISH.

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MACHINE COTTON,
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ASK FOR
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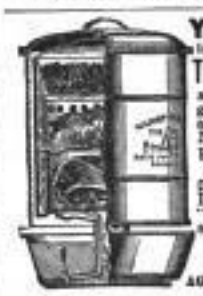

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largely depends on good cooking.
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A BEAUTIFUL PANSY BED CAN BE MORE EASILY AND QUICKLY OBTAINED BY SENDING TO US FOR OUR **ESTABLISHED PLANTS** THAN IN ANY OTHER WAY. WE OFFER VIGOROUS YOUNG PLANTS, READY FOR IMMEDIATE BLOOM.

Plants, as we grow them, will be found to **bloom constantly all summer.** Full instructions for cultivation sent with each package. ☞ The most marked improvement in Pansies ever seen will be found in the following 3 varieties:

This cut shows an average size flower of our Giant Five-Spotted Pansies.

New Trimardeau, or Giant Three-Spotted Pansy Plants.

A new class of Pansies of French origin that will afford unbounded satisfaction on account of their extraordinary size. The flowers are immense, will astonish every one, and will be highly prized by every lover of this popular flower. The engraving shows the average size of the flowers when well grown, which are borne in wonderful profusion.

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Every one will be surprised at their rich and brilliant shades as well as by their enormous size, as this is the finest colored & handsomest marked of all large flowering pansies. Nothing more elegant in Pansies could hardly be desired. This and the other two kinds here offered will make the handsomest collection ever seen.

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While not so large as the above two sorts, are superbly colored. Those who have seen them say they never saw anything like them. The flowers are of dazzling brilliancy; the colors exquisite and wonderful, and so delicate that no description can convey any idea of their beauty. There are over **forty varieties,** striped, spotted, bordered, and fringed in rainbow colors, with rich velvety texture. One dozen **strong, vigorous** plants, of either of the above varieties, ready for immediate bloom, for **60c.,** or **25** for **$1.00,** or one dozen of each three sorts for **$1.50,** by mail, postage paid, and safe arrival guaranteed. Seed, if desired, **40c.** per paper, or one paper of each sort for **$1.00.**

The great demand for these Pansies exhausted our stock last year early in the season. This year our stock is very large and we can supply every one. ☞ Our importation from Japan of **Lilium Auratum** or Golden Banded Lily, the **"Queen of Lilies,"** is unusually fine; large, healthy bulbs, sure to do well, **40c each; 3 for $1.**

SEND FOR OUR SEED AND PLANT CATALOGUE. Very complete, handsomely illustrated, artistic, of particular interest to all lovers of choice flowers. Sent free to all readers of LADIES' HOME JOURNAL enclosing stamps to pay postage. Address

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Wife in Name Only.
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MY SHOW CASES ARE FILLED WITH BARGAINS CONSTANTLY.
J. H. JOHNSTON, 150 BOWERY, NEW YORK.

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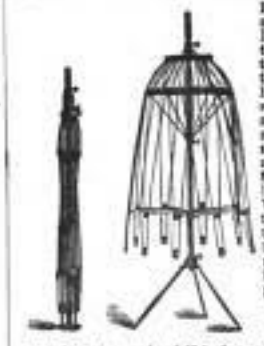

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Fine French China and Best Porcelain
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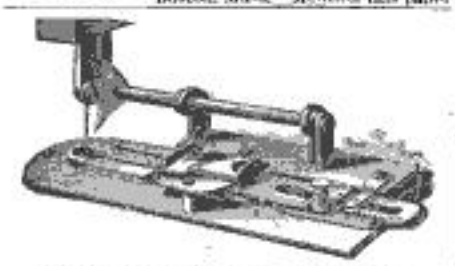
As a seaside companion THE LABLACHE FACE POWDER will enjoy a genuine and enduring popularity. This powder is a medicated preparation. It removes and prevents tan, freckles, sunburn, redness, pimples, irritation and all blemishes of the skin. It supplies a want most sensibly felt by society ladies. It reproduces the bloom of youth. THE LABLACHE FACE POWDER is sold by all reliable druggists, or will be mailed to any address on receipt of a decent postal note, or 25 cent stamps. BEN. LEVY & CO., French Perfumers, 34 West Str. st, Boston, Mass. Mention this paper



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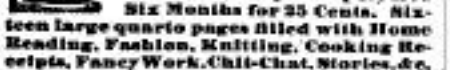

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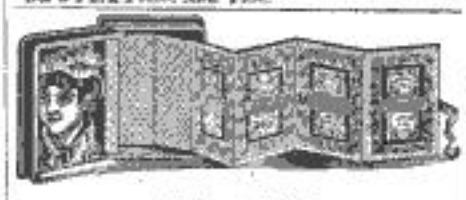

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A WOMAN of ingenuity has PATENTED a simple INVENTION for every lady, which is popularly. A regular income. Offers **NEW, DELIGHTFUL** EMPLOYMENT to all. Address. Fare enormously. Elegant samples and full information mailed for 10c. J. G. Butler & Co., 738 State St., Chicago.

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(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

SOME HINTS ON MONEY MAKING.

BY ELLA RODMAN CHURCH.

IV.

Those who live in the country are very apt to think that this is an insuperable barrier to money making, and take what comfort they can in the twin fact that it is also a barrier to spending. Let them, however, follow Sam Lawson's advice, slightly paraphrased, to "count up their marcies," in the way of opportunities, and they will be agreeably surprised at the result.

We have already seen that orchards, and poultry-farms, and apiaries, and cocooneries, are theirs by right; but there are in addition many less known occupations and industries, peculiar to the country, which can be made to yield a very comfortable income. Several of them indeed can be carried on together, without the least collision; and so much does the subject broaden under consideration, that there seems to be no reasonable excuse for the wretched, semi-genteel poverty in which so many women live. The cause of this lamentable state of things is the generally received idea that exertion of any kind, in a business way, at least, is not to be thought of after a certain age.

A well-written article in a popular periodical, published some time ago, advised women who were earning their living by school-teaching, or similar occupations, to lay aside a small sum of money every year, with a view to retiring from active life at fifty or sixty, and vegetating in couples in some village, on a joint income of $800 a year! Living for one is impossible on such a such a sum as that; and why should any woman in ordinary health, and with ordinary sense, inertly resign herself to possibly twenty or thirty years of passing poverty, when a little well-directed exertion would raise her to a higher level?

Money is always a power; and old age is, under all circumstances, far more comfortable with it than without it. No life seems worth the living that is without the means of making other lives brighter; and an elderly woman who settles down to an existence that can be supported on $150 a year, cannot wield much influence in the community. It is far better advice to tell her to do nothing of the kind,—but to cultivate all the energy that is in her, and seek opportunities to double, treble, and quadruple her inordinately small income.

There is often a feeling among those whose antecedents have been of the plainest possible kind, that to do things for money, to *sell* things, is necessarily, lowering; and there is a case in point of a hard-working single woman, who lived by herself and owned perhaps an acre of ground, which might have been profitably cultivated. But when it was proposed to her by a boarder, who was taken "to accommodate," that she should raise vegetables for the convenience of the neighboring village, and her own pecuniary advantage, she replied, quite scornfully, that "*she shouldn't care to be peddlin' of 'em round.*" In vain did the city lady try to persuade her that this was not a necessity, as well as to infuse some of her own enterprise into the narrow-minded spinster; her well-meant efforts were not gratefully received, and there was no law made and provided by which she could benefit her hostess in spite of herself.

This same lady, had she been placed in similar circumstances—with the ground at hand, and a bank account of only a few hundred dollars—with a large hotel, and numerous houses where boarders and "mealers" were taken, in the village—would have given, if no the whole of her mind, at least a considerable portion of it, during the summer, to the cultivation of peas and sweet corn, and other vegetables for which the summer boarder is supposed to have a morbid appetite. The hotel-keeper would, doubtless, have gladly engaged to take a large portion of these products; and with the needs of the smaller houses to supply, there would be littler danger of an overstocked market.

A constant succession during the season of sweet, tender peas—a very popular vegetable—with their young, crinkled skins and delicious freshness, would be a feature of itself in this little truck-farm; while the fact of a never-failing supply would add to the attractions of the hotel. Peas are not hard to raise,—yet in the country, few appear to think of a second crop. A little care in selecting the best and most prolific varieties, and especially the very early and very late ones,—to ensure a crop when others are not marketable—will be rewarded by abundant returns; and the pleasant excitement of constant sales is not to be despised.

Many needy ones, however, who have fallen into the habit of living in a certain groove, and think that whatever is, cannot be altered, will declare that all this is very well if you have plenty of help at hand,—but how are you going to find people in the country to do the necessary work? The enterprising lady already quoted would reply to this that although not easy, it was by no means impossible. She would not, in fact, rest until she had persuaded a man, at an extra price if necessary, to plow the ground thoroughly, as early as possible in the spring,—and secured a boy with good pay, and frequent bribes of pie and gingerbread, to remain faithful to her interests during the season.

Or, failing the boy—as boys are proverbially not to be had when wanted—a stout woman or two might be prevailed upon to undertake the labor and carry it through properly. One acre, well managed in this way, would yield an abundant supply of hidden treasure; and could scarcely fail, with a market at hand, to add at least $200 annually to the owner's income. In some hands, it would do more,—but moderate expectations are less likely to be disappointed.

If the owner of the acre should occupy half of her ground with the finest strawberries and raspberries she would do well,—if her house is just a pleasant walk from where the summer boarders congregate. This peculiar class (as their entertainers suppose them to be) of the human family, alway want fresh fruit in profusion, and seldom get it either fresh or in profusion,—the basket brought from the city by the head of the family being the nearest approach to it. There is often an "ICE CREAM SALOON" in the place,—where, for a consideration, frozen custard flavored with lemon may be had; but who ever found a parlor, or piazza, that furnished strawberries or raspberries, fresh from their native vines, with *bona fide* cream?

The energetic person who would accomplish so much with that mythical acre considers this idea an inspiration,—and rather regrets that she is not, like her former hostess, a spinster in a country village, that she might have the triumph and enjoyment of carrying it out. She does not assert, however, that it would be successful *everywhere*,—but it would be in many places, where it would supply, as the advertisers are fond of saying, "long felt want." An unfailing recipe for success in the right locality is compounded of the following ingredients:

First, the strawberries should be large, ripe, and sweet, and the cream above reproach; the saucers and spoons immaculately clean; and the three or four little tables (made by the carpenter) placed where the prettiest views and the most refreshing breezes are to be had. A glass of flowers on each table would add very much to its attractiveness. Ask a sufficient price for the edibles to pay all expenses and leave a handsome margin for profit, and have certain hours for serving them. Let it be understood, too, that unhulled, berries will be sold by the quart, or in larger quantity: all of which can be distinctly stated in a lady-like circular,—numbers of which should be left at the hotel and other places where people congregate early in the season.

The house, even if plain and ugly, can be made to look attractive with vines and flowers outside, and a knack of cheap draperies within; a few well chosen adornments not beyond the limits of a very moderate purse; and a general air of cleanliness and comfort. It would soon become the favorite rendezvous of an evening,—a perfect Mecca for indolent pilgrims in a place where there was little to see or to do. Instead of "Come into the garden, Maud," the orthodox invitation would be, "Come to Strawberry Cottage," and the tones of youthful voices coming up the road would sound doubly pleasant in the hostess' ears.

Another wall, of course, about "help,"—and the way out of this difficulty is almost the happiest stroke of all. The humblest country resident has invariably some relative or friend—usually more than one—who becomes very wide-awake to the fact of her existence just before the summer solstice, and invites herself to the cottage for many perspiring weeks; and it will be an excellent idea to send this persistent visitor, who is sure to be impecunious, an invitation in advance to come and assist in the new project and spend the summer. A helper will then be gained on moderate terms,—or, an unwelcome guest frightened away.

ART needle-work and valuable embroideries are frequently ruined, or their beauty much impaired by washing them with ordinary soap, which is too rank for such delicate articles. A simple, and the proper method is to make suds of hot water and IVORY SOAP, and allow to cool till lukewarm. This solution, while very effective, is perfectly harmless.

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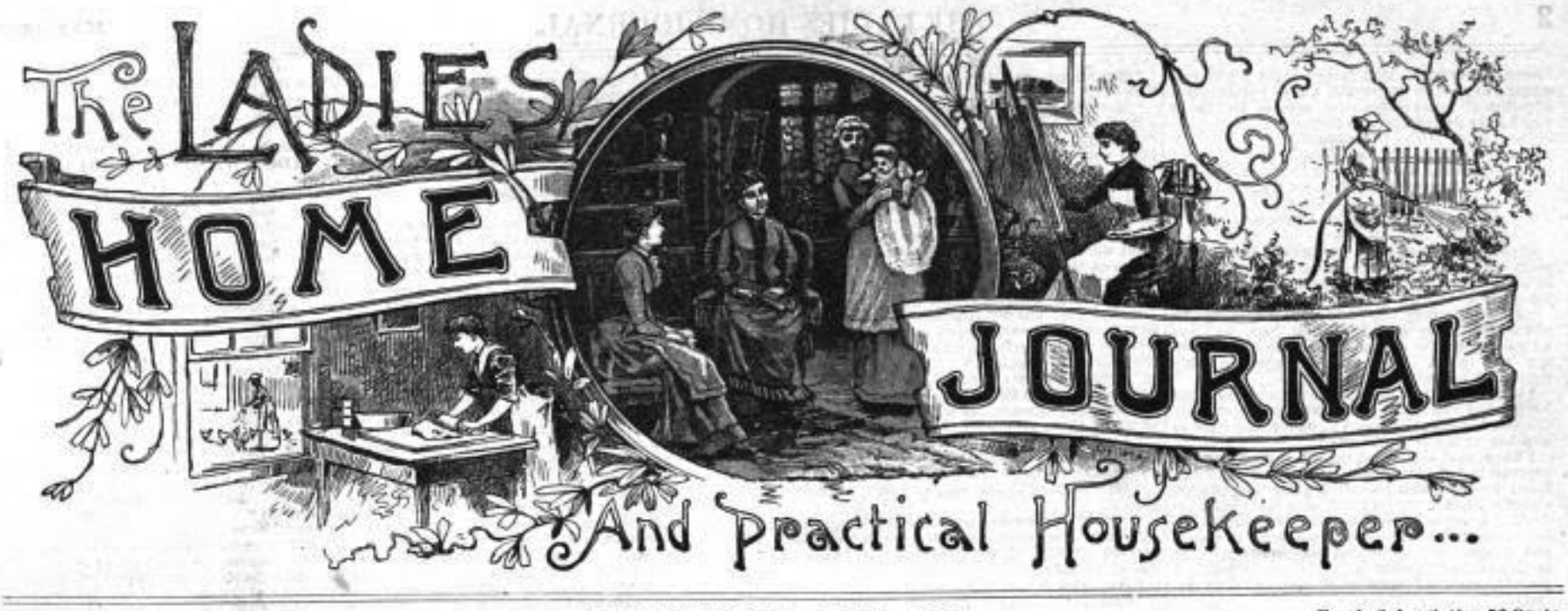

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

BEGUN WRONG.

BY ROSE TERRY COOKE.

Such a bright day it was for a wedding! You see our story is begun wrong; where stories generally end; but nevertheless here it begins; and what can be more charming than a gay wedding? Eleanor Balch certainly looked angelic as she stood under a great bell of white roses, in her trailing bridal dress of snowy satin, over which flounce on flounce of delicate and costly lace lay like fairy-woven fabrics of frost and cobwebs: pearls clasped her throat and wrist with their pure lustre, and a filmy veil just shadowed her coiled and shining hair, and lustrous eyes: she was pale as her dress, but her eyes were dark with emotion, for she sincerely loved the young fellow who stood beside her, and Jack Palmer's face seemed to justify such affection as he looked at his bride with beaming eyes. He had a pleasant face, sensible if not very resolute, and such a merry laugh!

All the guests of the festival crowded round them with congratulations; the presents were costly and numerous; nothing could be a more cheerful and promising beginning of a new life than this bright day, and this happy culmination of a true love. Eleanor Balch was the daughter of a banker in the city of—let us say Lawrence; a name is convenient, but it is not always best to use it where it belongs. Mr. Balch had been cashier, and was now president of the First National Bank in Lawrence; and Jack Palmer was in a wholesale business down town, making money, so that nobody objected to his suit when he met Eleanor at Newport, fell directly in love with her, and laid his heart and his fortune at her feet, as the elder novelists say. Certainly Nelly Balch was a very pretty girl, and the fearless outlook of her brown eyes, the deep dimple that cleft her white chin, the firm set of the red lips that parted in smiles over teeth like her own pearls, the broad fair brow on which the nut-brown hair fell in the absurd fringe fashion dictated, all indicated a certain reserve force that gave additional charm to her roseate beauty, a strength of character that seemed unnecessary to the petted belle, living in all the luxury of her father's house, indulged in every caprice, and flattered by all about her, and now only transferred to another sphere of adoration and display. A short bridal tour followed the wedding, it was October, and the happy pair went southward: there were friends to *fête* them in Baltimore, and Washington offered dinners and receptions where the beautiful bride and her wonderful trousseau made a sensation. Then they came back and established themselves in a fine house, furnished with all that modern taste and regardless expense could lavish on any mansion; and now further adorned by the numerous wedding gifts of china, silver, paintings, books, and bric-a-brac of the costliest sort.

Now a whirl of visiting began: callers poured in; cards for receptions, dinners, balls, high teas, crowded the table in the library, where they were put for inspection: the trousseau again dazzled the eyes of all beholders, and it became a question which afforded society a pleasing topic whether Mrs. Jack Palmer was loveliest in white lace, sea-green satin, rose-colored tulle, or heliotrope velvet: and whether jewels or flowers ought to be worn with tulle.

Certainly if Jack Palmer's old mother, sleeping in the lonely graveyard of a Vermont village, could have wakened from her rest to see this lavish life of her only boy,—the last left to her, whom she had brought up in the stern simplicity of poverty, and who might have lived and died a poor farmer in Dysart but for a rich uncle who discovered him at his mother's funeral and adopted him,—could she, I say, have beheld all this, her sweet and pious soul would have trembled for her boy's welfare: but there was nobody now to watch and pray for him: even the old uncle was dead this three years, and Jack rode on the top of the wave.

Things went on so for a year: then Mr. Balch died very suddenly, and his heart-broken wife followed him quickly to the grave. Poor woman! she knew what no one else suspected, that business trouble, the result of hazardous and profitless speculation, had driven him to such despair that he had ended his own life; it would have been an open secret, but that his physician knew his heart had long been weak, and his wife absolutely forbid any examination after death as to its cause. Jack Palmer was astonished to find that his father-in-law had really left no property after his debts were paid; and Nelly, just then at the brink of death herself from the shock of her orphanage coming when she was least able to bear it, and mourning also over the lost baby that never opened its eyes to smile at her, or drew but one gasping breath of life, asked him no questions: he brought home the portraits of her parents, but everything else was sold, and when, after many weeks she struggled back to conscious life, her physicians insisted on her being taken to the South till warmer weather came. Jack did not know how to leave his business, but could not hesitate to go when Nelly's life was at stake, so he took her to New Orleans, hiring a special car, and carrying along nurse and maid as well as a man-servant. There they staid three months, and on their return Nelly had to reconstruct her household, and prepare for summer. There was a new wardrobe to be bought, and crape is expensive; an outfit of black for the summer cost both time and money: she never thought about her father's property, at least not enough to ask about it; she trusted Jack so implicitly, and she had been brought up so like a flower of the field, neither to toil or spin, or to consider at all where her daily luxuries came from or what they cost, that it was impossible for her to imagine they were not the necessities of every day to people in her class.

In July she went to Newport with her maid; Jack came every Sunday to see her, she had a charming suite of rooms in a hotel, a carriage and horses at the stables to drive every day, her own coachman to attend to them, and yet Nelly found life there very stupid. She was in too recent black to go out into society, and the days were long and lonely, though she made a few acquaintances at the hotel; she would have gone somewhere else except for the fact that her health improved every day and Jack could reach her on Sundays; when he too enjoyed the soft salt air, the exquisite

turf, the picturesque rocks, the flowers, the fineries, in fact all the charms that invest Newport with a halo beyond mere fashion and folly.

When autumn came Nelly went home restored to health and beauty, and even lovelier than on her wedding day, for there was a soft pensiveness in her lovely eyes more beautiful than the bright defiant sparkle of her un-tried youth.

There certainly was not so pleasant a change in Jack: he looked tired and troubled, though when he came home his old gay look returned: he would not for the world have Nelly know that he had a care.

Oh Jack! that was where you began wrong! The tour to New Orleans had left his business in the hands of an inexperienced partner who mismanaged it, and the result was that Jack had been forced to mortgage his house in order to get money for the emergency; then a business crisis set in, the prices of the goods he dealt in ran down below cost, and his warehouse was full of them.

Once he would have fallen back on Mr. Balch, but that resort was gone: he had to borrow money from a bank on his collateral securities of stock and bonds. He was no longer a free man: he had to look out for payment of interest, he must watch the fluctuations of a sinking market, he must worry alone over the countless possibilities of his business, above all he must carry a pleasant cheerful face back to Nelly.

But all this while it never occured to him to curtail his personal expenses; he smoked the best cigars and smoked them continually, to keep his nerves quiet he said; he could not do without his wine at dinner, and the best money could buy, at that: it was a habit his rich bachelor uncle had taught him. Then Nelly must have her horses; and there were opera tickets, for she loved music; and little suppers afterward, which one does not get for nothing. His clothes still came from the most fashionable tailors, and he had a dozen sets of studs, at least; little things to buy but capable of swelling a jeweller's bill to great size.

Jack did not think of these economies at first, but as the winter went on, and he became more and more involved, there began to be a difficulty about finding ready money for the servants' wages, opera and concert tickets, supper parties after the theatre, and other things not to be had on credit; a ten dollar bill assumed double value in his eyes, he groaned inwardly when the day to pay interest on his mortgage and his other notes drew near, he dreaded the swift flight of the weeks and months as never before; "black care" rode on his shoulders all day; and every day the effort to keep a bright face and a gay voice for Nell and home grew more strenuous, more oppressive. He began to think of his boyish life in the little farmhouse, up the country, where the first twelve years of his life had been past, of the simple pleasures, the simpler fare that had been so sweet to his healthy appetite, of the free carelessness of his poverty.

To keep the heart of a child in the midst of the world's mad vortex, to be content with the needs of mere li e, and enjoy them as luxuries; to become "as little children" is indeed to "enter the kingdom of heaven," the peace of God which passes understanding; but there are few who know this truth, and fewer who live in its atmosphere. Jack Palmer had become one of the sort with whom he consorted; this look backward into his earlier life was merely the gasp of the hunted animal remembering its lair; for Jack began to be hunted now by the relentless hounds of debt and loss. Day by day the net tightened, deeper and deeper his feet sank in the quicksand, but through it all he hoped and believed that Nelly knew nothing about trouble: he did not consider how dreadful the sudden blow would be to her, partly because of its suddenness, when it did come: still less did he consider that when a woman really loves a man he cannot, for long, conceal from her that he is suffering, whether in mind or body. Nelly became very sure that Jack had some trouble hidden from her, but she was young, unwise, inexperienced, and her pride took fire; if he did not choose to tell her she certainly would not ask him; yet once she did venture, coming in upon him in the library when his face, in the solitude, had lapsed into its dejected and dark expression.

"Are you ill, Jack?" she asked, in a matter-of-course way.

"No! what a question, Nell!" He jumped up and gave her a chair by the fire. "Look at me! Do I look ill?"

He certainly did not, as he stood there before her in all the pride of his manly strength, for trouble had not yet worn upon his young muscles; and yet his "whole head was sick and the heart faint," in the expressive Scripture phrase, but he would not tell his wife.

When one begins wrong they have to go on wrong, at least for a time, you see.

Eleanor began to go out again now: she was more lonely than ever in the unrest of a vague fear, and the attempt to barricade herself with her poor pride. She ordered fresh dresses, and solaced herself in a pitiful way with furs, and laces, and trinkets; and all the dealers gave her credit, for Jack's business stood fair as yet to all outward appearance; Jack could not remonstrate with her because she would see no reason; and she, ignorant still, that her father had died in entire poverty, supposed there was enough money of her own to justify the expenses she had all her life been accustomed to indulge in.

By spring things grew worse and worse, sales were light and few, bad debts harassed Jack, and failures of his chief customers.

One day as he was going down town with a very gloomy countenance he met a friend.

"Jack," said the anxious-faced man, "can you let me have five hundred dollars for thirty days?"

Jack stared at him aghast.

"Five hundred dollars? Hartmann, I don't know where to look for fifty that I am in need of the money."

"You!" cried the astonished Hartmann, "why I thought you were rolling in riches."

"Step in here a minute," said Jack, drawing him inside a tiny little restaurant, where they often took their lunch at noon.

"Sit down a minute, there'll be no one here yet. I must tell somebody or go mad!"

The waiter came up and stood attentive. "Not anything yet, William, only house-room," said Jack, with the kindly smile that he always had for an inferior; the waiter bowed and left them.

Then Jack laid his condition before his friend. Mr. Hartmann was thoroughly shocked. "My dear fellow, I hadn't an idea of this!" he said, laying his hand on Jack's shoulder.

"I thought you were one of the few who could not fail."

"And I am just on the brink of it!" Jack said, with a bitter laugh.

"Does your wife know it?" asked Mr. Hartmann.

"Eleanor? God forbid! When I began my married life I resolved to keep all trouble away from her; she is so delicate, she has been so carefully and tenderly reared, I meant to have her happy. Why Hartmann, she does not even know her father died insolvent! But she has got to know that we are poor. I have been too proud as well as too fond to tell her. I didn't want her to know what a fool I have been; for Hartmann, I have not been a knave!"

"Fall back on that old fellow! It is not every man can say it in these days. I tell you you wouldn't like to be in Canada with—— and——: there are worse things than poverty. And Jack,—go home and tell your wife: tell her all. If there is anything in faces she won't fail you. Good God! if I only had a wife to tell my troubles to!—but there's three little motherless children at home——"

Hartmann's eyes filled and his voice choked. Jack grasped his hand and wrung it. Presently the man recovered himself.

"Go home and tell her, my dear fellow; you've got to do it. You ought to have done it before; you begun wrong. I see a great deal in the papers about the frivolity and extravagance of women, and I believed in it until I married Mary; but I tell you it is our fault, Jack; we don't trust 'em, or teach 'em, and when you treat a woman like a baby, she will act like a baby. I don't often quote Scripture, but I believe that what God meant a woman to be when he said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone: I will make a help-meet for him,' is what they would be if we'd let them. A help-meet, fit to help, that is what you want now; for if ever a man wants help it is when he has lost every outside thing." Jack Palmer's heart sank as he heard Mr. Hartmann's advice; physical courage he had a plenty, but he lacked that moral strength which serves us best in emergencies like his; he hid his face in his hands and seemed to feel all the waves of a deep sea go over him. Hartmann laid his hand on his shoulder: "Palmer it has got to come soon or late; is it kind to your wife to let it reach her from anyone but you?"

Jack sprang to his feet, and looked at his friend with a face dark with misery.

"No! but it's damned hard!"

The adjective measured the hardness, for Jack Palmer was a gentleman, and used no profanity of speech: this was the utterance of deepest agony.

He again grasped Hartmann's hand, pulled his hat over his brows, and leaving the shop, turned back homeward, with that sudden resolve to

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"have it over with" that impels many a physical coward to rush to the dentist whose painful ministration of relief only a dire pang of toothache could have driven them to seek.

(*To be Continued.*)

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

COMMON SENSE CURE.

BY JENNIE PORTER ARNOLD.

Cousin Mary had been an invalid for several years, and all the female relatives shook their heads despondingly whenever this subject was mentioned.

"There was very little hope she would ever be any better," they said dolorously, "she had had all the doctors far and near and none of them did her any good. Poor woman! she probably couldn't hold out much longer."

I had heard the same story over and over, but having had some personal experience in chronic disease, I was not disposed to believe the case as hopeless as it was represented.

I knew, that at the first there had been a severe overtasking of strength in the care of a dearly loved brother, who had died after long illness, and Mary had been very sick of a fever after his death. Long months of nervous prostration followed the fever, then intervals of convalescence and relapses had succeeded each other until, at last, she had become a confirmed invalid.—a patient, resigned member of the "Shut-in Society."

As for myself I was never a good subject for the last. I had told my pastor once, when he called upon me during a prolonged, and apparently hopeless, illness, that I did not believe in resignation to sickness; and in answer to his shocked expression, added, "resignation to anything that can be helped is simply laziness; and instead of joining the "Shut-in Society" I belong to the "Get Up and Get Out Society."

Possibly that had something to do with the fact that I recovered after the physicians had declared my case hopeless.

With this experience fresh in my memory I decided to visit my suffering relative and see if there was not some possibility of help for her.

"I'm afraid you can't see Mary to-night," Aunt Martha said soon after my arrival, "she is so nervous no one has been in the room for the last month except doctor and I. She can't bear a bit of light or the least noise her head is so bad." And poor, patient Aunt Martha heaved a deep sigh: the invalid daughter was very dear to her, and she was nearly exhausted by care and anxiety on her account.

"Then do not tell her I am here," I said. "I know just how she feels and I am going to take the responsibility of walking in without asking consent."

Aunt Martha demurred, but, as is usually the case, my strong will overcame her weak one, and I opened softly the door of the sick room and entered unannounced.

The blinds were closed, and thick curtains were over the windows. In the dim light I could, at first see only the outlines of a white-draped bed in the centre of the room. As I drew nearer and my eyes became more accustomed to the darkness, I saw a pale, thin face upon the pillow, and a pair of dark eyes, unusually large and bright were looking at me in surprise and bewilderment.

"I am Cousin Jennie," I said by way of introduction, as I saw she did not recognize me. "I have come from New York on purpose to see you."

She welcomed me in a voice scarcely above a whisper, letting the wasted, nerveless hand I had taken, fall wearily back upon the coverlid. She looked so frail and delicate, my heart was filled with the deepest pity for her, while I felt indignant at the ignorance that could shut up a sick person in such a close, dark room.

I made a few kind inquiries regarding her condition: it was the old story of all chronic diseases—almost constant pain in back or sides, torturing nervous headaches, sleeplessness and loss of appetite.

"You have been very sick," she said, in the low, languid tone she seemed to use habitually, "and they tell me your recovery was almost a miracle. Was it Faith cure?"

"No, at least not what is called so by its advocates. The popular idea of Faith cure, as I understand it, seems to me little better than an insult to the Almighty."

"O Cousin Jennie!" with an accent of horror as if I had committed the unpardonable sin. She was greatly shocked, just as I intended she should be; it was useless thinking of cure for her while she remained in that half-dead condition, both physically and mentally. A shock of some kind was necessary to rouse her, and, as I dared not dash a pail of cold water over her, or rush in suddenly shouting "the house is on fire!" I thought a mental shaking up might serve the same purpose in a lesser degree. It seemed to have that effect, for she raised herself on her elbow and her flushed cheeks and clear, full tones showed that the blood had started into healthy action.

She laid her hand on mine deprecatingly and her sorrowful expression made me half repent my experiment.

"And I thought you were a Christian," she said in a shocked grieved tone.

"So I am I trust," I answered; "that is if loving God and trying to keep his commandments makes a Christian."

"Then how can you say such dreadful things?"

"Because I mean it; I do not doubt that in many cases it is a good thing, but carried to extremes as it is by enthusiasts, I believe it teaches a false doctrine and does great harm. Sickness in nearly all cases is caused by breaking nature's laws—God's laws, either wilfully or ignorantly, and Faith cure apostles teach you to expect God to work a miracle to save you from the just penalty of his broken law. Would it not be wiser, honoring God more, to show you your error and teach you how to avoid it in future? But it is not Faith cure we need but more Common Sense cure."

"Why, what is Common Sense cure?"

"When you want to raise fine flowers you shut them up in a close, dark room, do you not?" I asked with seeming irrelevance.

"O no! I give them all the sunshine and air they can get."

"Then isn't it common sense to suppose that a human flower needs the same conditions to keep in health?"

"Why—yes. I suppose so."

"Did you ever see a sick animal? a dog, for instance? He always seeks the warmest, softest bed he can find, in order to cure himself, does he not?"

"No, certainly not; he goes away and finds a bed on the cool earth."

"Then is it common sense to put a sick human animal in a warm bed in a close room?"

"But we couldn't live on the bare earth like Towser."

"More pity that we cannot—but we might get a little nearer to it than we usually do in such cases. Then if you were well you would try and keep your health by making a diet of poisonous drugs, strong tea and a small quantity of toast would you not?"

"Of course not—that would make a well person sick."

"Then is it not common sense to suppose that what would make a healthy person sick would not restore a sick person to health?"

"But I could never eat such food as I would if I were well—I have no appetite."

"I know it; but did it never occur to you that your lack of appetite; your headache and sleeplessness are nature's protests against the lack of fresh air and sunshine?"

"I don't know—I never thought of it. I supposed it was a part of my disease."

"And your disease, my dear, is largely due to breaking these very laws of nature."

"Yes—" slowly and doubtfully, "yet it is a disease after all—and the doctors themselves powerless to help it. Do you think I ever can be cured?" turning to me with an eager, appealing glance.

"No!" I answered so bluntly and emphatically that the poor soul fell back with a half uttered "Oh!" of disappointment. "But," I added, "I have no doubt you can get well."

"Why what is the difference?"

"Just the difference between an active and a passive verb; in 'being cured' you are passively waiting for some agent outside to do the work,—in 'getting well' all your will power is aroused and you do the work yourself—one gets up and says 'go,' the other lies down and says 'come.'"

"And you believe I can get well?"

"Certainly. I have no doubt of it."

"Then do please teach me how. I've lain here month after month, in such severe suffering, waiting for the doctors to cure me, and they all fail; now if I can get well I'm willing to do anything you think best."

"All right, my dear, then I shall give you the first requisite of health—fresh air." And I pulled up the shade, opened the window and threw back the blinds.

It was a beautiful day early in September, and the sun had just sunk behind the distant hills, leaving the sky above, a mass of purple and rose, amber and gold,—such soft tints, such gorgeous coloring it reminded me of the description of the glories of the New Jerusalem;—but Mary, poor soul, had laid there too long already, waiting and longing for the other world. I wanted now to endear her more to this one, so I repressed the impulse to speak my first thoughts and said simply, "See, dear, what a lovely world you are shutting out."

At first her eyes shrank sensitively from the light and she pressed her hand over them; but she was determined, evidently, to follow my advice, and after a few attempts looked out with delight.

I drew another light blanket about her, bringing it up around her head so that only her face was exposed.

I had very little fear of her taking cold from such mild air, but I would run no risks.

"Now I am going to leave you alone to watch the colors fade from the sky, and the stars come out," I said after arranging all for her comfort. "No doubt you are tired and need rest."

"No. I don't know how it is, but I've been so interested I haven't thought of being tired; and" —with a puzzled look—"I have not felt any pain since you came in. I don't see how it is, for I've not been free from it before, for half an hour in many weeks."

"It was because your mind was so much occupied with other things you never thought of it."

Aunt Martha entered the room at this moment with Mary's supper,—a cup of strong Japanese tea, and a slice of toast—the most indigestible and least nutritious of all the dishes prepared for invalids.

She looked in surprise from the open window to Mary's animated face.

"Well this is a change!" she said, with a pleased expression on her careworn face. "I guess you feel better."

"Yes, I *am* better," Mary said emphatically. "Cousin Jennie says I can get well and I am going to do just as she advises and see if it is possible."

"Then you must remember that the first step is to believe you are going to get well," I said, bending to kiss the white face which in the clear light showed sadly the marks of severe pain and her extreme emaciation.

I left her alone for a half hour to the rest I felt sure she needed, then without giving her a hint of my intention, wrapped her in a blanket and had her brother carry her to the family sitting-room and place her upon the sofa. She was greatly surprised at the sudden change but uttered no remonstrance. The family were so heartily glad to see her, I feared they would overdo the matter in their welcome, so I protested against too much talking. She bore it wonderfully well,—better than I expected.

In the meantime I opened all the windows and an outside door in an adjoining hall, giving her room a thorough airing.

Before returning to her room I gave her a sponge bath with the water at 70 degrees.—uncovering only a small portion of the surface at a time, rubbing briskly with towels then with the open palm until I brought a healthy glow to the dry feverish skin. After dressing her in fresh clothing, turning the mattress over and making the bed with clean linen, she was carried back and made comfortable for the night.

The change to the other room and the bath had caused a healthy weariness which made the chamber and fresh clothing very agreeable to her.

"Now here is your sleeping potion," I said as I gave her a cup of warm gruel. "Drink it all, then trot away to slumberland."

The next morning I found her bright and cheerful.

"O I had such sweet sleep!" she said with animation, "I have not been so refreshed for months. I have had to take bromide and chloral every night in order to sleep at all. What did you put in the gruel?"

"Only a little common sense, my dear. An animal will never sleep on an empty stomach, you know; and in your case the process of digestion drew the blood from your overcharged brain and induced sleep. Now drink this," handing her a cup of water, comfortably hot, with a slice of lemon in it "It will warm your stomach ready for your breakfast."

After drinking it she sat up in bed, bathed face and hands and arranged her hair.

"See," she said after she had finished, "I haven't done that for myself for four months."

I had prepared her breakfast myself—a poached egg, a dish of *thoroughly cooked* oatmeal, and a plate of delicious grapes.

Her eyes brightened: "I believe I am hungry," she said, "and I cannot remember the time I have been so before. But is it safe for such a weak stomach as mine to take those grapes?"

"Just try it and see; I will answer for consequences; only be sure and do not swallow the seeds."

I engaged her in merry conversation as she ate, and if laughter helps digestion and increases appetite, it might account for Mary's calling for the second plate of oatmeal; to Aunt Martha's astonishment. "She hasn't eaten so much at one time in a year," she said with surprise and pleasure.

Mary had not observed the absence of tea with her breakfast until the meal was ended, then she turned to me inquiringly:

"Do you feel thirsty?" I asked.

"Not in the least. The grapes were food and drink."

"Then do not drink any tea now. I think it increases your headache and sleeplessness, and certainly your nerves need no stimulant. I would prefer, if you can do without it, that you take no drink of any kind with your meals. You will chew your food more thoroughly and it will digest better. I will bring you a glass of warm milk and water in an hour."

After I had given this to her I changed her night clothing for that worn the day before, which had been sunning in the back yard since early morning. Then wrapping her again in a blanket she was carried to a sofa on the back veranda, where with her head alone in shade, the rest of the body received the full benefit of the sunshine.

At first the strong light was painful to the weak eyes accustomed only to a darkened room, so I put over them a green silk shade screening them from the glare. She lay for a long time silently drinking in the pure, fresh air and watching the distant landscape from beneath her shade.

"O Jennie! It's like heaven," she said at last. "How blind and foolish I have been."

"We will not mourn over the past now—but be thankful your eyes were opened before it was too late."

After an hour's thorough sunning she was carried back to her bed, which had been aired and the linen changed for that used the day before, which like the clothing had been sunning for hours.

As I expected, in ten minutes Mary was asleep and never awakened until dinner time.

Then she was ready for a hearty meal of roast beef with a few of the grapes for a relish.

Before my two weeks visit ended she was able to sit up for an hour or two at a time and to walk to her favorite resting place in the hammock, which I had substituted for the sofa.

The greater part of every pleasant day was spent between the hammock and an easy chair on the veranda.

When I left it was with the promise that Mary was to return my visit in six weeks, which promise was punctually kept. She bore the hundred mile journey with no undue fatigue, and I could scarcely recognize in the bright, healthful face and plump form, the emaciated, helpless, hopeless invalid whom I had found in the darkened room two months before. Yet it was no miracle, but simply common sense had restored her to health and better still, taught her how to keep it.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MOTH.

BY AUNT EVA.

At this season of the year, the careful housewife feels a motherly interest in this subject, lest this little insect damage her children's clothing during the coming summer.

The word moth when properly used embraces a large number of the smaller butterflies.

But in this form it does no harm: it has no teeth, takes no nourishment and has but a brief existence. Yet this moth lays her eggs in our goods and from those eggs comes a tiny worm which often disturbs the equanimity of the household.

There are several kinds of moth that annoy the careful housekeeper. The *tinea vestianella* finds its home in clothing, *tinea tapetzella* in carpet, *tinea pellionella* in fur and *tinea crinella* in hair.

These Tineans, in their winged state, lay their eggs mostly in the spring, during the months of April, May and June, depending somewhat upon the locality and season. The eggs hatch out in about fifteen days, and the little worms begin to gnaw the substance about them, the fragments of which they generally use in making for themselves cases by fastening them together with silk and in which they move freely, and as they grow they enlarge these covers by adding to the ends and by gores set into the sides. In this warm jacket they live until spring, when they come out with wings and fly away to seek crevices, folds, dark closets or any undisturbed places where they can find the kind of material suited to the purpose of housing their young, and here they lay their eggs which soon make a colony of destructive moth rooms.

Now the way to prevent damages is to pack away such things as we do not use during the summer where the moth miller cannot find them. This should be done in the spring *as soon as they are not needed to use*, into cotton or linen or paper bags.

Care must be taken that the bags have no rent or hole where a tiny moth may creep in. We prefer heavy unbleached muslin as it is strong and durable and may be bought in remnants at low prices. A bag may be laid in a trunk, box or shelf, and the goods packed in smoothly, the bag sewed or tied up at once, and be assured no moth will find its way into it.

If everything is made clean, repaired and each persons clothing packed separately, and each bag labeled, naming all that is in it and to whom it belongs, it will afford the housewife real pleasure to find the things as she may need them in the fall. All woolens and furs, even though not valuable, if not in use should be thus carefully packed away so as not to provide a harbor for these pests. The carpets in use should, during the spring months be swept carefully and often in all the corners and under the furniture.

If moths do get into the carpets place a wet cloth over and iron with a hot iron; they cannot survive such treatment.

The cloth linings of carriages and chairs may be protected by being sponged with a solution of corrosive sublimate in alcohol just strong enough to leave a white stain on a black feather.

There are several other insects that trouble clothing, but we think none of them will find their way through a strong muslin bag. The writer has been successful in the use of this plan for a number of years, and never feels the least anxiety after her goods are carefully brushed, cleaned and packed away for the summer and never opens them until needed for use.

[FOR the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

SOME TIDIES WHICH ARE NOT UNTIDY.

The tidiest of all the tidies of which I have knowledge, and their name is legion, is one that a much traveling friend tells me is in use in Holland and Germany. It is used to protect such articles of bedding as are seldom washed—as comfortables and blankets. They are so simple and easily applied I wonder the idea has not been imported and brought into general use long ago.

They are made with a width of cotton or linen the length of the end or side to be protected, by a hem an inch or more in width all around. This is folded with one-half on each side of the blanket or comfortable, and the hemmed sides brought as far down as they will reach and exactly opposite each other. When in place they can be fastened in various ways, either basted or buttoned or with safety pins. These are expected to be changed as often as sheets and pillow slips, and in view of cleanliness are no less important than they.

The amount of tolerance exercised in respect to this one discomfort by the traveling public is remarkable. Scarcely any one with any degree of sensibility in such matters gets into a bed when his predecessor is unknown, or open to suspicion, without a strong mental protest or without resorting to every device attainable to avoid contact with what we may designate permanent bedding. I know a clergyman who was brought to the necessity of sleeping with his clothes on and his boots under his head to avoid contact with unclean sheets and pillow cases.

The friend to whom I owe the above *tidy* suggestion, said the comfort experienced during her stay when they were used, as compared with annoyance she had endured more or less during years of travel, made it seem one of the most valuable practical ideas that she had gained anywhere.

I will venture to mention another *tidy* notion in this connection, which, though not new, is not brought into the general use it should be. I refer to overdraws for mattrasses. A mattrass is used as long as it keeps in any kind of order without re covering, because it is a troublesome and expensive matter to re-make it. In the meanwhile, with care, it may be kept tolerably nice looking, but it is very troublesome to keep dust from settling around the tufts, and if anything does soil it the evidence cannot be entirely obliterated, moreover there is much that the eye cannot detect that is not clean: such as bad odors, to which a mattress is too freely exposed. Much of this can be obviated by having a case made to fit the mattrass, of good stout jean or any other firm material, which can be drawn on and buttoned like a pillow case, and changed as often as the housekeeper sees fit, and will keep the mattrass in a clean and healthful condition very much longer than when used uncovered.

HANNAH STRIGER.

BEAUTIFUL DOLLS

GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF 20 NEW TRIAL SUBSCRIBERS AT 10 CENTS EACH.

These dolls will delight the little girls. Their hair and eyes are beautiful, and their complexion indicates perfect health. Any little girl would be happy with one of these dolls to care for and educate. The face, neck and shoulders are bisque. The eyes open and shut, and the arms and legs can be moved in any position. It has a Jointed Kid Body of the finest workmanship. The head is movable, and can be turned in natural positions. The long flaxen hair, the "human" eyes, the rosy cheeks and beautiful expression of this pretty Doll will captivate any little girl's heart. It has Stockings and Slippers with bright buckles. You can easily get 20 of your mother's friends and the neighbors to pay so small a sum as ten cents for a trial subscription. Try it and see.

Splendid Premium for Boys!

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The Daisy Printing Press, Type and Complete Outfit is the newest and only really practical printers' equipment for beginners. It affords pleasure and remunerative employment to boys or girls, who can print with this press, Visiting and Business Cards as perfect as can be done on presses costing many times the extremely low price of the DAISY. The very first order you get for printing may amount to two or three times the cost of this valuable outfit, so that in reality you will only have executed a little pleasant labor and have the source of considerable profit in the end.

This outfit is provided with Ink Table, Screw Chase, Adjustable Metal Card Gauge, and Patent Composing Pallet, with Screw Attachment, by the aid of which ingenious little device the amateur quickly learns to "set up" and "distribute" type, besides being a wonderful improvement over any other method for adjusting the form for Visiting Cards. It also includes the Composition Ink Roller, Can of the best Card Ink, and a full, regular font of Fancy Card Type, with Spaces and Quads. The whole put up in a neat sliding-cover wooden box, with full directions to amateurs, How to Print, How to set Type.

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Furthermore we will give free a Package of Cards to begin with.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

SAMANTHA AT SARATOGA.

BY JOSIAH ALLEN'S WIFE.

(Copyright by Marietta Holley.)

It wuz on a day heavenly calm and fair, that Josiah Allen and me, set sail for Mount McGregor.

That mountain top is lifted up higher in the hearts of the American people than other peek in this Continent! far higher. For it is the place where the memory of a hero lays over all the peaceful landscape like a inspiration, and a benediction, and will rest there forever.

The road winds round and round the mountain, sometimes not seemingly goin' up at all, but gradually a movin' on towards the top, jest as this brave hero did in his career. If some of the time he didn't seem to move on, if some of the time he seemed to back for a little, yet there wuz a deathless fire inside on him, a power, a strength, that kep him a goin' up, up, up, and drawin' the nation up with him onto the safe level ground of victory.

We got pleasant glimpses of beauty, pretty pictures on't, every little while, as we wended our way on top the mountain. And we would go round a curve, or ledge of rocks mebby, and lo! far off a openin' through the woods would show us a lovely picture of hill and dell, blue water, and blue mountains in the distance.

And then a green wood picture, shet in and lonely, with tall ferns and wild flowers, and thick green grasses, under the green trees. Then far down agin, a picture of a farm house sheltered and quiet, with fields layin' about it, green and golden.

But even! we reached the pretty little lonesome station, and there we wuz on the top of Mt. McGregor.

We disembarked from the cars, and wended our way up the hill, up the windin' foot path worn down by the feet of pilgrims from every land, quite a tejus walk, though beautiful, up to the good-lookin', and good-appearin' town.

I would fain have stopped at that minute at the abode the Hero had sanctified by his last looks. But my companion said to me that he wuz in nearly a starvin' state. Now it wuzn't much after 11 a. m. forenoon, and I felt that he would not die of starvation. But his looks wuz pitiful in the extreme, and he reminded me in a sort of a weak voice, that he didn't eat no breakfast hardly.

I says truthfully, "I didn't notice it Josiah." But says I, "I will accompany you to where your hunger can be staked." So we went straight to the town.

But I would stop a minute in front of it, to see the lovely, lovely scen that wuz spread out before our eyes. For, far off we could see milds and milds of the beautiful country a layin' far below us. Beautiful landscape, dotted with crystal lake, laved by the blue waters of the Hudson, and bordered by the far-a-way mountains.

It wuz a fair scen, a fair scen. Even Josiah wuz roused up by it and forgot his hunger. I mysel wuz lost in the contemplation on it; and entirely by the side of myself. So much so, that I forgot where I wuz, and whether I wuz a wife or a widow, or what I wuz.

But even! as my senses come back from the heaven of pure beauty they had been traversin,' I recollected that I wuz a wife, that Providence, and Elder Minkly, had placed a man in my hands to take care on, and I must look him up.

And I found that man in one of the high, tetilish-lookin' swingin' chairs, that wuz a swingin' from high poles all along the brow o the hill. They looked some like the stancheil for a house, and some like a pair of galluses that criminals are hung from.

Josiah wuzn't able to work it right, and it did require a deep mind to get into one without peril. And he wuz on the brink of a entrastrophe. I got him out by seizin' the chair, and holdin' it tight, till he dismounted from it, which he did, with words unadopted to the serenity of the atmosphere.

And then we went over the broad, pleasant door-yard, up into the tavern, and my companion got some coffee, and some refreshments, to refresh ourselves with. And then, he feelin' clever, and real affectionate to me, (owin', partly, I s'pose to the good dinner) we wended our way down to the cottage, where the Hero met his last foe, and fell victorious.

We went up the broad steps onto the piazza, and I looked off from it, and over all the landscape, under the soft summer sky, lay that same beautiful, tender, inspired memory. It lay like the hush that follows the prayer at a dyin' bed. Like the glow that rests on the world when the sun has gone down in glory. Like the silence full of voices that follows a orifers inspired words.

The air, the hull place, thrilled with that memory, that presence that wuz with us, though unseen to the eyes of our spectacles. It followed us through the doorway, it went ahead on us into the room where the pen wuz laid down for the last time, when the last words wuz said.

That pen wuz hung up over the bed where the tired head had rested last. By the bedside wuz the candle blowed out, when he got to the place where it is so light they don't need candles. The watch stopped at the time when he begun to reckon time by the deathless ages of immortality.

His face looked at us from the wall, his eyes read our souls, looked through 'em. The voiceless presence that filled the hull landscape, earth and air, looked at us through them eyes, half-mourful, prophetic, true, and calm, they wuz a lookin' through the past, through all the future.

What did they see there? I couldn't tell, nor Josiah.

In another room wuz the flowers from many climes, flowers throwed onto the stage from hands all over the world, when the footlights burned low, and the dark curtain went down for the last time on the Hero. Great masses of flowers, every one on 'em bearin' the world's love, the world's sorrow over our nation's loss.

I had a large quantity of emotions as I stood there, probably as many as 48 a minute, for quite a spell, and that is a large number of emotions to have, when the size of 'em is as large as the sizes of these wuz.

I thought as I stood there, of what I had heard the Hero said in his last illness.

That liftin' up his grand right arm that had saved the Nation, he said:

"I am on duty from four to six."

Yes, thinks 'es I, he wus on duty, all through the shadows and the darkness of war, all through peril, and the heartache, and the wild alarm of war. Calm and dauntless, he wuz "on duty" till the o erain' of peace come, and the light wuz shinin'.

On duty through the darkness! No one believed, no one dared to think that if peril had come again to the country he would not have been ready, ready to face danger and death for the people he had saved once, the people whom he loved, because he had dared death for them.

Yes, he wuz on duty.

There wuz a darker shadow that come to him, than any cloud that ever rose over a battle field. When honest and true himself as the light, he still stood under the shadow of blame and impendin' want. Stood in the blackest shadow that can cover generous, faithful hearts, the heart-sickenin' shadow of ingratitude.

When the people he had saved from ruin, hesitated and refused to give him in the time of his need, the paltry pension, the few dollars out of the millions he had saved for them. Preferring to let *him*, the greatest hero of the world, the man who had represented them before the nations, seil the badges and swords he had worn in fighting their battles, for bread for himself and wife.

But he wuz "on duty" all through this night. Patient, uncomplaining. And not one of these warriors, fightin' their bloodless battle of words against him would dare to say that he would not have been ready at any minute to give his life agin for these very men had danger come to the country and they had needed him.

And when hastened on by the shock, and the suspense, death seemed to be near him, so near him that it seemed as if the tourien must needs be light—the tardy justice that come to him must have seemed like an insult, but if he thought so, he never said it.

No, brave and patient, he wuz "on duty."

And all through the long, long time that he looked through the shadows for a more sure foe than had laid in southern ambush for him, he wuz "on duty."

Not an impatient word, not an anxious word, of all the fearin', doubtin', hopin', achin' hearts about him, he only wuz calm. For not only his own dear ones, but the hull country, friends and foes alike, as if learnin' through fear of his loss how grand a hero he was, and how greatly and entirely he wuz beloved by them all. They sent up to heaven such a "great cloud" of prayers for his safety, as never rose for any man. But he only wuz calm, while the hull world wuz excited in his behalf.

For the sight of his patient work, the sight of him who stopped dyin' (as it were) to earn by his own brave honest hand the future comfort of his family.

Amazed and wonderin' at this spectacle, one of the greatest it seems to me that ever wuz seen on earth, the hull nation turned to him in such a full-hearted love and admiration, and worship, that they forgot in their quicker, adorin' heartthrobs, the slower, meaner throbs they had gin him, this same brave hero, jest as brave, and true-hearted in the past as he wuz on his grand deathbed. They forgot everything that had gone by in their worship, and I don't know but what I got to. Mebby I had. I shouldn't wonder a mite if I had.

But all this while, all through the agony, and the labor, and when too wearied, he lay down the pen—he wuz "on duty."

Waitin', patiently, fearlessly, till he should see in the first glow of the sunrise, the form of the angel comin' to relieve his watch. The tall fair angel of Rest, that the Great Commander sent down in the mornin' watches to relieve his weary soldier—that divinest angel that ever comes to the abode of men, though her beauty shines forever through tears. Led by her hand, he has left life's battlefield forever, and what is left to this nation but memory, love and mebby remorse.

But little matters it to him, the nation's love or the nation's blame, restin' there by the calm waters he loved.

The tides come in, and the tides go out, jest as they did in his life, the fickle tide of public favor, that swept by him, movin' him not in his heavenly vision of duty and patriotism.

The tides go out, and the tides come in. And the wind wails, and the wind sings its sweet summer songs. But he does not heed the melody or the clamor. He is resting. Sleep on Hero beloved, while the world wakes to praise thee.

Wall, we set sail from Mt McGregor about half-past 4 p. m. a terneon. And we wound round and round the mountain side jest as we did, only goin' down into the valley, instid of upwards. But the trees that clothed the bare back of the mountain looked green and shinin' in the late afternoon sunlight, and the fields spread out in the valley looked green and peaceful under the cool shadows of approachin' sunset.

And right in the midst of one of 'em fields, all full of white daisies, the cars stopped, and the conductor sung out:

"Five minutes stop at Daisy Station. Five minutes to get out and pick daisies."

And says Josiah to me in gruff axents, when I asked him if he wuz goin' to get out and pick some, says he, "Samantha, no man can go ahead of me in hatin' the dumb weeds, and doin' my best towards uprootin' 'em, on my own land, and I deeply sympathize with any man who is overrun by 'em. But why am I beholdin' to the man that owns this lot? Why should I, and all the rest of this car load of folks, all dressed up in our best too, lay holt and weed out these infernal nuisances for nothin'?"

Yes, he said these fearfully profane words to me. And I heard them in silence, for I did not want to make a seen in public.

Says I, "Josiah, they ain a pickin' 'em because they love 'em."

"Love 'em!" Oh the fearful, scornful, unbelievin' look that come over my partners face, as I said these peaceful words to him. And he added a expletiv which I am far enough from bein' urged to ever repeat. It wuz sinful.

"Love 'em!" agin he says. And agin followed a expletiv that wuz still more forcible, and still more sinful. And I felt obleeged to check him, which I did.

And after a long parley, in which I used my best endeavors of argument and reason to convince him that I wuz in the right on't, I see he wuzn't convinced. And then I spoke about its being fashionable to get out and pick 'em, and he looked different to once. I could see a change in him.

All my arguments of the beauty, and sweetness of the posies had no effect, but when I said fashionable—he faltered. And he says,

"Is it called a genteel diversion?"

And I says, "Yes."

And finally he says, "Wall, I s'pose I can get out and pick some for you. Dumb their dumb pieters!"

Says I, "Don't go in that spirit, Josiah Allen."

"Wall, I shall go in jest that sperit," he snapped out, "if I go at all." And he went.

But oh! it wuz a sight to set and look on, and see the look onto his face, as he picked the sweet and innocent blows.

It wuz a look of such deep loathin', and hatred combined with a sort of genteel, fashionable air

Altogether, it wuz the most curious and strange look that I ever see outside of a menagery of wild animals. And he had that same look onto his face as he come in and gin 'em to me. He had yanked 'em all up by their roots too, which made the bokay look more strange. But I accepted of it in silence, for I see by his mean that he wuz not in a condition to brook another word.

And I trembled when a bystander a standin' by, who wuz arranglin' a beautiful bunch of 'em, a handlin' 'em as flowers ort to be handled, as if they had a soul, and could feel a rough, or tender touch. This man says to me,

"I see that you too love this beautiful blossom."

I wuz glad that the man's eyes wuz riveted onto his bokay, for the ferocity of Josiah Allen's look wuz somthin fearful. He looked as if he could tear him from him to him.

And I hastily drawed Josiah to a seat at the other end of the car, and voyolently, but firmly, I drawed his attentions off onto religion.

Says I, "Josiah, do you believe we had better paint the steeple of the meetin' house white, or dark-colored?"

This wuz a subject that had rent Jonesville to its very twain. And Josiah had been fearfully exercised about it. And this plan of mine succeeded. He got eloquent on it, and I kinder held off, and talked opposit, and let him convince me.

I did it from principle.

SEEING EUROPE ON $300.

This celebrated case was tried during the summer months of 1886, and resulted in the utter annihilation of the defendant. The counsel for the plaintiff has received many congratulations upon her success. During the trial, she gained fourteen pounds avoirdupois, renewed vigor and vitality, and has a store of experiences and a wealth of knowledge put away, for future use and enjoyment.

To give the history in her own words: I came home from school one afternoon in the latter part of April, so disgusted with the human race, from fourteen to sixteen years, that I envied Herod his power to exterminate. The restlessness of an early spring day, the lack of all previously acquired knowledge on each and every subject presented and the cabalistic word which was nightly haunting me, and was digested with every meal, the "Pass," which I was trying daily to mount, had brought me to that point that forty-eight different temperaments and dispositions cut across mine, on that memorable day, at right angles. I know I had been like a delicate instrument out of tune, and I was disappointed with myself. All this was apparent, as I entered the room of the best of mothers, and her question from her invalid's chair of "How did the Seniors do to-day"? I was answered by a look into my face.

"Never mind," she continued, "vacation is almost here. By the way, where are you going?"

"Out West, as far as I can go," I answered. "There is to be a convention in Cheyenne, and with the reduced rates as an inducement, I think I shall start for that point and push, Westward! Ho! If I can find a place where children are born with inherited reasoning faculties, I shall stay there and see if I can ascertain whether I have mistaken my vocation or no."

For, to add to my tribulations, an enraged parent had called me to order for mildly suggesting that his son and heir had not the mental status to gain the "90 per cent." which hung like a Damocles' sword over his head and mine.

At my proposition to hunt for that unknown quantity, a child of tender years, with a brain ready to grasp herculean thoughts and tasks as laid down by the modern course of study preparatory for entrance to high school, the mother calmly gave a sigh, for the complaint was an old one and said,

"Why not go to Europe?"

"Europe!" I gasped, "Why, I have not the money."

To my mind that was a sufficient reason. Europe had loomed up as a possibility, when I could save something from an all too meagre salary, according to my many needs. But Europe! That was suggestive of a Vanderbilt, a Rothschild. Not of a school-teacher, trying to help a brother starting in life, the partial care of an invalid and but $300 at the end of the scholastic year.

In reply to my ejaculation my mother said, "I think you can do it. You have money enough. I have to-day had letters from London, which repeat the invitation of last year. I have been looking at the rates advertised in the New York *Herald*, for passage, and see no reason why you should not go."

Being a woman of ways and means, since her mind could act if the body could not, she at once presented an array of facts and figures at which I looked but could only see a map of the British Isles dance wildly before my misty eyes.

That night I wrote the various steamship lines and the same evening examined my not too extensive wardrobe. A tailor's dress of tweed, but recently made with jacket to match, was rechristened the traveling dress. A second-best black silk, and another of surah and jet were set aside for high occasions, if they came. A settee, then making, and which afterwards proved a good stand-by, was added, with a short wrap, plenty of underclothing, and an overplus of collars. To the lover of Troy laundrying, let me say, pack more linen than you ever expect to use. Stiffness and starch in linen collars and cuffs are unknown quantities on the other side. A Newmarket, a heavy double shawl, a warm steamer hood, flannel dressing sacque, with several changes of underclothing, and a warm flannel skirt, were put up in a generous portmanteau. To have been a thorough European tourist, I should have had a steamer trunk, but as this involved an outlay, I was wisely persuaded to take the large satchel. In a hand-bag, packed just before leaving for N. Y., were put all the many little necessaries; and having the experience of an older voyager, I found myself when on the *Egypt* better prepared than many with me. Cold cream, bay rum, a bottle of *eau de* Cologne, sewing and writing utensils, all the indispensables of a woman's existence, and which are never so appreciated as when isolated thousands of miles from land.

To give the benefit of experience allow me to add that I put aside a flannel dress that had done good service as not fine enough for Europe although much admired in Newton. Here a mistake was made, for an old dress is of the greatest comfort on board ship, where moisture, and damp tar and oil will cling, to one's horror if with one dress.

In a few days, my knowledge of costs of routes was complete. The National line was chosen. This gave me a round trip ticket, good for a year, for $91, with a berth in the so-called best part of the ship. Alas! for experience. When on board and comparing notes, I found I might have paid but $80 and fared as well, but for the location of the state-room. As old Neptune is no respecter of one's likes and dislikes regarding sea-sickness, the much praised "mid-ships" proved a snare and delusion, and I was as ill, for a short time, as my friends in the stern.

The plan of the steamer sent me, after depositing $30 as a retainer, proved a grand document for discussion. All sorts of suppositions began as to my neighbors, the occupants of berths 17, 18, 19 in the same passage as No. 16, my haven of rest or unrest as the case might be. One turned out to be a South Carolina gentleman, who strongly objected, when at table, to the steward so frequently changing his plates. Another, a family of four, never let their room until Ireland was sighted; and 17 contained a noted American writer, who with his wife, had "run across" every year "since the war."

Before leaving New York my worldly wealth was changed into drafts of 5£ each, and in addition to some ten dollars in English money, I was the possessor of a new wrapper of flannel and a steamer-chair. Plus all this was an invitation to stop off to view the beauties of Irish scenery, and this latter was only too gladly accepted.

"Did ever any one start to do Europe' on as small a sum as this?" I said to myself as we pulled away from the pier, and yet I was as happy as some of my fellow-voyagers whose spread of fuss and feathers was ever before me.

From June 26th the days sped all too fast. The outlay on board the *Egypt* were five shillings (equal to nearly a dollar and a quarter in our money) to the stewardess, and the same amount as a keepsake to the table steward.

I still wonder why I gave that money to Mrs. Mac. I was much more in need of it than she, and as I waited upon myself, from force of habit and nature, I have time and again wondered how far that five shillings would have taken me. *Mal de mer* did not last two days, and was followed by an appetite unknown in my previous history—it still stands by me.

Queenstown harbor came all too soon. Life on board ship is the realization of contentment with laziness. Reading or work of any kind seems impossible, for any length of time. Day and night succeed each other in one delightful *dolce far niente*, and if one puts fear aside, he can with every breath draw in new life.

Ireland will repay time and money spent there. Cork is charming. The beggars ditto in their mud hovels. With Blarney Castle and the stone, which gives that so t persuasiveness found only in Ireland, but five miles away, the quaintness of the city itself and its beautiful drives and walks, one could find enough to prove pleasurable for weeks together. From Cork, excursions at very low rates can be made for the day, and possibly two days, avoiding the expense of trunks—boxes in Great Britain—which owing to the system, or rather, lack of system, runs away with much money. Youghal, when still stands Sir Walter Raleigh's house and church, the latter a grand old relic, is but a few hours ride from Cork. Bantry, Glengariffe and Lismore are much frequented by artists. To "Killarney's lakes and fair" the cost was but fifteen shillings, not three dollars and seventy-five cents for a return ticket. The English language seems barren of adjectives when one thinks of describing Killarney—it lingers in the mind a perfect picture. The bill for a two day's stay at the dearest of home-like inns is appended.

LAKES OF KILLARNEY,
LAKE VIEW HOTEL, No. 12,

To HENRY DORAN, Dr.

Ju'y 29th. To part car round Muckross Abbey, Dulas Tk. and Tore Waterfall,	5. 0
To part car to Ross Castle.	5. 0
2 Dinners, 3/6 d,	7. 0
1 cup Tea,	0. 6
Bed 3, attendance 6d. each,	4. 0
July 30. 2 Breakfasts 1/2,	4. 0
To part car and boat to Gap of Dunloe,	10. 0
Sandwiches, 3d.	2. 6
2 Lemonade,	1. 0
Car to and from Station, 6d. each,	2. 0
	£1. 19. 0
By Cash,	£1. 19. 0

Paid, 29, 7, 86.
H. DORAN
With Thanks.

This total is not quite ten dollars and is made for two persons. The car mentioned is the favorite vehicle of Ireland, the fascinating Irish jaunting or side car, as it is often called.

(*To be Continued.*).

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Manufacturer of
Human Hair Goods,
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Our little book of valuable information with regard to the Care of Infants, and what they shall wear, sent to any address. Only one stamp necessary.

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A MILLION STRAWBERRY Plants. A 1 the Best. Leading Sorts, $1. a 1,000. The new berry, Anna Forest, is a giant, index', 1 ½ inches of all strawberries; $1 a dozen, $7 a 100. Raspberries and Blackberries, $6 a 1,000. Price list free. D. BRANDT, Bremen, Ohio.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TWO POINTS OF VIEW.

BY JESSIE P. O'DONNELL.

The office of Franklin Rogers, Attorney-at-law, with its ink-stained desks and rows of ponderous volumes, seemed more dreary than usual to Millicent Duncan that misty April morning. Looking up from the ledger over which her brown head was bending, she encountered the steady gaze of a pair of dark blue eyes fixed on her pretty, tired face. She had seen those eyes before, and recognized the young lady emerging from Mr. Rogers' private office as Miss Alice Grant, the heiress. Milly laced at the slender figure in its dainty walking costume and turned back to the ledger with an impatient sigh. The young lady loosened a great cluster of crimson roses from her jacket and laid it graciously on Milly's desk.

That was the beginning of an acquaintance between the two girls which grew into a warm friendship. Miss Grant often came to Mr. Rogers' office on business, and had always a book, a bunch of flowers, or a few winning words for Milly, who responded shyly to her advances till they had become warm friends. Both girls were orphans, and without brothers or sisters. Since the death of her parents, Alice had made her home in the childless one of her father's brother. Herbert Grant and his wife were devoted to their charming niece, their wealth and culture surrounded her with luxury; and many little happinesses clustered around her daily life. She was a singularly attractive girl. Hers was a bright, intellectual face, shaded by rich chestnut hair, lighted by dark, earnest eyes, and transfigured by a smile of rare sweetness. A frank, unaffected girl, with an active brain and a sound, true heart, she found in Millicent Duncan an interesting study. There was a great fascination to her in Milly's work and life.

Milly had been left motherless when a baby. Several years later her father died. She had struggled up from childhood to girlhood in a large family of cousins neither considerate nor congenial. After the little money her father left had been spent upon her education, she had supported herself by copying and teaching till she had secured her present position in Mr. Rogers' office. In numberless ways had her dull life been brightened by the friendship of the heiress. It was a delight to her to be invited to Alice's home; to wander through the beautiful rooms; to ride in the luxurious carriage; to have an occasional evening at the theatre or opera.

A little more than a year after their first meeting, they sat in Alice's dainty parlor. Very beautifully Alice harmonized with her surroundings in her lustrous dress of deep wine silk. The rich color brought out the purity of her skin with wonderful effect, and brightened it by little rose-flushes which one almost fancied a faint reflection of the dress.

"So sorry I am going out to-night, dear," she was saying, "but you must wait till we go, and go down in the carriage with us. We can drive past Mrs. Barker's."

"Very well. I feared you were going out, but couldn't exist longer without a sight of you. How delightful this lovely room is after working over those tiresome books in the office all day!" said Milly, nestling lazily in a great plush easy chair. "What have you been doing to-day, Alice?"

"I have been riding in the Park this afternoon with Miss Hilton, Stanley Richards, and one or two other stupid men," replied the young lady, resting the aristocratic little head, with its weight of bright chestnut hair, against the cushions wearily.

"Do you call Stanley Richards 'stupid'?" queried Millicent in surprise. "I thought he was the 'bright particular star' of the fashionable world—that bewitching world of yours," she added, with a smothered sigh.

"And so he is, but a tallow candle would suit me better if it were honest tallow. How do I know if this dazzling light in the social firmament is a true heaven-born luminary, or only a gas-light?"

Alice rose from her chair and pacing up and down the room, very stately and charming in her rich dinner dress, continued: "The fact is, Milly, I shall never become interested in the men and women I meet in society. How should I, pray? How can they show any individuality, or strength of character in this senseless round of society pleasures, of shopping, and promenades, and parties? What else has one to think of but dresses and dances and flirtations? Oh! I am so tired of this artificial life. I envy you, Milly Duncan," turning to her astonished companion. "Your life is real and natural. You give out the best in your nature and you receive of the best from intercourse with real men and women. You meet men on a business plane where they are free from artificiality. They let you get at the real man in them and see them as they honestly are."

"Are you through?" asked Milly, as Alice paused for breath. "Now hear me. I 'give of the best of my nature'!" she repeated, scornfully. "I do nothing of the kind. In the prosaic round of my duties there is no chance for the unfolding of my higher nature. What influence is there to promote my love of beauty; my aspirations after the higher and truer life; for development of intellectual tastes and power? I tell you nothing could be more hopelessly common-place than such a life."

"But men treat you as they do other men. They do not think it necessary to approach you with the deferential air and soothing tone society men adopt toward women of society."

"And do you suppose, Alice, that it does not gall me to know that men do not adopt an air of deference with me? That because I am a working woman they do not deem it necessary to veil their deformities of mind and soul from my notice? They care not how mercenary and hard and grasping, how rough and cold, they appear to me!"

The angry tears sprang to Milly's eyes, as she continued: "And I am a woman and only twenty-one. Is it strange that I should enjoy the numberless little attentions men of your world pay to you women? I saw Stanley Richards helping you down the wet steps after the rain. With what solicitude he guided your steps! How tenderly he assisted you into the carriage! How carefully he arranged your draperies! Who cared if I fell on the slippery pavement?" she asked with such bitterness that her friend turned and regarded her searchingly, as a new thought flashed into her mind.

"Surely, Milly," she said, "you have opportunities such as I have not, for hearing discussions on topics of interest among men of education and talent, who frequent Mr. Rogers' office."

"Oh, yes! Mr. Richards and other men sometimes come into the office, but I never hear them discuss anything but knotty law questions and politics. And I hate politics!" said Milly, springing up energetically, and immediately sitting down again as she said: "Talk of intellectual companionship! Were you not just telling me of the spirited discussion you had with Mr. Richards over the respective merits of Tennyson and Browning as poets? Did I not envy you then the chance of meeting such men? Does any one ever discuss poetry with me?"

"There are other things, Milly, quite as interesting and as helpful as poetry," Alice answered with a smile. "And you have your work. You have something to do which takes you out of yourself and your own petty annoyances and troubles, and gives you an aim in life. I wish I had steady work to do."

"You don't know what you are talking of, Alice Grant!" and Milly's brown eyes flashed. "You don't know what it is to drudge along from one week's end to another, without a bit of fun or pleasure like other girls. Do you suppose I do not long for wealth and luxury such as you are surrounded with? Why, Alice! when I come up here into your pretty rooms, and then go back to that dingy boarding-house, or the still dingier office, I feel as if I were in another world. I know I have no one dependent on me for support—the money I earn is my own, but what can one do on a miserable five hundred dollars per year?"

At this moment the carriage was announced, so Alice did not reply to this discontented little speech, but she did not dismiss it, or the preceding conversation from her mind. During the week her brain was busy with a plan which having completed to her satisfaction, she sent the following note to Millicent:—

"DEAR MILLY:—Come up and spend the night with me. I shall be engaged to all but you this evening. I have a glorious scheme in which I want your assistance. ALICE."

Milly gladly obeyed the summons, and when the girls had made themselves comfortable in dressing-gowns and slippers, began to seek for enlightenment. There was a subtle air of mystery about Alice which stimulated her curiosity.

"Do tell me your 'glorious scheme,' Alice. I am fairly quivering with curiosity," she said, taking a multitude of hairpins from her braids, and letting the rippling brown waves fall over her shoulders.

"Milly, I am going to take your place in the office, and you are to go to Newport and Saratoga in my stead," said Alice, triumphantly.

"What a startling announcement! Are you sure you are in your right mind, Alice? What in the world do you mean?" asked her bewildered companion.

"You know I am a great pet of your employer, Mr. Rogers, and can coax him into anything. And Auntie shall take you with her as a 'dear young friend' from Nevada or California," replied Alice, making an attempt at explanation.

"Or Africa?" queried Milly, with a ringing laugh. "Oh, Alice! your's is truly a 'glorious scheme,' but hardly practicable. Pray what should I do in a Saratoga ball-room in my everlasting black silk?"

"Of course my dressmaker will take you in hand, Milly. You are to take all my jewels with you, except poor mamma's diamonds. Those I can't let any one wear but me. You are to have all the money you can spend. In short, you are to live precisely the life I should were I going. You are to try it three months. And won't you make a lovely little belle?" she exclaimed, as she regarded Milly's sparkling face admiringly.

The rich color glowed in the young girl's cheeks and her eyes shone like stars as she imagined herself in that wonderful fairy world where beauty and wealth reigned supreme. But coming back to realities, she said, sadly: "But, you know, Alice, I can't accept any such fairy gifts at your hands; nor ask you to give up this splendor and lead my life even for three months."

"But I insist on your doing so, Milly Duncan. I want you to lead my life and find out for yourself that it isn't as real and honest a one as yours. You will meet many people I associate with here in the city. The Taylors, Lincolns, Hiltons, Stanley Richards, Cameron Leigh, and hosts of others will be in one or both places during the summer. And, on the other hand, I want to live your life. I know it is ever so much more interesting than my artificial one. And I am sure you will grow tired of being a butterfly and long to get back to earnest work again."

"Don't be too sure of that, my dear, I have been a grub so many years that I shall want to use my wings as long as I can. On the contrary, after three months of happiness, how can I ever take up the hateful work again?"

"Perhaps you will meet some fairy prince who will free you from it forever," suggested Alice.

"Ah! heaven grant it!" exclaimed Milly, devoutly. Resuming her argument, she said: "Alice, you don't know anything about what you are assuming. How can you think of writing all day when you are used to being waited on as carefully as a baby? You will get so tired, child, even though you have your pretty rooms and maid to rest you at night."

"But I shall not have them, responded Alice, decidedly. "I am going to board just where you do; dress plainly; and have no luxuries that my salary cannot buy. I am going to be you, Milly, and you are going to be me."

"Are you going to live in my stuffy room, wear course cashmeres and flannels, and not attend theatres and concerts because you have no money to pay for tickets? The idea is preposterous, Alice. How will you, with your dainty, refined ways, endure the contact of men who, as you say, 'let you see the real men in them,' who will so disgust you with their coarseness and selfishness and narrowness, you will wish they had kept their society manners forever. Oh! I know what I am talking about, Alice Grant. Men come into the office who you meet in society: and I see them 'as they honestly are.' It's a vast difference I assure you," she said, with a mocking laugh.

"That is just one reason I want to meet them in that way, Milly. I want to know the stuff their souls are made of."

"Suppose some one should recognize you, Alice?"

"I have thought of that," the young lady replied," and shall have the corner where your desk stands hidden from view by a tall screen. And no one but Mr. Rogers shall be allowed to come around it. The only fear I have is that some of the gentlemen who are employed in the office may have seen me when I have been there."

"No danger of that," replied Milly, the plan growing more feasible in her eyes, "for Mr. Burton, who was Mr. Rogers' assistant, has moved to Chicago, and there is a young gentleman in his place, a Mr. Howard. The only others beside myself are two boys," with a contemptuous accent, "who are doing copying and reading law, and you haven't been there since any of the three came."

The girls talked until late and Milly finally consented to the arrangement, provided Alice's friends and Mr. Rogers could be won over.

The next day Alice called on Mr. Rogers at his office closely veiled so that none of her future fellow-laborers might recognize her, and laid the plan before him. She had secured the reluctant consent of Mr. and Mrs. Grant, but Mr. Rogers proved less tractable.

"I can't think of such a thing, Alice. The idea of burying your beauty and talent in my office! And what do you suppose will become of my books? Miss Duncan is a nice little bookkeeper, but what a muddle you would make of them! I can't afford it, Alice, really."

"Mr. Rogers, you are terribly ungallant. I am sure I could be a 'nice little bookkeeper', too. I studied bookkeeping at college, and I keep all my own accounts, and very nicely, too. You have said so yourself!" exclaimed Alice, exultantly. "You know since papa died, I have known all about my business affairs."

"You have a very clear head, Alice, I admit that," replied Mr. Rogers. "But taking care of my books is a different thing. If I could see any use in it—I might——"

"You might consent?" interrupted Alice, eagerly. "Look at Milly Duncan, Mr. Rogers. She is a positive little beauty, and I long to see her dressed as she should be. The poor child has never had any society or pleasure like other girls. You know her father and mother died when she was little, and left just money enough to educate her. And since, she has supported herself. And here she is in your dingy office—for it is dingy, Mr. Rogers—and here she is likely to stay, unless some good fairy rescues her. And I am that good fairy."

"But what good will it do, Alice?" interposed the lawyer's matter-of-fact tones. "She will come back unfitted for her work and life here, filled with high-flown notions and vain wishes for the wealth of which she has been possessor for so short a time."

"But I don't intend she shall come back, Mr. Rogers. Millicent Duncan may be ready to become Millicent Somebody Else, after the three months I shall give her. Or, if she comes back, she will have learned that the life of a working woman is preferable to that of a fashionable lady."

"Oh, you women! forever match-making!" growled the bachelor lawyer. "I suppose you mean Miss Duncan is to set her cap at some fool with a million dollars."

"I don't mean anything of the sort, Mr. Rogers," answered Alice, her fair face flushing. "I know there is more than one man who has money and brains, society polish and good principle, who has only to meet Milly to be captivated by her; and I hope she may become interested in such an one."

"I never discovered that Miss Duncan was so fascinating," said Mr. Rogers, dryly. "Meeting her here every day in the office, I have not thought of resigning my bachelorhood for her sake."

"Oh! you lost your heart to me long ago," laughed Alice, coming nearer the truth than she dreamed. "I suppose I may consider the matter settled."

"I suppose so—

"'Where a woman will, she will,
You may depend upon't.'"

And Alice departed, exultant, whispering to Milly, as she passed her desk: "The victory is won. Come up and talk it over after work."

Eloquent as she had been, persuasive as had been her pleadings, her arguments would hardly have convinced the practical lawyer of the advisability of placing his books in the charge of an amateur, had she been other than Alice Grant.

"I wouldn't hear of her going into any other office," he murmured to himself, when Alice had left him. "But I will take care she doesn't work too hard. And how tremendously nice it will be to have the little girl in the city all summer, and right here where I shall see her every day!" And he broke into a cheery whistle thinking how her bright presence would glorify the office, which did grow tiresome even to him at times.

Franklin Rogers, Attorney-at-Law, had never confessed even to his own soul that he with his forty-five years, plain ways, and blunt practicality, had dared to love Alice Grant. Yet, for many years, the thought of her had lain dormant in his heart. Sometimes some faint suggestion of the truth had stirred his pulses when in the presence of this girl with her patrician face and rare charm of manner, but he had laughed the suspicion down.

The next two weeks were busy ones. Millicent's holiday began at once, for Alice had coaxed Mr. Rogers into believing that he didn't require the services of either for that length of time. Milly went to Alice's home and the days passed like a happy dream. She had never before known the delight of shopping with plenty of money in her purse; she drove out to be fitted; people were constantly bringing things to the house; and as if by magic, she found herself dressed, booted and gloved more daintily than ever before. Alice lavished beautiful things upon Milly, for she meant to spare no pains to make her pretty favorite the success of the season.

And for herself Alice ordered a plain brown wool dress for the office, with a pretty gingham and a cambric, and a black silk and dainty white dress for best, copying Milly's unassuming wardrobe, which, with all its plainness, had a style of its own, as nearly as possible.

At last the day of Milly's departure came, and attired in the prettiest of traveling suits, she drove to the train, accompanied by Alice's injunction not to forget her promise to write long letters giving the details of her triumphs. In the afternoon of the same day Alice took up her abode at Mrs. Barker's boarding-house, under the name of Alice Foster, her own being to well-known in the city to keep safely.

It was with much inward amusement and with some trepidation that Alice presented herself at the office the following morning. She was early, and Mr. Rogers was alone.

"Bless my soul, Allie!" he exclaimed, looking at her plain dress quizzically. "What have you been doing to yourself?"

"Dressing to suit my position in life," replied Alice, her eyes dancing with fun. "Don't be ungallant enough to say I don't look well."

"Of course you would do that in anything Alice," regarding the fair face admiringly; "but somehow the dress doesn't look as soft, and silky, and nice-looking as your clothes generally do. But there is a certain style about you that makes up," he added, thoughtfully.

(To be Continued.)

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DEAR EDITOR:—I often wonder why it is that we button children's clothing in the back, after they are old enough to fasten their clothing themselves, were it not for the strain to reach the buttons, and the impossibility of seeing what they are doing. Much of mothers' work in getting the little ones ready for breakfast could be done by the little fingers, which are often willing, could they reach the many buttons which are necessary, particularly when so many garments are worn, as in winter.

Is there any really good reason for the fastening at the back? I think not. I suggest for the benefit of busy mothers, that we hereafter button the children's clothes in front. MRS. C. W.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—There are many things I have learned since the advent of my little children: First, the mother herself must adopt a system in caring for her babe and pursue it. Do not be turned one way or another by everyone's well-meant advice, but study the very best methods and watch your babe. Mother-love will help you to keep it warm and fed. Do not give it strong medicine. Often a good rubbing will relieve constipation better than oil. Keep their clothes loose and comfortable. There is one subject that I am glad you notice, viz.: stepmothers. I hold that any woman who enters a home as second-mother has a trial to begin with. And she who fills the place well deserves more, yes more credit than even the true mother who from natural impulses takes care of her children. So often I hear abuse of stepmothers. God pity them. I have one in mind. She was the idol of a large family. Full of hope and sensitive. She went trusting in her husband's love to win that of his children. From the first she was received coldly. Denominated "her" in all conversation. To all offers of ornamentation or change in the house she was told "Pa won't allow that." Then when her baby came it was styled "just our half-brother" and teased and snubbed by turns, until the poor little soul was in perpetual terror. The husband was surely blind, but at last, wearied of life, this girl-wife lay down and closed her eyes for the last time. Had she married the man first how different with less to care for she would have been looked to as she should have been—as chief house queen. He is ready for No. 3. Who bids? Again I say, God pity them, the stepmothers. I have used the lactated food for infants and think it good. Cornstarch also is excellent, but at first nothing is so good as fresh creamy milk diluted and sweetened a trifle. RUTH.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., Feb'y. '87.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I was very much interested in "Mrs. Mansfield's" contribution to the "Mother's Corner" in the February number, but think she made one very serious mistake. How can she consistently advocate giving children a pack of cards to play with, to teach them the evil resulting from indulgence in the same, and a little further on caution mothers to be sure that they poison the minds of their children against intoxicating drinks? Why not feed them with liquor and tobacco so that they may have no curiosity in regard to the abominable stuff and after the appetite is fully formed, expect them to become earnest temperance men and women? I claim that there is as much wisdom in doing one as the other. It is not necessary to fill one's children's hands with live coals, to teach them that fire will burn. In these days, when card-playing is ruining so many of our young and old men and women, and causing suffering and sorrow hardly secondary to intemperance, it seems one of the most cruel things a mother can do, to allow her children to learn to play cards for amusement at home, in the foolish and mistaken idea that in that way they can be taught not to gamble. How many of those whose lives have been ruined will tell you they learned to play at home and in social circles? I wish that all the sin, suffering and death, that has been caused by cards, throughout the world, could be presented in one great tableau, before each company that is gathered for this fashionable amusement. Dante's Inferno could scarcely equal the misery thus shown. I do not think they would wish to see a pack of cards after it. Mothers! give your children games that will elevate, not degrade them, and leave cards to saloons and gambling houses, where along they should be found. Teach them to "touch not, taste not, handle not" liquors, cards or tobacco, but to hate and shun them as they would a deadly viper, and they will not be found stealing away to indulge in them, or making one of a progressive euchre, whist or poker club.

MRS. H. A. CONVERSE.

OAKLAND, CAL., Feb. 9, 1887.

DEAR JOURNAL.—I have just received my February number, and am reminded that I have been wanting to write to you for a long time. The LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, so appropriately named, has long been a source of great pleasure and instruction to me, and I feel assured that now I could hardly keep house without it.

My paper comes in the "afternoon mail" and I immediately drop everything to read it. If little Harry wants "mama" to rock him he has to sit behind the JOURNAL.

I have two hints that I want to give very young mothers—for the dear old ladies will of course, say "that's just the way I did," and as I am young myself I would not presume to tell them anything. Bless their dear old hearts! I often wonder, when I hear them talking, if they always knew so well how to do everything, or did they have to battle, as we do, with experience for years before acquiring so much knowledge.

Now I must be concise, or you will think I am one of those women, who want to do all of the talking.

I want to suggest to young mothers that they robe their little ones for the night and tuck them in very early. I think many mothers make a mistake in keeping the little ones up after seven o'clock. I have two children, one seven, the other three years of age, and they have their supper at five o'clock, and a romp afterwards of an hour, then they bid me good night and are sound asleep by a quarter to seven.

Since I have tried this plan they are more amiable during the day and are growing like weeds. I have visited homes where I have heard mothers say, "What makes you so cross this evening!" to a dear little tot that was weary and tired for want of his little crib—and these same mothers will say "they sleep so much better at night, if I keep them up late." No, my dear friends, allow me to differ from you. If they sleep soundly they would do so anyway, and if they are restless and wakeful, depend upon it they are not well. Sleep is life, health and strength for them, and I know that the sleep given to a child the first half of the night is worth ten times more than sleeping late in the morning.

My second hint is that I have found a box of homœopathic remedies invaluable in caring for my little ones. I am confident I have saved them many a time from having a severe sickness, by consulting my little book, and of course using judgment in selecting the proper remedy.

I must also add, that, although I don't believe in economizing in serious cases, still I have saved myself many a doctor's bill, when if I had not had my homœopathic remedies, I should have sent immediately for a physician. Now, of course, some allopathic mothers will laugh at my hint, but this is only given to the homœopathic mothers, or those who care to try it.

HARRY'S WIFE.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

GOOD MOTHERS.

In our zeal to become good housekeepers, and to have a systematic and well regulated household, too many of us are prone to forget the higher duties that are expected and demanded of us, as the mothers of children who are created in the image of their Maker.

We are apt to wear ourselves out, body and soul, with the petty details of housekeeping, rendering ourselves totally unfit for the training of little ones that require so much patience and gentleness.

If to be both a good mother and a good housekeeper is more than you are equal to in strength, which will you, or which are you sacrificing, your house or your children? Are you spending so much of your time and vitality in the endless and too often useless round of order, that you forget the law? Are you too busy with your cooking or cleaning to show your baby how to build or count his blocks?

Do not let your housekeeping become a hobby that you mount and ride until you are stiff and sore, or until you learn through bitter experience that "life is more than meat and the body more than raiment."

Do not understand me to advocate untidiness, or a slipshod way of living; but what I do advocate is that we shall live in a closer communion with our children.

When we have to work we should have them work with us as far as practicable, and they will be very willing little hands to help if taught by love and patience. Render yourself to them, as they are to you, almost indispensable. Enter fully into all their joys and sorrows, make them sure of your sympathy, and there will be little doubt but that you will always have their confidence. Go with them in their sports, help them in their studies, and as far as possible, make yourself an intelligent and interesting companion for them. Do not for the sake of your children and your happiness in after years, allow yourself to retrograde, or stop growing on account of dispensable household duties. Your sons will think no more of you for it, and as much as your daughters love you, they will blush for you.

If it is necessary that you do your own work, use your brains as well as your hands and feet, and economize labor by making every step count. Study to see what you can leave out, and by a little tact, managing and forethought, a fair degree of neatness and comfort can be secured in the home, without the sacrifice of too much time and strength.

The home should come before the house, the heart before the body, the mind before the appetite, the woman before the drudge, and she who aims and strives for the higher things will not become a cipher in her own household.

Do not be content with simply making your house clean, but make it resound with the music of cheerful voices and the pictures of smiling faces. Our first duty is as mother developing all good in our little ones, and as carefully and persistently weeding out all traits and inclinations that would tend to make their life a discord and out of harmony with the good, the true and the beautiful.

"Hundreds of dew-drops to greet the dawn,
Hundreds of bees in the purple clover;
Hundreds of butterflies on the lawn,
But only one mother the wide world over."

HATTIE DAVIS PALMER.

ACCIDENTAL PLAYTHINGS.

IN response to a request for "new playthings," there has been sent to us, by an interested sister, a slip cut from *Babyhood*. It seems so very appropriate that we print it in full, just as it was sent to us.

"The very word toy implies something that is intended to amuse. Very many of the most elaborate and costly toys only do this for a short time, as long as they are new, while some article that by accident the child has become possessed of is a daily source of pleasure.

"As I write my little girl of 2 sits on the floor with a button hook in her hand trying to button and unbutton her little boots. She is not playing, rather she is working; but she is interested in what she is doing, her attention is concentrated upon it and she is happy. We do not give her the hammer and looking glass, but some equally queer articles. We let her have a Dover egg beater.

"'Suppose she should break it?' What if she does? It costs much less than ordinary toys, and serves her vastly better. When she had learned to put the end of it in a little dish and turn the wheel—'just as mamma does'—she was happy, and her pleasure in her new plaything lasted for weeks. She would not hurt herself seriously with it, and finding there was one way in which it acted and made a noise she did not throw it about and use it as a hammer, but used it properly, came to have a high regard, and I have no doubt a deep respect, for it. Another plaything is a clean lamp-burner with a long piece of wick knotted at the ends so that it cannot fall out, or with the ends sewed together; the child can turn the thumbscrew and make the wick move, and thus finds much pleasure."

[For the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

BATHING THE BABY.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

In an amusing society play recently presented in New York, an elderly gentleman, after listening to a rehearsal of the various accomplishments of his elegantly useless daughters, brings down the house by striking an attitude and exclaiming, "All that is very well, but can either of them wash a baby?" Many a young woman feels that she would gladly exchange her proficiency in music, art and modern languages for a little practical knowledge of how to handle the tiny creature who is dependent upon her for its daily bath.

This paper does not design touching upon the first month, that may be to both mother and child a period of comfort or of crucifixion according as the ruling spirit of the sick room is a Sairey Gamp, or that modern improvement, a trained nurse. Whichever she be, her sway is absolute and the mother hardly feels that she has her child for her very own until the sovereign *pro tem* has departed. The young mamma has extremely clear theories on the proper method of washing infants, but her practice reveals crises for which no instruction has been given. The baby is marvelously slippery and unsubstantial. There seems to be nothing to lay hold of after the little fellow is divested of his garments. She regards him with a feeling of terror that would be ludicrous were it not intensely real. Unless rendered hasty of movement by nervousness, she is not apt to err on the side of harshness and a few days' practice confer a marked increase of dexterity. She learns to handle the child with skill and quickness while avoiding all risk of wounding the delicate bones and muscles or the soft flesh. In the tenderness that dictates every touch, she has the advantage over any nurse. Even the most conscientious of these require careful watching lest by some unguarded or ignorant treatment they might inflict a permanent injury.

Authorities differ as to the best time of day for bathing the baby. With a healthy, active child, who makes her daily "tubbing" a frolic, the morning may perhaps be preferable, although it should not be administered until the world is well aired and baby's dressing room thoroughly warmed. But in the case of a nervous, delicate little creature, to whom the warm bath is at once relaxing and soothing, the evening is to be recommended. Two immersions a day are not advisable. A sponging from head to foot is sufficient cleansing for one time, and is less weakening in its effects than a plunge. The mother should never be inveighed or coerced into making the plunge a cold one. More vitality is required than most tender little ones possess, to receive without harm the shock to flesh and nerves of a cold bath. Let the water be more than tepid. Test it with a thermometer (an essential item of nursery furniture) and when the mercury points to one hundred, the water is ready.

Long baths are a great mistake. From the advice of physicians, who order that the child suffering from spasms shall remain in warm water from ten to thirty minutes, some idea may be gained of the relaxing effect of the bath in which the healthy infant loves to splash. The proud and indulgent mamma finds it hard to put a stop to her own and the baby's pleasure, especially when such a course will probably be met with a vehement protest in the shape of kicks and screams. A minute more or less will make little difference, she thinks. Apart from the weakening effect consequent upon a hot bath, the child is more likely to catch cold in chest or bowels if allowed to stay in the tub until he has had his frolic out. Three minutes should be the limit. To prevent delay, the face, ears and neck should be washed with a soft sponge or small linen cloth before placing the child in the tub.

A large amount of soap should not be used for young children. Old Castile soap has been the stand-by for many years, but even this is not equal to a good brand of Tar soap. The healthiest babies are subject to "breakings-out," prickly heat and tooth rash, to say nothing of the scalp eczemas that almost invariably come sooner or later. For these last, the soap, lathered, rubbed on and *left to dry on the head* is almost a specific, while for the rest of the body nothing is more cleansing and healing than Tar soap applied in the ordinary manner.

The bath over, the mother must have ready something warm in which to handle the baby. A big flannel apron is excellent, or failing this, a knit bath blanket large enough to envelope the child completely, leaving him only a space for breathing. The chill outer air strikes his tender skin the more keenly because of the warmer element he has just quitted. He is more sensitive to cold than would be a grown person although he lacks ability to express his discomfort intelligibly. Let him be dried by degrees with small cloths. Excellent baby towels are made of pieces of old soft linen, cut about half a yard square and hemmed.

The powdering of the baby is a duty neglected by careless nurses. The skin should be perfectly dry before the powder is applied. It is intended to prevent chafing, not to save the exertion of wiping the parts dry. There are almost as many kinds of baby powder recommended, as there are nursery manuals to puff them. Few rank higher, however, than the talcum manufactured by the best firms. Either the plain compound, with its slight carbolic odor, or the rose perfumed preparation is excellent. This, carefully used, and the occasional application of a little vaseline will spare all chafing.

Before dressing the baby, he should be thoroughly rubbed from head to foot with the warm hand. The spine should receive an extra share of this friction, which assists the circulation and prevents a reaction and consequent chilliness after the hot bath. If the child is weak, cocoa butter or sweet oil in minute quantities warmed in the palm and well rubbed into the pores is nourishing and strengthening. The baby's feet and hands are apt to be cold after bathing and they should be examined and chafed after he is dressed.

The clothing should be put on without exposing the little naked body any more than is absolutely necessary. The knit shirt comes first, then the band and diapers, the planing blanket, or skirt, and the dress or slip. The socks, bib and pins finish the toilet. The question of brushing the baby's hair is a popular subject of controversy, some nursery dictators claiming that it should only be rubbed the wrong way with the hand. This process is supposed to induce curliness. Others ridicule the idea and preserve the orthodox methods of parting and combing the scant locks. The subject seldom proves of prime importance during the first four or five months of the baby's life. Until then, the fuzz that faintly shades the little bare poll does not require much treatment by brush or comb.

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

MARY F. KNAPP, EDITOR.
No. 20 Linden St., S. Boston, Mass

Terms Used in Knitting.

K—Knit plain. P—Purl, or as it is sometimes called, Seam. N or K 2 tog—Narrow, by knitting 2 together. Over—Throw the thread over the needle before inserting in the next stitch. This makes a loop which is always to be considered a stitch, in the succeeding rows or rounds. Tw—Twist stitch. Insert the needle in the back of the stitch to be knitted, and knit as usual. Sl—Slip a stitch from the left hand to the right hand needle without knitting it. Sl and B—Slip and bind—slip one stitch, knit the next; pass the slipped one over it, exactly as in binding off a piece of work at the end. * indicates a repetition, and is used merely to save words. "Sl 1, k 1, p 1, repeat from * 3 times"—would be equivalent to saying sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1. Tog means together.

Terms in Crochet.

Ch—Chain; a straight series of loops, each drawn with the hook through the preceding one. Sl st—Slip stitch; put hook through the work, thread over the hook, draw it through the stitch on the hook. S c—Single Crochet; having a stitch on the needle (or hook) put the needle through the work, draw the thread through the work, and the stitch on the needle. D c—double crochet; having the stitch on the needle, put the needle through the work, and draw a stitch through, making two on the needle. Take up the thread again, and draw it through both these stitches. T c or Tr—Treble Crochet; having a stitch on the needle, take up the thread as if for a stitch, put the needle through the work, and draw the thread through, making three on the needle. Take up the thread and draw through two, then take up the thread and draw it through the two remaining. S t c—Short Treble Crochet; like treble, except that when the three stitches are on the needle, instead of drawing the thread through two stitches twice, it is drawn through all three at once. L t c—Long Treble Crochet; like treble, except that the thread is thrown twice over the needle before inserting the latter in the work. The stitches are worked off two at a time, as in treble. Extra Long Stitch—Twine the cotton three times round the needle, work as the treble stitch, bringing the cotton through two loops four times. P—or picot; made by working three chain, and one single crochet in first stitch of the chain.

"E. B. C." would like directions for Pop Corn Tidy.

Will Mrs. Filippin send her address to Mrs. O. H. Folger, 296 Broadway, Lawrence, Mass?

Will some one please send directions for Antique Lace Pillow Shams? SUBSCRIBER.

"Mrs. T. A. Barnes" can get pattern of different sizes for making dolls' bodies, either whole, or in sections, by addressing with stamp.

MRS. F. NELSON.

PLOVER, PORTAGE CO., WIS.

Can any of the sisters of the JOURNAL send a pattern for making a Deer of cloth? I will return the favor. MRS. F. NELSON.

PLOVER, WIS.

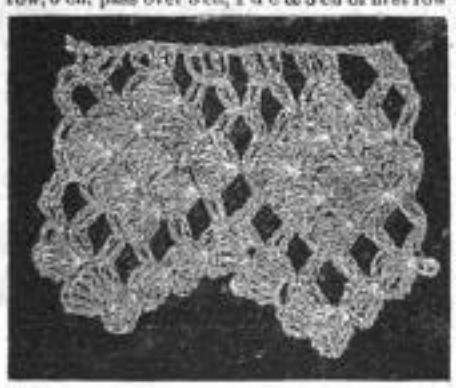
"New Subscriber" will find directions for crocheted baby sack in September issue of L. H. J., 1885. It can be made long enough for a child one year old, by making more stitches at the neck, making more shells on front and back.

Diamond Shell Edge, Crocheted.

Chain 27 stitches.

1st row—Pass over last five foundation stitches, 1 d c in next stitch, *3ch pass over 2 ch, 1 d c in the next stitch*; repeat to end of chain, putting 2 d c in last foundation stitch, 1 d c between those 2 d c.

2d row—3 ch, pass over 3 ch, 1 d c in d c of first row, 6 ch, pass over 3 ch, 1 d c & 3 ch of first row



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

1 d c in next d c, pass over 3 ch, five long tr c in next d c of first row, pass over 3 ch, 1 d c in next d c of first row, 6 ch, pass over 3 ch, 1 d c and 3 ch of first row, 1 d c in last d c of first row, 5 long tr c in same d c.

3d row—3 ch, pass over 2 ltc, 1 d c in 3d stitch, *3ch, pass over 2 st, 1 d c in d c of 3d row, ch 3, pass over 2, 1 d c in 3d stitch*; repeat to end of row, putting 2 d c in d c of last row and 1 d c between them.

4th row—6 ch, pass over 3 ch, 1 d c and 3 ch of 3d row, 1 d c in next d c, *pass over 3 ch, 5 l t c in next d c * twice, 6 ch, pass over 3 ch 1 d c and 3 ch of 3d row, 1 d c in last d c of 3d row, 5 l t c in same d c.

5th, 7th, 9th, 11th and 13th rows like 3d row.

6th row—3 ch, pass over 3 ch, 1 d c in d c of 5th row, *pass over 3 ch, 5 l t c in next d c, pass over 3 ch, 1 d c in next d c*, 3 times, 6 ch, pass over 3 ch 1 d c and 3 ch in 5th row, 1 d c in last d c, 5 l t c in same d c.

8th row—6 ch, pass over 3 ch 1 d c and 3 ch of 7th row, 1 d c in next d c, *pass over 3 ch, 5 l t c in next d c, pass over 3 ch, 1 d c in next d c* twice, 6 ch pass over 3 ch 1 d c and 3 ch of 7th row, 1 d c in next d c, pass over 3 ch and 1 d c, 5 l t c in next 3 ch.

10th row—3 ch pass over 3 ch, 1 d c in d c of 9th row, 6 ch, pass over 3 ch 1 d c and 3 ch, 1 d c in next d c, pass over 3 ch, 5 l t c in next d c, pass over 3 ch, 1 d c in next d c, 6 ch, pass over 3 ch 1 d c and 3 ch of 9th row, 1 d c in next d c, pass over 3 ch and 1 d c, 5 l t c in next 3 ch.

12th row—*6 ch, pass over 3 ch 1 d c and 3 ch of 11th row, 1 d c in next d c * 3 times, pass over 3 ch and 1 d c, 5 l t c in next 3 ch.

Omit the first row, repeat the last 12 to the desired length; the 11th row will finish up the last diamond. MRS. J. SERREN.

CHESTNUT, MONTANA.

Infant's Crochet Boot.

Make a chain of 40 stitches.

1st row—*20 s c, ch 2, skip 2, 15 s c, slip stitch the two remaining stitches for toe; turn.

2d row.—Slip stitch 2, 15 s c, putting needle through each single loop from you, (called ribbing) ch 2, skip 2, 20 s c; turn and repeat from * until you have 12 rows (or 6 ribs.)

3d row—* 20 s c, ch 2, skip chain, s c in end of chain, turn, 1 s c, ch 2, 20 s c; repeat from star in 3d row, until you have 6 more ribs, then join together with s c, having the ribs lengthwise, and ending at open work, then make a slip stitch in next stitch; turn.

To make heel, make 2 s c in each open place all round the heel, fasten at side with one slip stitch, turn, s c around the heel, putting the hook

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]

through both parts of the stitch, slip stitch 2 on the side, turn, slip stitch 2, s c round the heel, s c one more from the side, turn, single crochet all round the heel to the toe, slip stitch around the toe, s c around to heel, then to toe, slip stitch 2 by 2 (drawing wool through 2 stitches at once) around toe, s c all round to heel, s c 2 by 2 round heel, s c to toe, slip stitch 2 by 2 twice at toe, turn boot on the wrong side and join together from toe to heel with single crochet, picking up a single loop on each side. Make border of different color.

For the border, join the wool in between two ribs, *ch 3, slip stitch in 3d stitch from top of rib, ch 3, fasten in top of edges between the ribs; repeat from star through the row; run cord and tassel through row of holes round the ankle. These directions have been worked from.

MRS. W. SHAUM.

New Beaded Hood.

Materials: white, pink or light blue Saxony or Germantown yarn, 1 spool of coarse white sewing silk, a bunch of small white glass beads, a bone crochet hook, and a steel hook.

1st row—Crochet the front piece and crown separately, in a gham or any close stitch you prefer. For a medium sized hood, have the front piece 7 inches wide and 30 inches long: the crown 5 inches wide and 16 inches long: having the two upper corners rounded a little: when finished, crochet the two together, then crochet a small scallop round the entire edge of the hood. Make a standing border, this way: Begin at the middle of the cape behind, and on the outside, make 15 double crochet stitches in a straight line, (going towards the upper part of the crown) now turn and make 15 stitches more close to the first. This brings you to the outside edge again, turn and repeat until you have a border all round the hood: next, work a border like this where the crown and front piece join. To use the silk and beads begin by stringing a yard or two of the beads on the silk. Fasten the end in the upper chain of the border with the steel hook. Work 2 single crochet in each stitch of the chain, and leave a bead with each single stitch. You must work the silk very loose, so it will not draw: work round the border of the crown the same way. Double some of the yarn and make a cord, run this in 4 inches from the front edge and 15 inches from the bottom. Draw this up and tie it so as to fit the hood at the neck. Put a ribbon bow on middle of the front of the hood, and another one on middle of the back, by the cape; have ribbon strings. I should think one could make a warm winter hood from these directions. GYPSIE MAUD.

Baby's Crib Spread.

A very pretty spread for baby's crib can be easily made in what is called embossed work. It may be made of cashmere, sateen or silk, and lined to suit one's idea of appropriateness.

Draw on the *inside* of lining—or have it stamped—any pretty pattern in double, or rather parallel lines, about a fourth of an inch apart. Waving or twisted lines look well for a border. After the pattern is drawn, tack candle wicking all over *between* the parallel lines, thus outlining the design. Then lay on the outside, baste through the wicking and cloth with white thread to bring the figure on top; now put on the sewing machine, and stitch *each side* of the wicking, which will bring the pattern, or design out in bold relief, very like embossed figures.

This spread is especially handsome in pale blue, or rose pink, or in pongee silk outlined in blue or rose silk. For an infant's crib this spread may be finished with a cream lace edging.

A wine colored scarf of this kind does good service, and looks well over the foot of a bed or settee in readiness for a *siesta*, which every nursing mother should thoughtfully take.

FANNY FANSHAW.

Pattern Holder.

Take a piece of toweling 2 yards long: hem both ends. With a pencil draw two lines lengthwise about three inches each side the centre. With narrow tape make a row of loops upon these lines, large or small according to the pattern. Now write the name of each pattern on slip of paper and paste on the cloth opposite the loop. Run a small stick through each hem, and sew strings on the upper end, to tie like a map. Suspend by a ring, inside your closet door, and your patterns will be clean and well kept. If you like to have it ornamental as well as useful, outline a pattern on the outside.

A KANSAS GIRL.

Broad Lace.

Cast on 51 stitches. Knit across plain.

1st row—Knit 2, over, seam 2 together, over, seam together, knit 6, narrow, over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 9, narrow, over, knit 3, over, narrow, over twice, slip the second stitch on the left needle over the first and continue to do so until you have slipped four, knit 4, over, narrow, over twice, slip back 4, knit 4, over, narrow, knit 1, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 1.

2d row—Slip 1, knit 2, seam 1, knit 2, seam 1, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 3, and make 4 stitches of the over twice, by knit 1, seam 1, knit 1, seam 1, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 3, make 4 stitches of the over twice by knit 1, seam 1, knit 1, seam 1, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 7, narrow, over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 5, over, seam 2 together, over, seam 2 together, knit 2.

3d row—Slip 1, knit 1, over, seam 2 together, over, seam 2 together, knit 4, narrow, over, knit 7, over, narrow, knit 5, narrow, over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 8, over, narrow, knit 8, over, narrow, knit 8.

4th row—Slip 1, knit 8, over, narrow, over twice, slip by 4, knit 4, over, narrow, over twice, slip by 4, knit 4, over, narrow, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 3, narrow, over, knit 9, over, narrow, knit 3, over, seam 2 together, over, seam 2 together, knit 2.

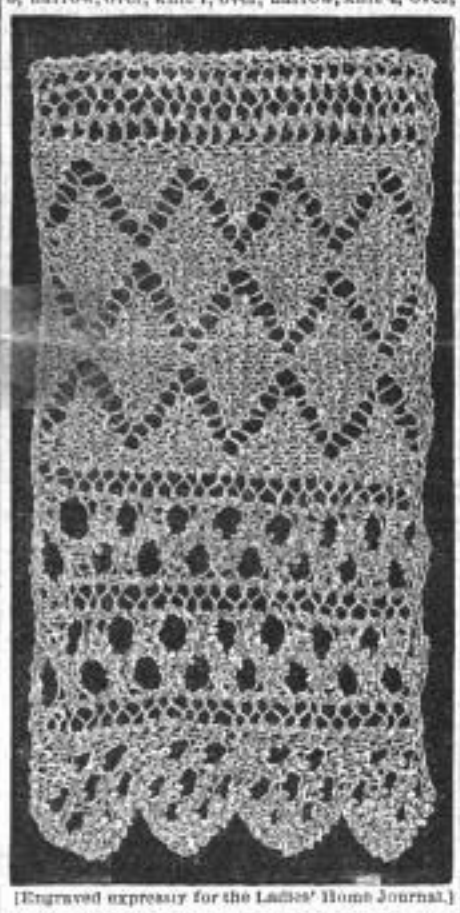
5th row—Slip 1, knit 1, over, seam 2 together, over, seam 2 together, knit 2, narrow, over, knit 11, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 7, over, narrow, knit 3, make 4 stitches of the "over twice" by knit 1, seam 1, knit 1, seam 1, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 3, make 4 stitches of the "over twice" by knit 1, seam 1, knit 1, seam 1, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 1.

6th row—Slip 1, knit 2, seam 1, knit 2, seam 1, knit 2, seam 1, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 8, over, narrow, knit 8, over, narrow, knit 7, over, knit 3 together, over, knit 13, over, narrow, knit 1, over, seam 2 together, over, seam 2 together, knit 2.

7th row—Slip 1, knit 1, over, seam 2 together, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 9, narrow, over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 6, over, narrow, over twice, slip by 4, knit 4, over, narrow, over twice, slip by 4, knit 4, over, narrow, knit 11.

8th row—Slip 1, knit 11, over, narrow, knit 4, seam 1, knit 1, seam 1, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 4, seam 1, knit 1, seam 1, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 4, narrow, over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 7, narrow, over, knit 4, over, seam 2 together, over, seam 2 together, knit 2.

9th row—Slip 1, knit 1, over, seam 2 together, over, seam 2 together, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 5, narrow, over, knit 7, over, narrow, knit 4, over,



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narrow, knit 8, over, narrow, knit 8, over, narrow, knit 4, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, knit 3

10th row—Slip 1, knit 4, seam 1, knit 2, seam 1, knit 5, over, narrow, over twice, slip by 4 stitches, knit 4, over, narrow, over twice, slip by 4 stitches, knit 4, over, narrow, knit 2, narrow, over, knit 9, over, narrow, knit 3, narrow, over, knit 6, over, seam 2 together, over, seam 2 together, knit 2.

11th row—Slip 1, knit 1, over, seam 2 together, over, seam 2 together, knit 7, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 11, over, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 4, seam 1, knit 1, seam 1, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 4, seam 1, knit 1, seam 1, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 13.

12th row—Slip and bind 7, knit 6, over, narrow, knit 8, over, narrow, knit 8, over, narrow twice, over, knit 13, over, knit 3 together, over, knit 8, over, seam 2 together, over, seam 2 together, knit 2. MRS. F. C.

To Make a Hair Chain.

Take 16 strands, using the letters A. B. C. D. Place B opposite to A, and D opposite to C. Place the figure 2 on each side of each letter about two inches from them. Then place the figure 1 on each side of each letter about 1 inch from them, and between the figure 2. Place the strands across the table cover, over the numbers. Commence braiding at A, take figures 2—one in each hand—lift them over the table, one on each side of the needle, and lay them in between figures 1, at B, and bring back figures 2, from B, and lay in between figures 1 at A. Then go to C. Take figures 1—one in each hand—lift them over the table, one on each side of the needle, and lay them in between figures 1 at D; bring back figures 1 from D to C, then take figures 2 at C, lift them over the table, and lay inside of figures 2 at D, and bring back figures 2 from D to C. After braiding round five times, reverse the braid by commencing at C, and braid just as you did at C. Then commence at A, as you did at first, reversing it every time you braid it through five times. Push the braid together, twist it and dry. BELLE PATTERSON.

Pretty Crochet Edge.

Make a chain of 4 stitches; turn.

1st row—Make a shell, by putting 3 t c in first or commencement stitch of chain, ch 1, 3 t c in same stitch, ch 3; turn.

2d row—3 t c in middle of shell, ch 1, 3 t c in same, ch 4; turn.

3d row—Shell in shell, 1 t c in last stitch of ch 3 at end of first row, ch 3; turn.

4th row—Shell in shell, put 1 t c in loop made by ch 4, ch 1, 1 t c in same loop, ch 1, continue to put 1 t c and ch 1 in the loop, until you have 8 t c, and 7 ch 1, catch with single crochet, in the first t c of shell in first row; turn.

5th row—1 d c, 2 t c, and 1 d c, under each of the 7 ch 1, (this gives you 7 small scallops) shell in shell, 1 t c in last stitch of ch 3, at end of third row, ch 3; turn.

Repeat from the 2d row.

The terms correspond with those given in Sep. No.

FROM A SUBSCRIBER.

Afghan Stitch.

The crochet needle must be a rather long one, of bone, the same size from end to end. Make a chain as for any crochet. Suppose we say 17. At the end, turn and work back on the chain thus: Put your needle through the 15th loop, the one next but one, to the last of the chain, and drawing the wool through, leave the stitch on the needle; with this and the 17th stitch of the chain, you will have 2 stitches on the needle. Put the needle through the next stitch of the chain, and drawing the wool through, leave that loop also on the needle. Go to the end of the chain, thus, and you will have 16 stitches on your needle. In making a chain for crochet tricot, you must always make one more stitch than the number which the work is to have, so as to have a neat turn at the end. At the end of the first row, having all the stitches on the needle, take up the wool with the hook, and draw it through the first stitch only, then catching the wool up again, draw it through the stitch just made, and the next stitch on the needle; then through the stitch just made and the next stitch, and so on to end of row, when only one stitch is left on the needle. Next row—Put the hook through the first perpendicular stitch of the preceding row, and draw the wool through, leaving the stitch thus made on the needle. Go to end of row thus; drawing the wool through each perpendicular stitch of the preceding row, and leaving all stitches thus made on the needle; then work back as in the second row. This same stitch is called Victoria, Tunis and Tricot. M. F. K.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

BRUSH STUDIES AND HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

NEW SERIES—NO. XVII.

BY LIDA AND M. J. CLARKSON.

Landscape Painting Continued, Mirror Decoration, etc.

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To prepare the palette for the day's work is generally the painter's first proceeding. This is called "setting the palette" and there are fixed rules sometimes laid down, as to the most advantageous method of so doing.

Too much importance however is often attached to these minor considerations. To put out all the paints of the color box in certain order always upon beginning work, is both needless and wasteful. Decide rather upon the general character of your subject, and beginning with your sky, prepare a range of sky tints such as will be needed for the work in hand. From the sky tints proceed to those of the distance and middle distance, gradually leading up your colors to the foreground. In this way you have a gradation of tints from the gentle tones of the sky to the more decided colors of your foreground. This order in setting the palette will be found less perplexing to the beginner in landscape painting than

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]
A SIMPLE SPRING LANDSCAPE.

the putting out of all the colors according to a fixed rule; in fact you will do better to study out these things for yourself, than to depend too much on the methods of others.

The paint should be mixed with medium enough to flow smoothly from the brush. More will be needed in shadows than in lights, the lights being of full body while the shadows should be kept thin and transparent. Keep your color pure and fresh, mixing as little as possible with the knife, as this dulls their clearness and brilliancy. They should be delicately blended, and the proportion of each color must of course be varied to suit each special feature of the subject. We can always describe a process more clearly and definitely, when we have an example for reference, something which the mind can readily grasp and follow out.

The little sketch shows a simple spring landscape, which we shall proceed to describe as minutely as possible. Sky tints vary greatly according to the season, the time of day, the state of the atmosphere, etc. Sometimes the sky is clear, again it is overcast with clouds, and the palette must be modified to suit these conditions. There may be a grayish, or a yellowish cast, or at sunrise, or sunset a roseate or golden hue. All these effects you have seen in nature, and when painting landscapes you should observe them still more closely, as it will be to your advantage to do so.

In last paper it was remarked that works on perspective were so abundant that we did not deem it necessary to enlarge upon the subject here, only as it relates to *aerial* perspective which consists in the modulation of color in accordance with the condition of the atmosphere. Should there seem to be a repetition in these "Studies" upon certain points, it should be borne in mind that these columns are intended more especially for those who have had little, if any instruction, and for some doubtless who have never seen a picture in progress; and for such these particulars are very necessary. Our last lesson told plainly how to lay-in a dead color, or underpainting before beginning the regular coloring, and if about to undertake this landscape you will proceed in same way. Taking a piece of academy board, or canvas mounted on a stretcher the required size, say 10x15 inches, you begin by sketching your outlines which in this case are very simple, the distant range of hills, the foliage and point of land, with the tree and boat in foreground. These can be drawn with the point of a soft charcoal pencil, which having done, you proceed to secure your sketch with fixatif, which is a spirit preparation blown over the drawing with an atomizer, or if you have not this convenience float a little sweet milk diluted with water, over the outlines, which will answer the purpose very well. This being dry you will next proceed to sketch in your whole subject with a thin wash of burnt sienna and turpentine, working however very lightly over the upper, or sky portion of your picture, gradually deepening the tone as you work down, adding a little black or raw umber in the shadows. Put in all your shadows in this way, your foreground and middle distance, the lights weaker, the darks deeper in tone.

The object of this first lay-in, is to get the simple forms of shadow; painting the masses in one uniform tone. It is simply a blocking out of your work, thus indicating the lights and shadows accurately. Let it be clearly understood, and that there be no mistake, we repeat a little more concisely. Paint, or tinge all your landscape with this warm transparent lay-in, thin in the lights, deeper in the shadows. You will now be able to proceed with more confidence, because you have in this way established the general effect. This washing in the design is the first step. Let it be done broadly with a free hand as you would shade a drawing in India ink. Give the correct forms to different objects by a right distribution of light and shade, and you will be surprised to find how much easier it has made all the after work. After the lay-in is thoroughly dry, oil out your board, or canvas; that is, rub linseed oil freely over the surface with your fingers. Unless this is done the paint sometimes will not take hold, or is liable to *creep*, like water on a greasy surface. This is avoided by the oiling out process. The scheme of color for our little landscape is as follows: Sky overcast with clouds, tinged with a warm, rather reddish cast, as the time of day is early evening, shortly after sunset. The hills, which partake somewhat of this sunset glow, are a little purplish in tone. Foliage is a warm, but not a crude green, as it is modified largely with browns. Distant water is light reflecting sky, but in the foreground it is rich and dark, because overshadowed by the surrounding banks, and foliage. Beginning with the sky put out on your palette, white, light cadmium, light red and a little ivory black. The combination of these colors will give you what is known as the horizon tint. This is lighter in tone than the clouds themselves for which add more light red and black with a trifle cobalt. In the lights add more white, and in the shadows raw umber. Generally speaking the sky is the important feature of all landscape, giving as it does atmosphere and distance, its peculiar charm.

Lay on your color freely, putting the shadows, where they belong, softening the edges of clouds, thus avoiding all harsh lines.

Clouds when thus massed, show strong lights and shadows. The general mass should be painted with a large, flat bristle brush, the lights and shades blended softly in while wet, which gives softness and tender outline. The mountains painted with Antwerp blue, white, a trifle cadmium, raw umber and black. Paint while sky is still wet and lap over the edges as directed for clouds.

For the water use the same colors as for sky, shading with Vandyke, or bone brown. The foliage is painted with white, terre vert, a little cadmium, burnt sienna and raw umber. In the greener spring foliage light zinnober green is used. For the large tree in foreground add more white and Antwerp blue, giving the foliage a bluish gray cast. In the deeper accents of foliage terre vert, Vandyke brown, raw umber and black may be used. The rocks are painted with white, light red, yellow ochre and black, shaded with Vandyke brown and burnt sienna.

For the boat, use white, light red, yellow ochre, raw umber and Vandyke brown. The old posts are painted with the same colors.

A careful study of this little sketch can be made at first in black and white, either in charcoal, India ink, or oil colors, in order to study its true values. This is a method highly recommended.

MIRROR DECORATION.

In response to a number of requests we give this month a suggestion for mirror decoration. The design is an attractive one, and yet easy of execution.

This may be painted directly upon the wood, if

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]
DESIGN FOR MIRROR DECORATION.

desired, or the frame can be covered with plush, or velvet. For the subject chosen there is no prettier ground than a golden brown, an old gold, or an olive. Any one of these will harmonize well with the rich orange and red of the nasturtiums. The flowers may be varied in color, from a lemon yellow, through orange and red, to a deep maroon, or only the richer shades of red used as preferred.

The palette for the lemon flowers is white, light cadmium, yellow ochre and black, with raw umber and burnt sienna in the shadows.

The orange flowers are painted with orange cadmium, white and burnt sienna, with raw umber and madder brown in the shadows.

The rich, deep red flowers will require vermillion, madder lake and black, for the general tone, with raw umber and madder brown in the shadows. The leaves and stems are painted with light zinnober green, white, a trifle light red and ivory black, adding Antwerp blue in the cooler tones, and more black and raw umber in the shadows. The illustration here given will suggest a graceful arrangement as to design. In painting upon plush, little if any medium is required, and care must be taken to work the paint into the pile without crushing it, or plastering it down. Rub, or work the color in gently, but perseveringly, until it takes hold of the nap without laying it. This is the whole secret of successful painting upon plush, or velvet.

HINTS AND QUERIES.

"C. M. S.," Mass.—The Lizard or terraline vase may be painted a greenish-bronze tone with spots of yellowish green, and brown in the shadows. For the general tone use raw umber, white, yellow ochre, burnt sienna, black and a little cobalt. A trifle madder, or Vandyke brown can be used in the shadows. The greenish-yellow spots may be painted with terre vert, yellow ochre, white, a little black, and burnt sienna.

The beetle, which is a brown-black, may be painted with black and bitumen, or any deep brown.

The raised work of the terraline vase throws its own shadows, although a little shading sometimes strengthens the effect.

"A. O. P."—The palette for flesh tints would depend very much upon your subject, whether dark or fair, a young, or an elderly person, etc., etc. A general tone for flesh may be made with yellow ochre, white, vermillion, madder lake, a little cobalt, raw umber and ivory black. For the shadows, raw umber, light red, black, yellow ochre, cobalt, madder lake and white. Burnt sienna will also be needed in the deeper accents. For the lips, use madder lake, vermillion, white, raw umber and ivory black. A little more vermillion and madder lake will be needed for the cheeks.

"Several Inquirers" wish to know more of the frames composed of gilded ropes, mentioned in a recent number. A common frame, or stretcher is required, with smooth flexible rope. This latter is laid along the frame, and fastened at intervals with headless nails, or brads. Several lengths of rope may be carried across the frame in this way, and when a corner is reached a graceful twist, or knot is made, which is secured by the brads, and the rope is then carried to the next corner and knotted in the same way. At the last corner tuck the ends under and fasten securely. Before proceding to gild the frame, cover with shellac varnish, or size to prevent the rope from absorbing too much of the gilding. Directions for gilding have been given in previous numbers. Cork frames will be described more particularly in next paper, in compliance with several requests.

"A. P. M.," N. H.—Your drawing submitted to us for criticism shows decided talent, especially so, as you state that you have had no instruction, and few advantages. We do not hesitate to advise you to persevere, and should say that with practice you will be sure of most satisfactory results. Would advise you to draw from solid objects, beginning with simple forms, and gradually advancing to more difficult subjects. If you will send us your full address, we will offer further suggestions by letter.

"Mrs. J. H. C."—Our time is too limited to give the instruction you ask by mail. The little hand-book on Kensington, Lustra, etc., will furnish the desired information. Your directions for umbrella stand written in pencil were so illegible that we could only partly decipher them. We would suggest that an umbrella stand should never have satin, or fancy ribbons as decoration, as it renders the article useless and unsuited to the purpose for which it is intended. A wet umbrella might it is true impart to it a weather-beaten appearance sufficient to proclaim its uses, but it certainly would not improve it as an article of home decoration.

"A Subscriber," Milltown, N. B.—To paint a peacock feather in oil colors you will need for the bronze tone, raw umber, yellow ochre, white, burnt sienna and a trifle black. Paint the eye of feather with Antwerp blue, madder lake and ivory black. The bright yellow-green tones will require Antwerp blue, white, light cadmium, or chrome yellow, a little light red and black. For the violet tints mauve, madder lake, yellow ochre and black, or permanent blue.

"Subscriber."—Our space is too limited just at present to give instruction in water colors in connection with the series of landscape lessons, but this subject will be taken up later. The best water color paints are of French, or English manufacture either liquid or in tubes, or moist in pans, or half pans. The hard cake colors are very rarely used now.

"Interested Reader."—Skeleton stitch is a close, but irregular stitch, every second, or third one being longer, although sometimes in outline leaves and petals of flowers, the stitches are taken all the same length to any required depth. It is a stitch used mostly in outline embroidery.

"Lilian M.," Maine.—You will find your first query answered above. For your garnet plush border to scarf, a branch of creamy-white dogwood, blossoms would be pretty, or white clematis, or magnolias. Your band can be applied with a cross or fancy stitch, or feather stitched with Japanese gold thread for a pretty finish. It was impossible to reply to your query "immediately," as it was too late for even the April No.

"Miss S. E. H.," Texas.—By the local color is meant the general color uninfluenced by any accidents of light, or shade, atmosphere, perspective, etc. For instance, a flower might be red, but so thrown into distance, or shadow as to appear gray, or almost black. These are the accidental conditions, whereas red is the natural, or inherent color, the local tint of the flower. A sable rigger is a brush with long, thin hairs, tapering to a fine point, and is useful in drawing fine hair lines in a picture.

"M. G. C."—The slate used by "S. L. C." was an ordinary one, such as stationers furnish for school-children. If hung up, or placed on an easel, they are no more liable to breakage than the porcelain plaques or panels, in fact not so much so. We are glad you have been successful with the lace painting described in "Brush Studies," and find oil colors useful for the purpose.

To draw an ellipse or oval perfectly: Take a stout thread and tie two knots in it, the distance apart depending on the size you wish. Lay the paper on a smooth board, and drive a tack through each knot in the string through the paper into the board, so that there will be a slack of string of an inch or more between the tacks. Place a pencil point against the slack string, and push it to one side till the string is tight; then with the pencil pressed on the paper, move it around as if making a circle, keeping the string held outward, tight all the way around. In this way you have a perfect oval.

"A Correspondent."—To paint old blue, use permanent, or Antwerp blue, white, raw umber, yellow ochre, madder lake and a trifle black. If in drapery requiring shadows, add burnt sienna, and a trifle madder brown.

Old pink may be painted with the German madder lake, white, yellow ochre, and cadmium. Brown madder is useful in the shadows.

For sand on seashore, which is light grayish yellow in tone, use white, yellow ochre, raw umber, ivory black and burnt sienna.

A number of queries stand over to be answered in our next.

For three subscriptions to the JOURNAL we will send Kensington and Lustra hand-book with pamphlet upon Decorative Art.

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Philadelphia, May, 1887.

Subscriptions must begin with the number current when subscription was received. We do not date back, even upon the most urgent request.

Our offer for 3 months' trial subscribers, in no way affects our regular premium list for yearly subscribers. The names of the winners of the three large prizes will be published in these columns.

DECISION.

Finances, since the world began, have been an ever fruitful source of dissension, and the question of the finances of the domestic circle, has been one rife with disturbances of the worst kind. The common cry is now, (as it has been always if one could only remember) that women do not know how to take care of money. True, many of them do not. But, likewise, they lack judgment in many other ways, where a clear judgment is necessary. However, a careful analysis of the subject, will soon show that it is not the quality itself, which is lacking in the sex, as a sex; it is the special education necessary to the full development of such qualities, that is lacking.

Judgment is given to some people, men and women, in an eminent degree. In others it is an almost artificial quality if one may use the expression—a quality so formed and ingrounded by a particular form of education (either by intention or by circumstance,) as to be almost natural, but merely in reality, a second nature.

The fault to be deplored in the wife, is really due to the father-in-law. Some one has said "the education of a girl should begin twenty years before she is born." While this seems like beginning pretty far back, there is much truth in the statement. But, suppose that this suggestion has not been acted upon in bygone years, the future judgment of a girl should begin much earlier in life, than is generally supposed. Teach the boys and the girls to have opinions of their own whenever practicable. Parents do not begin sufficiently early, to consult with their children upon points in which the children, themselves, are particularly interested.

Beginning with the point of dress. Many grown women have said, "I never bought a dress for myself in my life. Mother always did it for me. She knows a great deal better what I want than I do myself." Why should the mother know best? What has she been thinking of, to allow that daughter to grow up in ignorance of her own tastes, even? It has been criminal neglect upon her part and equal indifference upon the daughter's part, to know eighteen or twenty years to slip by without a reliable judgment being formed in the daughter's character. What do the mothers expect the daughters to do at the time when they must judge, whether they will or not, not only for themselves, but for others, and do it unaided by the mind and heart forever passed away from them. "Time enough!" Indeed, no! The time is now, now, while the children are little. When your child leaves to you to decide for him or her which shall be done, when there is no question of principle involved in either course, oblige that child to exercise its own judgment and powers of selection. When clothing a girl begin early to take her with you to the various places of purchase. Explain to her why you buy such goods and refuse others. Having selected some half dozen pieces of goods, any one of which would be suitable for your purpose, leave it to *her* choice as to which it shall be. A little later along, a small income should be given, and a judicious spending of this income inculcated. It might begin with a very small amount to be devoted to gloves, while the rest of the wardrobe is provided by the mother. This could be added to and the shoes be the next article which the child is expected to provide for herself. She would soon know that the more care she exercised both in buying and caring for her articles of dress, after they were purchased, the more money she would have on hand, (for the income should be given with the express understanding that what she saved, after dressing herself in accordance with the prevailing neatness, shall be exclusively, absolutely her own, to do as she pleases with.) And too she soon learns to spend that surplus in the way which will give her most real pleasure.

O mothers! do teach your daughters to exercise judgment in their early youth and do not leave it until they, too, have daughters of their own, and in their utter ignorance are obliged to depend upon others for counsel (often ill-advised) or else learn by bitter experience after marriage, lessons which they should have been learning almost from their cradle up.

THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL and PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER.

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The woman who will pay 10 cents for a 3 mos. trial subscription, and read the JOURNAL 3 mos. will not only renew her own subscription for a year, but will influence half a dozen neighbors to join in a club.

Now, we propose to put the JOURNAL into a *million* families for 3 months on trial, and ask them to pay 10 cents for it; so small a sum of money that every woman in these United States can easily afford it.

You, who are already our subscribers, are the ones to help us do this, and on other pages of this issue, you will find special premiums offered to reward you for your labor. Show the paper to your neighbors and see what you can do for yourself and us. Let your children show it and see if they cannot gain for themselves some of those things that children so love to have. Examine the list and see if it is not worth your while to make an effort for us. And remember, that this offer is good *only* until the first day of July 1887.

For the 3 largest clubs of 3 months trial subscribers, sent to us up to July 1st, 1887 we offer a

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The person sending us the largest list, will be entitled to the first choice of either one of the above premiums. The person sending us the second largest list can choose either one of the two that are left. The person sending us the third largest list will be entitled to the remaining premium.

For ALL of the smaller club raisers, they can choose whatever premiums they may be entitled to, as per our announcements in other columns.

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OUR PREMIUMS.

Our system of sending out premiums seems to be such a mystery to the majority of our subscribers that, we feel constrained to give a brief outline of the method.

The subscribers cannot understand why their papers should be forthcoming within a reasonable length of time, but no premium; or why, having sent one premium promptly, we should neglect to send another with equal promptness.

The fact is that the premiums sent direct from this office (among which are silverware and books) are few; the main body of them being sent on order—some from New York, some from New England, some from Western Pennsylvania.

These order sheets are sent off semi-weekly, but, naturally, they cannot be filled immediately by those of whom we order the goods. Hence, considerable time must often necessarily elapse, between the sending of a subscription and the receipt of a premium. We hope this will explain to many, otherwise seemingly inexplicable delays. We endeavor to fill all premium orders promptly.

POSTAGE TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

A discrimination in the rates of postage to city subscribers is made between weekly and monthly periodicals, to the great disadvantage of the latter for, while the weeklies can be mailed to city subscribers for one cent per pound, monthlies can not be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent for each two ounces, except where the subscribers go to the post-office for their mail. And as the JOURNAL in its present form weighs over two ounces, we are, therefore, obliged to ask Philadelphia subscribers twenty-four cents extra postage, unless the paper is addressed at the post-office to be called for, or to any P. O. box.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"BIGBUG:"—The word you wish is spelled "sauer-kraut."

"NEW SUBSCRIBER" can buy transfer patterns of Jas. H. Walker, 104 Franklin St., N. Y.

"C. A. M.," South Boston:—The 17th day of January 1848 was Monday, also, the 3d day of June 1850.

"C. H. W." wants to know why there is no sign of butter after several hours churning, and where the fault lies?

"MATTIE SHEARER," SADLER'S CREEK, S. C:—The *Decorator and Furnisher* is published at 30 and 32 E. 14th St., N. Y.

"M. L." can purchase netting needles and meshes from Strawbridge & Clothier, 8th and Market Sts., Philadelphia, Pa.

THE subscriber asking about home-made jellies in March number should address Mrs. Hamlin Jones, Campbell Hall, Orange Co., N. Y.

"MRS. J. B. FOLLETT, GOOD LUCK, TEX.:—No, Whittier did not write the poem entitled "Quaker Widow." It was written by Bayard Taylor.

WILL any one forward to "Mrs. H. C. Spear," Medford, Mass., a copy of the poem "Virginius and Virginia?" She will return the stamps used for the purpose.

"LILLIE HEARNE," KITTERY, ME.:—There are kindergartens in Philadelphia, New York and Boston, and the supplies you ask for can be had of any book store, or if not kept in stock, perhaps will order them for you.

"SUBSCRIBER:"—The subject is too exhaustive to be treated in our correspondence column. If you will enclose us a stamped envelope we will try and answer your query.

"A. R.:"—The information you desire can be obtained by addressing John Shallcross, Frankford, Philadelphia, Pa. Enclose a stamped envelope addressed to yourself.

SOME one asked "What will take out rust from white goods?" Wet the spot thoroughly with lemon juice, sprinkle salt upon it and lay it in the sun. If one application does not suffice, two certainly will.

WILL you please tell me, through your paper, who first used the expression, "Cleanliness is next to godliness?" F. LILIAN LEACH.

[John Wesley, in his sermon on "Cleanliness."—ED. JOURNAL.]

"PINKIE:"—Try taking out ink stains with ripe tomatoes. In without ripe ones, try canned. Spread tomatoes on the stains and rub in well, then wash in tepid water. Use no soap. Repeat until all the stains are gone.

"ELLA STILLSON," NILES, MICH.—Send for the *Poultry Keeper*, published at Parkesburg, Pa., price 50c. Inquire, also, when you write for the book, and, we think you will get all the information you want in reference to the incubators.

"SLEEPLESS MOTHER:"—Sleeplessness arises from so many different causes that it would be impossible as well as injudicious for us to attempt to prescribe a remedy. Habitual sleeplessness is a subject to be handled only by a judicious physician.

"N. L.:"—You can take the grease out of your grey cashmere by laying over the spot a piece of common brown paper, and applying a warm iron. In a few seconds a grease spot will appear upon the paper. Repeat the operation until entirely drawn out of the fabric.

LOVELAND, OHIO, Feb. 18th, '87.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—If "Kate" will write me I can give directions for making hair watch chains and all kinds of hair jewelry. It would take up too much space to send to L. H. J. N. E. SHUBERT.

"L. S.:"—The *Poultry Keeper*, published at Parkesburg, Pa., is a good book; for information on Agriculture address John Shallcross, Frankford, Philadelphia, Pa., and Dairy farming the *American Agriculturist*, 751 Broadway, N. Y. City. The *Poultry Keeper* is 50 cents a year.

GIRARD, KANSAS, Feb. 17, '87.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Can you, through the columns of your paper, give me a recipe for stamping splashers and tidies on white that will not rub off while embroidering?

SADIE C. K.

[Use thin black oil paint.—ED. JOURNAL.]

"ETHEL BROOKS," RENVILLE, MINN. can purchase Miss Alcott's works at any book store, at $1.50 per volume. Or we can supply you with the following vols. at $1.00 each, and 15c. extra for postage and packing: Little Women, Hospital Sketches, Old Fashioned Girl, Under the Lilacs, Jack and Jill.

"E. H. J.:"—I know an easier way than sewing carpet rags on the machine. Lay two pieces of carpet rags together one end on top of the other, cut a hole and draw the upper one through from below and pull it tight. This makes a smooth knot, but will only answer for cotton rags.

MRS. J. H. LENHARD.

"A. E. L.:"—To remove tar, put soft grease on the tar spots, and rub well with the hands, then, take a basin of soft warm water, put half a teaspoonful of soda in it and wash the grease and tar out.

To wash out grease stains, add a half teaspoonful of ammonia to the water prepared as above.

MARY COCKRELL.

"PERPLEXED CORRESPONDENT:"—The nightly application of water as hot as it can be borne, wrapping the forehead well with it and keeping the cloth applied some little time, will do much towards relieving the wrinkles which are beginning to form. Use a flannel wash cloth. Flannel should always be used for this purpose. It keeps the skin much softer. Perhaps too it would be as well to try to *frown less*.

AN "INQUIRER" asks for a way to mend *iron*. For cracks in a stove:—Use good wood ashes, two parts, and one part salt; moisten with water enough to make a thick batter and apply quickly.

To remove kerosene from floors:—Sprinkle with corn meal and let it stand twenty-four hours, then brush off and renew until the oil disappears. This removes oil more quickly than anything else I have ever tried. ELLICE GERTRUDE.

BLACK ROCK, Feb. 19, '87.

DEAR JOURNAL:—"Mrs. L. B. Tower" asks how to utilize an old-fashioned washstand, and convert it into a music rack. I did one in this manner: Had the top taken entirely off, and a plain board nailed on, then covered the top and ala , the bottom shelf, with felt, after gilding the sides and posts with diamond dust, (which comes with complete directions for use.) I then tacked on a pretty fringe, and I had a stand fit to grace any parlor.

They can be painted black and varnished, and covered with plush, or in any way to suit one's taste. Several of my friends have done the same thing, and the cost is comparatively little.

MRS. M. H. MANSFIELD.

NEW HAVEN, Feb. 24th, '87.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I would like the sisters with boys to know that, chicken corn roasted hot in the oven, and poured into their rubber boots, when wet inside, will dry them nicely. Put in over night. If very wet, heat two or three times. I have three boys, and we live next to a pond; they have been over the tops of their boots several times.

MRS. MARION PALLMAN.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—In February number "Addie" asks for a new toy. I have found a tin pan and a basket of clothes-pins an excellent source of amusement for a younger child than hers; also a large tin waiter or tea tray, with a large sized marble, too large to be put in baby's mouth, so there is no danger of choking. The little one will roll the marble round and round the waiter for a long time without growing tired of it. I. W. M.

SPRING HILL, S. C.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Please tell "Ailee Newkleman" that she can ebonize wood beautifully, by boiling logwood chips in water, and straining the wood, applying with a brush. When it is perfectly dry wash it with vinegar, in which iron or steel has been soaking for twenty-four hours. This will make the wood dull black, which is polished by a soft rag dipped in shellac. It may be just varnished or rubbed with furniture oil. WINNIE MULL.

"T. P. S.:"—We find your question in regard to a bridal present, from the groom to the bride, rather difficult to answer, as you do not wish jewelry. There are so many beautiful and useful things, that it is hard to make a choice and a list would be very long. We would say however that fine house linen or special pieces of furniture are always useful and appropriate gifts on such occasions. In answer to your second question we would say write to A. M. Smith, 533 Chestnut St., Phila., for his list of rare coins. He will probably purchase them if they have a value above their face.

"MRS. D. W. F.," CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA:—The Mino bird, *Gracula musica*, called also, *Eulabes Javanensis*, a remarkable bird of the starling family, is found wild in the Malay Islands, and often seen caged in China and India.

It is very lively and intelligent, and when trained is considered the best talker among the birds, far surpassing any parrot. It is also, a good singer.

It is almost entirely black, with orange wattles and yellow bill and feet. There is a white spot on the wing and the bird is about a foot long.

CENTRALIA, MO., March 3, '87.

Answer to "Mrs. L. M. M. Hedge's" question: "How to clean soiled white silk handkerchiefs so they will not turn yellow?"

Put a few drops of ammonia in warm, soft water, dip the handkerchief up and down, pressing lightly with the hands. Do not rub or wring, but simply *squeeze* the water out, and gently clap with the hands till almost dry; then spread a clean white cloth over a folded blanket, lay the handkerchief on it, right side down, spread over all another clean white cloth, and iron with a hot iron. Make sure the iron is not too hot.

FRIEND OF THE HOME JOURNAL.

"HARMONY:"—The difference between the study of harmony and the study of music is very decided. One may study music as in learning to play the piano-forte, violin, etc., without studying harmony at all. Harmony, if we may be allowed the expression, relates merely to the mechanism of expressed music. It treats of the relation which one sound bears to another sound or sounds.

It divides written music up into its component parts and treats each part, in its relation to the rest, exhaustively. To put it in a few words, it is the analysis of written music into its component parts.

2d. We could not recommend any preparation for restoring gray hair to its original color, as we consider all such preparations injurious. There is nothing nicer than a little crude petroleum for removing dandruff, but the odor is not pleasant.

CROSS JUNCTION, FREDERICK CO., March 15, '87.

DEAR EDITORS:—In your column of questions asked and answered, the origin of Hallowe'en is asked, and referred to one, among the numerous readers, for an answer.

Hallowe'en is, among the peasantry in the west of Scotland, the night witches, and other mischief-making beings, are all abroad, on their baneful midnight errands; particularly those seria people, the fairies, on that night, hold a grand carnival.

To lovers of Scotch history, and dear Robert Burns—so loved by the Scotch nation—it would be delightful to read the poem "Hallowe'en."

"Upon that night, when Fairies light,
On Cassilis' Downan's dance,
Or owne the lays———"

The beginning of this poem describes the romantic, rocky, green hills, the ancient seat of the Earl of Cassilis.

Hallowe'en is the night for prying into futurity, with all the devices so practiced, by the peasantry, and even among the more enlightened of our own day. OLIVIA.

[In *Harper's Monthly*, for NOVEMBER 1886, there is a very interesting and exhaustive article on this subject.—ED.]

ED. LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Being a reader of the JOURNAL and noticing particularly the article on "Unhappy People," in a recent issue, may I ask some of your readers their opinion in regard to some observations of mine in relation to the subject? I generally spend the summers "over the line" where all "boodlers" go, though I am not one of them, let me explain, and the proof of it is that I am back. To return to the subject, I will say that our Canadian sisters never read, not even newspapers; they spin, weave, knit, sew or work in the field from morn till night, and they are contented and happy; they have no idea that the good things of this world could be more equally divided and their fate ameliorated thereby, while here in N. Y. City the most ignorant read the dailies and from the reading catch the grumbling disease and seek remedies in dynamite or bomb-shell because they know of no others more efficient. The result of my observations is, that in proportion that one is enlightened the more wants he feels; to know created the desire to have, and to know but little is like a sword in the hands of a child. Am I wrong or right? L. M. M.

NEW YORK CITY.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

COTTAGE DINNERS.

MAY.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

There are many ways of adding to the general attractiveness of the table. Some of these have been already mentioned in this series of articles. The necessity of perfect neatness and of careful serving have already been touched upon. Something more than these are required to give a table the appearance of elegance which makes the time spent at meals a gratification to the eye as well as to the palate. These aids to the housekeeper are so numerous that it is strange the majority of homes are not supplied with them. True, they come under the head of adjuncts rather than of essentials, but even viewed in this light they are eminently desirable. Combining beauty and utility, money devoted to these purchases is better applied than when spent on parlor ornaments, fancy work, or useless bric-a-brac.

Table napery is always a profitable investment. Fine damask is necessary to make the board thoroughly as it should be and so well is this appreciated by the housekeeper that few presents are more acceptable than a tablecloth and napkins to match. Linen nice enough to satisfy any reasonable person can be bought now at moderate prices. A pretty tablecloth with the accompanying set of napkins cost anywhere from five to eight dollars. The largest size dinner napkins, a yard square, are less popular at present than those three-quarters of a yard square. The latter are, of course, not so expensive, while they are just as useful.

Some people prefer a little color about their table linen, but this is hardly advisable at dinner. Let the linen then be pure white and let whatever color is desired come from the china or flowers. An exception to this rule may be made in favor of carving cloths. They are often embroidered in boiled silk in two shades with such designs as a carving knife and fork, crossed, a steaming soup tureen, a smoking joint of meat, an elaborately decorated platter and similar fancies. Less pronounced but quite as pretty are those with the initials or monogram of the hostess worked in one corner.

The regular carving cloths can be purchased ready made at most dry-goods stops, or they may be manufactured at home from stout "butcher's linen." They should be nearly square, though a little longer than they are broad, are usually hemmed or fringed (the hem is preferable) and adorned with a border of drawn work or hemstitching. When the housewife cannot spare time for such needlework, she may use instead a large white napkin, laying it at the carver's place under the dish containing the meat he is to serve. The cloth thus catches the splashes of gravy and scraps which even the most skillful carver sometimes scatters. When the meat is carried off at the end of the course and the table brushed, the carving cloth napkin is removed and the table cloth is found free of spots. Nothing gives a more untidy appearance to a cloth than to have it besprinkled with grease spots, but without some such protection as that described, it is almost unavoidable. Few families can afford entirely fresh table linen every day, but this expedient saves washing as well as the housekeeper's equanimity.

SUNDAY.

Boiled Leg of Mutton, Caper Sauce.
Creamed Potatoes. Asparagus Rolls.
Chocolate Custards.

BOILED LEG OF MUTTON.—Sew the meat up snugly in a piece of coarse cheesecloth, and put it in a pot nearly full of boiling water, slightly salted. It should cook about fifteen minutes to the pound. When done, remove the cheesecloth, lay the mutton on a hot platter, rub it with butter, sprinkle lightly with salt and pepper and serve. Set aside the liquor in which the mutton was boiled, for next day's soup.

CAPER SAUCE.—About ten minutes before drawing the meat from the water, take out a cupful of the liquor and cool it by setting it in cold water or on the ice. Remove the fat that rises to the top, and strain the liquor into a saucepan. Bring it to a boil and thicken it with a small tablespoonful of butter rubbed in the same quantity of flour. Season to taste and pour upon a beaten egg, little by little. Return to the stove for a minute and add a good handful of capers. Pour into a gravy boat, and serve with the mutton.

CREAMED POTATOES.—Mash the potatoes, in the usual way, but add nearly twice as much milk as usual, and beat in the whipped white of an egg. Mound in a pie plate and set in the open oven for five minutes before serving.

ASPARAGUS ROLLS.—Stale rolls, one large or two small bunches of asparagus, yolk of one egg, one cup milk, two teaspoonfuls butter rubbed smooth in one tablespoonful of flour.

With a sharp knife cut off the tops of the rolls and scrape out the crumb from the lower halves. Set these shells in the oven long enough to dry without scorching. Boil the asparagus tender, drain off the water, cut off the tops and chop fine. Heat the milk to boiling, thicken with the butter and flour, pour a little on the beaten yolk and stir that into the milk, season to taste and add the asparagus tops. When heated through fill the hollowed rolls with the sauce, put on the tops and serve.

In spite of the elaborate directions, this is not a difficult dish to prepare and is excellent early in the season before asparagus has become as cheap and plenty as it is later on.

CHOCOLATE CUSTARDS.—Four cups milk, four eggs, four teaspoonfuls cornstarch, one cup sugar, half cupful grated chocolate, vanilla to taste.

Heat the milk to boiling and add the sugar, cornstarch and chocolate. When both are well dissolved pour upon the beaten yolks, return to the double boiler and cook until it thickens, stirring constantly. When thick and smooth, set it aside to cool. Flavor it just before it is to be eaten and send to the table in glasses or in a large dish, with a meringue made of the whites of the eggs and a little sugar, heaped on top.

MONDAY.

Mutton Broth.
Mutton and Rice *Pate*.
Baked Potatoes.
Crackers.
Cream Cheese.

MUTTON BROTH.—Remove the fat from the top of the liquor in which the leg of mutton was boiled. Season to taste, add a little finely minced onion and half a cup of uncooked rice. Boil until the rice is tender.

MUTTON AND RICE PATE.—Slice the cold mutton neatly, and arrange it in a greased pudding dish, sprinkling lightly with pepper and salt. Pour over it what is left of yesterday's caper sauce, adding if necessary a little soup. Have ready two cupfuls of boiled rice into which have been stirred, salt, pepper, two teaspoonfuls of butter and a beaten egg. Cover the mutton with this and bake in a slow oven for half an hour, or until it is heated through and nicely browned.

BAKED POTATOES.—See previous directions.

CRACKERS AND CREAM CHEESE.—Heat the crackers in the oven until they are crisp but not brown. Pass with them, the Philadelphia or Neufchatel cream cheese, if you can get it. If not work butter, a little cream, pepper and salt into the ordinary cottage or "pot" cheese, and eat this with the crackers.

TUESDAY.

Mutton Potage.
Ham and Eggs.
Macaroni and Cheese.
Stewed Rhubarb.
Bread and Butter.

MUTTON POTAGE.—On Monday break the bones of the leg of mutton with the back of a hatchet and put them on the fire in cold water, with all bits or scraps of the mutton that are unavailable for your pate. Let it boil slowly several hours. On Tuesday skim off the fat and put it on the stove with a handful of spaghetti, broken fine, a couple of potatoes, parboiled, a tablespoonful of boiled rice and half a can of tomatoes. Cook until the vermicelli is tender.

Boil the sliced ham fifteen minutes, and let it get cold. Fry the slices in their own fat, until they are tender and crisp. Take from the frying pan with a fork and lay in a hot dish. Break the eggs into the fat left in the pan and fry until firm. Lay an egg on each slice of ham.

MACARONI AND CHEESE.—Break half a pound of macaroni into pieces and stew until tender in boiling salted water. Drain off the water and pour over the macaroni a cup of milk in which has been dissolved a pinch of soda. Season to taste, add a lump of butter the size of an egg and a couple of tablespoonfuls of grated cheese.

STEWED RHUBARB.—Scrape the stalks and cut them into inch lengths. Stew in as little water as will cover them until they are tender and sweeten to taste after taking from the fire. Eat when cold with bread and butter.

WEDNESDAY.

Roast Shoulder of Veal, Stuffed.
Glazed Potatoes. Baked Rice and Tomatoes.
Steamed Corn bread.

ROAST SHOULDER OF VEAL.—Make cuts in the meat near the bone and fill these with a stuffing made of bread crumbs, a slice of yesterday's ham chopped very fine, sweet herbs, minced and seasoning to taste. Bind the mixture with a beaten egg. Roast slowly, basting frequently with hot water and butter, taking great care that the meat does not dry out. Make a brown gravy as before directed from the driping in the pan.

GLAZED POTATOES.—Peel good sized potatoes and from half to three-quarters of an hour before the veal is done, dredge the potatoes with flour and lay them in the dripping pan. Baste them with the gravy from time to time and drain them for a few minutes in a sieve when they are quite brown. Arrange them about the veal on the dish.

BAKED RICE AND TOMATO—Boil enough rice to nearly fill when cooked, a fair sized baking dish. Butter the dish, and spread a layer of the rice in it. Dust with pepper, salt and some bits of butter and then place a layer of tomatoes chopped fine. The half can left from yesterday's soup will be enough. Another thickness of rice should be followed by one of tomato, and this sprinkled with fine bread crumbs and dotted with bits of butter. A little gravy poured over the whole is an improvement. Brown in the oven for about fifteen minutes.

STEAMED CORN BREAD.—Two cups corn meal, one cup flour, three scant cups sour milk, two tablespoonfuls sugar, one large tablespoonful lard, one teaspoonful soda, one teaspoonful salt. Stir the sugar and salt in the mixed flour and meal, add the melted lard, dissolve the soda in a little boiling water and put into the milk and pour this upon the dry materials. Beat very hard, pour it into a small tin pail well greased and with a tightly fitting top. Set this in a pot of boiling water, guarding carefully against the water coming over the top of the mould. Boil three hours, turn out, and eat with a hard pudding sauce.

THURSDAY.

Veal and Ham Pie.
Spinach Shapes. Potatoes *au Maitre d' hotel*.
Strawberry Shortcake.

VEAL AND HAM PIE.—Put the bones of the shoulder of meal into a stew pan with all bits of gristle, skin, etc., reserving the nicer parts. Pour three cups of cold water over these fragments, and add half a pound of raw ham, sliced, an onion and a few sweet herbs, and simmer till but half the gravy is left. Strain this and thicken it with browned flour. Cut the cold veal and the boiled ham into neat slices and arrange them in alternate layers in a pudding dish. Pour the gravy over all, cover with a plain pie crust and bake.

SPINACH SHAPES.—Prepare spinach as directed in April, but instead of turning into a deep dish when it is ready for the table, fill egg cups with it, pressing it down hard. Turn out of the moulds upon rounds of buttered toast and garnish each hillock with a slice of hard boiled egg.

POTATOES AU MAITRE D HOTEL.—Boil firm potatoes and when nearly cold, cut into neat slices. Heat a cupful of milk in a saucepan, add the potatoes, two teaspoonfuls of butter rolled in flour, a little minced parsley and pepper and salt at discretion. When heated through, squeeze in the juice of half a lemon and serve.

STRAWBERRY SHORT CAKE.—Prepare a paste according to directions for chicken shortcake in March issue of LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. Bake in layers, and between them place strawberries slightly crushed with the back of a spoon and plentifully sweetened. Cut into triangles and eat either warm or cold.

FRIDAY.

Broiled Shad.
French Potato Balls. Green Peas.
Queen's Toast.

BROILED SHAD.—Clean, wash and wipe a fine roe shad, splitting it open. Lay it inside down on a buttered gridiron over a clear fire and brown nicely. When done on one side, turn it over, taking care not to break it. Keep it hot while you broil the roes. Lay these about the shad in the dish. Pass sliced lemon with it.

FRENCH POTATO BALLS.—Three cupfuls mashed potato, two eggs, three tablespoonfuls grated cheese, salt and pepper to taste.

Stir the beaten egg into the potato, add the cheese and seasoning, form with the hands into small balls, roll in flour and fry in very hot lard.

GREEN PEAS.—Lay them in cold water for ten minutes after they are shelled, and cook until tender in boiling water, slightly salted and containing a teaspoonful of white sugar. If young and fresh they should not require more than from ten to twenty-five minutes cooking. Drain as dry as possible and stir in salt, pepper and a tablespoonful of butter after they are dished.

QUEEN'S TOAST.—Fry rounds of stale bread from which you have trimmed the crust to a light brown, in boiling lard. Free each piece from grease by laying it on soft paper in a hot colander. Sprinkle thickly with powdered sugar and pile on a heated platter. Pass with them a jelly sauce made by directions given in November "Cottage Dinners."

SATURDAY.

Lentil Soup.
Baked Mutton Chops, breaded.
Mashed Potato. Stewed Tomatoes.
Boiled Rice and Raisins

LENTIL SOUP.—Soak two cups of dry lentils for three hours in enough water to cover them. Put them on the fire in two quarts of cold water with quarter of a pound of lean salt pork, cut into dice, a small onion, sliced, a couple of celery tops and a little salt and pepper. Simmer for three hours, adding hot water from time to time, keeping always three quarts in the pot. Take out the pork and celery with a split spoon, rub the soup smooth through a colander and pour on tiny squares of fried bread in a tureen.

BAKED MUTTON CHOPS, BREADED.—Trim the chops neatly, roll each in beaten egg and then in crushed cracker crumbs and arrange in a dripping pan. Put a lump of butter the size of a hickory nut on each and set in the oven. As they brown baste half a dozen times with boiling water and a little melted butter. Sprinkle with pepper and salt, lay in a chafing dish and keep hot while thickening the gravy left in the pan with browned flour. Add two or three tablespoonfuls of tomato catsup and pass in a gravy boat.

MASHED POTATOES.—See previous directions.

STEWED TOMATOES.—To a can of tomatoes, opened an hour before cooking, add salt, pepper, a teaspoonful of sugar and a tablespoonful of butter, *after* the tomatoes have stewed gently for half an hour in a porcelain lined saucepan. Simmer five minutes after the seasoning has been added, before serving.

BOILED RICE AND RAISINS.—Boil the rice according to former directions. Just before taking from the fire add half a cup of hot milk into which has been stirred a beaten egg, and half a cupful of seeded raisins. Cook five minutes, turn into a deep dish and eat with butter, or cream, and sugar.

HOME COOKING.

ORIGINAL RECIPES CONTRIBUTED BY THE JOURNAL SISTERS.

INQUIRER:—Did you throw a piece of alum into your pickles when you put them away for the winter?

TO CORN BEEF (by request):—Make a brine of a quart of coarse salt to three gallons of water; to this add a half pint of molasses and let stand a day before putting the beef in. Meat thus corned will be fit to eat in a week's time.

FRENCH MUSTARD:—Slice an onion in a bowl; cover with good vinegar. After two days pour off the vinegar; add to it a teaspoonful of cayenne pepper, a teaspoonful of salt, a tablespoonful of sugar, and mustard enough to thicken; mix, set on the stove and stir until it boils. When cold it is fit for use.

CUSTARD PIE (by request):—For reliable pie crust, rich enough to be healthful, use one-fourth as much lard as flour—three cups flour and three-fourths of a cup of shortening makes two deep custard pies—season with salt and mix not too soft with cold water—being careful to stir with a knife instead of the hand. The less handling, the better for good crust. For one custard pie use a pint of milk and three well-beaten eggs. Sweeten and season with salt and nutmeg to taste. Pour into the pie plate, which is lined with the crust, and bake in a moderately quick oven.

DEAR EDITOR:—I want to give my JOURNAL sisters my recipe for

CHOCOLATE CREAM FROSTING.

White of 1 egg beaten to stiff froth, and an equal quantity of cold water. Add confectioners' sugar till thick enough to spread. Flavor with vanilla. Spread half inch thick on cake. Melt half cake German sweet chocolate, by putting in bowl over boiling water. Add teaspoonful boiling water to chocolate, beating well, and pour over cream frosting on cake. It will remain soft and creamy for a week, cutting without breaking, and is delicious. L. P. M.

DEAR EDITOR:—In answer to the question in this month's JOURNAL—"How to make potato salad as the Germans make it"—I will send a recipe that is correct and has been highly complimented by all who have eaten my salad:

POTATO SALAD:—Boil about 8 or 9 good-sized potatoes with skin on, and when done pour the water off and with a small knife take the skin off, and slice fine in a bowl, adding one onion also finely sliced to every three potatoes; sprinkle salt and pepper over them. Heat two cups of vinegar, half cup of pure goose grease together; take a teaspoonful of English mustard and dissolve smoothly in a very little water, and to this add one egg beaten lightly; then pour this in the hot vinegar and grease, and pour all over the potatoes and onions. A little finely chopped parsley, or water cresses add very much to the salad. If goose grease is not used, very fine olive oil is good, but should be mixed slowly with the egg and mustard and added to the potatoes before the hot vinegar be poured on.

VIRGINIA.

DEAR EDITOR:—Here is a recipe for apple dumplings that is rarely known outside of New England:—Whites of 3 eggs beaten to a stiff froth. One coffee cup of rich cream (sour), or sour milk with piece of butter size of walnut, level teaspoonful best soda. Add flour to form a smooth dough, knead well and put in a warm place for two hours. Unless apples cook very readily steam the quarters until soft, lay two together, wrap a bit of dough spread out with the hands, well around them, fasten the edges well; roll in flour and drop in kettle of briskly boiling water and *keep boiling* 15 minutes. Eat with sweetened cream. Above will make 8 good dumplings. I. M. S.

POPCORN CANDY:—To seven ears of well popped corn take 1 pint Orleans molasses, 1 cup sugar (white), butter the size of small egg. Boil molasses, sugar and butter until they are as hard as taffy. When it is done, put a level teaspoonful of soda into the taffy; it will foam up. Then stir in the popped corn. When the corn is well mixed turn it out on a pie board and make it into a square loaf pressing as tight as you can and roll it with a rolling pin keeping the loaf about two inches thick. Take a sharp knife and cut in thin slices off the end and lay on a platter and it is done. The kneading and working and cutting must be done quickly, for when it gets cold it is hard to handle. OLIVE MUCKLEY.

HALFORD SAUCE.
THE GREAT RELISH.

CLUB ORDERS
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MAY MODES.

Facts, Fancies and Novel Fashions. Valuable Information Gathered direct from Manufacturers, Importers, and in the Various Well-known Stores in New York, Brooklyn and Philadelphia.

By Mrs. James H. Lambert.

One might easily weary of Fashion, if the romance of style was not so often obscured by the beneficent reality of Labor, which is a redeeming out-growth of the much censured feminine desire for something new in wearing apparel. Still, the most obdurate husband or father who, at this season every year, so lightly draws the purse strings, must admit that the various articles of dress, forming a really elegant Spring toilette, are beautiful beyond description, from the dainty capote of bright-hued gems and gauze, to the glove-fitting Belgravia shoes, silk-laced in front, to up and over the high instep, and then buttoned above, on the outside of the shapely foot.

The new bonnets cannot be pictured by words, they should be seen to be thoroughly understood and appreciated, for they are perfectly lovely creations of laces, velvets, ribbons, gem-colored beads, feathers, plumes, and natural-hued blossoms.

A real Easter novelty of shirred lace, richly beaded, has coronet front formed of jet loops; gauze ribbon, point d' espret and Chantilly laces are used as trimmings, but the feature of the bonnet consists of the magnificent bunch of perfumed hyacinths, in blue, pink, rose, cream, and heliotrope or purple colorings.

With open brim is a bonnet of jet ornaments and plaitings of poppy red lace, trimmed with tulips and grasses, and still more delicate is a pretty capote of silk embroidered lace, shirrings of pink tulle, under ornaments, formed of bronze beads on lace, trimmed with fancy edge ribbon, fern leaves, and white pink-tipped flowers.

In the new color, rose de bois, is a dainty bonnet, richly beaded in iridescent gold beads, it has velvet front, studded with ruby crescents, and is trimmed with a large cluster of rich wallflowers. For quite a young lady, a poke shaped bonnet of jet and lace, is adorned with poppies, leaves, and sprays of the duster miller.

Another youthful bonnet of black chantilly lace, has coronet front covered with wreath of pink apple blossoms, and is garnitured with pink cable edged ribbon, and a mass of curious pink and green moss.

An odd little toque is of fancy straw, in the new serpent shade, and is stylishly trimmed with ribbon loops, clusters of wild flowers, and a pearl crescent, and a greater novelty of interplaited fancy braid and straw, is in blue, gold, and shrimp, each color being represented in both the straw, and the cord edged ribbon with which the bonnet is trimmed. The flowers, too, are in the same colors.

Fashionable parasols are decidedly peculiar in shape, and in the way they are covered. One with ebony ball handle is covered with satin, over which fans of black chantilly lace are placed in such a manner that no part of the satin is left exposed.

Very few of the bustle parasols have been brought out, however as being new and odd, they will be admired. The bustle effect is attained by an arrangement of steels or wires, in centre of body or top of parasol, so that a regular roll is seen around it. A parasol of garnet satin in this style, is trimmed with cardinal lace, and has a gold handle, while another in similar shape, covered with pearl and garnet, has an odd handle in bamboo.

In regular Pagoda shape is parasol covered with satin and draped in tulle; it has a fluted wooden stick, with gold handle, while a satin parasol flounced with lace, has a curiously carved parasol in two shades of wood and bark.

For specimens of bonnets our thanks are due Weschsler and Abraham, Brooklyn.

The parasols described are Paris novelties, selected by Mr. R. Hicks, President Canfield Rubber Co., New York.

MANTLES AND JACKETS.

The very dressy wraps are, this season, differently shaped from those worn last year. The back fits into the form of the wearer, basque fashion, and is finished below the waist with four double box-plaits, formed of the two materials of which such garments are usually formed. The sleeve effect is given by the shoulder cape, while the graceful front is left to hang loose, with rather deep pointed, or square tab ends, trimmed with fringe or pendant ornaments of jet.

Pretty little mantle visites are in the charming mode tints in corded silk, one is almost in a tan shade. In the fitted back the silken loops rest on box-plaits of velvet in a darker shade of tan, and the elegant affair is lavishly trimmed with ornaments of bronze beads. Another in a different shade has yoke, shoulder pieces, and deep fronts richly embroidered in gold beads of various sizes.

Numbers of these wraps are in cashmere finished black silk, elaborately trimmed with net embroidered with dull jet for mourning purposes, while those for general wear in lustrous ottoman, are ornately decorated with fanciful arrangements of cut and highly polished jet beads and larger ornaments to match.

For young ladies with good form, or matrons still in their twenties, no outside garments are considered more stylish than the shapely jacket of cloth in some one of the fashionable shades of blue, green, purple, stone, or the still more popular tan, or unbleached tones.

These jackets are made of either kersey, melton or doe skin, and their peculiarity consists of perfect fit, and the way the seams are closed and finished, some being simply lapped and stitched on the raw edge; others are welted that is the edge is turned under, and the seam is stitched on the outside, while the boxed and strapped seam, the most elegant of all, has a bias band of the material placed over the flat seam, and after the edges are turned under, it is stitched down on either side, giving a stylish finish to a handsome garment.

Pearl colored kid gloves stitched with black are worn with jackets of doe skin.

Thanks are due Lewis S. Cox, for information about mantles. The stylish jackets are at Sharpless' Brothers, Philadelphia.

DRESS FINISHINGS.

Among the novelties in ornamental fancies for completing costumes and gowns are the Escurial sets, consisting of skirt panel, collar and cuffs in raised embroidered effects, similar to those seen in rich Escurial laces. These sets are in black, and in colors, and are used to trim very handsome garments. Pompon embroidery is also a novelty; this shows silken pompons studded here and there, in among the embroidery designs.

An entirely new braid destined to be largely used, is called the Revere; it has a heavy cord-like centre in canvas designs, between raised borders, and decorative edges, it comes in various widths and in all popular colors.

The fashion of having over-gowns of some one of the favorite laces is most convenient to ladies who have partly worn silk or satin dresses, in black or colors. For evening purposes and full dress day wear, the delicate Chantilly laces in stripes and floral designs are very pretty; the Spanish Guipures are handsome, and very durable. These laces come in nets, various width flounces and edges.

Since the introduction of the foreign fancy of having even the under-garments of a full dress toilette in one and the same color, there has been a general demand for colored ruchings, or for those in white with a judicious admixture of colored ribbon, or lines of bright-hued silks, silver or gold threads, and studdings of jet, pearls, and colored beads. These ruchings are made in hundreds of styles, and just now we can note an entire and very welcome novelty in a curious lovely ruching of pure silk Italian crepe lisse, which material is elastic, and will not crush; and as it has no artificial stiffness, it is not injured by flesh dampness. The ruchings of Italian crepe lisse come in red, blue, pink, heliotrope, black and cream.

For information about, and specimens of decorative novelties, our thanks are due Kursheedt Manufacturing Co., N. Y.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TAILOR-MADE COSTUMES.

The Jacket, and Its Predecessors. New and Pretty Gowns in Surah, Foulard, and Summer Cottons.

BY JENNY JUNE.

The tailor-made dress has been greatly improved in a very importa it particular of late; and that is in reduction of weight. In England, where the tailor-made dress originated, the temperate climate, and more enduring physique of the women, made the gradual accumulations of lining, and over-laying, less burdensome than they have been found here, where conditions of climate, and habits of life tend to greater delicacy and sensitiveness.

Abroad, that is in London, and even in Paris, the heavy cloths, and serges, used for tailor-cut gowns, are lined with "farmers'" satin; and upon this close, and solid foundation, is built up, the system of skirt and overskirt, folds, drapery,

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]
LOUIS XIV. JACKET.

braiding, embroidery and panelling, which has grown so intricate and wearisome to the wearer. "All the skill, and intelligent experience which can be brought to bear upon the subject, is now being pressed into the service," says Mr. Robert Redfern, to reduce the weight of the tailor-made gown, without detriment to its winter warmth, or the accuracy of its cut and fit. The first effort is to produce cloths of light weight, yet equally warm, and serviceable, as the heavy ones. Secondly, instead of "farmers'" satin for lining, to use twilled silk, which is much lighter. Thirdly, to arrange drapery with special reference to avoidance of all waste, and secretion of folds, and material. Fourthly, to make the "mattrass"

[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]
COMBINATION COSTUME.

small, and very light, or get rid of it altogether, by using only one or two springs, and putting them higher on the back of the skirt.

The perfection of light-weight cloth has been obtained in a traveling material, which alternates a narrow heather stripe of brown, with an equally narrow one of clouded gray, upon a soft, hairy ground of twilled wool. This material has hardly more weight than a printed cotton.

It makes up into complete suits, with *fogue* to match: with "cross-over," or "Norfolk" bodice, and kilted skirt hung straight at the back.

More elegant tailor-made gowns, are cut from light, and softly draping vicuna cloths, in fawn, drab, stone, smoke-grey, grey-green, and the like. The design illustrated was made in smoke-grey, the embroidery executed by hand, with narrow, pure oxydized silver braid. The border is wide, the pattern a very elaborate one, and the amount of work put into it very great. Work like this has to be done by hand, and the workers have to be imported, because it needs the utmost

[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal]
PRETTY DRESS OF FIGURED FOULARD.

skill and experience, to obtain precise results, with ever-varying quantities. The fine metal braids, which are laid flat, set on edge, curly-ended, turned over, or worked in straight lines, as the pattern demands, are pliant under the persuasive power of the hand, and the needle, but could hardly be put into the service of the "machine," because that which makes beauty under the hand, would be crushed, or destroyed, by the conventional pressure of the senseless wheel.

This is why the work, and price is high of fine, hand, and tailor-made dresses, and garments. The wool is specially selected, specially dyed, specially woven, and the cloth specially prepared, so that it will ne ther crock, spot, nor crinkle. Then it is very carefully cut, and fitted by high-priced, and highly trained men, or women, who can be relied upon for accuracy, and who never deviate a hair's-breadth from scientific measurement. The same care is used in every detail of trimming, and finishing. Braid, bindings, buttons, and the like, are all specially made so that they will neither shrink, nor tarnish, and the sewing is so well done, that it rarely gives way, before the garment gives out. A lady, who two years ago, thought she was committing a great extravagance in having a first-class tailor-made suit, told me recently, it was the most economical purchase she ever made. She had worn it abroad, as a traveling dress, and also upon the steamer. It had been to California, and had almost daily wear for two years under hard circumstances, yet not a thread had broken, and only one button loosened, while the fit, and the style, was as neat, and desirable as ever.

It is a great thing to be the possessor, even once, of anything which is as good, for its purpose, as it can be; and for my part, I always feel grateful for whatever is so well made, or so well done, that it is a comfort in the seeing, and the using.

It is this neatness, and general excellence, which has given the tailor-made dress, and out-

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]
DRESS OF EMBROIDERED BATISTE.

door garments their staying power. When they were first introduced, very many thought the fashion would be short-lived. The close cut, the "tailor" fit, the compactness, were the antipodes of the trailing wrapper, and "Dolly Varden" costume, which had preceded them. But they stayed, and gained steadily upon the community until now they are an indispensable part of every well-provided wardrobe. Does any one remember the diversity of shapeless sacque, straight *paletot*, long, square ends, mantelet, great, talma-cape, and ruffled *fichu*, out of which were evolved the jacket? Simple as it is, how long it took to find it, and what a boon it seemed when it finally made its appearance. We have had it now long enough to abuse it sometimes, and neglect it, as we always do any good thing which we have in possession; but we shall not get rid of it, we shall only torment it, and subject it to what would be irritating little changes, if it were sentient, and could understand them, but which not being sentient, it does not mind, and only makes it more coquettish, and attractive.

The Louis XIV. jacket illustrated is a late Redfern style, in fawn-colored cloth, with braiding in oxydized silver, and oxydized buttons of Louis XIV. design.

"Suppose one cannot afford silk lining, and cannot afford a tailor," says a saucy maiden in my ear, "what must one do then?" Find a substitute for both,—not farmers' satin, and a high-priced, incompetent dressmaker — but light-weight, coarse alapaca, and a conscientious woman, who will cut from pattern, and "take pains" with her fitting, and finishing. There is no real necessity to line a summer cloth dress, excepting the waist; and this only in case it is made plain; that is without plaiting. The skirt may be hemmed up, and the folds held in place, by pressing, and careful taping, three times across, at intervals of from five to seven inches, according to width of folds, and length of skirt. The tapes need only good "basting," but every layer of the material should be caught, and the ends well secured. Should a lining be required, —not expensive,—use coarse, and light-weight alapaca, which costs twenty-five cents per yard, an mount the cloth upon that after any design preferred. Or fasten the two together at the top only; put the single steel in the back part of the alapaca only, near the top, and confine the back of the cloth skirt, which flows free, with three strips of inch-wide elastic; the end securely sown to the side seams.

Apart from its serviceable quality as a lining, there is nothing better than this alapaca for a useful summer underskirt. It is cool; it stands out; dust brushes from it easily, and it wears as long as the dress itself; while it does not need washing, only brushing and shaking. Another good material for summer underskirts is cotton satine, to match the dress. The black is specially good edged with fine knife-plaitings, and worn under black surah, silk and grenadine, black lace over silk, or any nice black summer combination. Grey is delightful under grey surah, or under any of the grey-blue or smoke shades, but there is no object in making it in white, as it would soil so easy, and be double the price of an ordinary white cotton skirt.

The combination of plaid, with plain material is a very fashionable one this season, and the illustration suggests a good design for a rather large figure; and the gradual decrease in width towards the waist, has the effect of making it look more slender. The front is arranged precisely the same as the back, the bretelles following the lines of the inserted pieces, and showing a simple design of braiding, or embroidery. The skirt is made of the plaid, the drapery of the plain wool without trimming.

A pretty little dress of daintily figured foulard, bronze-brown, with small yellow flowerets, has revers of plain bronze velvet, and full vest of yellow canton crepe. The front is strapped with velvet, fastened with small buckles of smoked pearl. The skirt is entirely of the figured foulard, with narrow plaiting of the same; no lining, only an interior facing. The drapery is long, pointed in front, and untrimmed.

The pretty dress of embroidered batiste, shows the designs which appear on many of the new batiste, and gingham pattern dresses. The work is usually executed in several colors, or shades of one color, with white for contrast. Some designs show white upon blue, with embroidery in outline, in shades of brown and yellow, upon the blue. These are very new, and pretty.

New and pretty designs have appeared in Polonaises to be worn over silk skirts, and which may be made in satine, batiste, pongee, Arabian cotton, foulard, or any other light, and easily draping material. The front falls square, and is open at the sides, one side high, the other only a short distance from the bottom. The bodice is

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]

shirred with cord to fit the form, and the sleeves also were gathered at the top, and into the silk cuff. In front there is a pointed vest of the silk, or it may be of canton crepe, whichever is preferred; with batiste, or pongee, crepe is preferable, because softer, and more in accord with these primary materials. A belt of the silk, finished at the edge, like the collar, with fine, double folds, starts from the sides, and fastens with a smoked pearl buckle.

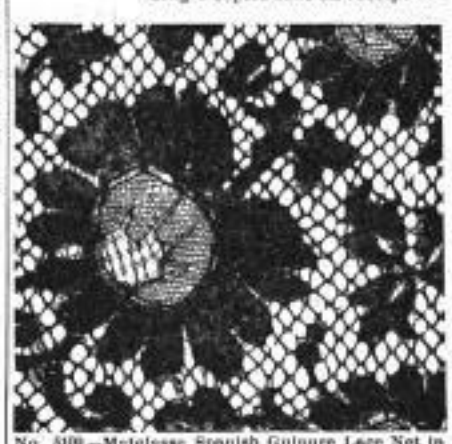
A novelty in materials is a fine, woolen lace which must be made over a foundation, in the

(*Concluded on page 17.*)

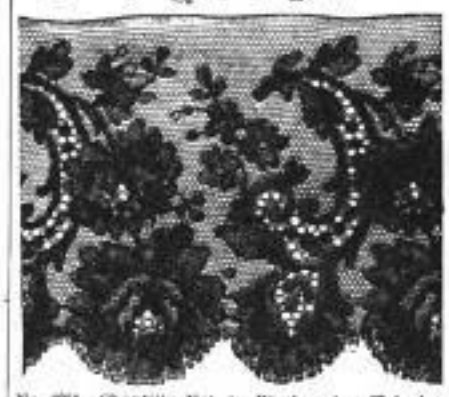
SPECIAL OFFER.

KURSHEEDT'S STANDARD FASHIONABLE SPECIALTIES.

Free of Cost for one year, to parties sending orders direct amounting to $1.00 or over. Single copies sent on receipt of 5 cents. Yearly Subscription 25 cents.



No. 5199.—Metelasse Spanish Guipure Lace Net in Black and Cream. 27 inches wide, $1.10 per yard.
Flounces to match, 33 inches wide, 85c. per yard.
" " 35 " " $1.20 " "
" " 40 " " 3.00 " "
Laces to match—3 inches wide, 19 cents.
" " 4 " " 27 "
" " 4½ " " 31 "
" " 6½ " " 50 "



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40 inch flounce, $3.25 per yard.
Lace to match—2½ inches wide, 18 cents per yard.
" " 3½ " " 25 " "
" " 5 " " 33 " "
" " 6 " " 40 " "

Chantilly Lace Costume. The quantities of lace required for this costume are, 2¾ yards 27 inch net, 3½ yards 40 inch flounce, and 1¾ yards of 17 inch flounce. This costume can also be effectively made of Spanish Guipure lace. For prices see opposite column. Postage on laces, one cent per yard; on nets and flounces, two cents per yard.

SUMMER NUMBER NOW READY.

Cut this out, or mention *Ladies' Home Journal*.

THE KURSHEEDT MANUFACTURING CO., New York:

Please send me "KURSHEEDT'S STANDARD FASHIONABLE SPECIALTIES," for which find enclosed.....cents in postage stamps.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

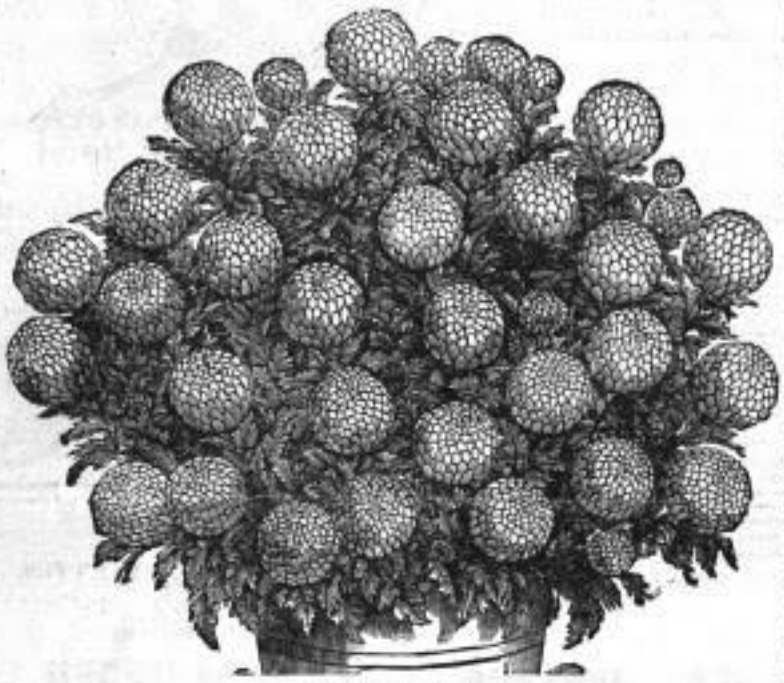
BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

TO CORRESPONDENTS:—All inquiries about flowers and their culture will be cheerfully answered to the best of my ability in the columns of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL when they are of general interest. Those of a personal character, and not of general interest, will be answered by mail,—provided a stamped envelope is sent for reply; and not otherwise. If an immediate reply is desired, it can only be obtained by mail, as the matter for the paper is made up several weeks in advance of date, and any reply which comes through the paper will necessarily be delayed. In asking questions about plants which you have failed to grow successfully, tell what kind of culture you have given them, and this will often enable the editor to get at the difficulty, and give you the information you require.

Send all letters directly to the address given below, and not to the office of publication.

BRIGHTON, WIS. EBEN E. REXFORD.

There is always a scarcity of flowers in the window garden from October to January. Most winter bloomers are making active preparations for a coming season, but the lover of flowers would be glad of some brightness now, rather than have it all by and by. The only way to do this is by including in the list of plants some of the kinds whose season of bloom comes at this time, and unfortunately there are but few kinds which bloom during the early fall months. Some Geraniums will give a few flowers now, and the last crop of Fuchsias may linger still, but there will not be enough of either to make the window as bright and cheerful as one would like to have it. But there is a way to get over this difficulty, and no window need be without brightness,—indeed, it is a very easy matter to make the window garden brighter at this season of the year by the use of the Chrysanthemum than it will be likely to be all through the rest of the year by the use of the plants usually grown there. The Chrysanthemum is really a fall flower. True, there are some sorts which retain their bloom until the holidays, but, unless they have special treatment by which their season of blossoming is retarded, they are in their prime during November, and the few flowers which come later are inferior to those which have preceded them. We have no flower that comes in richer yellows and purer whites than the Chrysanthemum; the so-called crimsons are not really crimson; there is too much dinginess about the most of them to make them satisfactory to those who like clear, rich colors, and yet I would advise every one who makes a collection of Chrysanthemums to include some of the varieties *catalogued* as crimson, because of the contrast afforded between them and the brighter sorts.



CHRYSANTHEMUM.

To grow these flowers well for fall blooming in the house, I would advise keeping them in pots all the time. They are much more under control in a pot than in the ground, though of course they will require more attention. I would place the pots in some shady place, where it would be convenient to give them water as often as they require it, which will be every day, and sometimes twice a day, through the hottest part of the season. One reason why so many fail in growing good Chrysanthemums is, that they allow them to get too dry at the roots, at some stage of their growth, and when this is done, it is very seldom that the plant recovers from the check it receives. In potting them, always provide for drainage, and then there will be no danger of over-watering. When you water, apply enough to completely saturate the soil. If you do this regularly, you will never have poor plants, provided you shift them as often as the pots become filled with roots. This shifting or repotting, is quite necessary, for when the roots become pot-bound there will be a cessation of development of the top, and the main thing to aim at in Chrysanthemum growing is to keep the plants developing *steadily* all through the season. Observe that I say steadily,—not by fits and starts. That will not do at all, if you want fine plants.

If you want bushy plants, pinch off the tops before the plants have made much growth, and this will cause branches to start below. These branches can be pinched back, in turn, and you can have a thick, compact little shrub which will afford a great deal of blossoming surface. I prefer this method of training to that which makes little trees of them, but others may not agree with me, and if they want to grow them like trees, they can easily do so by keeping them to a straight stem until they are two or three feet high; then pinch out the top, and allow no branches to grow except those which start near the top of the stalk. These should be pinched back when they have made a little growth, and the pinching back process should be kept up until there are as many branches as you want. It is not advisable to pinch off the ends of the branches after the middle of August. Let them all grow then to form flowering branches.

The Chrysanthemum likes a rich soil, and you will find it well to give it a weekly watering with some liquid manure. There should be three or four shifts during the season,—until you have them in eight or nine inch pots.

I would not advise sinking the plants in the ground in pots, because they are likely to suffer for want of water when this is done. You do not think them as dry as they really are, because the soil about the pots looks moist, and you forget that the roots are confined and fail to get at the moisture as they would if it were not for the pots. In most cases, plants in pots which are sunk in the ground are poorly developed specimens when fall comes, and their flowers will be few and small.

If the black fly attacks your plants, sprinkle them with water, so that the powder will adhere to the leaves, and dust them *all over* with slug shot, which can be bought at most drug stores. This is much more satisfactory, I find, than tobacco dust, which has to be applied nearly every day, and which does not kill the pest, simply driving him away; as soon as the dust has been washed off by rain or dew, he comes back again, but slug shot kills him, and a few applications are sufficient for the season.

There are so many varieties of the Chrysanthemum that one finds it a difficult matter to make a selection of a few sorts. I prefer the Chinese, an illustration of which is given.

These are more regular in form than the Japanese sorts, and have variety enough to satisfy any one, some being reflexed, others incurved, while others are flat. The Japanese section, of which an illustration is given, is greatly admired by many, on account of its peculiar flowers, some of which are like tassels, some with what are called by the florists "whorl-centers," shown by the large flower in the centre of the cut, and others with a feathery tuft of petals, as shown by the flower at the right in the upper part of the illustration.

The pompons are small, very double flowers, and are generally earlier than the large-flowered sorts. They are very fine, and every collection should include a few.

I give a list of the best sorts in the different sections, from which those who desire can make selection, feeling sure that they are getting something very fine and satisfactory in all respects. The list does not include an inferior kind.

Japanese varieties:

Christmas Eve, white, superb in form, and a great bloomer.

Golden Rayonnante, beautiful yellow, flowers large, and borne in clusters.

Grandiflorum, flowers often six inches across, petals curving so as to form a ball of purest yellow; one of the best.

Le Niger, deep maroon, fine flowers, and a good bloomer.

Minnie Miller, dark rose, the best variety of this color.

Mary Salter, feathery white flower, very large and fine.

Chinese varieties:

Cullingfordii—the nearest approach to a true crimson. Flowers very large, reflexed, and borne in enormous quantities.

Duchess of Connaught, very large, globular flower, pure white, becoming suffused with most delicate rose.

Empress of India, immense flowers, incurved, white.

Golden Queen of England, large flowers, incurved, of the richest yellow.

Jeannie d'Arc, white, tipped with rosy lilac.

Lady St. Clair, pure white, one of the finest.

Annie Salter, golden yellow, early.

Emily Dale, pure primrose yellow, large flower.

Pompons:

General Canrobert, pure yellow, early.

Golden M'lle Martha, richest gold, extra fine.

Princess Melitia, pure white, a feathery flower, fine.

Montgolfier, maroon tipped with yellow.

M'lle Raynaud, white tipped with rose.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Lucie W.:"—This correspondent wants to know how to cultivate violets and hyacinths in pots, as she has no yard. If she means, as I infer from her letter, to make "house plants" of them, she is making an unfortunate selection. The hyacinths can be grown in the house very well in winter, but after it has blossomed the bulb is good for nothing, and it would be labor thrown away to cultivate it expecting to get more flowers from it. The violet will only do well in a cool location, and though some claim to be able to get it to bloom well in the sitting room, I have never yet seen a flower under such circumstances, and I generally conclude, when I read about success with this plant, under such conditions, that the cultivator has got some other plant. If it were fall, I should take it for granted that this correspondent wanted to force hyacinths, which can very easily be done by potting the bulbs, placing them in the cellar for a month or six weeks for roots to form, and then bringing them to the light, where they will bloom finely; but from what she says about growing them in pots, and keeping them in the house, I think she is not familiar with the character of the plant. Try Geraniums, Fuchsias, Begonias, Callas, and other plants of that class, which will grow and bloom in pots without much care, and from which you can expect flowers at intervals all through the year. It is possible that I may have misunderstood her, but I think not, from a careful re-reading of her letter.

"Subscriber" writes that she has seen a receipt for preserving "Green Ginger," in the JOURNAL, and wants to know where she can procure plants of it, also what cultivation it requires. I am unable to answer either query.

"Mrs. M. E. B.:"—You are greatly mistaken. I described the Roses you mention, it is true, but I did not say that I had them for sale. I have repeatedly said that I had no plants for sale. I have a garden and greenhouse for my own pleasure, and I have never sold a plant from either, and never expect to. I write about the plants that I grow, but it does not necessarily follow that I have them to sell.

"Mrs. J. M.:"—This correspondent asks about the best method of repotting plants. Shall she remove the old earth entirely from about the roots of the plants, or only that which happens to be loose? I would shake off as much of the earth as possible, but I do not think it a good plan to expose all the roots, as you must do if you entirely remove the soil. It takes so long for new roots to form and take hold of the fresh earth in which they are placed, when all the old soil is removed, that the plant suffers in consequence, therefore, I always leave the large roots in the centre, undisturbed, and they supply nourishment to the plant until the new roots have a chance to get a hold on the soil. It is often the case that old earth can be dug out from about the edges of the pot without disturbing the roots much, and where this can be done, it will not be necessary to remove the the plant at all. In repotting plants, always press the new soil firmly together about the roots, and water well, and keep them in the shade until you see that they are established in their new quarters, which can be told by their beginning to grow.

"Mrs. Annie C. Brown:"—Thank you for your kind offer, and especially for your pleasant letter, which I take the liberty of giving, in part, to the readers of the JOURNAL, who will enjoy it quite as much as I did, I am sure:

"The so-called 'Chinese Lilies' are simply Narcissus, single and double, and I do not exaggerate when I say that I presume I have two thousand bulbs, a great many of which are in bloom now. (This letter was written February 14th.) You can imagine how well they do here when I tell you that sixteen years ago I had two bunches which the Chinese washman gave me. I planted them on either side of the walk, divided and subdivided them every year, and planted them as a border on all the walks about the garden. They are the large white sort with orange cup. I have given away hundreds to friends and strangers, and you are perfectly welcome to all you want. I am a middle-aged woman with only one child, a daughter, who is grown up, so all my spare time is given to my flowers. They are to me as children and there is not a month in the year that some are not in bloom in my garden. I raised 125 Fuchsias last year, besides Roses, Abutilons, Pelargoniums, Geraniums, Begonias, Cacti, etc. I love them all, but I think I love the Roses best of all. I have over two hundred bushes, and about one hundred and fifty varieties. I have a 'Cloth of Gold' whose stem, at the ground, is twice the size of my wrist, and I have a 'Triumph of Luxembourg' which is about twenty-five years old, and gets neither trimming or water in the summer, but has blossoms the year round, and during the earlier summer months, there are thousands at a time. It is the admiration of all tourists. But I am getting garrulous; when I get to talking about flowers I could go on forever. I wish you could see them,—then you would know what Roses we could grow in California." I wish so, too.

[*Continued on Opposite Page.*]

The MOON Flower.

The engraving shows this most beautiful of all climbing plants. It grows anywhere where there are old trees, walls or strings to cling to—**growing 50 feet in one season**, blooming continuously from June to November, its **MOON-LIKE** flowers being of the purest white, 15 inches in circumference. The Moon flower blooms only at night or on dull days; it gives out a delicious odor, similar to the English Hawthorn, or Jessamine. At Washington, D. C., the proprietor of a summer garden covered his arbors with this beautiful plant, which attracted thousands on moonlight nights. Although the Moon flower should not be set out until May, yet it is of the simplest culture and can be grown easily in flower-pots or boxes in an ordinary sitting-room until the time of setting out. We sold nearly *fifty thousand plants* of this beautiful flower last year, and had hundreds of letters attesting the pleasure it gave to the purchasers. Price, extra strong plants, 40c. each; 3 for $1.00, 7 for $2.00, or 12 for $3.00, free, by Mail; or $12.00 per 100 by Express, buyer paying express charges. All purchasers of the Moon flower are entitled to our Catalogue of "EVERYTHING FOR THE GARDEN," No. 63 (the largest and most beautiful ever issued) FREE. To those who are not purchasers it will be mailed on receipt of 10c.

PETER HENDERSON & CO.
35 & 37 Cortlandt St., New York.

Spring Catalogue of Seeds.
SEND FOR IT.
WHY NOT BUY AT FIRST HANDS?
R. H. ALLEN COMPANY, 189-191 WATER ST., N.Y. SEEDS SENT everywhere by mail.

THE DINGEE & CONARD CO'S BEAUTIFUL EVER-BLOOMING ROSES

For 18 Years our Great Specialty has been growing and distributing ROSES. We have all the Latest Novelties and finest standard sorts in different sizes and prices to suit all. We send THOSE THAT GROW PLEASE safely by mail or express to all points.

3 TO 12 PLANTS $1, $8 to $25 per hundred.

Our New Guide, 80 pages, describes over 500 finest varieties of Roses, the best Hardy Shrubs, & Climbing Vines, and New and Rare Flower Seeds, and tells how to grow them—FREE. Address THE DINGEE & CONARD CO., Rose Growers, West Grove, Chester Co. Pa.

A Package of Cotton Seed with instructions to cultivate in northern gardens, or as a house or window plant, by mail, 15c. NELLIE GREENE, Toccoa, Georgia.

63 LARGE Scrap Pictures, Easter Boxes and Crosses, Fancy Heads & 15 Fancy Name Cards (name on) 10c. 21 Novelties of Cards & Scraps, 5c. Season Card Co., Boston, Mass.

OLD GOLD AND SILVER

in thousands of useful and useless shapes are coming to me daily from everywhere; not a mail or express but brings them. I pay a little more than the Bullion value, and refinish, alter, and resell a portion for a little more than I pay. ARE YOU INTERESTED EITHER WAY?

Established 1844. My store is the recognized and well-known headquarters for

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MY SHOW CASES ARE FILLED WITH BARGAINS CONSTANTLY.

J. H. JOHNSON, 150 BOWERY, NEW YORK.

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TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

[*Continued from Opposite Page.*]

"L. L.:"—This correspondent writes: "I am a lover of flowers, and would like to know if it is possible to have a small window garden in a flat. We have windows facing north, south and west. If we can grow flowers in these windows, will you inform me which of the windows the following plants are suited for? Pinks, Asters, Pansies, Pink Oxalis, Heliotrope, Petunias, Daisies, Geraniums, Chinese Primroses, Sweet Alyssum, Mignonette, Phlox and Forget-me-nots. Please tell me which are difficult to grow, and suggest other varieties which would be more satisfactory, if you think I can do nothing with some of these." In reply I would say that there need be no lack of success with any of these if you are careful to keep the earth in the boxes moist all the time. As they are exposed on all sides, they will dry out very rapidly, and it is therefore necessary to give water every day. The Pansies, Primroses and Daisies should have the north window; the others will do well in the south and west windows. Plant Alyssum and Mignonette in all the windows, to make an edging about the boxes. The The Oxalis is also pretty for a border. The Petunias you can train up about the window. I would suggest that you add the Morning Glory, to grow on strings and form a sort of canopy over the window. Nothing is prettier, and it will grow to a greater height than any of the plants you have named in your list. Be sure and have the boxes a foot or more in depth, and fasten them to the window ledge securely. They will be quite satisfactory substitutes for a garden, and you may get a vast amount of pleasure from them. Be careful to attend to what I have said about watering them daily. Apply enough to run through the soil and drip out at the bottom of the box. There will be no danger of putting on too much. The failure to grow flowers well in boxes, of which so many complain, is due almost wholly to a lack of sufficient water. It is the same with hanging plants, in a sitting-room collection. They are so exposed to the air on all sides that the moisture evaporates much more rapidly than from pots occupying a more sheltered place, and though we think we give them all the water they need, we soon become convinced of our mistake by a general sickly appearance of the plant.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

IF GIRLS ONLY KNEW.

BY PATSEY PRESTON.

Nowadays men have as much fancy for fixing their rooms as girls. It has always seemed a woman's prerogative to have bric-a-brac of an inexpensive kind hung around her room—cards stuck in mirrors, and pieces of ribbon tied here and there and peeping out of unexpected corners, but, for a man, such things had a "girley" air. But recently society has so much used just the things that make a room look pretty—dinner cards, German favors, etc.,—that we must excuse the men for wishing to show how much they have been lionized. But when the girls add to these, tidies, splashers, bags, hangings and all varieties of elaborate fancy-work, then I think it is a pity, both for the men whom it makes appear more finnikin, and for the girls whom it often throws into a peculiar light. These gifts are sometimes made because a girl, seeing a pretty thing and wanting to copy it, thinks, "Oh well I will work it and give it to Mr. So and So, or she may try an experiment, and, finding her attempt a failure, get rid of the useless article by handing it over to some man.

Now my lord could never dream of himself either as an excuse for the making of a thing, or as a rag-bag for an unsatisfactory piece of work, and immediately begins to think that he has made a "mash." For a girl to dream this, when a man lays an offering at her shrine, is often equally far-fetched as regards truth, but that is the correct society arrangement; and, if she has her vanity touched, the man has no reason to feel that he has over-stepped the mark, but, for a girl, such a thought of her is belittling.

On the other hand, she cannot tell how her present may be regarded, whether, as valuable, or nearly rubbish, or entirely so.

All this idea was started in my mind by seeing hung over a chair in a squalid darkie's house, a tidy of our college colors. If the fair fingers, as they handled the silk and ribbon of which it was made, could have dreamed that it would have been flung as trash to the colored servant who attended the room of that so-fascinating collegian, I am sure it would never have been given. Or, still less, would she have enjoyed seeing her souvenir put up for sale at about a quarter of its value.

But she would doubtless much rather it should be out of sight in either way, than be growing more and more soiled, and disesteemed, and commented upon by its owner and his gay comrades as they sit and smoke and draw pictures of the fair donor.

Some men have such an insatiate desire to own things which girls have used or made—those who steal handkerchiefs and gloves for instance! Remember, the same blandishments were used to get a trophy from some other belle, and soon your offering will be, with a mass of others, in a trunk never seen except to be jeered at.

It is much safer not to present anything, except, perhaps, candy, to any cavalier. These men have their heads so easily turned by any attention, and then their tongues run off with their discretion and manly chivalry. You would rather not give them a chance to wag about you.

If they really are very chivalrous and mean to do nothing discourteous, time, changes, and the friends of yesterday have moved out of sight to give place to new ones. If the friendship was pleasant the girl will not be forgotten, and if she must be kept in memory by her embroidery then I, for my part, would rather pass out of mind.

DR. SCOTT'S ELECTRIC CORSETS AND BELTS.

Corsets, $1.00, $1.50, $2.00, $3.00. Belts $3.00. Nursing Corset Price, $1.50. Abdominal Corset, Price, $3.00.

Probably, never since the invention of Corsets, has so large a demand been created as now exists for Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets and Belts. Over three thousand families in the City of New York alone are now wearing them daily. Every Man and Woman, well or ill, should daily wear either the Corset or Belt.

OUR CORSETS ARE DOUBLE STITCHED AND WILL NOT RIP.

If you have any pain, ache, or ill-feeling from any cause, if you seem "pretty well," yet lack energy and do not "feel up to the mark," if you suffer from disease, we beg you to at once try these remarkable curatives. They cannot and do not injure like medicine. Always doing good, never harm. There is no shock or sensation felt in wearing them. There is no waiting a long time for results; electro-magnetism acts quickly; generally the first week, more frequently the first day, and often even during the first hour they are worn, their wonderful curative powers are felt. *Every mail brings us testimonials like the following.*

The mind becomes active, the nerves and sluggish circulation are stimulated, and all the old-time health and good feeling come back. They are constructed on scientific principles, imparting an exhilarating, health-giving current to the whole system. Professional men assert that there is hardly a disease which Electricity or Magnetism may not benefit or cure, and they daily practice the same, as your own physician will inform you.

THE CELEBRATED DR. W. A. HAMMOND, of New York, formerly Surgeon-General of the U. S. Army, lately lectured upon this subject, and advised all medical men to make trial of these agencies, describing at the same time most remarkable cures he had made, even in cases which would seem hopeless.

The Corsets do not differ in appearance from those usually worn; we substitute our flat steel magnetods in place of the ordinary corset steels. These Corsets are nearly all equally charged, differing chiefly in quality and design. They are elegant in shape and finish, made after the best French pattern, and warranted satisfactory in every respect. Our Belts for both gents and ladies are the genuine Dr. Scott's, and are reliable.

The prices are as follows: $1, $1.50, $2 and $3 for the Corsets and $3 each for the Belts. The accompanying cut represents our No. 2 or $1.50 Corset. We have also a beautiful French shaped Sateen Corset at $2; a Sateen Abdominal Corset, and a short Sateen Corset at $2. The $1 and $1.50 goods are made of fine Jean, elegant in shape, strong and durable. Nursing Corsets, $1.50; Misses, 75c. All are double stitched. Gents' and Ladies' Belts, $3 each; Ladies' Abdominal Supporter, an invaluable article $12. We make all these Corsets in drab and white only. They are sent out in a handsome box, accompanied by a silver-plated compass by which the Electro-Magnetic influence can be tested. We will send either kind to any address, post-paid, on receipt of price, with 20 cents added for packing and registration, and we guarantee safe delivery into your hands. Remit in Post-office Money-order, Draft, Check, or in Currency by Registered Letter at our risk. In ordering kindly mention this paper and state exact size of corset usually worn. Make all remittances payable to GEO. A. SCOTT, 842 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

Newark, N. Y.

Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets have entirely cured me of muscular rheumatism and female troubles of many years standing, and also of a severe case of headache.
MRS. L. C. SPENCER.

N. B.—Each article is stamped with the English coat-of-arms, and the names of the Proprietors, THE PALL MALL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION.

MENTION THIS PAPER.

Trinity Springs, Ind., Jan. 31st, 1887.
Dr. Scott—My wife has suffered acutely from Dyspepsia for 20 years. She has worn one of your Electric Corsets for four weeks and is greatly benefited in her appetite and digestion, and has gained considerably in flesh. My wife desires an agency in our community. Please send terms. (Rev'd) ISAAC CARPENTER, Baptist Minister.

Hollis Centre, Me.
I suffered severely from back trouble for years, and found no relief till I wore Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets. They cured me, and I would not be without them.
MRS. H. D. BENSON.

Memphis, Tennessee.
Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets have given me much relief. I suffered four years with breast trouble, without finding any benefit from other remedies. They are invaluable.
MRS. JAS. CAMPBELL.

De Witt, N. Y.
I have an invalid sister who had not been dressed for a year. She has worn Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets for two weeks, and is now able to be dressed and sit up most of the time.
MELVA J. DOE.

South Abington, Mass.
Dr. Scott—My sister and I are very much pleased with your Electric Corsets. They have given us great satisfaction. For weak stomach and nervousness they are unequalled. I have felt uncommonly well since wearing them, and can confidently recommend them.
FLORA E. COLE.

Niles, Mich.
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(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

HINTS UPON ETIQUETTE AND GOOD MANNERS.

BY MRS. S. O. JOHNSON.

NO. XIV.

Marriage—The Etiquette of Engagements.

A series of articles upon "Etiquette and Good Manners" would not be complete without due mention was given to the most important action of our lives, viz.:—marriage, for upon it depends the greater part of our comfort at home, and our success in life is made or marred by it.

Shakespeare tells us:—

"That a young man married,
Is a young man marred."

But we think that many of those who do not marry, decidedly mar their lives, because marriage is a divine institution, not to be entered into hastily, or merely by the attraction of a pretty face, or a pleasing manner, or more solid charms, but it should be "An union of hearts, an union of hands," which shall grow more closely united as each year passes on.

When we read the statistics of divorce in the United States, and think of the trials, troubles and tribulations that the parties seeking to be separated by law, must have endured, it gives us the horrors, and the first mental questions that arise are: "Why is this trouble? Why are so many seeking divorce?"

The only answer to these questions is: "Because the parties were not fitted for marriage. They had not learned that two "bears" are needful in every household, viz.:—"bear and forbear," and that to love well, a lover must possess a natural tenderness before he loves, and also, that, when love is weaker than reason, it is not perfect love. Marriage is a state of discipline, which fits us for the future state, far better than celibacy; because we must learn to give up gracefully, and to avoid the last word—*that fatal last word*—which doubtless is the true source of the frequency of divorce in New England, a locality that is said to include more divorce suits than any other part of the United States. Bishop Jeremy Taylor has given such excellent advice to those intending marriage, that it can never be too often read.

He says: "Marriage is the mother of the world, and preserves kingdoms, and fills cities and churches, and heaven itself. The celibate, like the fly in the heart of an apple, may dwell in perpetual sweetness, but he sits alone and is confined, and dies in singularity; but marriage, like the useful bee, builds a house, and gathers sweetness from every flower, and labors and unites into societies and republics; and sends out armies and feeds the world with delicacies; and obeys its king; and promotes the interests of mankind. Life or death, felicity or lasting sorrow are in the power of marriage. A woman, indeed, ventures most, for she hath no sanctuary in which to retire from an evil husband, but must dwell upon her sorrow, and hatch the eggs which her own folly or infelicity hath produced. A woman may complain to God as do the subjects of tyrants and princes, but otherwise she hath no appeal in the causes of unkindness. And though the man can run away from hours of his sadness, yet, he must return to it again, and when he sits among his neighbors, he remembers the objection that is in his bosom, and sighs deeply."

Therefore, friends, we should not enter into an engagement to marry unless we are fully persuaded that neither time nor trials, nor disappointments can lessen our love, and that the objects of our affections are fully worthy of them—fully worthy of our highest respect and esteem—for without those elements love cannot be sustained in marriage.

It is said that a woman will love her husband, even when she has lost every particle of respect for him. But I do not believe it, for respect and love seem to be as incapable of separation, as health and life.

It is the man's place to ask the woman's consent to marriage, and also, to ask the consent of her parents and guardians. In many countries, the latter must be asked first, and their permission granted before the maiden's consent is obtained. And, the latter may be the better way; then, if the man is not worthy of the maiden's hand, it should be refused him. But the reason should be kindly stated, and if his habits are objectionable, he should be so informed in a delicate manner, yet, so plainly, that he can fully understand that they are the insuperable obstacle to marriage. If parents would only strive to teach their daughters, as soon as they are old enough to understand the facts, that a man who is liable to be overcome by liquor, or who is dissipated in any way, will *surely* make a bad husband, and ruin the life of his wife, a great deal of the misery of married life would be avoided and divorces lessened.

No matter what wealth a man may possess, or how high his family ranks, or how great his genius, if his character is flawed, he should be avoided by all young women. It is in the power of women to put down drunkenness in this fair land, wherein it breeds such utter misery for millions of wives and children, to say nothing of the husbands and fathers, themselves. Yes, women can do it, if they will band together, and refuse to receive young men into their homes, who frequent saloons and "gin palaces," and put themselves on a lower level than their four-footed friends. Refuse to give them their daughters in marriage, and no matter, if they offend their own flesh and blood, will keep closely to their refusals. Is this a deviation from my subject, my fair friends? If so, please excuse, but intemperance mars so many marriages that it seems to belong to its contemplations.

Far better to throw yourselves into a lion's den, than give yourselves to men, who have not strength of mind to eschew the temptations that assail them on all sides. If you have once seen your lover overcome by strong drink, give him up, unless he will take the pledge, never to be broken.

No man should ask a woman to share his home until he is able to support her, and to show to the satisfaction of her parents, that he can do so; and he ought, also, to give good testimonials of his character, and of respectable relatives. The French arrange these affairs much better than we do, and divorce is almost unknown among them. As soon as a daughter is born to them, arrangements are made for her dot or dowry, and a penniless girl cannot expect to receive offers of marriage, unless she possesses rare beauty or genius, which will offset the disadvantages of lack of gold.

If our American girls were thus dowered, there would be much less suffering among wives, as each would possess a little pin-money of her own, which is so essential for a woman's happiness.

When a man has been accepted, or is engaged to a woman, he should request his family to call upon her, (if they reside conveniently near her home) or to write to her, and give her a cordial invitation to visit them, if they live at a distance. Even if the *fiancee* is not exactly agreeable to them, this should be done, and every advance should be made that will please their son. If the visit is made no good mother need be told that she must give the lady a motherly embrace and a kindly reception, and show her that she is welcome to the home of her *fiancee*.

An engagement ring is usually exchanged by the parties, and is to be worn upon the fourth finger, (the finger next to the little finger) and after marriage it can be worn as a guard to the wedding ring. The custom of wearing engagement rings dates as far back as the Roman Empire, when a ceremonial of betrothal was considered essential, and an elegant banquet was given to the relations and friends of the betrothed, and at its conclusion the ring was placed upon that finger of the lady's left hand, because it was said that a nerve extended from thence to the heart.

There are so many ways of offering oneself to a lady, that no one form can be given. Write as your heart dictates, and you will not write amiss; and if you desire to end the love-letter with a couplet, take this:

"Forever thine, whate'er this world betide,
In youth, in age, thine own, forever thine."

Or one might write with O. W. Holmes:

"O lady! there be many things
That seem right fair above;
But sure not one among them all
Is half so sweet as love:—
Let us not pay our vows alone,
But join two altars into one."

And the lady should answer it as her heart dictates, after consulting her parents with regard to her choice. But if so unfortunate as to possess none, she should consult some judicious, kind-hearted, elderly friend, who takes an interest in her, and be guided by her councils. Never trifle with the feelings of a man who offers you his heart and hand. It is a sacred offer, and should be so esteemed. If you see clearly that a man is becoming interested in you, and you do not reciprocate his affection, treat him kindly, do not turn the cold shoulder upon him, and ridicule him to your friends, but treat him as you would wish your brother to be treated under similar circumstances. You can refuse his invitations pleasantly, but firmly, and let him see in various ways that his attentions are not desired. If, however, he will not see that you are not sympathetic with him, and will offer himself for your acceptance, decline his offer most courteously, and say, "I am so sorry Mr. ——— that I could not show you my unwillingness to receive your attentions. Let us be friends always, but not lovers."

There is a German proverb that runs thus: "Thrice refused is one hearty assent," and some lovers may be encouraged by it, and try again.

If you have received an offer of marriage, it should not be spoken of unless accepted, to any one but your parents. It is painful to every man to be rejected, but ten times more distressing, to hear of it from others, who are not especially friendly to him. No lady will ever boast of the offers of marriage she has received, as by so doing she will debar herself from the use of the title of *lady*.

On the other hand, if the attentions of a deserving, honorable man are pleasing to you, and you desire to accept them, do not encourage him too openly, but remember that envious eyes are watching you closely, that a retiring, modest demeanor is far more attractive to all men, than a display of one's charms, and an attempt to fascinate. Some girls ask: "What can I do to encourage my gentlemen friends?" Alas! that a woman could ask such a question! "Do!" we would reply, "why! stay at home, and help your mother in every possible way, and be kind and good to your brothers and sisters. Make yourself useful everywhere, and do not be forward and forth-putting, but keep self in the background, and if you are not an idiot, you will have lovers enough, for most men now-a-days, are looking for wives who will make their homes tidy and comfortable, not for wax dolls, dressed up in satins, velvets and laces, that are very pretty to look at in the parlor, but of no earthly use elsewhere. And when you are engaged, take heed to your conduct, and do not provoke lovers' quarrels by teasing your lover, or by showing him off, in triumph, as a captive to your charms; or by affecting a foolish indifference, or a gushing display of tenderness, in society. Act as a well-disciplined, well-bred young woman of the period should do, and thus rivet his love and tenderness. Always remembering that:—

"True love's the gift which God has given
To man alone beneath the heaven.
It is not fantasy's hot fire,
Whose wishes, soon as granted fly;
It liveth not in fierce desire,
With dead desire it doth not die;
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In body and in soul can bind."

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FRIVOLITY AND FLIRTATION.

LECTURE IV.

BY REV. F. B. CLARKE, BOSTON.

It is assumed by some that there is a certain period of folly and wickedness that must be endured in the life of every young person just as the baby must have more or less colic and be fretful and troublesome while cutting its teeth. The parent and teacher and moralist, seems to be the idea, must expect and plan for this, just as the mother lays in a stock of warm flannels and soothing syrup.

In fact even some Christians, from their actions, apparently believe that the Devil must have full sway in their children for a little while, in order that he may be driven out, by and by, by the Divine Spirit.

In the young man this is "sowing his wild oats," and when he is seen puffing cheap cigar smoke into the faces of people coming in or going out of church, when he is known to do little of summer evenings but support a lamp-post on the street corner, when he is seen sneaking into a rum-shop once in a while, and is known to come out again with poisoned breath; people say, "Oh, well, he's young yet," "He'll come out all right," "Boys must be boys." When a girl is seen to be rude and boisterous and unmaidenly, when she transforms herself into a giggling machine and apparently cares for nothing but the glances and facetious remarks of the fast young man under the lamp-post or in the church-vestibule, just as many people will say in excusing her: "Oh, she's young yet; she will come out all right," "Girls will be girls."

I have no patience with this shallow philosophy. It is a dreadful mistake that we make when we reason in this way, or comfort ourselves with the thought that such waywardness and frivolity is a pimple on the skin, which will be sloughed off to-morrow. It is rather the deadly pustule that shows the diseased blood, and he makes a sad blunder that treats the pustule as he would the pimple. I do not say that these symptoms show an incurable state, but I do believe that such signs call for thought and watchfulness and ceaseless prayer. It is not necessary that our children should come to God out of the very clutches of the Devil. To be snatched "as a brand from the burning," is not the natural way of entering the Kingdom of God. The doctrine of total depravity does not mean that your boy or girl cannot be very good, without first being very bad. The tendency may be detected before it has developed itself. The little stream may be best turned before it becomes the swollen torrent. For this reason I am penning this warning to our fair young girls to respect their womanhood and not bedraggle it in the mud of frivolity of heartless flirtation. You cannot wash your heart as you can your pocket-handkerchief. To *keep* your heart clean is comparatively easy; to cleanse it when once it is begrimed is an Augean task.

Timothy Titcomb's words upon this subject are wise and helpful:

"The silly dispensation or stage of a young woman's life is marked by many curious symptoms, some of them indicative of disease. They sometimes eat slate-pencils and chalk, and have been known to take kindly to broken bits of plastering; others take a literary turn; * * * others still take to shopping and dawdling with clerks who have dawning beards and red cheeks. If a young woman can be safely carried through this silly dispensation, the great step of life will have been gained. Girlish attachments and girlish ideas of men are the silliest things in all the world. If you do not believe it ask your mothers. Ninety-nine times in a hundred they will tell you that they did not marry the boy they fancied before they had a right to fancy anybody.

"If you dream of matrimony for amusement and for the sake of killing time" he continues, "I have this to say, that, considering the kind of young man you fancy, you can do quite as well by hanging a hat upon a hitching post and worshipping it through your chamber window. To become a flirt is to metamorphose into a disgusting passion that which by natural constitution is a harmless and useful instinct.

"This instinct of coquetry should be left to itself, unstimulated and unperverted, and, in the formative stage of your womanhood by inviting shallow attachments and heartlessly breaking them, you are doing violence to your own nature, you make of yourself a woman whom your own sex despise, and whom all sensible men are afraid of. They will not love and they will not trust you. This instinct, then, is not a thing to be harmlessly played with; and I know of few more unhappy and disgusting sights than a girl bringing into her womanhood this passion—harmful alike to herself and others."

I have brought to you this long quotation because the honored name coupled with it gives it a weight which adds to the wisdom and moderation of the sentiment.

Frivolity and flirtation are coupled together not for the sake of their alliteration, but because they are twin sisters; rather we may call them Siamese twins. I never saw Chang without Eng. I do not think one could survive the other. When we treat one we must treat the other at the same time. Besides advice from noted names in literature already quoted, have come words no less wise and strong from those who appreciate more fully your circumstances, and sympathize with you in every struggle. A well-known author, whose books have often absorbed many of you, writes to me as follows: "Flippancy is the most mischievous fault which threatens our young American girl. She takes nothing seriously excepting her lessons at school. She answers everything and everybody as lightly and wittily as is possible to her, and if she is clever enough she is sarcastic. She gets a vague notion from modern stories that this is the way society people talk. The consequence is that she, in cultivating this style, regards persons, things, principles, facts and events and *herself* in a half-quizzing, half-cynical fashion, and our sweet, kind, merry, helpful, affectionate, old-fashioned school-girl is being replaced by a bold, bright, pushing person whom no one loves."

"I believe," writes another, "the thing much to be deplored to-day with many of our girls is the loss of the gentler sweeter grace of maidenhood—must I write it? a lack of modesty. There is a boldness, a loudness of speech, a flippant coquetry, meaningless and sometimes questionable jesting—which cannot fail to lower the standard and result in harm." Let me give you this beautiful picture of the "ideal girl" from this same good friend of yours: "My ideal girl is a rare and lovely combination of sweetness and strength. Pure as the unsullied snow that falls on the crest of the hills, strong as the everlasting hills themselves to demand purity for purity, in the young men with whom they clasp hands."

"There is great danger," says another "for the girls who are raised above the need of earning their own living, lest they fall into *frivolity*. Within a month I heard the pastor of one of the largest and best suburban churches say that he had fifty girls in his congregation—most of them church members—who are too frivolous to be depended upon for any real earnest church work. Their mothers are lovely women, deeply engrossed in various forms of charitable work, but the girls are too much taken up with dress, society, art and literary pursuits to count for much in church work."

"I have noticed," says another, "that one great danger lying in the path to noble womanhood is want of sobriety. Young ladies should cultivate dignity, as dignity is a safeguard of virtue."

Of course this friend does not mean a stilted, outward propriety, that is scrupulous simply about little matters of etiquette, she means, I know, a ladylike, dignified zeal, which, while it may be full of sunshine and glee, and fun, has an instinctive horror of the loud and boisterous and unmaidenly, such pure sweet dignity is to the maiden soul what a rich fitting frame is to a rare and beautiful picture. It protects it from defacement and allows no careless wanton hand to mar its beauty."

"If I were to impress any one thing more than another upon the young women of to-day" writes another "it would be that they are lacking in womanly dignity. They need to be told that they hold themselves too cheap, so cheap that young men treat them as they would a garment, wear it awhile and then cast it aside as useless. The absence of this grace of womanly dignity is a stepping stone to a life of dishonor. If these same girls could hear the estimate of their character as expressed by these same young men their ears would tingle."

I have implied that the frivolous girl and the flirt are usually synonymous names for the same being. If you could see a transverse section of the brain and heart of the frivolous girls as you can sometimes cut into a tree and see the rings which mark the years of its growth, I sometimes think that after you got by the core of babyhood, you would find on each consecutive ring the name of some young man. Last year's ring of growth bore the name of John, and the year before it was Charlie, and the year before Henry, and the year before William.

School and church, home and mother, yes and Christ himself, I say it reverently, has been crowded out, because there has been no room in that heart or head for anything but John or Charlie or Henry or William. These rings of growth in the heart do not mark wholesome, natural likes or loves, but merely successive and usually heartless flirtations, which render callous the nature which should always retain its child-like purity and freshness. "No tone in Nature's music" it has been said, "is sweeter than a child's laugh—the gush of a stream that gurgles because it has no depths, no sullen pool, or loaming rapids. It is an offence to taste and feeling, when, like a dam built within the bed of the brook, our child begins to long for a woman's name and triumphs. Grace and naturalness take flight hand in hand. Frankness is exchanged for slyness, the pure, straightforwardness of the look for the sideloing glance, the musical laugh for the simper. The unripe peach begins to blush outwardly but to toughen within."

"One great danger that women are exposed to" writes a wise mother, "is in being on the street a great deal engaged in what may seem like harmless flirtation, but which sometimes ends in most serious results."

I have in mind a young lady who is much on the street while her mother thinks she is at the home of a friend. I believe she is an innocent girl now, but I tremble for what may happen to her if she is not awakened to a sense of her danger.

Young friends, do you know that there is a class of harpies in the community that reckon on this trait of character and hope to grow rich by luring you on in this same way which seems so innocent and so bedecked with flowers at first?

A father told me, the other day, that he was horrified at finding that his little, innocent, twelve year old girl had sent to her, through the mails, an advertisement of a "hand-book of flirtation." This book professed to give full directions as to "How to Win a Lover." It told very minutely how to manage a handkerchief or fan flirtation. How one motion meant "meet me on the corner," and another: "I am yours," and a third: "I'll come when the old folks are out of the way." I did not wonder that his soul was boiling with indignation, to think that these serpents even should get the names of little girls in the primary school in order to teach them their devilish tricks; and I mention this fact here, that the fathers and mothers, knowing that such vipers are crawling about the community, may beware of their slime and their sting. But after all, young friends, the cure rests with you, not with your fathers or mothers. Your hearts are in your own keeping. If then rings of frivolous, heartless flirtation do mark your lives, you do not need to allow any more to grow. Next year's ring of growth may be pure and sweet and wholesome. There is a sound, innocent heart, I believe, the innocent heart of childhood, in every one of you, which is not overlayed or hidden completely by the frivolity and worldliness of subsequent years. Get back that.

It is the Bible rule, "Except ye be converted and become as little children, pure, innocent, loving, tender, you cannot enter into the Kingdom of Heaven."

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Was the very fish he sought.

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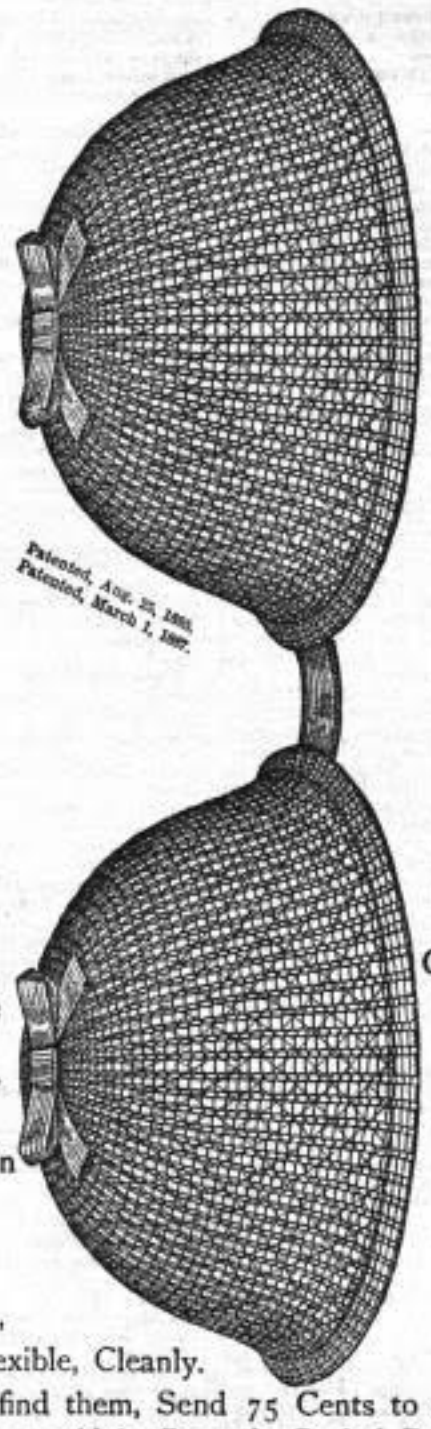

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[For the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

SOME HINTS ON MONEY MAKING.

BY ELLA BOUMAN CHURCH.

V.

Our impecunious country lady has not exhausted her resources yet: and there are several avenues open to her that are seldom trodden by any. As a general thing, men living in the country are wonderfully lacking in enterprise, and they are apt to regard any new business venture almost as a direct tempting of Providence; but a brave woman with a practical turn would often succeed where these doubters fail.

A woman does not often keep a country store; but with the services of a man or boy at hand to do the heavy work, she can do so very comfortably, and cover herself with glory, so to speak, besides. In the fundamentals, it must necessarily resemble a man's store; but various attractive touches that would never occur to a man might stamp it as essentially a woman's enterprise.

There are different ways, however, of giving it this characteristic: and a traveler in a region seldom explored except by the inhabitants, as it was several miles from a railroad, happened to drive past an insignificant little building and was attracted by the strange sight of two brooms crossed in one of the small windows. "That is surely a woman's coat-of-arms," said he, "and I suppose it is meant for a store,—but surely a woman would know better than to place her least attractive wares in the window."

His charioteer took the ground that attractiveness depended upon circumstances, and to many in that region brooms were exceedingly desirable articles. But however that may be, it was a woman's store, and a very successful one; the proprietor having enjoyed the advantage, which seems indispensable in acquiring wealth, of beginning with nothing. She pursued the even tenor of her way with her window garnished with crossed brooms, and the little platform ornamented with a couple of barrels and a plough; but the settlers for a mile or two around knew that they could get what they wanted there at reasonable prices, and many a horse was hitched in front of the queer looking "store" while their owners were making purchases within.

There is many a spot in our favored land where, if the dwellers therein are not exactly twelve miles from a lemon, they are fully three miles from a spool of cotton; and whenever that diminutive piece of merchandise—which represents many other things as well—is needed, a process of "hitching up" has to be gone through with to the intense disgust of the "men folks," who wish on some accounts that Salter would move his "notion" store nearer, and on others that he wouldn't. But Salter is a resplendent being in the country store line,—even to the displaying of some silk dress-patterns, and foreign nuts and fruits; and it would be a very diluted Salter that any impecunious woman could hope to become, single-handed.

Still, she need not despair, as she has weapons of her own for the warfare; and her first care is to learn how to use them to advantage. Many a woman who is now "sewing for friends," and doing various other unpleasant things under cover of obliging people, certainly would not sink in the social scale by opening a small store where such a convenience is needed, and presiding over it in a sensible, womanly way. It might, perhaps, be objected that, on the principle of first catching your fish, it is almost impossible to find a store; but, such a thing can be *made*, and out of very unpromising materials. The most important foundation is the place.

The writer has seen a little store arise from a small, disused building that was purchased for fifteen dollars, and then rolled down hill some yards further to the spot where it was wanted. Then the carpenter took it in hand: made a window on each side of the door, and a platform across the whole front; cut a second door opposite the first one; built a counter and shelves; and altogether transformed the edifice. It was small and low, but it answered the purpose for a woman's venture: and at this point, the woman called in a painter, and kept him sternly in hand. How that painter struggled and rebelled, and tried to work his own sweet will in the matter of coloring! And how that unflinching woman headed him off at every turn, and finally vanquished him!

All this because the originator of the enterprise saw fit to take a new departure in the way of colors: and instead of the regulation white, or lead color, ordered shelves and counters in scarlet and cream. It was a strong proof in the painter's opinion, of aberration of intellect; but that wise woman had well calculated the effect of common tin and glassware on a scarlet background. Everything, in fact, seemed transformed by it into something rich and rare; while the cream color in front of the shelves, and on the sides of the counter, lent a softening effect and brought out the brighter coloring. Many of the customers could scarcely have appreciated this original touch by itself—yet they were influenced by the effect, if incapable of pointing out the producing cause.

The whole place had a festive air, quite unlike any country store in the vicinity; and when the rough work was finished, wild vines—principally Virginia creeper and Clematis—were transplanted from the country road to shade and embower the little temple of merchandise. This proceeding elicited several broad grins a day from the passers-by; but the vines were planted, nevertheless, and kindly consented to grow and flourish. In the course of time, they fairly covered the ugly building,—so that it was actually called "picturesque."

Another important point in the success of the store was a brilliant light: one that could be seen at a distance, and draw wanderers into the charmed circle of purchasers. Nothing indeed was to be left undone that could make the place attractive: and there was not a little excitement in getting it ready for business. The locality was most favorable,—as the nearest store was two and a-half miles away over an abominable road; while all around there was a thick sprinkling of working people who, while not able to purchase luxuries, were hearty consumers of the necessaries of life.

The proprietor had, unfortunately, esthetic views on the subject of codfish and kerosene; and she would have begun her career minus these bones and sinews of country store-keeping, had it not been for the opportune counsel of a friendly adviser. The stock in trade was necessarily small in the beginning; but it was well selected with an eye to the needs of the community, and it was made the most of it in arranging it. Those scarlet shelves were equal to magnifying glasses of the largest power; and another quaint device was the distribution here and there of small pieces of mirror-glass, which added greatly to the apparent stock by reflection. It was desirable, with so small an amount of capital to make the store look much more full of goods than it was; and a bland appearance of emptiness was thus ingeniously avoided.

Various indispensable furnishings were bought at an auction a few miles away,—an obliging storekeeper having retired from business at that very convenient period; and in this way, scales, show-case, glass jars, meat-knives, tin boxes, and a large hanging-lamp, were obtained at about half the usual price. It was rather disheartening to find how many things not dreamed of in the philosophy of one unfamiliar with country stores, were needed for a bare beginner; and quite a hole had already been made in the modest capital of $250.

The store finally opened at seven o'clock of a bright August morning: and the people who flocked to see what it was like, found only a well-mannered youth of seventeen or eighteen in charge, while the actual proprietor was watching the proceedings with great interest from a side window of the house where she had her present abode. This house and the store were on a line and but a few yards apart; and the enterprising woman who had planned and executed this venture was a summer boarder from the city. Her hostess' son, who wished to study for college, had been pressed into the service—which was a far more agreeable one than that of hotel waiter at the mountains—and the little household were all wonderfully interested in Miss———'s speculation.

She was naturally very much interested in it, herself; a busy writer during her eight or nine months of city life, she had not yet struck an actual gold mine in the field of imagination over which she roamed; and it would be a fine thing to turn the few months of country rest which she allowed herself out of the year to practical account. The store had shaped itself, she scarcely knew how from various desultory conversations since her arrival at Beech Glen; and finding "Jim" a practicable subject, and his mother equally willing, she engaged him for a practical consideration, to attend to the probable customers, while she managed the business and paid the bills. It was a funny partnership,—but this was no one's business beyond the contracting parties; and they thought it a very promising one.

The result of the first day's sales was the sum of $21 in the money drawer, and the necessity for more stock of certain kinds,—for which the funds in hand would fully pay. This was not a bad beginning; but one could not tell how things would turn out until the capital had been returned. The end of the week was highly encouraging; and then Miss———began writing to the firms in the city of whom the goods were bought, not only to give orders but to solicit some. This was the outcome of various drives through a beautiful and highly productive country, combined with very observant vision, that prompted calls upon farmers and farmers' wives. Butter and eggs, as well as poultry, of a superior quality, could be bought at Beech Glen—a very straggling hamlet—for one-half the price of such articles in the large city which was at least a hundred miles away; and this suggested many profitable possibilities.

Fortunately for our woman of business, the egg and butter raisers in the neighborhood had not thought of any more distant mart for their surplus productions than Salter's; and as Salter supplied the needs of those who were accustomed to very moderate prices, and had besides his own profit to make in the transaction, he could scarcely be expected to pay very liberally for what he bought, and for obvious reason he preferred paying in merchandise. A cash buyer in large quantities was therefore a special windfall to the farmers; and many tubs of fresh, sweet butter and barrels of unexceptionable eggs were engaged for autumn transportation. Also an abundance of turkeys and other poultry, at prices that seemed marvellously low to a city purchaser.

The store prospered wonderfully; and if money went out in large quantities, it also came in slowly but steadily. The quaint little vine-covered building was not only a store, but a general agency for whatever was wanted in the country round, from a farm-wagon to a piece of lace. It even dipped into jewelry; and supplied two wedding rings, four nickel watches, and any amount of rolled gold ornaments, in that first season. School-books and other books, with stationery of all kinds, and articles too numerous to mention, were also called for and supplied.

Miss———returned home with the heavy frosts, leaving Jim in full possession and carrying out her own part of the enterprise with great zeal. Many additions were made to the stock to supply the demands of cold weather; but returns came in from the butter, eggs, and poultry in quite a golden shower. These articles were all excellent, and a brand was established that became very popular. This part of the business was a happy inspiration suggested by the business itself.

At the close of December, accounts were balanced: and the owner of the store found herself with that little property entirely paid for, as well as the stock on hand, and Jim's salary the only expense to be met from private funds. The next year there was a clear profit on the store and its far-reaching "variations" of six hundred dollars.

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TAILOR-MADE COSTUMES.

(*Concluded from page 11.*)

same, or contrasting color. The patterns are small, the difficulty is in finding any light, or suitable foundation except silk, and then there is the objection of expense; and the fact that it only shows to the initiated for what it is. In cool brown shades, over silk, with silk, or Canton crepe in fine folds for trimming, it makes a lovely, and quite uncommon-looking dress.

The open cotton embroideries are prettier than ever in ecru, grey, or white. The work is also, often done in white, upon a grey, or ecru foundation, in an open pattern which shows the foundation skirt beneath. The grey is of course, made over grey, the ecru quite frequently over brown, with very narrow brown plaiting at the foot, and brown silk, or brown crepe, for full vest. The plain white are the cheapest, and most easily made of all pattern dresses for summer wear. The flounching may be obtained the full depth of the skirt, at from $1.25 to $3.00 per yard. Four yards and a-half makes the skirt, and three yards of narrow work to match, at 10 to 25 cents

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]
NEAPOLITAN CAP.

per yard, will trim the full bodice, which is gathered into a plain belt, over which should be worn one of ribbon, or a sash. The skirt is gathered full, the fullness massed principally at the back, and hangs in straight folds. This style of making embroidered muslins has become almost uniform, and suits admirably the young girls, who principally wear them. They are not fashionable, unless very fine, and rendered expensive by being made over silk, combined with crepe, and trimmed with handsome ribbon; but in their simplest form, they are pretty, and cool-looking for summer; and if a girl is clever with her needle, she can add touches to them in the way of removable silk folds, or bunch of narrow colored ribbon loops at the waist, to suggest tone, and character.

It must not be forgotten by those who do their own dressmaking, that ruffles and flounces have quite gone out of fashion; a narrow side-plaiting at the foot being all that is permitted, while even it is not required for cottons, and simple designs. Draperies too are untrimmed, except occasionally with embroidery, and then it is an all-over ornamentation, or flat border, never a ruffle. The common white cotton laces, which were seen in the street, a few years ago, and vulgarized everything they touched, have disappeared entirely, and the ginghams, the cambrics, and crepy cottons, which they did not adorn, as any one can see, are infinitely prettier without them. Fine clustered stripes, imitating needle-work, are a feature of the new spring woolens; and an example is given of a pattern which any lady, who can work at all, could apply to linen, flannel, or any other simple material. It is simple herring-bone stitch, with knots, which may be white upon blue, grey, or brown, while the rest of the pattern could be worked in gold or brown, upon blue, in red and green, upon grey, and in gold and blue, upon brown.

The hats illustrated are among the newest, and most striking. The brim of the straw hat is

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]
PLAIN FOULARD WAIST.

turned up on the side in a way that is very becoming to a round face, rather too plump for classic beauty. The crown is covered with netted gauze, arranged full, and the side trimming, which forms an upright aigrette, is composed partly of ribbon, and partly of meadow grasses.

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The plain foulard waist given may be considered too deep, by some ladies, but it is cut so that there is very little fulness, and being unlined, almost no bulk is to be placed under the top of the skirt. The back is shaped, but the few gathers draw it into the figure in front, and there should be stayed with a piece of the silk, underneath. The bodice may be made in flannel, or cashmere, if preferred.

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We offer as a free present to any lady who will send us 20 trial subscribers at 10 cents each, one of our newest and latest styles of Shopping Bags.

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THIS WATCH WILL BE GIVEN AS A FREE PRESENT to any boy sending us 50 ten-cent trial subscribers.

[FACE.]

[ELEGANT NEW BACK.]

THE WATERBURY WATCH is a stem-winder, and will run 28 hours. The case is *Nickel-Silver*, and will always remain as bright as a new silver dollar. The watch has a heavy beveled edge, and crystal face. The works of the Watch are made with the finest automatic machinery. Every Watch is *Tested* in varying positions and is perfect before leaving the factory. Each watch is put up in a handsome new improved *Satisfied* case, for safe transportation through the mails.

So well-known have these watches become, thousands buying them in preference to higher-priced watches. The Company are now making 1,000 watches each day, an average of 1¼ watches per minute.

This watch is thoroughly reliable, and will keep just as good time as any watch costing $40 or $50. If parents could only understand how this watch is made, and that it is really just as good a time-keeper as any costly watch, the company would not be able to supply the demand. Boys, you will find this a valuable premium, well worth working for.

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Begin at once; use this paper for a sample copy, and send us a postal card for as many more as you can use.

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This is the best book yet published on Fancy Knitting. It teaches how to knit, giving descriptions clear, concise, and easily understood. Everything illustrated. Shows cuts and gives Five Different Ways of casting on stitches. Tells how to knit plain knitting, and to purl or seam, how to pick up a stitch, and how to repair a half-knitted stitch; gives two ways to increase, tells how to slip a stitch, how to narrow, how to cast off and how to join ends; gives careful directions for knitting stockings, gives different ways of forming the heels and toes. Tells how to insert a new heel and sole in an old worn stocking; gives directions for common and artistic darning that will imitate the knitted stitch. Gives directions for numerous styles for fancy borders for stockings, mittens, etc., etc.; squares for quilts, afghans, and many other things.

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These are the Special Premiums offered for clubs of 3-months trial subscriptions at ten cents each. Send names as fast as received and we will credit you with them until you have finished and selected your premium. To 3 months subscribers we send our three LATEST numbers, all in one wrapper.

The Weeden Upright Steam Engine

FREE to any boy sending us 20 3-months trial subscribers at 10 cents each.

A real, complete, working machine. You can blow the whistle or start and stop the engine by opening and closing the throttle valve as in a large engine. It is a scientific toy, nearer in appearance and operation to a large engine than any heretofore made. It is both amusing and instructive. It is safe and easy to operate. It will run small toys, and develop ingenuity. It is a simple and complete machine which will practically illustrate to the youthful mind that wonderful power so constantly at work on all sides in this age of steam. There are 41 pieces and over 400 operations in the manufacture of this engine. Every engine is tested and warranted to be in every respect as described.

SAFETY-VALVE.—The Engine has a perfect-working Safety-Valve, which makes it impossible for the boiler to explode.

STEAM-WHISTLE.—By referring to the cut, you will notice the location of the Steam-Whistle. You will also see the valve by which the whistle is operated.

THE THROTTLE VALVE.—One important feature of this Engine is its Throttle-Valve. No other amateur Engine has this feature.

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A MECHANICAL CURIOSITY.—This Engine is not only interesting to boys, but as an object of *mechanical beauty and perfection*, it has great interest to engineers and practical machinists.

Each engine is in good running order when it leaves the factory, and will be carefully packed. We feel confident that any boy who will study this simple explanation and follow our directions closely, can set up and run our little engine without difficulty, and we trust he will derive both pleasure and instruction from its use.

A CHATELAINE WATCH.

A Good and Reliable Watch for the Girls.

GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF 80 TRIAL SUBSCRIBERS AT TEN CENTS EACH; or given for only 40 subscribers and $2.00 extra in cash; or given for only 20 subscribers, and $3.00 extra in cash. Regular price $6.00.

These chatelaine watches are now very popular and fashionable. Every lady wants one. They are nickle silver of the best quality, stem winders and stem setters, nickle movement, covered by an extra glass cap over the movement. They are good time-keepers, and first-class in every respect. They are furnished to us by one of the largest and leading manufacturing firms in this country, whose reputation is well known for the best quality of work. 80 subscribers can easily be secured. Send for sample copies to distribute, and get your friends to help you. Send subscriptions as fast as received, for which we will give you credit, until the full number is obtained.

SOME HANDSOME NEW PINS.

THE LATEST DESIGNS, NEW THIS SEASON.

We give either one of the following Pins for a club of only SIX 3 months trial subscriptions at 10 cents each.

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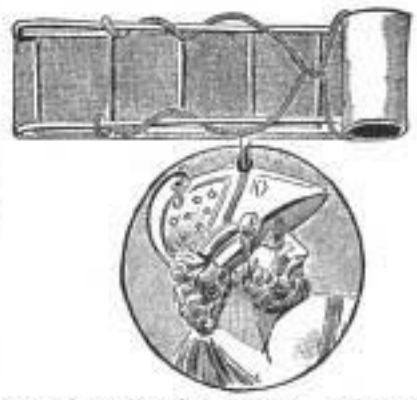

A new and very popular design. Finished by a new process of Silver-plating, and will not tarnish.

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These pins are always popular. They are oxydized and warranted not to tarnish. The cut shows the style. The quality is of the best. The LADIES' HOME JOURNAL would not offer you cheap jewelry; you can depend upon satisfaction from us. We buy direct from manufacturers of first-class jewelry.

These pins are first-class goods only, and are given as free presents to subscribers who will help introduce the JOURNAL into families that are as yet unacquainted with us. They are easy to secure. Why not have one?

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This style is VERY popular. The cut shows the design. It is of oxydized silver of the best quality and warranted not to tarnish. One of the best premiums we have ever offered. Easy to get free of cost, by securing only six 10-cent trial subscribers.

Given for only Five 10-cent 3 Months Trial Subscribers !

A SPECIAL OFFER TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS ONLY !

$1.00 Worth of Flower Seeds Free

TO ANY PERSON SENDING US ONLY 5 SUBSCRIBERS AT 10 CENTS EACH FOR A 3 MOS. TRIAL.

By a special arrangement with one of the largest and best seed growers in New York State, we have secured especially for the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, the best dollar's worth of flower seeds ever grown, which we propose to GIVE AS A FREE PRESENT to every person who will secure for us only 5 trial 3 months subscribers at 10 cents each. A full dollar's worth free.

COMPRISING THE FOLLOWING VARIETIES:

Phlox Drummondii, all colors, mixed.	Portulaca, all colors, mixed.	French Marigold, all colors, mixed.
Carnation Poppy, " " "	Petunia, " " "	Japan Coxcomb, " " "
Double Zinnia, " " "	Balsam, " " "	Fragrant Candytuft, " " "
Gilia, " " "	Ageratum, all " "	Joe Plant, " " "
Sweet William, " " "	Sweet Peas, " " "	
Perilla " " "	Acrocinium, " " "	

These flower seeds are put up in well-filled packets, and wrapped in bundles, each containing the sixteen varieties; they are guaranteed to be first-class in every respect; the same that seedsmen sell for more than $1.00. On the whole they consist of a careful selection of the very best varieties for ordinary garden culture, and will make a superb and brilliant display from June until long after frost. With but little attention you can produce all the cut flowers and bouquets desired, during the Spring, Summer and Autumn months. They are what our conviction and experience tells us will result most acceptably to all. Last season we sent out thousands of premium flower seed packages, every one of which gave the greatest and most unalloyed satisfaction, which we can prove by innumberable testimonials at present on file in our office.

Does your subscription expire this month ? If so you can easily induce your neighbor to subscribe and thus secure these seeds free for the five subscriptions sent at once.

A DELIGHTFUL PREMIUM FOR THE GIRLS ! !

DECORATED CHINA TEA SET AND TRAY.

GIVEN AS A PRESENT TO ANY LITTLE GIRL WHO WILL INDUCE A DOZEN OF HER MOTHER'S Neighbors to try the JOURNAL 3 Months at 10 Cents Each.

This is a beautiful China Tea Set consisting of 15 pieces, richly decorated with gold and floral designs; and also has a handsome Japaned tea tray, as shown in illustration. It will please any parents to see how delighted their child will be, to get one of these lovely China Sets. Large enough for three little girls and boys to have a stylish party, and each to have a separate cup and saucer, or, the saucers (which are quite large) can be used as plates. 12 trial Subscribers can easily be secured in half an hour, by simply showing a copy of the paper to your mother's friends. The best toy set we have ever used as a premium. It has proved to be one of the best and most popular premiums on our list. We imported these sets from Germany, expressly for presents to the JOURNAL club raisers. *Postage 35 cents extra.* Sent to any address by mail.

Express charges to be paid by the receiver; or will be sent by mail in boxes, carefully wrapped, if preferred, on receipt of 35 cents extra. We do not hold ourselves responsible for breakage in any case. You can easily ascertain from your express office the probable expense of the set by express.

HANDSOME SCHOOL BAG

Given for 24 trial Subscribers at 10c. each.

Double School Bag, made of cloth with a bunch of daises on one end and initial on the other. They come in either dark green or blue, and are very handsome and popular just now with all the boys and girls. We can give a single bag for only 12 trial subscribers. Postage and packing *always 15 cents extra.* See cut and description of these bags on page 18, December (1886) number.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE AUTOCRAT OF THE DINNER TABLE; OR, WISE TALKS ON EVERY-DAY SUBJECTS.

BY MARTHA BARTHOLDI FULLER.

Certainly, my girls, I do appreciate all the pretty, home-made things your nimble inventive fingers have made. I enjoy the cheerful presence that fills your mothers' rooms, from the parlor to the wash-room, and seemed smiling down from each corner and bracket and basket.

Every time I come, I know that some new little treasure will be added, fresh from Carrie's brush or Gertie's constructive fingers, each one an ornamental useful piece to contribute to papa's or mamma's happiness.

I must say again I enjoy it, and approve the habit you are forming of improving spare time.

Your elevated brows say, then Aunt Jane, why do you forever advise us to undertake some "more useful work."

People did not do such work when I was young, but *that* is no reason to disapprove of it, neither did they use steamboats or railroads or electricity. No, I hope I am free from that pitiable "old times" prejudice, and am willing to echo Tennyson:

"I doubt not through the ages one increasing purpose runs,
And the thoughts of men are widened with the process of the suns."

But, girls, is there *really* so much "spare time" "when you *could* do nothing else?"

Of course it is not necessary in these times that women should spin and weave. It would not pay to do by hand what can be done better and at less cost by machinery.

But it *is* necessary that our girls, the hope of the future generations and mothers of the "coming men," should have healthy bodies, well stored minds and elevated souls; souls in which the love and knowledge of the spiritual, the Christ, and the Christ-like in man and woman, is not dwarfed by constant occupation on things so much *less* than the *greatest* they might grapple with; their strength being never tried. In all lives will come the hour "that tries men's souls." Sinking, or rising above the "sea of trouble" must depend on garnered strength.

It is but a hackneyed phrase to say "you are **never** too old to learn." Its oft repetition makes it not less true. You have finished your school, a *foundation* is laid of the fundamental things of the past, on which to build a towering edifice, with ever *rising stories*,—a knowledge of to-day, of the things that are going on about you. The papers bring fresh pages of history, news of battles won or lost in our houses of legislation, more important to us than the Trojan wars you studied at school.

But, my dear girls, I am afraid that you know very little of the "questions of your day." When your father speaks of the tariff or government expenditure for pensions and private enterprises, your little faces look perplexed or listless, as though he was speaking in a foreign tongue. You say, you can never be interested in those "tedious papers." That is because you have not yet learned what is in them or how to find it.

There are constantly questions of science, discoveries, inventions and literary treasures coming before the public and then being pushed into a back seat for something still newer. It is your duty, and a pleasant duty too, to know something of these, to think something and be able to talk something of all these. It is a duty to yourself and to others. You would then be able to talk as agreeably and fluently as "those gifted teachers back at school who made all your parties so pleasant."

Why be to such trouble and expense to learn a very little of the past in the few years at school, and then close your book and close your mind, to walk **ever** as one deaf from babyhood, lisping ever the childish little words them so sweet to learn.

O, my girls! read, and think and think, and talk and talk and talk. *Use the mighty power* that is yours by right of your *womanhood* to sway this generation and lift them upward to a higher purer level.

You wink, or smile or look unnoticing at the vices and evils wide spread about you and they will grow with swifter stronger growth, till you and all you yet will hold most dear, will sicken under the blight and withering of wrong doing. You do not hold the ballot, but in those small white hands you hold a *magic* force for shaping, (*not* tidies and scarfs and shams) but the *moral*, *intellectual*, and *political* STANDARD of the land.

Your lovers (you need not blush and say you have none) will respect you more and love you better for holding on high the light of *purity*, *intelligence* and *integrity*.

And while you should be developing strong, well built bodies with good appetites and plenty of pure blood, you sit curled up in some easy chair, shut in from fresh air and sunshine, with cramped muscles and narrow shoulders, in "busy idleness" exercising your fingers only, while all the forces of your nature wither up from disuse and confinement.

If your ever-patient anxious mother felt as forcibly as crochety Aunt Jane, that into all these trifles went the health, vigor and youth of her darlings, she would say to this *mania of ornamentation*, "thus far and no further."

But your tender mother says, "our girls are not strong as we used to be, and this occupies and interests them." Then let them *grow* stronger, the gaining of strength should be the great purpose of their youth, else what burdensome failures must all the duties and pleasures of after life become.

With sorrow, all must see they are not as strong as girls used to be. Nor do I believe it to be their fault or the fault of present customs, altogether. It may be that the overwrought souls and exertions of our honored ancestry are handed down to the present time in overwrought brains and quivering nerves. "The passion and the pain of hearts that long have ceased to beat, may remain to throb in hearts that are or are to be."

But recognizing this, is it not doubly their duty, ere their sun is full arisen, and they are summoned each to fill her separate niche of womanhood, to embrace every opportunity of development, and to throw off every fetter—close air, inactive muscles, belittling occupations, purposeless living, tight clothing, heavy skirts, small high heeled shoes, and *bondage* in general. This will not make you less beautiful or less lovable. Strength is wealth, health, happiness, *freedom*. Strength is *woman's right*, and through it will come all high and holy privileges.

My dear little nieces look questioning and troubled at my long harangue.

Must you give it *all* up?

There may be a "happy medium" to strike in this as in all other things,—only it is hard to stop at *just enough* of *pretty things*, crowding out nothing of greater importance.

But now that Gertie has taught me the arts of rick-rack and novelty braid there is no telling into what lengths of folly they may lead me and my spectacles.

The art of conversation may be cultivated, but to my mind the most pleasing feature is the ability of differing in opinion gracefully. I mean with ease and delicacy, without causing a break in the good humor or constraint to candid expression.

It is healthy action and re-action of mind that keeps up the flow of thought.

Like Uncle Benjamin, I am very glad that everybody does not think as I do.

Uncle Benjamin "wus so rejoicin' they did not all see things jest as he did. To his eyes his Maria Ann was the purtyest creeture ever cum under his observation and so wery excellin' in her fine ponts."

Now if they all looked at things as he did, every one of them would be "sot to hev her." As his dear wife was all the one old Benjamin would wish to have, he could not well afford to give her up to another. So with my ideas, there are all there is of *me* and I do not wish anyone else to be *exactly me*.

I try to express myself clearly and listen to others with interest and deference, trying all the while to see if I cannot fit some part of their thoughts into the vacant places in mine. Of course, *I know*, all the time I am listening, that *mine* are the best (for me.) On no account, unless on some *particular points* of *home discipline*, do I try to induce them to take my views.

I just casually endeavor to impress that mine is a sound mind and well grounded. This is an uncommonly satisfying way of conversing.

(*To be Continued.*)

INTERRUPTED.

"Ah, Genevieve, have you divined,
That as this silken skein you wind,
You wind around my heart as well,
The thread of love's entangling spell?
Those smooth, soft hands, so dainty white—"
"I wash them morning, noon and night,
As you do yours, young man, I hope,
In lather made of IVORY SOAP."

A WORD OF WARNING.

There are many white soaps, each represented to be "just as good as the 'Ivory';" they ARE NOT, but like all counterfeits, lack the peculiar and remarkable qualities of the genuine. Ask for "Ivory" Soap and insist upon getting it.

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EIGHT

Excellent reasons why every Lady should wear

BALL'S

CORSETS

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4th. They will fit a greater variety of forms than any other make.
5th. Owing to their peculiar construction they will last TWICE AS LONG as an ordinary Corset.
6th. They have had the unqualified endorsement of every Physician who has examined them.
7th. They have given universal satisfaction to all ladies who have worn them, the common remark being,

"WE WILL NEVER WEAR ANY OTHER MAKE."

8th. They are the only Corset that the wearer is allowed three weeks trial, and if not found perfectly satisfactory in every respect the money is refunded.

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240 & 242 Monroe St., Chicago, Ill.
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402 Broadway.

Our constant aim is to make them the finest in the world.

Ask your Grocer for

"OUR TRADE-MARK" HAMS

AND

BONELESS BACON.

None Genuine unless showing our Patented Trade-Marks, a Light Metallic Seal attached to the string, and the Striped Canvas, as in the cuts.

A little higher in price, but of unrivalled quality.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

BEGUN WRONG.

BY ROSE TERRY COOKE.

He had poise enough however to make a quiet entrance, and hearing voices up stairs proceeded to Angy's dressing-room; she stood there amid waves of pale glittering satin, that a dressmaker was draping about her slender figure; the woman stopped her work as he entered.

"Do you want me, Jack?" Nellie asked, in a surprised tone.

"I do want you; can you come to the library?"

"Yes, I will; wait for me there a moment. Madame is just through."

Jack went into the library and flung himself into a great easy-chair; the delay was dreadful; his courage fluttered, sank, perhaps would have failed, but that his wife hastened to him, and with feminine instinct perceiving his distress, knelt on the floor beside him, and put her warm soft arm about his neck. The tender touch broke him down.

"Nelly," he said,—the word was like a sob—"I have failed; my business is gone; we have nothing left."

He thought she would faint and slip from his arms; but she looked up into his face and laughed; a flash of cheer and courage crossed her pale face. "Is that all?" she said, in a tone like the revedlle of a bugle. "I thought you were ill, Jack."

This was what the level brows, the clear eyes, the cleft chin, and the firm lips had in store for him, inspiriting courage, will to fight or endure. Jack burst into tears; the hard dreadful tears of a man.

Never in all her married life had Nell lavished on him such caresses as now. She clasped his head against her bosom, and covered his face with kisses; she wiped away those slow hot tears that burned like melted lead; she stroked his damp hair, damp with the agony of his resolve and reluctance; she murmured inarticulate sounds in his ear such as mothers croon to their speechless babies. She saved his soul alive. Was not that something to do? After a time he recovered strength and looked up at her with the saddest smile:

"Nelly, you are an angel."

"Not a bit of it, sir!" she laughed. "I'm a very mortal woman, and here's the proof." She poured out a glass of wine from a decanter left there by a careless servant since the night before when a friend had called, and made him drink it slowly; the warmth of the stimulant drove off the chill of his excitement.

"Now tell me the rest," said Nelly, as she felt his cold damp hands recover warmth.

"There is nothing more to tell, Nelly, thank God! I am only unfortunate, not a rascal."

"As if you could be!" she replied indignantly; then she made him sit beside her on the sofa and by dint of questions, gentle yet acute, drew from him the condition of affairs as far as he was able to make her understand them.

In the course of this conversation it was needful to tell her of her father's insolvency at the time of his death.

"And you never told me!"

A hot color swept over her face as she uttered the words.

"My love, I could not bear to trouble you; it was not necessary."

"And I went on with all sorts of extravagance, thinking I could do as I had done, because father was rich. "How can I forgive myself!"

"How can you ever forgive me, Nell! is the real question."

She drew his throbbing head down on her shoulder.

"Is it so very hard to forgive one, Jack, for over-loving!"

He could not answer; his voice failed. Presently he rose.

"I must go now, Nelly; you have saved me out of the depths."

He looked at her with his heart in his eyes, and with one long embrace left her.

Eleanor sat down, stunned; her courage, her generous faithful heart, her strong will, had rallied to her husband's aid; but now he had left her she buried her head on the arm of the sofa with a long shuddering sigh, and tried to think; there was much to be done, she could not plan yet, but she could work; she went back to her dressing-room, and there lay the silvery folds of satin across a high chair; she should never wear that dress, the ball for which it was preparing she should not attend; she unpinned the plaits, folded the breadths carefully together and laid them in the box from which they came, put in the lengths of delicate lace, and the garniture of apple-bossoms that was to have been worn with them, and calling her maid told her to tie up the box and set it aside, she had changed her mind about the ball. Then a dreadful weariness of soul and body came over her, for Nelly Palmer was a young delicate woman after all, and she had received a heavy shock. But after a rest of some quiet hours, (for she denied herself that day to callers) she rallied, and dressing for dinner, showed a serene and cheerful face to Jack when he came back, and welcomed him as if he had still been her lover. Ah! he was more. Never since he first took her image into his heart had Nelly been so dear, so adored as now; he knew for the first time the intent and sweetness of "a helpmeet for him."

But in the first excitement of any change, even of loss, there is a certain force that helps us to endure; while Jack was busied all day long in figuring up his losses, his assets, the probabilities of the situation, and its more dreadful possibilities, and Nelly arranging her jewels for sale, chappering with dealers in such things for her beautiful laces, her costumes of velvet and satin, even the little personal luxuries she had so long enjoyed, there was the impetus of a new occupation, new thoughts, to help them through the various mortifications, petty yet painful, that beset their way; but it was depressing to find how values shrink in selling! how much less a dress is worth than you paid for it! Even the strings of pearls that had been her father's wedding gift, did not quite fetch half the price Mr. Balch had paid for them.

Then there was the doubt as to what should be reserved for the new home. Again and again, after considering, was the list of what they at first thought necessities reduced, and it was always Nell who did it. Jack was struck with astonishment at her practical faculty, which really had never had a chance for development before.

It was she who made out the lists of furniture, china and silver, and arranged them all for the sale; she who managed to sell the carriage and horses to an acquaintance just returned from Europe, at a much better price than would have been received at auction; she who advised that the gas should be given up, as all but one of the servants had gone, and kerosene would be less expensive.

Jack at last had found a place as clerk in the office of a steamship company, at a thousand dollars salary; just the amount of Nelly's allowance for dress when she left school at eighteen! but he thought himself lucky to get that, there were so many men out of business at this crisis.

Neither he or his wife had much idea of the value of money; it was needful that they should have some place to go to as soon as their house was sold, and they set about looking for a home at once. What weary days passed in the search! what depths of squalor and discouragement sickened Nell's heart and discouraged her soul as she went from one cheap boarding-house to another, and came away disgusted. They sat down resolutely one night, and made a strict calculation of means and expenses; but even taking into consideration the fact that they were both clothed for a year or two, for they found it was economy to keep their ordinary clothing rather than sell it; and also that there was no furniture, bedding, or in fact any household goods to buy, still they could not afford to board in a comfortable manner, or to rent a whole house; so they resolved to hire three rooms and keep house in them.

"I don't know how to cook, Jack; but I'm not a fool. I can learn," laughed Nelly. "Mother began in a small house when she married father, and I've got her dingy old recipe-book; kept it for sentiment's sake; now it will be worth everything."

"But Nelly you have never had to work; how can you! No, we must keep a servant."

"My Jack, we can't. And if we could, how could I teach her! I know nothing myself! we should waste her wages to begin with."

Jack had to give in.

There was great satisfaction to them both in the fact that Jack's business being wound up so early in the course of his trouble, not only paid all his creditors, but left him five hundred dollars, to which the delighted creditors added five undred more, as an expression of their respect for his prompt winding up of affairs, instead of trying to recover himself by borrowing more money, and asking more credit, till the business would have been a mere hollow shell, and those who had helped or dealt with him been hopelessly defrauded.

They did not know that they owed this to Eleanor's counsel.

"Don't try to go on another day!" she had energetically exhorted Jack; "ask Mr. Hartmann; you say he knows the state of affairs; ask him if it isn't better to stop now, save your creditors and your credit, and get out of suspense yourself, rather than keep dragging on till nothing is left. Oh Jack! it is honester, I am sure, to stop now; and I want my husband to be the very honestest man in all the town."

What could Jack do but kiss that lovely glow on her radiant face, and take her advice forthwith?

"A whole thousand dollars that makes!" said Jack, when the creditors sent in their check, with a letter that made Nell's heart proud.

"What shall we do with it? Don't you want to board now for a year, to get used to our descent?"

"No, I want the worst first, Jack; put that money into the saving's bank; there may be need of it sometime; we may not always be well."

"Sensible creature!" laughed Jack; but he deposited the money that day.

By the time the household goods were sold, and the house turned over to the largest creditor, Jack had hired a small flat of three rooms, in a tenement house on the corner of a street in a totally unfashionable and obscure part of the city; the rooms were in the fourth story, but there was a lift for coal and wood, and another for the tenants; and the sun shone all day into the south windows, from which one also could look away over the roofs of the lowest part of the city to the sparkling waters of the great bay beyond.

Nelly had sold all her personal property, only reserving enough of the proceeds to furnish these rooms with such things as the creditors allowed them to take at appraisal prices; all the rest of the money went for Jack's debts and her own. She had taken the plain crockery from the kitchen cupboard, two pairs of good blankets, one down comfortable that had been hers since her school-days and she did not sell, and she kept half the bed-linen that she had brought with her from home.

Carpeting for two of these rooms in the flat was furnished from the one on her bed-room, and one rug brightened the tiny parlor; chairs from her room too now did duty for the parlor, and a small card-table that had been her grandmother's stood under the odd old mirror from the same quarter. There were bright chintz curtains from the bath and dressing-rooms put up here, and the bedstead and bedding were those she had used at home, though they were rather large for the small bed-room; but when all was done, the three apartments were as pretty as a doll's house; one picture on the wall of each gave an air of refinement, even if they were only autotypes, and the taste for harmonious color that had distinguished Nelly's dress and house came into play now; nothing was incongruous, glaring or crude; if this new home was cramped it was cheerful and home-like, and they entered in and shut the door with a sense of rest and relief.

However, this was but the beginning. Jack's duties were not unfamiliar to him, but Nelly's were all new; she burned her fingers and her food in trying to cook, and produced most indescribable messes even with the old recipe-book to guide her, and Jack missed every day the glass of wine at dinner that would have helped down the unpalatable meal. It was well for him that he had to give it up while it was only one glass, but the habit was hard to break, and he lost his appetite. No wonder! the delicate viands, the savory sauces that a professed cook had sent up were quite different from the tough, burned steak and watery vegetables with no taste, the heavy puddings, and tasteless gravies that were all poor Nelly could concoct. To Jack's credit be it said that his deep devotion to Nelly, his daily recollection of her sweet, brave acceptance of trouble, kept his mouth shut as to her failures now; and she, fully appreciating his kind silence, put all the energies of her mind and deftness of her fingers into the new duty. Cooking is not an abstract science, or a matter that needs five hours practice every day for ten years; intelligence and resolution will conquer its mysteries, and although Jack grew thin before his rations mended, they did mend, and in six months Nelly had mastered the situation, and was able to serve a dinner or a breakfast at once savory and economical.

It has been said that "little things are God's levers," and it is utterly true; once fed with good and wholesome food the craving for daily stimulant that Jack had resisted like a hero, died out, and he recovered flesh, strengh, spirits and courage; all of which had dwindled.

Oh my dear women! wives and mother! if you want to keep your husbands and sons and brothers from those lures of the devil, liquor saloons, feed them well at home; give them well cooked meat, savory vegetables, good coffee, chocolate, tea; a cheerful house, a pleasant wife, a well-spread table, are the best temperance lectures in the world; and all these can be had cheap if you will only learn how.

But this is a digression.

All this experimenting and the new labors, which she had not yet learned to take easily and systematically, fully occupied Nelly, but when she had learned her lesson time began to drag, and she was a little lonely, a little languid, though her daily activities were a help to her physical condition that she did not appreciate; she had hours now to sit at her window and sew, looking at the blue stretch of billows, or dreaming over the fine stitches and delicate embroideries wherewith she garnished the little robes that she could not buy lace for; fashioning her own half-worn garments into soft small wrappings, and doing her best, ignorantly but instinctively, to prepare for the arrival of another member to this small household

When it came the hoard in the saving's bank stood her in good stead; the doctor, understanding the state of things, sent out into the country for one of those skillful and homely nurses who not only care for the patient but do the housework, so that all Nelly's cares were lifted from her, and she could lie still at peace, wondering at the loveliness of her tiny daughter, whom Jack stigmatized as "That crumpled up red thing!"

And now Nelly would be lonely no longer; she had her hands and her heart full, and that divinest of all earthly affections, mother-love, possessed her in all its fervor and patience; Jack, as the baby grew into some human aspect found himself longing to get home and play with it; and all the anxieties and troubles its childish sorrows and ailments caused, only endeared it the more to its parents, and bound the three together with stronger ties.

Two years after Jack's failure he was walking home from church one Sunday with a young man who was a clerk in the same office. Jack asked him in to lunch.

"No thank you," said young Holcombe. "I go to your house too often; it makes me envious, Palmer."

"Have one of your own, then," suggested Jack, with a laugh.

"On a thousand a year? No sir! we must wait until I can do better than that."

"That is all we began on, Holcombe, except a little in the bank for a rainy day; and you have got twice what we had laid up."

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"Well, you didn't begin life so, and I won't; I daren't ask Mary to leave her father's house and come down to work for me."

"Look here!" said Jack energetically, "you're all wrong! How did your father begin life? How did Mary Carter's? Why can't you and she begin just there? Give her the chance, Sam; that is due to her. And believe my experience that you never can know or feel what a true woman can be, who truly loves you, till you are poor together. Tell her all the truth about your affairs, your fears, and why you have kept silent so long; begin right; begin at the bottom; and take "a help-meet for you;" and when you get to the top you'll find out what the Lord meant when he made the first woman. I own I begun wrong, but I'm going to end right, after all."

SEEING EUROPE ON $200.

To a novice, traveling abroad is itself a source of wonderment. The three classes or distinctions re quickly noticed, by the differences in the railway carriages as the cars are termed, and appeal to one's *portemonnaie*, especially when it is in a depleted condition. It is often said, "Americans and fools travel first-class, valets and ladies' maids second; sensible people third." This apparently is the truth, especially in England, where the best of people can be seen buying third-class tickets. The distances are short, and whatever discomfort there may sometimes be in the uncushioned seats, is easily overcome when one thinks how much he is saving for another occasion. But in Ireland, third-class passengers are not always of the most agreeable character, and hence, in that country, but few, and those only of the lower people, choose that mode.

An excursion was advertised from Cork to Dublin, for a pound, first-class; fifteen shillings third, and no second. As the regular fare is five dollars one way, this opportunity to see the metropolis was eagerly embraced. On reaching the station it was found that second-class carriages had been put on for the third-class fare. As a result the upward journey was most comfortable through the turf-cutting country. A stay of three days was filled with pleasure. Phœnix Park with 1800 acres, Bray, the lovely suburb of Dublin, and the streets and shops of the city, Trinity College and other show places bring back most agreeable memories. Returning it was found impossible on the ticket even by a tip to the guard—*en passant* the only man in Europe who refused a fee—to gain a seat in any but a third-class coach. With a lady (!) of decidedly socialistic views of things in general, who declared that when Mr. Parnell gained Home Rule, the land would be divided and all Protestants burned, another, who wept copiously all the way to Cork at leaving home and friends for America and who was going to the new country *sans* head-gear, and I feared minus anything in her pocket, the entrance of a fine, motherly-looking old woman at Limerick Junction, was a source of relief. Settling herself and belongings, she threw back the comfortable peasant's cloak she wore, and looked fixedly at me for a few moments. Soon after she glanced again, this time with a friendly smile. I replied in the same sign language, and unable longer to restrain her curiosity, she said:

"Are ye from Cork?"

"No," I replied.

"Maybe ye're from Doonlin?"

"No," I laughingly answered.

"Ye didn't get came down from Limerick?" she interrogated again.

"No," I replied a third time, and added with a laugh I could not resist, "I'm from America."

"I knew ye were! I knew it!" she exclaimed excitedly, and with the ever-ready compliment she added: "Ye're almost as handsome as the Cork girls."

"Thank you," I said, "I wish I was as fine-looking as they are with their good color and bright eyes.

Question followed question about America, and I heard the story of the son who died in New York from the "awful climate," but whose occupation as a "public-house keeper in Cherry St." may have been the more correct cause of his early demise.

"They marry young in America, don't they?" she interrogated.

"Yes, I believe they do," I answered, not a little surprised at the question.

"Then how is it ye're lift?" she asked.

I laughed again and again, and when I could recover myself I told her I was waiting for a fine Irishman to ask me to live there.

"Sure the likes of ye wouldn't have any of the Irish gentry," she said. And when one thinks that the population of the Green Isle, so lovely at every point, has decreased two million souls in the past five years, that often and often two hundred single girls leave Queenstown on one vessel, is it any wonder that, as the Irish say, "Their bloom and strength is in America."

Good living can be had anywhere in Ireland from five dollars a week and upwards. This is in lodgings, and where two are traveling together a great saving is made by a division of expense.

From Cork to London a choice of two routes can be taken, via Dublin and Holyhead, or by the Bristol steamers. The latter was my route owing to my party, and in all travel part water and part land the regular thing is first-class on the boats, second by train. To reach the great city did away with £2. The abominable practice of feeing, mounts up to one's horror, but it is so much a part of one's life abroad it is useless to rise in indignation and say one will not comply with it. Landing in London I was besides the £2 just spent, minus one of my drafts for a dress bought in Cork, for the making of which I was charged three dollars and seventy-five cents, the material bringing the cost up to ten dollars, and a mackintosh for which I paid four dollars and which would command nine and a half in Newton, with views, books, some trifles bought in the city did away with whatever was left of my draft after I cashed it. My dress is the equal of any made at home, Redfern et Cie excepted.

To the traveler not having friends the best plan in London is to go into lodgings. They can be had at any price from a dollar and a-half a week upwards, and with two the expense is nominally trifling. Good hotels abound. Leading from the strand are dozens where room and breakfast can be had for the inevitable five shillings—a favorite charge. Life in London is far less than in any large American city. Carriage rides are much lower in price, and a dinner for which a dollar and possibly more would be asked in New York, Philadelphia or Boston, can be had at a first-class restaurant in London for a half crown, sixty-two and a-half cents. Strange to say, theatres are dearer than in the United States, unless one masters the pit. Of the latter I cannot speak. But grand music can be listened to for a shilling. Convent Garden and Albert Hall having something worth hearing the year round. On the top of a London 'bus, over the good roads, one can take in miles for a penny. All famous places are on certain days free. The Tower and South Kensington Museum, etc. Need I add I only went on the days set forth in Baedeker as "without money and without price!" Westminster Abbey, St. Paul's Cathedral, the British Museum, and the National Academy of Fine Arts are always open free of any fee and are always full. To visit Crystal Palace costs but a shilling and in this is included a fine concert with no common talent and a wind-up of fireworks never equalled in America. The Dore Gallery is well worth the cost, a shilling, for admittance. It is a private institution. To get a view of the glories of Madame Lussaud's comes another shilling from the decreasing pile, but it is well put out for no such collection exists elsewhere. Near this large building are the Zoological Gardens, open at all times to the public. Kew Gardens are the same and will repay a visit. For a penny one can ride up and down the Thames for some miles. To Windsor Castle, Brighton, Greenwich and Richmond, with the famous Star and Garter Hotel, excursions can be made for very little money. There is always during the summer an exhibition open in the metropolis. This year it will be the "Yankeries," or more properly speaking an exhibition of American products and resources. Last year the "Coloneries" held the town delighted, and previous years have been seen the "Healtheries," "Fisheries," etc.

To Paris and back for five days the expense was about thirty dollars. If this is doubted, try it and prove what woman has done, woman can do again. As in London and all European cities much of the sight-seeing is without those charges which the very word Europe suggests to the uninitiated. The Louvre, the Luxemborg, the glorious Pantheon and hosts of other beauties are open to the highest and the lowest. From London to Liverpool to catch the steamer took four dollars, third-class, Midland R. R. As the tender did not leave till late in the afternoon there was time to look about the city, admire its fine residences, and see the departing glories of the Great Eastern, then a mammoth booth and cheap museum.

The "little things" that arise in traveling are the telling things in money matters. Postage, car-fare, washing, fees, will make an aggregate far above one's expectations, at the same time they do not equal the outlay at home in the same direction. The temptations which the shops of London and Paris present are great and I was no exception to woman's delight in bargains. Some personal sacrifices were made and from the small amount remaining, gifts obtained, delightful to the receivers in that they came from London and Paris.

If the traveler goes prepared to be contented and pleased in the enjoyment of the newness of things, the difference in customs and people, and to make the utmost of every moment, he or she can make every penny expended worth its weight in gold. The life and color of the streets, the feeling that one is treading on ground made sacred by the feet of the great who have lived to some purpose, inspires one with new zest and interest in life.

C. LE G.

HELPS FOR HOUSE CLEANING.

BY AUNT EVA.

Provide whatever will be needed before you begin so as to save delay. The following articles will be useful: A step-ladder, buckets, a long-handled brush, such as every housewife needs for the weekly cleaning of dust and cobwebs from the walls, a mop which may be used by draining or it may be self-wringing, scrub brushes, brooms, tacks, tack drawers, hammers, carpet stretcher, dust brush, either hair or feather, a large dust pan, made with the back elevated so that there will be no need to call little Maggie to hold it while part of the dust is being swept on it and a part in her face, poor child!—plenty of cloths for dusting and white or light ones for washing glass and paint. Besides these articles which may with care be used for more than one occasion, you will need whiting for white paint, not zink finished or varnished, cold weak tea for grained paints, ammonia for all common paints and for cleaning carpets, soap for some places where it will not do injury, Plaster Paris for filling crevices in walls, putty to fill crevices in bedsteads and in wood-work, thus preventing hiding-places for pests; coarse cheap salt to use in washing slats, etc., of bedsteads, corn meal to clean wall paper, and if available white sand to use in cleaning woodenware, shelves and floors.

For comfort, saving fatigue, a dress so short, that it need not be "looped up," and so narrow that it will not sweep against things, throwing them over; loose, warm shoes with cork insoles, and instead of a dirty towel for the head, a sweeping cap or neat sun bonnet. There is no advantage in looking hideous.

Don't hurry too much. Too much haste may make waste. Work carefully so as not to make the dust and dirt fly over everything, obstructing the pores and the lungs and make the water slop on the walls and clothing, and also to avoid scratching and breaking things generally.

Whatever the difficulties may be, don't scold, don't slap the children and slam the doors and bang things around, and don't worry. "He that ruleth his spirit is better than he that taketh a city." Cheerfulness is a wonderful preservative of vital force.

"Don't put off till to-morrow what can be done to-day"; but what cannot be done this week can wait; so don't worry if the work does not come along as fast as you desire.

Now, with sundry helps and hindrances and a large stock of patience, which may be replenished daily by prayer to Him who is able to help us bear our burdens, we will consider, how to proceed:

Begin at the garret or store-room. Be thorough in dusting boxes, chests, trunks, corners, old clothes and everything stored away. Gather all woolen clothes, carpeting and rags, sort out such as are to be saved, thoroughly dust and clean them, and pack them from moths, give away, sell or bury in the ground for manure, all that remains, and thus leave no harboring place for moths.

Store boxes with cleats to the lids are cheaper than trunks, and do well for storing. One may be used for carpeting, one for bedding, one for each member of the family for clothing, and one for things that are to be given away. Label each box that the contents may be easily found. Never sweep dirt and dust from one room to another or down stairs, but take it up.

After the store-room is cleaned take the highest story from the front to the back of the building and so each successive story until the parlor and front hall are cleaned.

Be careful that painted, oiled or varnished wood-work and oil-cloths are not injured by an improper use of brush, soap or hot water. Do not wash glass with soap. See that curtains, drawers and closets are cleaned before the day for taking up the carpet or tearing up the room.

Cover shelves and drawers with paper thus saving frequent washing. Labor may be saved by cleaning one drawer or shelf at a time putting the contents on another shelf or drawer, instead of carrying them perhaps across the room and then back. On the day for tearing up the room, first carry out all bedding where it may be aired and exposed to the purifying rays of the sun, if possible. Then take down and dust all pictures, brackets and bric-a-brac, and put them in another room. Now sweep the floor with a damp broom, then the ceiling and wall with the long-handled brush, rub the wall with a cloth; if much soiled, dip the cloth in corn meal. Wash windows and paints before cleaning the floor, as that may save taking cold. While the floor is drying, clean the pictures and bric-a-brac. While all this is being done, have the carpet where it will get the sun and be well aired; and see that no tacks were left in it when it was taken up. When dusting it wear a veil over the nose and mouth.

A cloth wet in clean warm water will make glass clean, then rub well with soft, dry cloths. Whiting may be used, if needed, in cleaning glass.

Darn thin places in carpets, and sometimes rip and sew the outer edges together. Covering the floor with canvas saves the carpet very much, as the dust will go through it. The seams in the canvas must be made very smooth and flat, so as not to cut the carpet.

When the time comes to clean the nursery or a room used by the aged or an invalid, remove the occupants to a warm room where they will be free from dust, and then see that their room is thoroughly dryed and warmed before they return.

Clean the cellar, wash-house, or laundry, and summer kitchen, before the kitchen, else it may need cleaning twice.

Be thorough in cleaning the cellar. This is needed not only to keep food in it in good condition, but the healthfulness of the home demands the most scrupulous care at this point.

When all is made clean, do not shut up your house or cellar, but open windows and doors, when the season permits, and admit light, air, and sunshine. Florence Nightingale has well said:—

"A dark house is always an unhealthy house, always an ill-aired house, always a dirty house. Want of light stops growth and promotes scrofula, rickets and other maladies among the children."

A clean, well-aired, well-lighted house is calculated to promote the health, attractiveness and cheerfulness of home, "sweet, sweet home."

"WOMAN AND WORK."

DEAR EDITOR:—I have carefully read and re-read an article on the above many-sided subject, which appeared in the March issue of the HOME JOURNAL. It contains some statements which, as a thoughtful member of our sex and also as a working-woman, I find true to actual life; but there are many theories advanced which, judging from my own feelings, must have been unpleasant reading for those of your subscribers who, under the circumstances mentioned, are daily fighting the battle of life.

Am I mistaken in my supposition that "Mary E. Cardwill" has never known personally what it is for a married woman to engage in "public life," for the purpose of gaining "filthy lucre," and does not include among her personal acquaintances many toilers outside of their own homes? It would seem that closer observation should convince the writer of that article that her views are radical. Indeed, I am so often made to realize the many phases of any subject, the impossibility of laying down a law which shall apply to all cases, that I hesitate when writing for the press, lest in my zeal and decided personal opinion I become unjust to others, and maintain as unquestionable facts what someone else may have good grounds to consider erroneous.

By this, I do not mean that people should not have decided opinions of their own and the courage to express them, but that they should be given as opinions, by no means infallible, and not as pronunciamentos, which the world would do well to follow.

In one sense, as "the woman who works simply for money she does not really need," I do not come under the ban of "M. E. C.'s" displeasure. In another sense her pen is aimed directly at me, and such as me, in proof of which I quote one of her paragraphs:

"The case is still more serious when a married woman, dissatisfied with a moderate living of her husband's providing, or tempted by some real or fancied ability for business, endeavors to combine domestic duties with some money-making employment. The glitter of imaginary gold hides the probability of failure, at least in the direction of home life. And to the world is exhibited, too often, the sad spectacle of a husband rendered contemptible, and his own spark of manliness extinguished, by the greater, unnatural and unnecessary prominence of his selfishly-energetic, business wife."

That is strong language, unmerited by many an industrious married woman in this country; could the details of their lives be made public, I fancy that few candid observers would gainsay their right to esteem for the course which they are pursuing.

Now, *I* am dissatisfied with the moderate living that my husband provides; I have a real or fancied ability for business; I combine domestic duties with money-making employment. But I deny that either my home or business life is a failure, or that my husband is rendered contemptible or that the spark of manliness is extinguished within him, by, perhaps, my greater prominence engendered by the selfish energy which, for the first time, I have heard applied to women who cast aside their natural love for leisure, for light, fascinating occupations, for—shall I say it—gossip, and pluckily put their shoulders to the wheel and help their husbands to turn it forward until it shall bring to them both rest, cessation of anxiety for the future, the enjoyment of a home of their own, where may peacefully be spent the years of declining powers and inability to labor.

Twelve years ago I married a poor man ten years my senior. Intelligent and industrious, the circumstances of his life up to thirty years of age, kept him on a plane below what he is fitted by nature to tread. Those circumstances continued in a measure until now, when he is at greater liberty to chose his occupation in life, he finds himself too old to compete with the young, active men crowding into business life, and too old for the long study and apprenticeship of professional life. Consequently his income remains small, enough for the necessities of our lives, but not enough to make it possible ever to own a home of our own, or to accumulate sufficient to support us if he should be rendered unable to work. If Providence should decree that he should be "taken" and I should be "left," there would be absolutely no resource for me except to go East to my relatives, and I would suffer a great deal before I would become dependent upon them, kind and good as they are.

I have no children. If I had, I do not think that even anxiety for the future would induce me to leave them, but I am acquainted with several loving mothers who work outside of their homes a part of the day, and whom I consider unselfish in doing so. I am at work down-town from nine a. m. to five p. m., but my husband sees little difference in the home on account of it, except in the added comforts. He requires an early breakfast, beginning his day's work at seven o'clock. That enables me, by planning beforehand and moving swiftly, to put the house to rights in season for my own "business day." We take our dinners down-town. I reach home at night two hours before he does, and so he finds his supper and me just as attractive as if I had spent the day making a crazy quilt or reading a new novel.

The laundry work is put out, as it would have to be in any case, for I lack the muscle and the *back* for such work, and if I did a week's washing even for us two would be unable to do anything else for a day or two thereafter, which I consider doubtful economy. Besides, the Chinese wash and iron so well and at such cheap prices here, that few women care to have the discomfort of laundry work about the house.

My mending and plain sewing and reading are done in our quiet evenings, for my husband does not like society and feels too tired to be kept up late; and there again my fatiguing occupation during the day does not affect him at all. I fail to see what there is reprehensible in my course. The nearest approach to just censure which I can conceive is that possibly I am "usurping a place" which some woman "more really needy" ought to have. But there is the future home at stake! Last year I bought the land for it, now I am slowly acquiring what will pay, D. V., for the cottage to be some day put upon that land. Is my "money motive" a "low one?" Ah! I know full well that no woman who really feels the need of money, and is too conscientious to accept assistance from others, will say that. It is people who have always lived in comfort and plenty who talk about the sordidness of working for money.

Instead of being imbued with "a contempt for home life" by my experience in the world, I have a far greater realization of the value of home than is possessed by many women who have made no effort to secure a home. This I think to be the rule among women situated as I am.

I find it no task to make my present abode a pleasant one, as far as my means permit, and I am sure that I shall take greater pride and pleasure in the adornment and care of the *bona-fide* home—if it is ever attained—than any woman could possibly do who had made no sacrifice to secure it, and whose mind had never been disturbed with any plans in regard to it, all coming to her by means of a "natural protector" in shape of husband or father.

One thing more, and then I must refrain from further comment, because I am taking up too much space: By the experience of the last few years, by my increased practical knowledge in various directions, I am paving the way for support if left alone to fight the battle of life.

I am finding out what I can do that the world wants done, and I am trying to do it so acceptably that I may stand upright and unaided if occasion come.

If I were sure that it would interest my readers, and encourage any of them when fainting by the way, despondent because they were not properly trained for the arena, I would, at some future time, tell how one woman has met with a measure of success when it seemed at first that there was nothing she could do.

Hoping that I have not proved tedious, I send a heartfelt "God speed" to all my sister workers, whether married or single. I do not believe that business life endangers your modesty, or subjects you to temptation to shirk and lie. The faithfulness of women in positions of trust is a conceded fact; and the modesty which consists of blushing cheeks and downcast eyes if a man be seen near at hand, I have no wish to uphold or assume.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE KINDERGARTEN.

BY A KINDERGARTNER.

"What is a Kindergarten school?" There is no such thing; the term is a misnomer.

"Kindergarten," as the word itself indicates, means "a garden of children." It is not a school, but a preparation for school. In it no books are used, but in their place concrete objects which bright eyes can see, and restless hands touch. Here, instead of being merely or wholly instructed by others, children are led to discover facts by their own efforts, adding continually to their knowledge, and educating themselves; growing from within outward, which is the only true growth.

In the kindergarten, children from three to seven years of age come together for three hours of each morning, to work, play and be happy. The time is divided into six periods of thirty minutes each, to allow frequent alternations of work and play, and to prevent the little ones from growing weary. Two rooms should be devoted to the purpose, one to be used as a sitting-room where the hand work is done, and the other for physical exercises. Thus, at intervals of half an hour, thorough ventilation of each room is insured, in the absence of its occupants. It is still better to have the use of a third room, which may be small but should be entirely private, to which the kindergartner may retire to be free from interruption when there is need of discipline in special cases, which can be treated more effectually alone. By discipline is not meant punishment.

The exercises begin with marching to the sound of simple piano music, in which the time should be strongly marked to secure rhythmical movements. A familiar conversation follows, the topics of which are often suggested by the children, but whose general tendency is of course to be directed by the kindergartner. The children all want to talk at once, but are gently and gradually taught to listen respectfully to the one who is speaking, and to wait patiently their own turn to speak. This is the time for stories, and every one told carries within it its own special purpose. The same may be said of the songs which follow, and are appropriate to the season, the weather, etc.

Many of these are devotional, and all of them being adapted to the age and taste of the children, give them pleasure, and for this reason are quickly learned.

Marching to the second room, the children seat themselves in chairs adapted to their size, around the low tables, whose upper surfaces are covered with grooved lines crossing each other at right angles and forming a net-work of one-inch squares. By means of these lines, the children not only learn to count, but gradually become familiar with the size of the square inches, by which they are enabled to measure off spaces, and to place the materials with which they work on any spot that may be designated.

The second period is spent in the study of a kindergarten "gift." This may be a solid, a plane, an embodied straight line or curve, or an embodied point, which is to be carefully examined by the children to find out of what material it is made, and as many of its qualities as they can. It is necessary to see them at work to gain an adequate idea of what the "gifts" are meant to teach. Only a few points can be mentioned.

We will suppose that a cube, made up of eight small cubes, is given to each child, by one of his little companions chosen for the purpose. Here is a lesson in order, patience and politeness combined, for those waited upon are not to touch their cubes till all are served, and the helper waits upon himself last. Each child examines his cube, first as a whole, then in its parts. He finds out by actual experiment, in how many ways it can be separated into equal parts, and after each separation, re-unites the parts, showing the unity of the whole. Thus he teaches himself fractions in the concrete, all the while keeping up an animated conversation with his companions. But to follow the directions afterward given by the kindergartner, requires all to listen, to hear, to understand, and to act; and in order to make no mistake, great self-control must be exercised. Should there be any who do not succeed in following all the directions, the others are called upon to find and point out the mistakes, tell what is wrong, and give the proper directions. Those who have made mistakes, make their own corrections, if possible. If some of the children cannot yet count, the older ones help them to do so. It is a great delight to help a little comrade, and the good resulting from the helpful act, to both giver and receiver, weighs far more than the accurate counting, though that too shall be done correctly. The second direction is not given, till the first one has been followed by every child, then, when all are ready, again they listen, hear and act, and very soon a finished building appears, which they now take time to talk about and admire, thus gaining complete relaxation from the effort of listening, which to them has been a great one. After this short rest, the figure is transformed into another by making slight changes in the position of the cubes, and this process may be again and again repeated.

"Want of originality, in the highest sense of the word, among men is principally caused by the hindrances that keep down the early active tendencies of children, or at least give them no assistance." So the directed work is not continued longer than twenty minutes, the rest of the period being devoted to free play and inventions with the cubes, but all must be careful not to disturb each others' work, and ready to stop at the kindergartner's word.

Marching again to the other room, the children engage in gentle but appropriate physical exercises, which bring into action all the muscles of the body. In these, (which include ball games,) the right and the left hand are used alternately, thus cultivating ambi-dexterity.

Luncheon follows, and the children sit around the tables with folded hands, while a small waiter joyously brings the lunch baskets, which ought to contain only the simplest kinds of food; bread and butter, oranges, apples, etc. After this refreshment, which is partaken of with the addition of water and milk, with fresh-washed faces and hands, the children await with delight the occupation whose turn it is to come next.

This may be drawing, sewing on card-board with bright-colored zephyrs, mat-weaving with paper strips, pricking, paper-folding, paper-cutting, pease-work, or modeling in clay. All of these require counting, observation and comparison of form, size, etc. The lesson of order, "Heaven's first law," is constantly repeated in such varied and delightful ways, that the habit of order is unconsciously gained. It is easy to judge which will be the most lasting, an order that is enforced, or one that creates itself from the love of it.

Lastly, come the plays, most of which are accompanied by music and singing, and as with the stories and songs, each play is designed to teach its own important lesson. The morning ends with a song of loving "Good Bye;" mothers' faces appear at the door, wraps are hurried on, and the merry little party troop away to their homes, to re-appear the next morning with bright faces and happy hearts.

Every day brings a change of program. Thus, in five days, ten kinds of work are given, so that it never grows monotonous, but comes each time with a delightful freshness. The value of these "gifts" and occupations cannot possibly be apparent to the mere looker-on; only a faithful study of what each is meant to teach, will reveal their endless possibilities. Children love the work, and to many of them no greater punishment could be given than to deprive them for a short time of the privilege of working.

The physical exercises bring health and strength to the child's body, making it flexible, and capable of graceful and rhythmical movements, and the joy of these movements quickens the mental and moral faculties. While fingers and hands are being trained to habits of industry, minds are gaining in power of observation, comparison, reflection and understanding. The strengthening of the finger, wrist and arm muscles, the steadiness of eye and hand necessary in all these occupations, and the constant observation of form and size, have all been a preparation for writing and drawing, the latter of which he has already practiced in simple forms. Plays with solids have already taught him arithmetic in the concrete, and planes, lines and points have given him the elements of geometry. The care of plants, animals and minerals has awakened a taste for natural history. Conversations have taught him the correct use of language, and the power to clearly express his thoughts; a prelude to reading and grammar. Color, tone, etc., has cultivated his senses, and aroused his love for the beautiful; association with those of his own age, has helped him to grow unselfish, and "Love to the neighbor" has become the law of his life. He has learned what he will never have to unlearn, and has gained a desire to go on learning, and to a certain extent the power of teaching himself. He has exercised self-control, and has gained self-reliance. He has obeyed the directions of another, and has also invented from his own thought. "By independent action we prepare for independent thought." He has not been hindered. He has been put in possession of his faculties, or rather, taught to use what he already possessed. Plays and songs and little comrades have ministered to the needs of his heart, mind and soul. He has loved and been loved, erred and been forgiven. His joy and sorrow have found expression and sympathy. He has been happy. "And of such is the Kingdom of Heaven!"

Every man is the expression or embodiment of a thought of his Creator, and the earnest soul is in a constant endeavor to give by his life a more perfect expression to this thought, though to do this his path may lead through fire and flood. Is not this the secret of individuality? Do we dare distrust it, as we do, when we suffer ourselves to be cut down to the exact pattern of our fellows?

"He who is to be wise for many, must not be protected." These words apply most forcibly to Friedrich Froebel. To the unrequited needs and unsatisfied longings of his motherless and unhappy childhood, do we owe the beneficent institution of the Kindergarten. All the years of his long life were devoted to the search for and discovery of a means by which children might be educated in accordance with the laws of their nature. He realized that the process of true education did not begin early enough. His lifetime of practical experience with existing methods, resulted in the establishment of the kindergarten as the ripest fruit of his labors. By the word "Kindergarten" he wished to signify, not only "a garden of children," where the little ones should be treated as the gardener treats his flowers, but also, that children should plant seeds in a real garden, caring for them with their own hands, and watching their progess and development through all the different stages of growth.

If you are the happy owner of a garden, it is safe to suppose that you do not seek to fill it with all roses or all lilies, but that you rather select a choice variety of flowers. Neither do you require your garden to transform roses into mignonette, nor heliotropes into pansies. You know that this cannot be done. You know that every seed has within it its own principle of life,—that the seed of the lily must develop into a lily, and the seed of the rose into a rose. "For God *created* every plant *before it grew* in the earth." It has been said of the lotus, the sacred and expressive symbol in the religion of the Hindoos and the Egyptians, that its seeds even before they germinate, contain perfectly formed leaves, and the miniature representation of the perfected plant.

Each plant in your garden must be given the conditions that are best adapted to its growth, and one kind must not be cultivated at the expense of another. Weeds will be found also, and at fitting times, the good gardener will remove these, but in so doing, he will handle the plants as little as possible, lest he bruise the tender leaves, and disturb the clinging roots. He will see that they are not crowded too closely together, and that the soil is rightly adapted to the different character and needs of each. He will supply them with due moisture, heat, air, etc., and then leave them to the unseen and silent influences that shall secretly minister to them whether he wake or sleep.

In the child-garden, which is to be adapted to the growth and culture of human plants, far more care is necessary to secure conditions suited to general and individual needs. For the child as well as the seed, has his individuality, and when you attempt to treat all children by the same methods, you are trying to do something as impossible as when you try to make a rose into a lily.

Here, as in the flower garden, one of the first requisites is space, so that no one shall be crowded, and all shall have liberty to move about freely. The large and airy rooms are to be supplied with due warmth, life-giving sunlight, and an abundance of fresh, pure air, all of which are as necessary to the child as to the plant. How necessary light is to the latter, let the following illustration show: "One stormy winter, when, for weeks, the sun scarcely ever shone, and flowers could not be induced to grow, wanting his cheery beams, some grains of barley that had been put upon moist cotton, after long watching, at length sent upward a few frail blades, white as the snow itself. But one morning, to our great delight, suddenly through the clouds beamed the sun, and the dishes of barley were at once placed in his direct rays. In a miraculously short time, only a few minutes, it seemed to us who were eagerly watching, we grew rapturous over the delicate emerald tint that faintly coursed its way through the pale lances, which we could *see* grow green in the welcome light!" If, in so few moments, light can work such a miracle in plant life, how can we who live in darkened rooms, know of what life-giving influences we deprive ourselves when we shut out the sun's rays? And it is a fact that many human beings are more sensitive than plants are, to the light. Let us banish the darkness from all realms physical, mental and spiritual. "Light! Light!" we cry, in the home, in the church, in the school, in the kindergarten, in our minds, hearts, souls, everywhere, "more light!"

The conditions necessary to physical health and comfort secured, and all improper influences removed, the children join in alternate work and play, suited to their age and capacity, and to be guided and accompanied in both, but like the plants in the flower garden are not to be meddled with nor hindered by too eager or officious help. They thrive only in atmosphere of cheerful happiness, which is largely induced and insured by the fascinating aids found in the twenty "gifts" and occupations, which embrace a great variety of material, and are, each one in its own way, capable of teaching lessons as valuable as they are pleasing.

The kindergartner, while she must be a veritable child in heart, must also take the temporary place of a mother to the little ones. She must be a kind of spiritual sun shining on them with rays of love that must never for an instant be withdrawn. Not otherwise can she woo to its gradual unfolding the germ of that Ideal which exists in every human being, as surely as does "the miniature planted in the seed of the sacred lotus," a truth recognized by Froebel, when he said: "I see in every child the possibility of a perfect man."

He did not wish children to be forced into a premature growth, but that they should linger joyfully in the enchanted realms of childhood, till the time came when they should naturally and sweetly glide out of it into the Wonderland of Youth. "It is in accordance with that Divine order unfolded in the government of the world, that what is to be of long continuance, is a long time in reaching maturity. This is the law of the animal and vegetable kingdoms. A learned French philosopher has shown that the natural duration of the life of an animal may be ascertained by multiplying the time it requires to reach maturity by five. The longer is that period, the greater the duration of its life. In the vegetable kingdom, witness that most wonderful plant, the Sea Coco, which grows only in one spot on the globe. The seed does not germinate until it has lain upon the surface of the earth twenty-five years. It is then one hundred years before it produces fruit and reaches maturity. After it blossoms, it is eight years before the seed ripens. But it outlives kingdoms. Its years are centuries. * * * The *Washingtonea Gigantea*, of California, though it has continued for more than twenty centuries, leaves the record of its yearly growth in the woody fibre added to its circumference." Shall we then deprive our human plants of the resting and waiting processes of a few short years, knowing that their growth is to be eternal!

Froebel said: "If three hundred years after my death my method of education shall be completely established according to its idea, I shall rejoice in Heaven!" No one who has studied him with a receptive and reverent spirit, can ever again look with indifference upon a little child, and if by nothing else than this is proved the fact, that the ideal which he strove to embody in the Kindergarten, is surely but slowly unfolding with a divine reality that will sooner or later make itself understood.

[For the benefit of questioners and those who are unfamiliar with Kindergarten methods, it is the purpose of the writer of the above article, in a series of papers, to describe somewhat in detail the "gifts" and occupations of the Kindergarten system, the manner in which they are used, and what they are meant to teach.]

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HOW LITERARY WOMEN DRESS.

BY M. A. TURNER.

There seems to be a prevalent opinion that literary women are, like the illustrious Mrs. Jellyby, slovenly in their dress as well as negligent in their housekeeping. Both these charges remain to be proved, however, and the examination of the first will be quite enough for once.

Jane Austin and her sister were remarkably neat in their dress, but rather un-heedful of the fashionable and becoming. It is said that they took to the costume of middle life before their looks or years required it. Joanna Baillie was fond of dress, and dressed exquisitely. With a delicate, graceful figure, not large-boned, like many English women, she wore her own gray hair and pretty brown silk gowns and bonnets,—just right for an old lady. Mary Lamb, the devoted sister of the delightful Charles, was neat and plain in her dress, but she did not change much with the fashions. However, she affected no indifference to this delightful subject; she wrote to a friend, "I do dearly love worked muslin," and she took great delight in certain silks sent her by a friend in China. Her usual dress was of black stuff or silk, and for great occasions there was a "dove-colored silk, with a kerchief of snow-white muslin folded across her bosom," and a cap then in fashion with deep frilled border and a bow on top. At William Hazlitt's wedding she had great difficulty in deciding whether her bridesmaid's dress should be a "sprigged gown" or a "dead-whitish bloom color" silk. With all her daintiness, she often dipped her delicate white hand into her tortoise-shell snuff-box. When Lady Mary Wortley Montague came to court, the Prince of Wales (George II.,) called out in a rapture to the Princess, to look how becomingly she was dressed. "Lady Mary always dresses well," said the Princess, dryly. But in spite of this general statement, Lady Mary seems to have indulged in some eccentricities. At one time she wore a "full-bottomed wig;" on returning from Turkey she sometimes let her fine dark hair flow loosely, and was fond of dressing in the Turkish costume. Walpole says that her dress, on her arrival in London, after her life abroad, was a gallimatias of several countries. She wore an old black-laced hood, fur about her neck, a dimity petticoat, and slippers. When Charlotte Bronte went to London, about the time "Shirley" was published, she is described as "a young-looking lady, almost childlike in stature, in a deep mourning dress neat as a Quaker's." Indeed, neatness was a characteristic of her dress, and the coverings of her hands and feet were always extremely dainty. She loved modest apparel, and thought a pink-lined bonnet too gay for her, while she did not buy "beautiful silks of pale sweet colors," at five shillings, as she "had not the spirit nor the means," but choose a black silk at three shillings a yard. Emily Bronte was dressed while at school in Brussels in ill-cut, lank skirts and leg o' mutton sleeves, which she liked and wore whether in or out of fashion. Harriet Martineau is described as plainly dressed. Of George Eliot's clothes we know little, save that her gowns were plain, and that over her abundant hair, still untouched by gray, she wore a cap of lace or muslin with lappets of rich point or Valenciennes, fastened under her chin. When George Sand was yet a young girl she wore a boy's blouse and gaiters for a ramble over her rough country, and later, in Paris, she continued to go about like a collegian of sixteen, in all weathers, places and times. As an excuse it may be said that women's clothes then were very perishable, and ulsters and thick walking boots were not a necessary part of a woman's wardrobe. Eugene Delacroix painted a picture of George Sand in 1838, where she is represented in a masculine *redingote* and loose silk tie. Throughout her life she was quite indifferent to what she called "the silly vanities of finery," and was never willing to "souffrir *pour etre belle*." Although simple and sombre, her toilet was always careful; Margaret Fuller describes her dressed becomingly in dark violet silk with a black mantle over her shoulders, but still guarding her cigarette. Margaret Fuller herself delighted in elegant and well-chosen clothes, but she did not give her time to fashionable frivolities. Lydia Maria Child dressed all her life in a plain, cheap fashion. Lucretia Mott wore the Quaker's subdued gown, white kerchief, and little cap. Maria Mitchell, although not a Friend, dresses simply in black or gray with a white muslin kerchief about her neck, a black lace cap over her gray curls, and often a white shawl thrown over her shoulders. Rose Terry Cooke dresses handsomely. Ella Wheeler Wilcox is said to wear a Directoire dress with short sleeves and low neck while composing her passionate poetry. Miss Mary L. Booth, of *Harper's Bazar*, dresses plainly while about her work, but with much richness and taste at other times; she wears many beautiful rings, and has the woman's weakness for rare old lace and cashmere shawls that can be drawn through a ring. Frances Hodgson Burnett is fond of dress and likes to work in dainty lace, to put bows on dresses and hats, so that she does many of these things for herself.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TWO POINTS OF VIEW.

BY JESSIE F. O'DONNELL.

"I am just becoming acquainted with the stern realities of life," laughed Alice; "and the first which forced itself upon my attention was that 'soft, silky, rich' material couldn't be purchased for thirty-five cents per yard, which was the sum I felt able to expend on this gown." Hearing footsteps approaching, she said, hurriedly, as she assumed a more distant air, "Please remember, Mr. Rogers, that I am the new bookkeeper, Miss Foster, not Allie, any more."

A moment later a young man entered the room. He paused as he saw Alice, and Mr. Rogers hastened to say: "Good morning, Howard. Let me present you to Miss Gr—Miss—Miss—" looking helplessly at Alice.

"Foster," said that young lady smiling.

"Ah, yes, Foster," repeated Mr. Rogers, much relieved; "our new bookkeeper, you know."

Alice met a frank gaze from a pair of bright blue eyes as she bowed, and a pleasant voice said: "Glad to meet you, Miss Foster. Hope you will find our office pleasant."

"Now, Miss Foster, you can go right to work," said the elder lawyer. "Here is your desk, and here is your stool, and here are the books;" and he proceeded to give business-like directions to the amused girl, stopping once to whisper, "Ain't I doing beautifully, Allie?"

The first few days were long and weary ones to Alice, as she tried to accustom herself to the confinement, the hours of labor, the cramped position, the strange surroundings. At first, errors would creep into the accounts she strove to make so accurate, and she found her boasted knowledge very inadequate to the demands upon it. But it did not take her long to adapt herself to the work, and the books began to resume their wonted neat and careful appearance. When she had been at work two weeks she began to feel as if she had never known any other life, so much were the days alike. Meanwhile she had received several letters from Millicent, giving glowing accounts of her triumphs.

"MY DEAR FAIRY GODMOTHER,"—(began the first letter.) "It is midnight, and I have dismissed my maid. (Doesn't that sound grand!) How can I tell you how happy you have made me! A few weeks ago I was drudging over those books of Mr. Rogers', wondering how I should squeeze a respectable summer wardrobe out of my salary, and have money enough left to attend a few concerts and get some books I wanted. And now I am in Saratoga, dressed in such a soft, pretty gown of cherry cashmere, that I stop to admire myself in the long mirror every few moments.

"We only arrived this afternoon, so I can hardly say I am the belle of the season, as yet; but when I luxuriate in the thought of those beautiful dresses in the wardrobe, and reconsider the charms which nature has bestowed upon me, I feel that it would be basely ungrateful to you and to nature not to become that envied creature. O Alice! just to see all those lovely gowns hanging there!

"'Dresses for breakfasts, and dinners, and balls;
Dresses to sit in, and stand in, and walk in;
Dresses to dance in, and flirt in, and talk in;
Dresses in which to do nothing at all.'

"Perhaps you wouldn't call my room in the hotel very lovely. Of course, it isn't filled with exquisite pictures and *bric-a-brac*, like yours at home, but it seems very grand to me. There are two full-length mirrors. These are a great luxury, for the dressing-bureau in my room at Mrs. Barker's, (as you have doubtless discovered) is in such a position that I had to climb on the bed to see how my skirts hung.

"I look in the mirror a great deal more here than I did at home. Do you think me dreadfully vain? You have often told me that I am pretty, and I am beginning to believe it. Don't you remember that Enid's mother says to her—

"'Let never maiden think, however fair,
She is not fairer in new clothes than in old.'

"It is so early in the season that the hotels are not full, but there are many elegant people here. How can you think this life stupid and uninteresting, Alice! I anticipate such a good time among all these people. How I wish you were here! I feel conscience-stricken when I remember what you are doing. But 'tis only for a little while and then my coach will become a pumpkin, my footmen lizards, and I be once more CINDERELLA."

In another letter she wrote: "Last night was my first ball. Such a happy evening, Alice! I wore that Jacqueminot red satin you chose for me, with a bouquet of the roses. I wanted to wear something less striking on my first appearance, but Mrs. Grant insisted on this. She came in after Greta had dressed me, took off the silver filagree jewelry I had selected, and put those great glowing rubies of yours in my ears and around my throat. Mr. Grant said I looked like the spirit of flame.

"I was considerably frightened when I entered the ball-room on Mr. Grant's arm. But, oh, Alice! my first ball was a success. I danced twenty two times, and had to refuse ever so many partners. I met Stanley Richards. I have seen him several times in the office, though of course he didn't recognize me. He was quite attentive to me. But he asked for you, and seemed disappointed that you were not to be with our party this summer. I am going to drive over to the lake with him this afternoon. And I'll tell you what I am going to wear. That soft Sarah which you said was so near the color of sunshine it should be called golden, not brown, and a great cluster of field daisies. It is so nice to be where one sees 'green things growing' and flowers."

Later she wrote: "I am so happy, Alice. Saratoga is the most beautiful place, with its green lawns and broad streets. And I don't believe the June sunshine is brighter anywhere. Mr. Richards and I have had a long walk out to Excelsior Spring. I see a great deal of him. And I have lusts of admirers who beslege me at every turn; send me flowers, and assist in making life delightful to me. Miss Hilton is furiously jealous of Mr. Richards' attentions to me. I heard her saying to a gentleman who was inquiring who was 'that little brunette beauty with the Grants?' 'Oh! some little country girl they have picked up; evidently a poor relation they are trying to marry off. She is rather pretty, but hasn't a particle of manner. No one knows who she is, or where from.'

"The gentleman she addressed is a young Englishman, and very aristocratic and wealthy. He was presented to me later, and I exerted myself to be entertaining, succeeding so well that he hardly left my side during the evening. Stanley Richards seemed annoyed at his attentions."

Alice Grant took up her work in the lawyer's office with a determination to draw out of it all it held of helpfulness and growth. Various motives had influenced her in assuming her present position. She wanted to give Milly a peep at the gay world for which she longed, feeling sure that while Milly would enjoy the luxurious life, she would come to feel it less brave and independent than her hard-working one. And when she discovered her friend's interest in Stanley Richards she reasoned: "Milly may see him occasionally in the office for years, and learn to care for him, while he may never be brought in contact with her. If they are suited to each other, as I believe they are, why not bring them together?"

Alice Grant was of too restless and aspiring a temperament to be content with the life of a fashionable belle. She craved rather intellectual stimulus and association with broad and original minds. She liked to meet "new" people. She was inclined to greet new experiences with enthusiasm. Since she had known Milly Duncan a great desire had taken hold of her to meet men and women out of the world of society, and to try the life of a working woman for the experience it would give. Alice was not finding it unpleasant. She held all the advantages of her position, to be sure, without any of its drawbacks. Her salary was sufficient to dress her neatly and board her comfortably. No anxious forebodings for the future need disturb her; no need of laying up money for a "rainy day;" no loved ones depending upon her for daily bread. She had time and heart to be both appreciative and critical. Her employer and associates were gentlemanly and kind.

Often men of society came into the office, sometimes acquaintances of her own. Sheltered by her tall screen, while she worked steadily she made many discoveries. Avarice, or coarseness, or some other ignoble trait was revealed to Alice Foster which Alice Grant had never seen. On the other hand, she found men displaying more depth and strength of character than they had ever shown in the drawing-rooms where she had met them.

Unconsciously, she drifted as the weeks went by into a pleasant intimacy with Dave Howard, the young lawyer who was associated with Franklin Rogers.

David Howard had been early pushed into the world to shift for himself. His life had not been an easy one. He had tried one law office after another, but had never made the future he had in view. It had not been for lack of hard work either, for he was an industrious manly young fellow. Associated with Mr. Rogers, his prospects were brightening.

A rare sunny spirit was Dave Howard's. Misfortune had not embittered his nature, or rendered him less cheery and hopeful. When he came into the office he seemed to bring the sunshine with him.

As he stood by Alice's desk one morning she looked at him with her clear, questioning eyes, and tried, as she had done many times before, to analyze the charm of his face. It was his eyes, she thought, such bright, happy eyes, full of courage and loyalty.

Dave had a great many lady friends. He frankly preferred their society to that of his own sex. Women liked Dave Howard. He never made love to them, but he gave so hearty a friendship and liking to women who attracted him that they could but respond in kind. He was twenty-eight years old and had only thought of women as good comrades and friends. But Alice's dainty ways were growing very dear to him.

This morning he was talking in his bright energetic way, while Alice was getting her books ready for work.

"I visited Watts' pictures yesterday," said he, "and my sense of the ludicrous hasn't been so nearly satisfied for a long time."

"What a strange remark to make after visiting those beautiful pictures!" cried Alice. "I spent an afternoon with them several weeks ago and came away feeling as if I had been lifted above the plains of daily living, and had had a glimpse into some brighter, purer sphere."

"And I came away feeling as if I had been to a Chamber of Horrors," responded the young man. "Did you ever see those distorting mirrors which make fat people lean and lean people fat? Well, I seemed to see my favorite personages of romance and fable metamorphosed into strange and hideous apparitions through the medium of some such mirrors. Such an array of transformed, malformed, deformed creatures I hope I may never again behold!"

"Oh, Mr. Howard!" cried Alice, indignantly, "perhaps the drawing is sometimes crude, the execution technically imperfect, but the earnestness and devotion to high ideals outweighs all that."

"What a strong picture 'The Genius of Greek Poetry' might be!" continued Mr. Howard. "But if one of Homer's old heroes could catch a glimpse of the bad drawing in Mr. Watts' representation, the life of the artist wouldn't be worth a plasyune! And those absurd figures from the Apocalypse are only excelled by the absurdity of the horses they ride. Why, those horses couldn't *walk*, Miss Foster!"

"I think you exaggerate the defects of drawing, Mr. Howard. And I contend that the soul of the pictures is of paramount importance. Mr. Watts' is a painter of the ideal. His work is poetic and thoroughly sympathetic. One recognizes in the portraits that he has done more than represent the mere external features. He seems to have looked into the man's heart, and expressed its character in the face. Perhaps he has idealized some, and shown not what the man is, but what he might be."

"He certainly hasn't idealized Carlyle," and Dave's eyes sparkled at the remembrance of the ugly rugged face."

"No; I think he failed there," answered Alice; "the best in Thomas Carlyle he has missed."

"I have never seen so powerful a representation of helplessness and hopefulness as in his 'Paolo and Francesca,'" continued Alice. "The unresisting motion of the figures drifted along by the wind, the passion of love robbed of all its sweetness, the weariness of utter despair are perfect. And surely, Mr. Howard, you were pleased with those two marvellous paintings, 'Love and Life,' and 'Love and Death!'" queried Alice, her eyes luminous with the thought of them. "The conception of the first seems to me particularly fine. And with what wonderful power it is painted!—the beautiful tenderness in Love's face as he looks down at the slender maiden—the trust and expectancy in her eyes!"

"But in the name of all artistic beauty, ideal or otherwise," asked Dave Howard, watching Alice's glowing face admiringly, "why is Love represented with a skin like a dried orange peel?"

Alice paid no attention to this characteristic comment, but continued: "'Love and Death' has even more of human interest. The agony in Love's pleading face as he bars the door against the dread invader is wonderfully painted. The crushed roses and broken wing tell how futile has been his struggle with that resistless, relentless figure of Death who presses forward with bowed head and outstretched arm, as though impelled by some unseen power. The very folds of the drapery are suggestive of inexorablenesss. The face is hidden from us, but poor little Love sees it," and Alice's eyes were wet with a sudden rush of tears.

"That *is* a fine picture," admitted the young man reluctantly. "But Love looks as if he had had a hand-to-hand fight with Death, in which he got the worst of it, for"—Dave Howard suddenly became aware of the tears in Alice's eyes, called there by the remembrance of Death's entrance into her own home, and said remorsefully:

"Please pardon my thoughtless words, Miss Alice. I didn't think what the picture might mean to you."

Mr. Rogers, entering at this moment, became unpleasantly aware that there was a great deal of tenderness in Dave Howard's blue eyes, as he begged Alice's forgiveness, and a rare sweetness in the smile which answered him. He greeted them quietly, but his keen gray eyes noted that David Howard seated himself with a volume of Blackstone, where he could watch Alice's graceful head bending over the books before her, and that the young man's happy eyes often wandered in that direction. Mr. Rogers rose deliberately, consulted a volume on the shelf; whistled a few bars; and then said: "I will arrange this screen, so you won't be bothered by people who come in the office, Miss Foster," moving the screen so as to effectually shut out David Howard's view of the woman Franklin Rogers loved.

Alice did not quite understand her old friend these days. His manner amused and puzzled her. He had found it hard to adjust himself to her new position. More than once had he narrowly escaped betraying her by some allusion to people or circumstances connected with her former life; or by using the old diminutive, "Allie," in addressing her. At first he overwhelmed her with little attentions, but had but little faith in her book-keeping powers. He worried over his books, and tormented her with useless directions concerning them, until he found her capable of keeping them with accuracy, at which his amazement was boundless. But of late, he had half neglected her; had hardly spoken with her beyond the accustomed "Good-morning;" had not called her into his private office on any of the thousand little pretexts he was fond of inventing. But she sometimes met a strange piercing look from the dark eyes, under the heavy brows, which recurred to her thoughts again and again, she hardly knew why.

To David Howard, the weeks slipped by on golden wings. One August evening he realized why the summer days had been so full of sunshine. Alice had left the office early in the afternoon with a blinding headache; and after tormenting himself all day with anxiety concerning her, in the evening he ventured to call at her boarding place. Dave did not expect that the young lady would be able to see him. But he had not waited long in the trim boarding-house parlor, before Alice entered, looking a trifle pale, but showing no other trace of suffering. She greeted him cordially, replying to his eager inquiries: "I am quite myself again to-night. I am never ill long, and I think it was the heat which affected me to-day. When the sun went down my headache left me."

Alice was accustomed to change her working dress for a more elaborate one, as soon as she came from the office. She had never worn "coarse cashmere and flannels" until now, and often—though she never confessed it to any one but Alice Grant—her soul longed for the beautiful dresses in her wardrobe at home. Not that her clothes were ugly. They were made by her own dressmaker who had greatly marvelled at their plainness. Alice had admitted to Milly that in taking up her new life, she could not bring herself to make her own dresses, or be fitted by a more inexpensive, but less competent *modiste* than Madame Reaupierre.

To night she had selected the cooler of her two "best dresses," and was looking like some sweet, stately lily in the flowing cream-white draperies. David Howard had seen her only in office attire, and had hardly realized her fairness. He had sprung to meet the girl as she entered the room, and stood holding both her hands in his as he talked. She withdrew them after a moment, blushing slightly under his frank, admiring gaze.

"You look as if you had never heard of headache," he said, "except for a little pallor and slight heaviness of the eyes," leading her to a chair, and seating himself where he could watch every change of the sweet face. He exerted himself to be entertaining, and he was always at his best in Alice's society. An hour passed in pleasant chat; and when he took his leave Dave Howard said coaxingly: "I may come again, may I not, Miss Alice? You don't know how dull evenings are to us fellows who have no home."

As he went out into the starlight, Dave glanced back at the house which held his treasure, and his lips involuntarily breathed a blessing. He was not the same man who had walked past that house only that morning, ignorant of the feeling which was now overmastering him. A strange feeling took possession of him. Was it love—this sweet emotion which had crept into his heart? Why was it that all for which he had ever cared or hoped seemed worthless to him without the love of one fair woman? He had liked many women before he met Alice Foster. Was not her friendship sufficient to him as theirs had ever been? Ah, no! a mad, passionate longing swept over him for a sight of the dear face—the clasp of her hand—to hold her in his arms—Dare he ever dream of her as his wife?

"It is all true then," he said aloud to himself in the starlight, stopping suddenly in his rapid walk. "It is all true—this love of which I have heard."

Milly's letters of late had been less rapturous than her first ones. She was now in Newport, where many of her admirers had followed her. She was beginning to weary of their attentions.

"These men are all alike," she wrote Alice. "That remark sounds strangely familiar. I think I must have heard you make it. I am beginning to think you were right, Alice, as to the lack of originality and brilliance among society men. But then I have never found much of either in the business men I have known. Your letters shame me. You seem to have discovered so much where all was blank to me."

To-day letters came which troubled Alice. Mrs. Grant wrote:

"I don't know what to make of Milly. Everyone is talking of her beauty, her cleverness, and her money, for it is currently reported that she is heiress to an immense fortune. Half-a-dozen men have already lost their hearts to Miss Duncan, one or two 'eligibles' among them. She flirts outrageously, especially of late, and has

[Continued on page 24.]

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EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I noticed in the December number an inquiry concerning necessary articles for baby's wardrobe. No answers having appeared, I volunteer one which, although it may be too late for "young wife," may be of service to the number of others who are constantly asking that question.

First the *bands*. Flannel or linen should be the material. Flannel, if for the winter, and all the time if linen shirts are used in summer. The number should not be less than four—more than seven is unnecessary.

Little shirts come next. Nothing is better than the knit woolen baby shirt; long-sleeved for summer and winter. If the babe is troubled with heat in the summer, use light weight; but keep in the semblance of long-sleeved, woolen shirts, until after the second summer, and lighten other clothes. Four woolen shirts will be plenty—two will answer. If linen is used, seven or eight will do away with frequent washing.

Next in order comes the pinning skirt or half skirt. This is a superfluous article in a baby's wardrobe, and of no use except to make one more swathing band around the little body; yet, if used, make the skirt of flannel, the band of cotton—three will form the greatest plenty. Of skirts, three flannel skirts—two for every day, one for extra, on cotton bands. They can be as elaborately embroidered as taste and pocket-book allow. One or two white cambric skirts can be provided for state occasions, and so fixed at the top as to fasten on the regulation flannel skirt band, thus avoiding another band around the body.

Slips to be of white cotton, and six in number.

Dresses to be of white muslin or cambric, as many and as fancy as mother's taste indicates; but I would say to every young wife and mother in prospect, don't begin slaving in baby's clothes—a clean baby is pretty enough though simply dressed—and it's only a short time the long dresses can be worn.

Double gowns will prove very handy, made of calico, and they are so nice to put on over baby's night clothes, when mother must get breakfast before she can dress baby. Two will be plenty.

Socks, worsted ones, and five pairs.

The cloaks, hoods and little caps are usually not prepared beforehand. Little pinning blankets are not only handy, but a necessity, unless an old shawl is made to do service.

For patterns, those offered by the New England Pattern Company are reliable.

Hoping this short summary may prove of use to some young wife, I am Sincerely yours,

AMELIA A. WHITFIELD, M. D.

Raphi City, Dakota.

[For the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TRUE MOTHERS.

Not long since when rocking my baby—alas! already he resents that sweet title—to sleep, I remarked to my "liege lord" that it was now the verdict of many of our writers, who are mothers, that it was very foolish, and wrong to thus spend one's time. "They may be right, commented I, but to me its the happiest hour of the day when I can snuggle baby in my arms and 'mother' him to my heart's content." Jack looked up from his newspaper—my only rival—saying, "They may write *that* till doomsday, but a *true* mother, one gifted with the mother instinct, will never turn off her babies." And a fond look lighted up his countenance, while his eyes for a moment dwelt upon baby and me, as if thoroughly glad that he had chosen for a wife a *true* mother. So now I don't care what all the wiseacres say, or write, my husband is willing that I shall baby my babies; hence I shall continue so to do to the end of the chapter, as "Thorny Poppy" also declares her intention. By the way, I think that she risked much when she waited developments. Had her little boy taken the poison it would have been too late to save him after any "symptoms" were manifest. Let "Thorny Poppy" and others caring for children, remember: *in all* cases of poisoning to induce *vomiting* at once, by mustard and salt, by quantities of warm water, by emetics, by running the finger down the throat, or tickling it with a feather. The stomach must be emptied of its contents before giving any antidote. Doctors use at such times a stomach pump, so great is the necessity of removing the poison. Had "Thorny Poppy" given, at once, some salt, and mustard—condiments that are always on hand—the child would have vomited freely, and her uneasiness, or anxiety, thereby been lessened.

For the benefit of HOME JOURNAL readers who may live remote from a physician, I will append minute directions for the terrible emergency of poison taken by design, or accident.

The cullings, from reliable works, are as follows: If a poison swallowed is known to be an acid, by the label on the bottle, by discolored spots on the garments, or by a sour odor, or taste, the proper antidotes are alkalies—such as soap mixed with milk, soda, or lime and water, magnesia, or whiting, and milk. If, however, the poison was an alkaline substance, such as pearl-ash, lye, or ammonia, antidote with strong vinegar, or any acid.

Corrosive sublimate—which is often used to destroy the disturber of our sleep—may be carelessly left in the way of children to swallow. If so, give raw eggs. For any metallic substances, viz.: tin, or quicksilver, also give eggs, the whites mixed with water. For iodine, give starch, or wheat flour mixed with water. For gases, such as inhaling too much coal gas, give a cold *douche*, *i. e.*, spray the water in jets upon the patient, followed by friction, or vigorous rubbing.

For phosphorus—which children often get in sucking matches—give magnesia, soda, saleratus, lime, or even plaster dug from the wall, if nothing better is at hand.

If baby's nurse chance to give too large a dose of "soothing syrup"—some form of opium—antidote with strong coffee. Electricity will in this case cure, when other remedies fail. I once knew of a would-be suicide's resuscitation from an opium death by whipping. Three persons administered the pleasant (!) remedy using small whips causing severe tingling of the flesh, thereby preventing the death sleep. A poison of any degree of potency may be rendered harmless by giving two, or more gills of sweet oil, since it will neutralize any form of vegetable or mineral poison with whom physicians or chemists are acquainted. It has been known to cure the poison sting of rattlesnakes, taken as an internal remedy. Aqua ammonia is the antidote for outer application. It is also a sovereign cure for the sting of bees, giving instant relief. Should any of my family become poisoned, I should, in some way, *induce copious vomiting*, and send for a physician.

JACK'S WIFE.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

AN APPEAL.

It is said:

"The hand that rocks the cradle,
Is the hand that rules the world."

If this be true, then to *mothers* alone I address the following lines. If it be *not* true, (and I am skeptical on this point,) I trust they will share them with their "pardners."

No one for a moment doubts that, from before their birth to the grave, a mother's influence over her children is beyond estimate; and if there was no counteracting influence the above words might be true. But there is the *father*, with his superior physical strength and dominant will, who naturally has as great, if not greater power, over the offspring, especially the boys. True, it is a physiological fact that mentally and physically the latter are most apt to resemble the mother; but who ever saw one, who from babyhood, did not look upon "papa" as the grandest, noblest, most-to-be imitated creature in the world? It is perfectly natural to run to "mamma" with the cut finger or bruised head; when sleepy, hungry, or tired; but, underneath it all, is the masculine pity and disdain because she is only a *woman*, and can not wear pants and boots; and does not smoke, chew, swear, go hunting and fishing, or stay in that mysterious place designated "down town." To be sure in his *heart* he loves her the better of the two: for she never looks at him fiercely or speaks in loud, blood-curdling tones when he has been recreant; and her interest in him is not of the periodical, spasmodic sort that his father's is. As he grows older his respect for her may increase, and bye-and-bye, when he has become a man, the *maternal* teaching will exert a greater influence than the *paternal*, yet there will ever be a strong leaven of the latter and, in *many* cases it is well that this is so.

But it is to mothers, after all, that we write this appeal, one that has been forming in our souls and trembling on our pen's tip for years. An appeal to you to teach your boys *humanity*: teach them to be kind to the weak and helpless whether fellow-beings or dumb brutes; teach them that he who rules by *might* instead of *right*, is the most veritable coward in the world; teach them that He, who made *them*, made the humblest worm that crawls, and that the only part of his work he repented making was, *man*; teach them that what it is worth God's while to create, is worth their while to be careful and tender of. Teach not alone by precept but by example. Never let them see you wantonly torture or abuse anything, and *take care* of whatever domestic animals you have about you. If you have a dog do not misuse him because you do not like canines in general. Treat him well and you will find in it a reward. Do not starve the cat, because it ought to be able to catch its own living. You owe it more than you will be likely to give it. These creatures are as necessary to us as we are to them, and we should see to it that our obligations are as faithfully discharged as are theirs. If a stray animal enters your yard to pick up the fragments thrown out do not drive it away unless it be doing actual harm. There is nothing more narrowing to the soul than such petty meanness and unreasonable selfishness. You find a pleasure in even shaking the crumbs out for the birds if you do it with a kind intent. Oh! there are so many *little* ways that a mother may teach by example; and children are very observing.

About flies, spiders, etc. It may be that I am strangely constituted, but I cannot destroy even a *fly* but the thought flashes into mind: "Taken the life I cannot give," stilled with one thoughtless or angry blow all that busy little mechanism, one eye, the like of which the combined wisdom of man cannot imitate. And I ask myself the question: "Who are you that thus dare ruin the handiwork of the Creator?" Involuntarily the prayer rises to my lips: "Father, forgive me, I know not what I do." It is a terrible deed to take LIFE, that strange inexplicable thing that knows but one Author.

I know you will say these insects soon become household pests. Yes, they annoy us, but gently brush or drive them out of doors. There is room and use for them in God's great garden for he formed nothing in vain. Just *why* he made so many or why *any* I cannot tell; it is enough for me to know that *He did it*.

One of the earliest lessons in cruelty which a boy learns is fishing with *live* bait; and little wonder if it never occurs to him that it is a heinous sin for, of course, "father does it." Only think of the suffering and torture of the worm, minnow or *frog* as it writhes on the hook of the heartless fisherman, helpless, powerless, nothing left it but agony till death comes creeping slowly on. And when at last one life is given for another and a fish is landed on the bank, why in the name of common mercy can he not as well put an immediate end to its sufferings as to prolong them for hours? Simply because the heart has become callous. Nothing less than the sight of a fellow-being under the wheels of a locomotive can excite such a man's sympathies, yet each of those bait and fish may have suffered as much. No use to make the excuse that such creatures have not feeling. Our best students, even though they be fishermen, emphatically say *they have*. Even an angle-worm, which belongs to the lowest order of life, is capable of suffering. Teach your boys to use a bit of meat or an artificial fly, and to immediately plunge a knife into the back of the fish's head, or rather neck. Severing the spinal marrow causes almost instantaneous death.

A few days since, I saw boys, some of them church members, cheer a dog on to a cat, and that at the door of the barn that had always been its home. There they stood laughing and shouting while the innocent little creature was being mangled to death. I was too far away to see the awful look of fright and entreaty in its eyes, as it mutely turned them from one to another praying the help they never thought of giving; but I knew it was there. Yet the ring-leader will sit at the Lord's table next communion-day.

Mothers, let your voices give no uncertain sound on this subject. It is not enough that you send your boys to church and Sunday school, that they learned to pray at your knee. Teach and do all this; but more, infinitely more. Cruel, unmerciful boys make the same kind of men, and they may become Beechers or Talmages in the eyes of the world. If there is not in their lives a gentle, tender consideration for the weak and helpless, they are but as "sounding brass and tinkling cymbal."

The result is appalling when we consider and try to comprehend the suffering there is constantly among the domestic animals alone, in this our enlightened, christianized America. Over-worked, under-fed, kicked and beat! What a life! Yet they cannot protest. If only they could speak what tales of brutality they might pour forth. And is there not a day coming when they shall speak, when their recorded wrongs shall cry out before God and the words be literally verified: "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, saith the Lord."

All honor to such men as Henry Bergh! and may every mother, whose eyes fall upon these lines, have such a son to rise up and call her blessed, for early instilling into his mind and heart the true principles of humanity; for teaching him that

"He prayeth best who loveth most
All things both great and small,
For the good Lord who loveth us,
He made and loveth all."

VELMA CALDWELL MELVILLE.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

LITTLE HELPERS.

Mothers, do you ever realize, how much help our little five-year old girls are? Mine is a perfect treasure; and I often wonder what *could* I do without her? If I would permit it, she would be at work all the time. She seems to think if she is only helping mamma, she could not be happier; no difference how disagreeable, or hard the task to her unaccustomed fingers, if mamma will only say: "You are a dear, good little girl," she feels amply rewarded. Her little hands can do so many things, such as picking up things and putting them away, so that it is no trouble to sweep, and on a few occasions has *swept* the sitting-room—to use her own words—"Oh, so bright and clean!" Going to the cellar or pantry, for needed articles, paring apples, potatoes and turnips, in a surprising manner; a task she *will* do, and one which most people do not particularly like; but she evidently thinks it the nicest work in the world. Setting the table as nicely as any one can do; but I will not allow her to wash or wipe dishes *yet*, though she often begs to do so; dishes, when wet, are slippery things to hold, and if broken would cause one to feel vexed in spite of themselves. She almost always puts them in the cupboard; sometimes (only when she teases, however,) she scours knives and forks; helps churn, brings in chips, and when brother wheels a load of wood to the door, brings it in as it is needed; feeds the chickens, waits on little brother, and—oh, I will stop or you will think that child must certainly do all the work. No, of course she does not do any very hard work. I have a dreadful time to keep her from *trying* to do everything. She is large of her age and very active; but I would never think of putting her to work, if she would only stay away and play contentedly. She watches how everything is done, "so I can do it just as you do, mamma," and is constantly lamenting because she does not grow faster; and when she plays, the wildest, roughest play suits her best, or play that is most like work; such as playing she has a large washing to do, or must clean house. She loves to dust; if I will tie a soft cloth on a stick and let her use that for a duster, she will keep the furniture and zinc shining, and all such places as under-clothes presses and little nooks and corners, where one cannot sweep with a broom, Nellie, with her "poke stick," will keep out everything in the shape of dirt.

Dear little hands so willing and helpful! Do we appreciate them as we should? I often look at them and kiss the dimpled fingers and think what tiny hands they are, to begin the fight with this rough world; but work is a blessing and nothing in life will bring us more real pleasure than being able to do *our work, whatever it is, well.*

THORNY POPPY.

OVER-ANXIOUS MOTHERS.

ED. HOME JOURNAL:—It is positively distressing to see many mothers so easily alarmed about their children.

They are blessed with health in their families to an unusual degree, yet not a month passes in which they do not have a real fright over some fancied indisposition.

Such a mother called me in great alarm. Her dear Mamie was at death's door! She'd been up all night; Charley—her husband—was away on business: or she'd got the doctor in the night; as it was, she'd never slept a wink!

I stepped to the bedside, the child was sweetly sleeping; but feverish symptoms were manifest. "Did she eat anything unusual?" asked I. "Y-e-s," reluctantly replied the over-anxious mother. "I was over to Mrs. Wilyard's to tea—and you know what model children she has—and Mamie was going to make a fuss if I would not let her eat pickles. "Just so, my dear! then its only a fit of indigestion. Give her when she wakens a warm bath." "What shall she eat?" interrupted the mother. "Eat! Bless you she won't want anything *this* morning, and if she don't throw up the pickles——" "Oh! she *did* vomit copiously about midnight." "Well, that's a good thing. She'll not be likely now to have any convulsions caused by the passage through the intestines of the undigested particles." You perceive, the anxiety of this mother and the consequent drain upon the nervous strength, was just as great as though the little one had been seriously ill.

Nothing is so frequent among children as what is called simple fever—fever induced by a cold, by indigestion, or even by mere fatigue and over-excitement. A few hours will often suffice for Nature, alone, to remove the cause.

This fever is an indication of disturbance, rather than of disease. A warm bath will prove a relief, and hasten recovery. If, however, feverish symptoms recur the next day, repeat the bath—a few degrees cooler than before. Observe in all cases nature's methods of cure. If a child does not *desire* food, it is probable that he is better without it. Therefore do not force, or coax, an appetite before nature indicates a need for food. Remember that children resist indisposition stoutly, at first, but when they do succumb, it is an absolute surrender; hence they will often *appear* well when ailing, and then seem most alarmingly ill, simply from the exhaustion, or weariness, caused by "keeping up" so long. Do not then relax watchfulness because a child *plays*, or *despair* because it suddenly droops. Much needless alarm would be saved, could mothers become familiar with diseases of especial dread. The desperate membranous croup, and the distressing spasmodic, have their separate symptoms, which mothers—as well as physicians—can learn. Remember that a *white* sore throat is not necessarily diptheria. The alarming symptom of diptheria is *prostration*, and this, often before any soreness in the throat is manifest. I should advise an over-nervous mother to become the possessor of a clinical thermometer; by its infallible aid she can determine any serious illness. It is an established fact that the temperature of the body, in a well person, is always essentially the same, two or three degrees of variation being the utmost range for health. Any range lower than 97.2, or higher than 99.5 is very suspicious; more than these usually indicate disease; a little more means danger; and still a little more means death. The lowest temperature on record, where the patient recovered, is 92.3; and no one ever survived a blood temperature of 113. The mysterious power of mind over matter may account for the constant ailments of some children.

"Carrie's got such a terrible cough, I am fearful of severe lung trouble," the nervous mother tells the chance visitor. Immediately Carrie has a paroxysm of coughing—she hadn't thought of it before. "Mamma's girlie is pale, she doesn't feel a bit well, does she?" and the plastic mind of the child is for the moment controlled by the superior, or stronger mind, and verily its little body feels somewhere the effect of such useless, nay, foolish sympathy.

FANNY FANSHAW.

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

MARY F. KNAPP, EDITOR, No. 20 Linden St., S. Boston, Mass

Terms Used in Knitting.

K—Knit plain. P—Purl, or as it is sometimes called, Seam. N or K 2 tog—Narrow, by knitting 2 together. Over—Throw the thread over the needle before inserting in the next stitch. This makes a loop which is always to be considered a stitch, in the succeeding rows or rounds. Tw—Twist stitch. Insert the needle in the back of the stitch to be knitted, and knit as usual. Sl—Slip a stitch from the left hand to the right hand needle without knitting it. Sl and B—Slip and bind—slip one stitch, knit the next; pass the slipped one over it, exactly as in binding off a piece of work at the end. * indicates a repetition, and is used merely to save words. "Sl 1, k 1, p 1, repeat from * 3 times"—would be equivalent to saying sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1. Tog means together.

Terms in Crochet.

Ch—Chain; a straight series of loops, each drawn with the hook through the preceding one. Sl st—Slip stitch; put hook through the work, thread over the hook, draw it through the stitch on the hook. S c—Single Crochet; having a stitch on the needle (or hook) put the needle through the work, draw the thread through the work, and the stitch on the needle. D c—double crochet; having the stitch on the needle, put the needle through the work, and draw a stitch through, making two on the needle. Take up the thread again, and draw it through both these stitches. T c or Tr—Treble Crochet; having a stitch on the needle, take up the thread as if for a stitch, put the needle through the work, and draw the thread through, making three on the needle. Take up the thread and draw through two, then take up the thread and draw it through the two remaining. S t c—Short Treble Crochet; like treble, except that when the three stitches are on the needle, instead of drawing the thread through two stitches twice, it is drawn through all three at once. L t c—Long Treble Crochet; like treble, except that the thread is thrown twice over the needle before inserting the latter in the work. The stitches are worked off two at a time, as in treble. Extra Long Stitch—Twine the cotton three times round the needle, work as the treble stitch, bringing the cotton through two loops four times. P—or picot; made by working three chain, and one single crochet in first stitch of the chain.

Can any one send directions for turfing with yarn?

Will some of the sisters tell how to knit or crochet a reticule? What number of silk used.
A. M. S.

Will some one of the sisters give tried directions for crocheting a deep flounce for a white dress? IRENE.

"Canada."—Send to Lamb Knitting Machine Co., Chicopee Falls, Mass.; ask for circular, and whatever information you desire.—ED.

Will some of the many readers send us a lace to match the Horn of Plenty Tidy given in January number? and oblige a constant reader.

Toboggan Cap given in February number.—After making the ch of 74 stitches, turn, put 1 d c in 4th stitch of chain, etc. It does not take quite 1 skein of Germantown wool for the lining.

I think the correspondent who asked for Shell work tidy, would be pleased with the crochet cotton tidy given in February number of the JOURNAL. I did one which my friends are much pleased with. A MAINE GIRL.

A pretty border for crochet shawl is made by working 2 d c, ch 3, 2 d c, (which makes a shell) 1 d c, then a shell. Next row—Work shell in shell, and 1 d c in the 1 d c of last row; work as deep as you like, and finish with a scallop.

Answer.—If "R. G." does not possess "Brush Studies" in bound form, by L. Clarkson, I will tell her what it says on collar and cuff box.

"Cover a square box with any rich material suitable; the sides, front and top of the box may be ornamented in painting or embroidery. Line the inside with a contrasting color, of satin, which may be either plain or quilted. Cover and line an ordinary round collar box and fasten it securely into the bottom of the square box. This receives the cuffs, while the collars are arranged around it. JENNIE WREN.

M. F. K.—Did you ever see a collar made from the Feather edge pattern which is given in April L. H. J? I have made them, and taken three rows of the edge after it is made like the pattern given. Take 17 of the scallops for the neck row, 18 for the next, and about 24 for the last row, which has to go round the ends of the first two, and full it up a little in the centre of the back, on the last row. Begin by taking two rows, and fastening at the outside edge, join 2, joining one scallop to one in the second row, until you get to within 3 of where 2 scallops join in the first row, then *ch 2, and catch in ch 2 in first row, then catch ch 2 of next scallop in neck row, then ch 4, and catch in ch 2 of lower row,* now ch 2, and join as before to next scallop, then repeat from star again 'til across. Join the row of 24 and join in same way, only letting it run around both ends the same way that you join on bottom. Instead of the edge on the one given, put a row of chain across the top, then crochet a row or two across, by chain, one between. Finish up with a small shell, and run a ribbon across.
Box 23, BEREA, O. MRS. A. P.

I would like to tell "Mrs. Z. B. Tower" how to make a handsome piece of furniture out of her old-fashioned wash-stand with a hole in the top, that will be suitable for books, music, or bric-a-brac. I saw two like it last winter in New York City and am going to fix one for myself. If there is a projection above the top on the sides and back, have it sawed off, and a board fitted over the top to cover the hole, and make it even. If it has no lower shelf have one fitted in. Then buy a bottle or tube of ebony stain, and use it according to the printed directions; varnish it. Cover both shelves with plush, which comes from seventy-five cents per yard up, and finish with furniture fringe, and brass-headed nails if you like them. The stand can be turned round so the drawer will not interfere with the fringe, which need not be put across the back. A spray of flowers can be painted or embroidered on the plush if desired. A nice dark red stain, instead of the ebony, can be made from ten cents worth of red alkaline, thoroughly mixed with half a cup of vinegar, and applied with a brush or piece of cotton cloth. Give it two coats. If you use this stain, every bit of the old varnish must be scraped from the stand first, or it will not take.
MRS. L. E. W.

"L. B." asks about the mittens with "hearts." I have worked out the pattern and am wearing the mittens. I was a good deal puzzled by the odd stitch which kept turning up at intervals, sometimes not going to the end of the needle and then again going further; but I found it made no material difference in the look of the work. It is an easy pattern to work when the idea is once got, the different parts coming in such succession that one can scarcely make a mistake without knowing it. I agree that the resemblance to "hearts" is very faint—"arrowheads" would suit quite as well. HOPE JONES.

Fringe for Counterpane.

Cast on 13 stitches.

1st row—Put needle under, and back of yarn, purl 2 together, over, and purl 2 together 5 times, over, purl 1.

2d and every row the same.

Try a sample before knitting, and if too wide or narrow, diminish or increase, by 2 or 4 as the case may be.

Knit without binding off, a strip much longer than the counterpane, sew on quite full, or the fringe part will look scanty and poor.

When the end is reached, let off 6 stitches and bind off 7. Now, with one of the needles, pull the ravelled rows down, one at a time, the whole length of the strip, to make the fringe, (which is quickly done) then sew the ends of the heading together. The fringe is laundried more easily, to let remain whole, without cutting. It is also used to trim tidies, pillow cases, and stand scarfs.
AUNT RUTH.

Knitted Bed-Spread.

Use number 12 knitting cotton 4-threaded. Cast on 3 stitches, over, knit 1, over, knit 1, over, knit 1.

2d row—Over, knit 1, purl 4, knit 1.
3d row—Over, knit 3, over, knit 1, over, knit 3.
4th row—Over, knit 2, purl 6, knit 2.
5th row—Over, knit 5, over, knit 1, over, knit 5.
6th row—Over, knit 3, purl 8, knit 3.
7th row—Over, knit 7, over, knit 1, over, knit 7.
8th row—Over, knit 4, purl 10, knit 4.
9th row—Over, knit 9, over, knit 1, over, knit 9.
10th row—Over, knit 5, purl 12, knit 5.
11th row—Over, knit 11, over, knit 1, over, knit 11.
12th row—Over, knit 6, purl 14, knit 6.
13th row—Over, knit 6, slip 1, knit 1, pass the slipped stitch over the knitted 1, knit 10, narrow, knit 7.
14th row—Over, knit 7, purl 12, knit 7.
15th row—Over, knit 7, slip 1, knit 1, pass the slipped stitch over, knit 8, narrow, knit 8.
16th row—Over, knit 8, purl 10, knit 8.
17th row—Over, knit 8, slip 1, knit 1, pass the slipped stitch over, knit 6, narrow, knit 9.
18th row—Over, knit 9, purl 8, knit 9.
19th row—Over, knit 9, slip 1, knit 1, pass the slipped stitch over, knit 4, narrow, knit 10.
20th row—Over, knit 10, purl 6, knit 10.
21st row—Over, knit 10, slip 1, knit 1, pass the slipped stitch over, knit 2, narrow, knit 11.
22d row—Over, knit 11, purl 4, knit 11.
23d row—Over, knit 11, slip 1, knit 1, pass the slipped stitch over, narrow, knit 12.
24th row—Over, knit 12, purl 2, knit 12.
25th row—Over, knit 12, slip 1, knit 1, pass slipped stitch over, knit 13.
26th row—Over, knit plain through the row.
27th row—Over, knit 1, purl through the row, knit the last stitch plain.
28th row—Over, knit plain through the row.
29th row—Over, knit 1, over and knit 2 together through the row, knit last stitch plain.
30th row—Same as the 27th.
31st row—Same as the 29th.
32d row—Same as the 27th.
33d row—Same as the 31st.
34th row—Same as 27th.
35th row—Over, knit plain through the row.
36th row—Same as the 35th.
37th row—Over, knit 1, purl through the row, knit last stitch plain.
38th row and 39th row—Over, knit plain through the row.
40th row—Over, knit 1, purl through the row, knit last stitch plain.
41st row—Knit 2, slip the first one over the second, knit the next stitch, slip the one on the needle over it, and so on through the row, until you have but one; break off the thread about nine inches in length, and draw the stitch out; leave the same length thread at beginning. Four of these pieces make a square. Sew together loosely. M. F. K.

Crazy Lace.

Make a chain of 14 stitches.

1st row—4 d c in 4th st of chain, 1 s c in 7th stitch, ch 3, 4 d c in same 7th stitch, 1 s c in 10th st, ch 3, 4 d c in same 10th stitch, 1 s c in last stitch of chain, ch 3, 4 d c in same; turn.

2d row—Ch 6, 1 s c under ch 3, ch 6, 1 s c under next ch 3, ch 6, 1 s c under 3d ch 3, ch 6, 1 s c under last ch of 3; turn.

3d row—Ch 6, 1 s c under ch 6 of last row, ch 6, 1 s c under next ch of 6, ch 6, 1 s c under next ch 6, ch 6, 1 s c under ch 6 at end of row; turn

4th row—Ch 3, 4 d c under ch 6, 1 s c in next ch 6, ch 3, 4 d c in same ch 6, 1 s c in next ch 6, ch 3, 4 d c in same, 1 s c in next ch 6, ch 3, 4 d c in same ch 6; turn.

5th row—Ch 3, 4 d c in top of first d c in last row, 1 s c in ch 3, ch 3, 4 d c in same ch 3 of last row, 1 s c in next ch 3, ch 3, 4 d c in next ch 3 of last row, 1 s c in next ch 3, ch 3, 4 d c under same ch 3, 1 s c in last ch of 3, ch 3, 4 d c in same loop; turn; repeat from 2d row. A. K. S.

Smyrna Rugs.

As my Crazy Rug directions in July issue met with so many inquiries, perhaps these will be liked. Thread a strong needle with coarse thread four or five yards in length. Cut your rags three-fourths of an inch wide, run the needle through the centre of strip, pushing it up close as you go; this will twist it up like chenille; use rags hit or miss; don't sew the ends of rags together, just lay them over. Make a pound ball, and send it to a carpet weaver. The usual price for weaving is twenty-five cents a yard. This will make a small mat for a door, and guide you as to quantity. Have your rags all wool and the same thickness. These mats are heavy and serviceable, do not resemble ordinary carpet weaving at all; they are an excellent imitation of Smyrna.
G. R. P.

Infant's Band.

Angora yarn, 4 medium size knitting needles; cast up 52 stitches on a needle, (156 stitches) knit it six inches long, bind off all but twelve stitches, knit these twelve stitches one inch and a-half long, bind off.

Child's School Bag.

A child's double school-bag is one yard long by fourteen inches wide. It may be made of flannel, felt or cloth and lined with cotton flannel, flannel or silesia. Embroider a design on one end and design and initial on the other before it is sewed up. If made of flannel get a yard, the length of the bag; double it for the width; this makes a seam across the ends and one side only. If felt or cloth is used the material is wide enough to make the bag cross-wise of the goods, with the fold for one end, a seam on two sides and one end. Fourteen inches will be all that it is necessary to get of either of these materials. If single-width goods is used for lining it will be necessary to have the whole yard. Leave an opening in one side twelve inches long, beginning twelve inches from each end. Sew the seams so that there will be no raw edges on the inside of the bag. It may be turned right side out at the opening after the seams are stitched together and before the edges of the opening are hemmed or run together. Get rings from any notion store to hold the contents in place. A single bag is one-half as long, with a hem two inches deep at the top with two casings for two pieces of braid or ribbon to run all the way round, the ends coming out on the opposite sides of the bag to draw up and close the top.

Bags of this kind ready made and handsomely embroidered, offered as one of our premiums. See premium supplement.

The Test by Results.

When George Stevenson, the inventor of the locomotive, was about to start out on his first trip, he declared that the water in his boiler carried a power that would revolutionize the carrying trade of the world. The same test which decided the merits of the claims for the powers of steam, is a fair one for to-day. One of the most striking of these developments is Compound Oxygen. For a while it also met with incredulity. The idea that it could be stored in water and transported long distances met with the same doubt that had greeted every other new statement as to the powers in nature. But the same perseverance that had in so many fields won success led to the patient endurance of the test by results; and they have made it an accomplished fact that oxygen in a compound form can be stored away for future use to be drawn upon as may be required. Tens of thousands are now living witnesses of this truth. The letters received and on file in the office of Drs. Starkey & Palen, No. 1529 Arch St., Philadelphia, from their patients, report cures in asthma, bronchitis, catarrh, dyspepsia, eczema, epilepsy, dropsy, cancer, hay-fever, heart disease, diseases of the eye, of the ear, consumption, rheumatism, diseases of the kidney, headaches, and other diseases. Nervous prostration from mental strain and overwork has in many cases given way to renewed powers and enjoyment of life.

These reports are numbered by thousands and come from men and women in every position in life. A college president in Vermont, writes that though he is well on in years, his voice has been restored so that he can give his lectures and addresses without inconvenience, after a long time having been a sufferer from throat disease. When such wide-spread agreement as to results is witnessed, there can be no doubt as to Compound Oxygen. A well prepared digest of the history and working of this remarkable revitalizer in the form of a two hundred paged brochure, will be sent free to Drs. Starkey & Palen, No. 1529 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

This old fisher used to find
Marks of fish of certain kind,
For he always wished to be
Bright enough, at least, to see
If the fish his angle caught
Was the very fish he sought.

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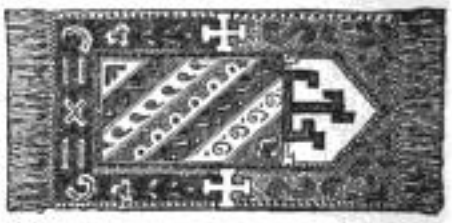

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

BRUSH STUDIES AND HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

NEW SERIES—NO. XVIII.

BY LIDA AND M. J. CLARKSON.

Landscape Painting Continued, A Moonlight Scene for Plaque Decoration. New Designs for Tablescarf, etc., etc.

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The following advice is often given to the beginner in drawing or painting:—"Be original if you would be successful. Try to copy directly from nature, etc."

Now, while there is a certain truth in the proposition, it does not follow that it should be taken in its widest sense. To counsel the amateur to begin at once to draw, or to paint from natural scenery is a very great mistake. The hand and eye require thorough training before such a course could be followed to any advantage. By copying you can obtain knowledge which will enable you in time to work from nature, or from natural objects; and as our "Studies" are not intended for *artists*, or for those gifted with great genius, an exceptional class indeed, the object is to instruct the amateur by pointing out the least embarassing methods, and those which promise the most satisfactory results. We are often in receipt of such requests as the following: "Please give directions for painting the picture which I send with this;" "*the picture*" being sometimes cut from an almanac, an advertising card; or it may be a cheap chromo, crude in color, imperfect in drawing and faulty as to composition. This fact shows how greatly the eye needs to be educated to the habit of even seeing correctly, and while a volume could be written upon this one subject, we must content ourselves with a few hints only. Susan Carter very sensibly remarks in her little text-book upon drawing that "If the pupil has patience to copy some lithographs from 'Harding's Lessons,' or from good French or English artists, he will get more hints in a few hours' work of what he has to look for in nature, than he could learn from examining a real tree or rock ten times as long."

And this applies equally as well to the pupil in painting. Select your models with the greatest care.

The works of good artists, or *replicas* of their paintings, or even good copies can be had, and though involving expense, it will pay you to secure them.

Next to these come the reproductions of good work by aid of the lithographic process, which when of the best sort, are often *fine similes* of original paintings of great merit. Many of these are made with the consent and under the supervision of the artists themselves, and are truthful representations of their work. It is very essential that you should be able to discriminate between what is really good, and what inferior and faulty, and to this end your choice of models should be guided by judgment and discretion. You should not at the first attempt to copy from engravings, or etchings unless you have a most thorough knowledge of color, or can have the scheme given clearly, as in the case of illustrations in these columns, which we shall do our best to enable you to copy correctly. The subject submitted this month is one simple in its coloring, and chosen for this very reason, as many seem to find this a most difficult matter, and beg that we will be very explicit in our directions. This request we will try to bear in mind, and may find it necessary before long to devote a whole chapter to the subject of color alone, with the mixing of tints.

The moonlight for plaque, although a simple composition, is one which will afford good practice and with proper handling will make a very pleasing picture.

[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.
MOONLIGHT SCENE FOR PLAQUE DECORATION.

In this little sketch you will see distinctly what every good landscape should show, viz.: distance, middle distance, and foreground, and each of these features require a different treatment to produce the right effects. Unless you can make your sky fall back in good perspective your picture will lack that one great charm of all landscape, the "far-away look" so graphically portrayed in the familiar lines of Campbell:

"'Tis distance lends enchantment to the view."

This aerial perspective is only to be had by carefully observing the rules governing the same in nature.

Those parts of the sketch which are seen afar back in the distance are laid in almost invariably with the sky tints, modified of course to suit the subject. The vagueness of tint and form given to distant objects is regulated by the degree of remoteness, the state of the atmosphere, time of day, etc. Our study being a moonlight scene the effect is rather different from the generality of landscapes, so that it will be necessary at some later time to describe more fully distance and aerial perspective, which we will notice but briefly now. The scheme of color for moonlight scene is as follows: The sky a deep steel blue gray. Clouds warmer in tone, those near the moon reflecting its rays more clearly with sharp high lights. The water is similar to sky with strong lights where it reflects the moon. The foliage too partakes of this general tone, there being in fact no pronounced color in the picture. It is rather neutral in tint, blue being the only hue at all visible, and that but slightly so. To paint the little scene you will begin as described in previous studies with your sketch. Next you will proceed to paint the sky and distance, gradually working up to the foreground. The colors needed for the sky are simply white, yellow ochre, madder lake, cobalt and ivory black. For the clouds use the same palette adding a little raw umber in the shadows, and for the high lights white, yellow ochre, madder lake and a trifle black. The moon is painted with white, light cadmium, yellow ochre and a little black. Paint the water with the same colors given for sky, adding however a little more madder lake and a trifle Vandyke, or bone brown. The path across the water caused by the moon's rays is painted with same colors used for high lights in clouds. Care should be taken to observe all the lights carefully, not only upon the clouds and water but upon the foliage where they strike more directly, the tree trunks turned toward the moon, etc.

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.
DESIGN FOR TABLESCARF.

For the foreground foliage, tall fir trees, and fallen trunk the same general palette is needed, adding a trifle burnt sienna and terre vert in the deeper shadows.

It will be seen that the color scheme is very simple. You will need only to note the values, distinguishing carefully the distance, middle distance, and the pronounced features of the foreground, which is strongly relieved against the moonlight sky.

This little scene will be found very appropriate for the wooden bowl described in a recent number of "Brush Studies," as also for a brass composition, or porcelain plaque. An ordinary wooden plate neatly gilded around the raised edge and decorated with this little landscape, suspended by a small brass chain, or bright ribbon, is an attractive ornament for the home.

HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

The design of yellow daisies, familiarly known to many readers as "black-eyed Susan's," with the reed warbler or yellow breast, although more strictly intended for tablescarf, is also suitable for hanging banner, screen, cushion or panel. The material may be either plush, velvet, velveteen, felting, satin, bolting cloth or canvas, as preferred. The color chosen for ground, one which will harmonize well with the rich golden blossoms.

To paint the flowers you will first sketch in the design, if on a light material, with a charcoal pencil; if a dark ground, a white chalk or crayon may be used. If experienced in drawing you need only to indicate the varied position of the flowers, the centres will be sufficient, then with a full brush paint in the petals, or rays of daisy, it is unimportant how many, as the flower is irregular and varied as to the number of its petals. A small bristle brush or sable No. 11 will be found best for this purpose. The colors required for the general tone will be white, light cadmium, yellow ochre and a trifle black. For the shadows use a clean brush, adding raw umber, burnt sienna and orange cadmium to the palette. In the high lights, or where the petals receive the light most directly use white and light cadmium. The centres are painted with light red, burnt sienna, madder brown, adding black in the deepest accents, and for the lighter touches light red and the least trifle vermilion. For flowers in shadow add more orange, burnt sienna and raw umber.

For the old faded flowers which give a picturesque effect to design, use raw umber, yellow ochre, burnt sienna, and madder or Vandyke brown. The bird is painted as follows: The breast with white, light cadmium, yellow ochre and black shaded with orange, burnt sienna and raw umber, with a very little light red. For the wings and head add madder lake, Vandyke brown and a trifle terre vert and cadmium. The claws and bill are painted with Vandyke brown, black, and burnt sienna, with yellow ochre in the lights. One or more butterflies added to the design make it still more attractive. A light yellow insect may be painted with white, light cadmium, a trifle cobalt, or Antwerp blue, and shaded with zinnober green and burnt sienna. A darker butterfly at the lower portion of panel will need madder brown, vermilion and black, touched with spots of orange, vermilion and white. The deepest accents will require madder brown and black. For the green stems and reeds, Antwerp blue, white, cadmium, madder lake and black will be needed, adding burnt sienna in the shadows.

For those who use this design upon a panel, or screen of canvas, a background will be necessary.

A good scheme of color is a pearly-gray deepening in tone towards the bottom of panel. For this a general tone of white, Antwerp blue, madder lake, a trifle cadmium and black can be used. For the deepests accents at lower part of panel use less white, adding burnt sienna, Vandyke brown and black. Lighten the upper right hand corner with more white.

ANSWERS TO INQUIRERS.

A large number of queries have been received as to the best way of ebonizing wood.

The easiest and probably most satisfactory process is to give the wood several coats of good black paint. Then rub smooth with pumice-stone; put on another coat of paint and rub again with rotten stone; clean and varnish with best copal varnish, and when perfectly dry polish well with chamois skin.

Coach black or varnish is sometimes used with most satisfactory results for ebonizing purposes. Where lincrusta is used gilded ebony can be imitated very cleverly in the following manner: Lay first a coat of shellac, or brown dryer over the surface of the lincrusta, then cover entirely with gold bronze. When this is dry lay over all an even coat of black paint, to which has been added a little beeswax dissolved in turpentine. Now rub away quickly this last mixture from all the prominent parts of the design, or those portions in high relief, using a soft cloth, folded so as to give a smooth, rounded surface Let the gilding show through more or less as suits the fancy. The finer parts of design may be brought out by dipping a point of the rag in turpentine and touching lightly, just enough to displace the paint. Do not cover too much of the surface at one time with the black paint, or it will dry on too fast, before you have an opportunity to rub off. When thoroughly dry polish with a soft brush and a chamois skin. One of our correspondents has tried this in the decoration of an umbrella stand and is delighted with the result.

"M. R.," "Mrs. S. S." and others query as follows:—"Do you know of any place where a person can get a sale for original designs for painting, embroidery, etc., etc.?"

Answer. This question is one involving some difficulty as to a definite reply. The term "*original* design" conveys but a vague impression as to the real value of the work. Unless it possesses merit, originality is but a poor recommendation. Good work ought to command good prices, and generally does bring a fair remuneration. We would advise you to place the work on exhibition in the nearest cities if you do not live in town, at the art, or fancy stores, allowing the dealer a commission for selling. Or, if there is an amateur association, as in many cities, by paying a small fee you can enter articles for sale at the rooms of such society.

"Mrs. W. O. L." queries as follows:—1. "Can I use a different material to paint on from what you describe, following all other directions? for instance for canvas can I use Japanned tin, academy board, textiles, etc.?"

2. "In the fruit pieces described in September "Brush Studies" ought the plums and peaches to be glazed as well as cherries?"

"In painting birds and butterflies do you paint all at once the shading and different colors or do you put first a body color letting it dry before the shading is put in?"

In reply we would say:

1. That almost any material with a suitable surface for painting, can be used for the floral, or decorative designs given in "Brush Studies." For landscapes, canvas, academy board or something equivalent to that should be used, although even these designs may be painted sometimes upon textiles for tapestry effects. In painting upon fabrics when the ground is light colored a medium is necessary with oil colors, such as "decoline," "Mrs. Willard's Opaque Mixer," or benzine and ether, kerosene, turpentine or some fluid to keep the oil from spreading. Where chalk, or magnesia can be rubbed upon the back of the fabric, it will answer every purpose.

2. It is unnecessary to glaze the plums or peaches. Do not mix your colors too much, which dulls and muddies them. Put them on as crisply as possible, mixing lightly when necessary with the brush instead of the knife.

3. In painting birds and butterflies you can at first lay on the local tint, as you would for flowers or fruit. We suppose by the body color you mean the local tint, or general tone. Then while this is still wet, put in your shadows because you can blend them more softly and harmoniously than could be done if you allowed the first painting to dry before putting in the shadows. The light too can be added with a clean brush at one sitting.

"H. D.:"—We think there is little money to be made in painting upon glass, or in coloring photographs. See answer to "M. R." above.

"S. E. R.:"—The best canvas, or that which generally gives the best satisfaction is the smooth English linen, primed a delicate drab, or warm gray tint, which comes in different widths from 80c. to $1.50 per yard. The canvas to be stretched should have a margin sufficient to lap over the frame, or stretcher certainly three-quarters of an inch. To mount it properly put the stretcher in the exact centre of the canvas, and turn the edge over at the top fastening with a tack, then stretch firmly and fasten in the same way at the bottom, and at each side. Be careful to stretch evenly with the thread, and when secured thus in position proceed to tack it all around the stretcher. A pair of pincers will be found useful to draw the canvas into position, and for large pictures artists' pilars are necessary. Small brass thumb tacks are used, although any small tack will answer the purpose.

The stretcher is a frame so adjusted at the corners, that little wedges of wood called keys may be inserted and if the canvas sags after painting these keys may be driven in with a hammer until it is tightened and firmly re-stretched. We would suggest that you obtain one well made stretcher from a reliable art dealer. This will serve as a pattern which any good carpenter or cabinet maker can follow.

"Miss Z. L.:"—To frost cards you will require some of the mica or glass powder used for the purpose, which can be had of almost any dealer in art material. This is simply dusted over the wet paint which causes it to adhere. If you paint your snow scene with careful attention as to lights, it will be more artistic without the frosting as it always cheapens a picture.

"Miss M. E. S." asks for directions for painting the frontispiece of Feb. No. of *Harper's Monthly*, entitled "Moose Hunting by Jacklight." It would require more space than we have at command to give scheme of color, etc. The directions given above for moonlight scene can be followed in the main, only that the coloring should be darker in the darks. The light cast by the hunter's dark lantern is somewhat exaggerated in the engraving. The light is more intense than that of the moon, and will require marked emphasis, for instead of illuminating the whole scene as does the moon in sketch above, it is concentrated upon one point, there being one stretch of light from the lantern, the rays of which are directed upon the animal in the foreground. In order to copy this picture with any success, the values should be carefully studied with the gradation in tones. This is an excellent study in black and white, in fact there are other engravings in this same number of *Harper's* which will afford pleasure and profit to the art student.

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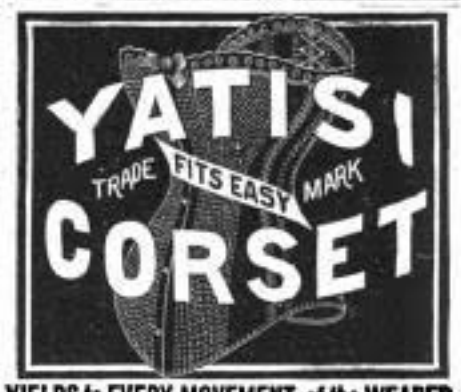

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Philadelphia, June, 1887.

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We are glad to be able to present to our readers this series of papers upon the ever-interesting topic of "Kindergarten." These are specially valuable as coming from the pen of one who has made the subject a life-long study, and we feel that they will cover the ground of all the many inquiries which have come to us. The subject however, presents a wide field, and the first paper must be considered as merely introductory. Each "gift" will be taken in turn in the succeeding papers.

Did you ever see any one trying to wind a skein of thread or wool, when you felt sure in your own mind, that they had taken hold of the wrong end? Well, there are quantities of people who try to unwind their lives in the same way. They jerk and pull and strain against circumstances, which a little patience would perhaps set right. You feel perfectly sure that they have got hold of the wrong end of life, some way. If once you do get hold of the wrong end of life, JOURNAL sisters, remember that impatient winding, only helps to make a worse snarl. Treat life as you have seen your dear, patient, old grandmother treat her "snarly" skein—*humor* it a little, and lo! after a time, you will find that the *wrong* end runs as smoothly as what was the *right* end in your estimation, would have done.

If the "sisters" would kindly send in their names the same way every time, it would be a great accommodation to us, and would save them considerable unnecessary trouble. Because when "Mrs. Mary Robinson" expresses a desire to have her residence changed from Appletborpe to Plumtown, we have no possible means of knowing that this "Mrs. *Mary* Robinson" represents the "Mrs. *John* Robinson" we have upon our books. Consequently we must write to her and she to us, two or three times, perhaps, before the matter is finally adjusted.

If, too, they would kindly state for what length of time they subscribed, whether three months, six months or yearly, we would know in a moment, to which set of books to turn, and thus save much time wasted in unnecessary search.

HARMONY IN THE HOUSEHOLD.

What a mistake it is for parents to enter into hot discussion before their children! And how much greater the mistake for one parent to intimate that the other knows nothing whatever of the subject under discussion no matter what the opinion expressed. All discussion on household points, where opinions are likely to be greatly at variance, should be carefully kept for privacy; otherwise the children gradually imbibe the idea that the opinion of the parent who does not agree with them, is of little value, and grow accustomed, with the natural sharpness of children, to apply to the parent who they think will comply with their wishes. When one hears a child say after being refused something "I'm going to ask *Papa*," or, "*Mama* will give it to me," one may readily determine the attitude of the parents towards each other, and a most uncomfortable attitude it is, at home and abroad. There is nothing in the world more damaging to the respect a child should have for its parents, than this one thing, and if parents would preserve their dignity in the eyes of their children, let them at almost any legitimate cost, keep harmony in the household.

POSTAGE TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

A discrimination in the rates of postage to city subscribers is made between weekly and monthly periodicals, to the great disadvantage of the latter; for, while the weeklies can be mailed to city subscribers for one cent per pound, monthlies can not be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent for each two ounces, except where the subscribers go to the post-office for their mail. And, as the JOURNAL in its present form weighs over two ounces, we are, therefore, obliged to ask Philadelphia subscribers twenty-four cents extra or postage, unless the paper is addressed at the post-office to be called for, or to any P. O. box.

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We are spending $50,000 this year to introduce the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL into a *million* families.

We have 400,000 already; why not make it a MILLION!

We are advertising extensively a 3 months trial for only 10 cents. The amount of money is small, —no profit in it for us,—but if 600,000 women can be induced to give us a 3 months trial, we are sure to hold them as permanent yearly subscribers. We have never yet failed to hold as permanent subscribers the full number of expiring trial subscribers.

Can you not induce a few neighbors to TRY the JOURNAL?

We offer a variety of premiums for clubs of 3 months subscribers. See the list described in the May number; also note the *special offer* of a Parlor Organ, Gold Watch and Silk Dress, for largest clubs sent in up to July 1st.

Sample copies furnished free to all who will act as club raisers.

Do what you can for us, if it is no more than a single 3 months trial subscription. One new name from *all* our old readers would insure before another year a full

MILLION SUBSCRIBERS.

THE TYPICAL AMERICAN VOICE.

Whether the "typical voice" of any other nation be better or worse than that of our own, we cannot, even as enthusiastic and loyal citizens, deny that the typical voice of Americans, (the more especially that belonging to the women of America,) is unpleasant.

Of course, we all *do* strenuously deny this fact, but an hour spent in any railway station, or anywhere else where Americans "most do congregate," will prove that our denial is based on false premises. If this were a failing, a defect, one might accept the unpleasant fact as inevitable. But such is not the case. In the American vocal chords, lie all the elements of pleasant, flowing tones, and the reverse in most cases, is merely the result of ignorance or carelessness,—ignorance upon the part of the parents, carelessness upon the part of the speaker.

A well-known teacher of elocution was accustomed to give this as a primary rule: "Remember that the first thing necessary, is to *cultivate* a low-pitched, smooth, even voice, not a *tone*, used merely in reading before me or others, but a regular habit of voice. This will very materially aid you in becoming good elocutionists."

This statement she proved, by results, and pupils finished by her, were so absolutely changed in regard to the voice in daily use as they were in their powers of elocution.

The high-pitched nasal tone, heard so often in America (commonly and appropriately denominated "a nasal twang,") is the result merely of lack of cultivation.

Much of this work of cultivation, properly falls into the mother's hands, if she only knew it.

A mother who permits a child to talk through her nose, is laying up for her daughter an element of future discomfort, for the time will most probably arrive, when both mother and daughter will realize that the habit could have been more readily corrected in childhood,—the more especially if the daughter desires to sing.

We teach our children to turn out their toes, because the reverse is ugly; why not teach them to "turn out" their voices, in full, round tones, for the same good reason?

Business men assert that one great element of business success, is a good voice.

The wisdom of a Solomon conveyed in a weak or nasal tone loses half its weight, while the utterances of one much less inspired, if given in round, full tones, carry with them conviction. The man who utters them, impresses the hearer as *believing in himself*, and he who can impress others with this fact, wins half the battle, almost before the conflict begins.

What is true of man, is equally true of woman, and as it is her duty to make the most of any gift with which she may be endowed, let her be sure that among those gifts, not by any means to be despised or neglected, is a good, clear, sweet, even, voice, such as can be acquired by the expenditure of a little care, thought and practice.

In Camden, N. J., Haddon Avenue and Spruce St., is situated one of those institutions of benevolence which should appeal to every mother's heart. This is the "Camden Home for Friendless Children."

When it was established over twenty years ago, it was a prosperous institution, but with the changes which time effects, have passed away many of the benefactors upon whom the Home depended for support, while the number of children to be clothed, fed, instructed and placed in homes or at trades, is alas! even greater.

We desire to make, in their behalf, an earnest appeal to the "JOURNAL mothers" for such aid as they feel able to extend to the friendless little ones in that vicinity.

Money is, of course, at all times acceptable, but especially grateful will the Board be, for contributions of clothing from mothers whose children have merely *outgrown* it. For, in this household, as in all others, stitches are an important item, and she who contributes a *ready-made, good* garment, does a double charity.

The summer time is fast approaching, when all children need many changes of clothing, and we hope that many mothers may find that they can spare at least one garment from their store, for those little ones who have no mother but the general public.

The monthly expenses of the Home are one hundred and fifty dollars. At the *present* writing they have on hand *just one-half that amount for the current expenses of the present month.*

We hope that many may read and take to heart the appeal we are making, and may contribute if even only to the extent of 5 cents to this worthy cause.

All feeling the desire and ability to do so, may forward their contributions to Camden Home for Friendless Children, Haddon Avenue and Spruce St., Camden, N. J.

In sending notice of change of address, always be careful to give both old and new at the same time. When a sister says "Please change my address to ————" we have no idea where she is changed *from*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Is there a song called "The Mermaid," words by Tennyson?

ARTIE A.

"L. M. F.":—We are inclined to think that if you will trim your hair (not "cut it close") often, it will improve it much.

Inquire at almost any druggist for the "black radish"; they will have it in all probability and can tell you its nature and nativity.

"MRS. WM. ROACH," ZANESVILLE, OHIO:—B. C. Tillinghast, 12 and 14 S. Second St., Phila., Pa., have rubber gloves for sale for a dollar a pair.

LA PORT, INDIANA, March 4, 1887.

L. H. J.:—If J. S. will send her address to L. Crawford, La Port, Ind., Box 824, she will hear of a good Catarrh Medicine.

A COUNTRY GIRL would like to ask "Lolsa M. M. Hedge," through the column of your JOURNAL, what kind of flowers and leaves are best to crystallize for a basket?

WILL "M. H. W.," who gave a recipe for stomach worms, in October number of LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, please tell if it is, also, good for pin worms?

"SUBSCRIBER," NEW YORK:—Think if you inquire at some "bric-a-brac" store in your city, you can find a spinning-wheel, but will have to pay a nice price for it, in all probability.

1. "INQUIRER":—The present Governor General of the Dominion of Canada is, His Excellency, the Most Honorable Henry Charles Keith Petty-Fitzmaurice, Marquis o. Lansdowne, G. C. M. G., &c.

DEAR EDITOR:—It is now too late to send bulbs to those who have asked for them. Will send them in the autumn.

GUSTAVE SCHUBERT.

NELSON POINT, CAL.

IF "Luna Montrose" will address, with stamped envelope, Mrs. Emma C. Hewitt, personally, LADIES' HOME JOURNAL office, her letter will be answered, as the subject would require too much space in correspondence column.

MT. VERNON, N. Y., March 23, 1887.

TO EDITOR OF L. H. J.—Dear Madam: Will you please inform "J. S." through your paper, that kerosene oil rubbed well into the scalp will cure catarrh: also put a little inside the nostril at the end of the nose? I know this to be good, as it cured my mother of the disease.

Yours truly, A. S.

MARCH 12, 1887.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I have a favor to ask of the kind ladies of the "HOME JOURNAL," knowing with what alacrity they respond to requests from one of their number. It is this: We are making an effort to build a church here, and we ladies wish to have some entertainments during the summer to assist in it; and not knowing where to send for suitable material, hit upon this place of securing some thing *really good* in the way of plays, recitations, songs, etc. Would be *really* and heartily thankful if those who have anything of the kind would forward them to me and thus assist a *good cause*.

MISS CORA DUNKLE,
GENESEO, RICE CO., KAN.

"SYROUD!"—Rag carpets woven without a stripe are in the best taste. We have seen them woven with a brown and white chain, in what the weaver called a "hit or miss" pattern and they were very effective, indeed, for rag carpet, much more so than had they had a bright chain down each side.

2d. Jenny June's book upon embroidery, we think is the one you need. We do not believe you would have much difficulty in learning from that.

3d. "The best way" to work without an instructor is to try, *try*, TRY. Your last question we cannot answer, as the process is a very elaborate one.

DEAR MRS. KNAPP:—Will you allow me to ask "A Wife and Mother," whose excellent letter appears in the December number of your paper, her opinion of what "Lillian Mayne" says in the January number in regard to "Women as Slaves?" I also wish to thank her for her helpful letter, and trust she will send us more of her good ideas.

"Lillian Mayne," I wonder if you are married. If you were to be so unfortunate as to become a life partner of such a man as a "weak-minded, hero-worshipping woman" brings up, what would you do?

I believe you and I think "just alike" upon this subject, and yet my belief is in a very unsettled state.

Come now, tell us how to manage one of the tyrants.

Thank you, "Margaret Meredith," for your hints on conversation. I cry for more! more! such helps.

GEORGIA TWIFORD.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—We American people flatter ourselves there is no better way of living than ours. I suspect we need some education—not "book larnin'," for we are carrying that to excess, really displaying how ignorant we have been, by our great anxiety and hurry in crowding the minds of the young. My dear mother was educated in the "early days," when only a few branches were taught; but she was very thorough, and, to the time of her death, could correct her girls and parse a sentence in grammar for us, to our confusion, when we had skimmed through an armful of books. English people consider it an important part of their education to study the needs and protection of the body. They partake leisurely of their meals, with pleasant conversation inter-mixed, and absolutely business men sit composedly at their own fireside, after dinner, and enjoy a smoke, instead of rushing to business; if a game is proposed so much the better. We know they have a predilection for amusements. They consider a brisk canter on a fine racer a necessity; nor do they allow this to interfere with a walk in the fresh air.

The women wear stout boots and sensibly made dresses, and they are not afraid to walk either. They laugh at the foolish American girls, with their thin soled boots and tight corsets. We should like to see our girls emulate them in dress and care of the bodies; yet we would not change them in many other ways, but have them remain the dear, bright, independent creatures they are naturally. As for the mothers—the dear designing creatures—they watch the interests of their girls so they may not make a misalliance, which is sensible, for they often save a dear girl much suffering and sorrow.

Mothers, let us teach our children that labor is honorable, (a trade for each boy and a thorough understanding of housework for each girl), cure of the body in every particular a necessity, education of the mind, heart and soul our highest duty.

MRS. CLARA D. ARMSTRONG.

DEAR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—My interest in this little JOURNAL has been steadily increasing for the last year, now I think it has reached its acme, that is a determination to never again be without it. The sweet, determined face of its editor, smiling from a fresh, clean page of the February number, fascinated me, and with deep interest I read the short sketch of her busy, useful life, only a little disappointed on discovering that Mrs. Knapp is not her real name; well, at any rate, whoever Mrs. Knapp may be, wherever she may live, she has my love and best wishes, and may she long retain the place she so admirably fills, as editor of our dear little paper.

Ah! Riverside glad to see your familiar signature! I had learned to watch for your name in another good paper that I notice some of the readers of this take. I, too, appreciated "Mildred's Conversation Class," and, like you, sometimes felt my place far from the head, yet I hope, and have reason to believe, that those instructive monthly articles have not been entirely lost on one. One, unless very particular, is liable to fall into a careless way of talking, often from want of thought, as well as want of knowledge. I know I often say things in a faulty manner, but as soon as spoken, I realize the incorrectness.

While I believe one should always clothe the thoughts, they desire to communicate, in the best language they know how, still we should not attach too much importance to these minor things, but give far more consideration to speaking in a kind, pleasant way, and charitably of our fellow-creatures. Some of the most charming people I ever met, and who were good conversationalists too, were people who occasionally slighted the rules of grammar and rhetoric. A friendly, soft voice, and a tongue that contains no bitterness, is far from preferable to hear and possess, than the crisp, cool, yet strictly grammatical speech, that may fall from the lips of a person who has nothing cheerful or good to say of any one; and again I say let us speak as properly as possible, but being more cautious that our words contain no sting.

I have read carefully, and with much interest, the series of articles by the Rev. F. E. Clark, while they seem principally intended for young girls, they are applicable to all woman kind, and I wish that the reverend gentleman would give us an article on suitable reading matter for people in medium circumstances, who are desirous of mental improvement, and being far from newsdealers, and not knowing exactly what to order, and caring nothing for the flashy literature so extensively advertised. Perhaps it would be well to add that said people are possessed of only a common school education, but always keep tolerably well posted in the news of the day.

The article on gambling, in the April number, by Mary E. Cardwell, is excellent, and every mother should ponder it well.

I hope some day to have the pleasure of meeting my Southern Arizona sister, "Cactus," whose letter appeared in the JOURNAL about a year ago.

SALOME.

ARIZONA.

LOS ANGELOS, CALIFORNIA.

DEAR JOURNAL:—You have visited me for several successive months now, but I have failed to hear you speak of any one else in this part of California, on whom you called. Whether you are or are not a part and parcel of many households, I know not; but you should be, for, to be candid, I like you better and better all the time, and only wish you would *grow*, so there would be more of you to love. This February you were a little later in putting in an appearance than usual; but to-day you walked in so bright and crisp, I forgot you were *tardy* and eagerly welcomed you. Now, to be confidential, is the picture you have, really, Mrs. Knapp? If a *literary woman* can look so sweet and lovable, haven't the majority of us been misled those many years? We are told to look for lean, cadaverous looking mortals. I believe the *label* or libel has come from the sterner sex though. Only another proof of their inefficiency for truth and veracity. By the way you may tell "B," in December, that a bit of sugar will aid her stove polish in general stick-to-itiveness. And suggest to some one what will take black ink out of a red table cloth, which has been washed since it was spilled.

We have been having a regular picnic with Jupiter Pluvius this last week. He has been quite a constant visitor—but one welcomed with joy and open arms—as the success of this part of the country depends to a great extent upon him. It was odd to see how hard "Old Sol" would try to crowd him out, when he (Pluvius) would stop to wipe his "weeping eyes," but "Sol" had to take a back seat this time.

Why did not Mrs. C. L. H. D., of Castell, Llano Co., Texas, sign her name, do you know? And do you believe Mrs. Lolsa M. M. Hedge, of Oregon, would write me? I wish she would.

I must tell you all of what I did to-day. I feel rather proud of it considering the material I had to work upon. We have a dear little pony—a great pet. One of the first shoes he wore out, I wanted to make "a memory" of. I took it to-day, washed clean, then gilded it with gilding of Diamond Dye fame; when dry, I cut a piece of pasteboard for the back and then cut an oval piece from the centre of it. Shirred red satin all around the outside of cardboard and puckered it in nicely around the oval place, fastened it to my shoe with very narrow ribbon, putting it down through one nail hole (and the back) and up through another, then tying in pretty bow. At the bottom, or near it, put the ribbon through the back and around the outside of shoe and tied the bow. Added several loops at the bottom in centre of back, put in my glass and photo., and it is quite "recherche" looking. (I borrowed that word from *one* of the JOURNAL admirers.)

Do you see those geraniums over there by the fence? They were thrown out as rubbish last summer, but a little dirt covered their toes, and they have grown as all the coaxing would never have induced them, and you see they are taller than we and full of blossoms. I remember treasuring a few sticks of 'em once in little pots, trying to keep them warm, and crying when they were frozen. It makes me weary, now, to think of it—and who wonders! Look at those beauties of yellow and red roses, that patch of solid blue, my violets, &c., and all out doors, and doors and windows open to look at them! Isn't it nicer than being shut up in an oven al day, or hugging a few puny plants all winter. But my goodness! I must get those peas shelled for dinner. No, peas in February are not so bad.

Come often and ever, but excuse for the present

IDYL DEXTER.

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COTTAGE DINNERS.

JUNE.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

With the arrival of fresh fruits and vegetables, catering becomes an easy matter. Fruit is always an acceptable dessert; one that is easily prepared and is far more wholesome than the made dishes upon which one has to rely in the winter. It usually possesses the added merit o cheapness.

Its appearance at a time when confinement to the kitchen and proximity to a hot stove becomes doubly irksome is a boon to the housewife. The recipes furnished in this number for methods of making cooked desserts in which fruit is used have been given more from a desire to supply variety than from the belief that any mode of preparing fruit is superior to that of serving it *au naturel*.

SUNDAY.

Brown Fricasseed Chicken.
Boiled Potatoes. String Beans.
Raspberries in Ambush.

BROWN FRICASSEED CHICKEN:—Select a pair of plump chickens. They need not be very young. Joint them carefully, guarding against cutting them into too large pieces. Put them into a saucepan with half a pound of salt pork cut fine. Pour over them a quart of cold water and simmer until tender, letting them cook very slowly. When they are done strain off the liquor into a frying pan, add to it a teaspoonful of parsley, minced fine, and a very small onion, also minced. Thicken with a tablespoonful of butter, and boil ten minutes, stirring constantly. The chickens should have been kept hot, while the gravy was preparing. They may now be transferred to a hot dish and the gravy poured over them.

Boil the giblets separately in two cups of water, season well, and set aside for Monday's soup.

BOILED POTATOES:—See previous directions.

STRING BEANS:—Cut off the ends and trim the edges so as to remove every particle of the strings. Divide into inch lengths and stew until tender in boiling water, slightly salted. Drain dry, dish, pepper and salt and stir into them a tablespoonful of butter.

RASPBERRIES IN AMBUSH:—Make a nice pastry, according to former directions, and line a pie plate with it. Bake in a quick oven and while warm, spread thickly with red raspberries and heap on these a meringue made of the whites of four eggs beaten stiff with half a cupful of powdered sugar. Mix a handful of raspberries through the meringue. Brown very lightly and eat soon afterwards, when it is cool.

MONDAY.

Giblet Soup.
Chicken in Rice. Baked Potatoes.
Sliced Tomatoes, Durkee's Dressing.
Berries and Cream.

GIBLET SOUP:—Cut the meat from the bones of yesterday's chicken and put them over the fire with a half pound of lean salt pork, cut into pieces, a chopped onion and a bunch of herbs. Cover with cold water and stew two hours. Strain and skim and return to the fire with the liquor in which the giblets were boiled. Thicken with a tablespoonful of butter rolled in flour, add the giblets, chopped fine, and just before serving, a cup of hot milk. Season to taste.

CHICKEN IN RICE:—Boil two cupfuls of raw rice. Spread the bottom of a greased pudding dish with this, then put in a layer of the chicken cut from the bones for the soup, season, cover with rice, spread this with more chicken and continue thus until the materials are used up. The top layer should be of rice into which a beaten egg has been stirred. Before spreading this on pour in the remains of the gravy. Bake covered twenty minutes, uncover and brown.

BAKED POTATOES:—Directions previously given.

TOMATOES WITH DURKEE'S DRESSING:—Peel with a very sharp knife. Cut into slices and lay in a bowl with pieces of ice. Pass as a separate course with a bottle of Durkee's salad dressing, to which each may help himself.

BERRIES AND CREAM:—Keep in a cold place until just before they are to be eaten.

TUESDAY.

Baked Shad *au gratin*
Mashed Potatoes. Green Peas.
Iced Cherries.

BAKED SHAD *au gratin*:—Split as for broiling and lay in a dripping pan. Pour over it half a cup of boiling water and bake covered twenty minutes, basting twice with butter. Uncover, sprinkle thickly with fine bread crumbs, season with pepper and salt, and pour around it a wineglassful of cooking Sherry. Bake ten minutes longer and serve.

MASHED POTATOES AND GREEN PEAS:—Directions previously given.

ICED CHERRIES:—Serve the cherries in a bowl with fragments of cracked ice mixed with them. They should, if possible, be fresh gathered the day they are eaten. Stale cherries do not come far short of being absolute poison.

WEDNESDAY.

Veal Squabs.
Potato Dumplings. Asparagus on Toast.
Strawberry Meringue Pudding.

VEAL SQUABS:—Have veal cutlets cut quite thin, spread each with a forcemeat of finely chopped salt pork mixed with an equal quantity of bread crumbs, seasoning of herbs, minced onion, pepper and salt to taste. Lay a good-sized raw oyster in the centre of each cutlet and roll it up tightly, tying with stout white cotton. Lay in a dripping pan, dash a cup of boiling water over them and bake covered until the meat is done. Skim the gravy, thicken with browned flour and pour it around the squabs as they lie on a hot dish.

POTATO DUMPLINGS:—Shape cold mashed potatoes into little cones, slightly flattened on top. Lay these in a baking pan, put a tiny dab of butter on top of each and brown in the oven.

ASPARAGUS ON TOAST:—Trim the stalks of asparagus until they are of the same length and tie together with a soft string. Drop the bunches into boiling water and cook half an hour, or until tender. Toast enough bread to cover the flat dish in which the asparagus is to be served, dip each slice into the asparagus liquor and butter each well. Cut the strings about the asparagus and arrange the stalks on the toast, pouring over all a good drawn butter. For this, directions have previously been given.

STRAWBERRY MERINGUE PUDDING:—Two cups bread crumbs, very fine and dry.
One cup sugar.
Four cups milk.
Two cups strawberries.
One tablespoonful butter.
Yolks of four eggs.

Cream the butter and sugar, add the beaten yolks, the milk and the crumbs. Pour into a buttered pudding dish and bake covered until firm. Draw to the mouth of the oven, spread the strawberries on the top of the pudding, sprinkle with sugar and cover with the whites of the four eggs beaten light with a half cupful of powdered sugar. Set back in the oven and brown very lightly. Eat perfectly cold with sugar and cream.

THURSDAY.

Macaroni Soup.
Hamburg Steaks.
Potatoes Hashed with Cream. Stewed onions.
Cherry Dumplings.

MACARONI SOUP:—Two pounds beef bones, cracked fine.
Two pounds of veal bones, also broken.
One chopped onion.
One bunch soup herbs.
Three quarts water.
Pepper and salt.
Half cupful fine macaroni, broken into inch bits.

Cover the bones and seasoning with the three quarts of cold water; bring to a slow boil and cool for five or six hours. The stock should be made the day before it is to be used. Cool, strain and skim. Stew the macaroni until tender in a little boiling water and add to the hot soup, just before serving.

HAMBURG STEAKS:—Two pounds lean beef, from the round, chopped very fine by the butcher.

One small onion and one bunch of parsley minced very fine.

Two raw eggs.

Wet the beef with the raw eggs and add the seasoning. Lay upon a pastry board spread with cracker crumbs and roll out the beef into a sheet about an inch thick, sprinkling it with more crumbs to prevent it sticking to the rolling pin. Cut into neat squares with a sharp knife and fry in butter until they are of a nice brown. They are very good if properly prepared.

POTATOES HASHED WITH CREAM:—Prepare as directed in March number of "Cottage Dinners," with the exception of browning them in the baking dish.

STEWED ONIONS:—Young onions should be chosen for this dish. Stew them fifteen minutes in boiling water, then drain this off and pour a cup of cold milk over the onions. Let them stew in this until tender; season to taste and thicken the milk with a teaspoonful of butter rolled in flour. Cook five minutes after adding this.

CHERRY DUMPLINGS:—Four cups flour.
Two tablespoonfuls lard.
Two cupfuls sweet milk.
One teaspoonful soda.
Two teaspoonfuls cream tartar.
One saltspoonful salt.
Two cups cherries.
One cup sugar.

Sift the salt, soda and cream tartar with the flour, rub in the shortening and wet with the milk. Roll out about a quarter of an inch thick and cut into squares about three inches in diameter. Heap as many cherries as the dumpling will hold in the centre of each; sprinkle thickly with sugar and press the edges of the pastry together tightly. Lay them with the pinched edges downward in a baking pan that has been well sprinkled with flour and bake half an hour. Serve with hard sauce.

FRIDAY.

Salmon Toast. Egg Timbales.
Mashed Potato. Summer Squash.
Raspberry Shortcake.

SALMON TOAST:—Heat two cupfuls of canned salmon, from which the liquor has been drained in a cup of drawn butter. All bones and bits of skin should first have been removed from the salmon. When it is scalding, beat in one egg whipped light. Turn the mixture upon triangles of bread, fried brown and freed from fat.

EGG TIMBALES:—Six eggs.
Half cup milk.
Four tablespoonfuls grated cheese.
Pepper and salt to taste.
Pinch of soda in the milk.

Beat the eggs very light, add the milk, soda, pepper and salt and last of all the cheese. Pour into small buttered patty pans, set these in a pan of boiling water and bake in the oven until the egg is firm. Turn out on a flat dish, stick a spray of parsley in the centre of each and pour drawn butter around them. Eat very hot.

MASHED POTATO:—See previous directions.

SUMMER SQUASH:—Lay in cold water twenty minutes after it is peeled and sliced. Stew until tender in boiling water, press out all the water, season with pepper and salt and stir in a couple of teaspoonfuls of butter.

RASPBERRY SHORTCAKE:—Prepare as for strawberry shortcake, using instead of strawberries either the red or the black raspberries. If you can get it, spread whipped cream thickly over the top. It is a delicious addition.

SATURDAY.

Vegetable Soup.
Lamb Chops and Potatoes.
Young Beets. Green Peas.
Cherry Pie.

VEGETABLE SOUP:—Six sliced tomatoes.
Two large potatoes, sliced and parboiled.
One turnip, sliced and parboiled.
Two carrots, sliced and parboiled.
Two small onions.
Two cups green peas, shelled.
One cup lima beans, shelled.
Bunch of soup herbs.
Half cup nice dripping.
One tablespoonful butter rolled in corn starch.
Two tablespoonfuls flour.
Two quarts boiling water.

Slice the onions and fry to a nice brown in the dripping, add the flour and brown this nicely. Pour all into the soup pot, rinsing out the pan with a cupful of boiling water and pouring this into the pot. Put in all the vegetables, the herbs and the rest of the boiling water and simmer slowly for two hours. Put all through a colander, return to the fire, heat to boiling, thicken with the butter and corn starch, pepper and salt to taste and serve.

LAMB CHOPS:—Trim the chops neatly and broil over a hot fire. Dust with pepper and salt, butter lightly, and arrange around a mound of mashed potato.

YOUNG BEETS:—Boil in salted water an hour, rub off the skins and slice the beets into a hot dish. Pour over them two tablespoonfuls of boiling vinegar, a tablespoonful of melted butter and pepper and salt to taste.

GREEN PEAS:—Directions previously given.

CHERRY PIE:—Make a nice paste as heretofore directed; line a pie plate with it and fill with ripe cherries. Spread well with sugar, cover with pastry, cut a slit in the middle and bake to a delicate brown. Eat cold and sprinkle each piece with sugar.

QUERIES FOR RECIPES.

1.
"How to make good Coffee Cake without dough." A Subscriber.

One cup butter.
Two cups sugar.
One cup molasses.
Three eggs, whites and yolks beaten separately.
One cup black coffee—made.
One cup seeded and chopped raisins.
One cup currants, well cleansed and dried.
Half cup citron, minced fine.
Half teaspoonful each of mace, cinnamon and cloves.
One teaspoonful saleratus, dissolved in a tablespoonful of boiling water.
Five cups flour.

Rub the butter and sugar to a cream, stir in the molasses, first warming it slightly, and the spices. Beat these very hard until light. Stir in the whipped yolks, the coffee, the flour and the whites. Then put in the saleratus water, and last of all stir in the fruit, thoroughly dredged in flour. This will make two good-sized loaves.

2.
"How to make good table mustard."

Four tablespoonfuls dry mustard
Two teaspoonfuls salad oil.
One teaspoonful salt.
One teaspoonful pepper.
Two teaspoonfuls sugar.
Vinegar to make a paste.

Wet up the mustard with the oil, add the vinegar, the salt, pepper and sugar and beat hard five minutes.

3
"How to make prepared flour."

Prepared flour is sold by most grocers. Hecker's is generally conceded to be the best brand. It can be prepared at home by adding to each quart of flour one teaspoonful of soda and two teaspoonfuls of cream tartar and sifting them together three times.

4.
"Why not grease pans for angel cake?"

The whites of the eggs are so little adhesive that there is no danger of their sticking to the pan as would the yolks.

5.
"How to cook Hamburg Steaks."
A New Subscriber.

The directions for preparing Hamburg Steaks are given in "COTTAGE DINNERS" for June.

"How to make cheese-cake pie."

Three eggs.
Half cup sugar.
Quarter cup sweet cream.
One teaspoonful butter.
Juice and grated peel of a lemon.
One cup and a half cottage cheese.

Rub the cheese through a colander, add the beaten eggs, sugar, butter and lemon. Stir until smooth. Make a good pie paste, line a pie dish with it, fill with the cheese compound and bake half an hour.

7.
"How to make Prince of Wales' Cake."

DARK.—One cup sugar.
Two cups flour.
One cup raisins, seeded and minced.
Two tablespoonfuls molasses.
Half teaspoonful soda, dissolved in hot water.
Half cup sour milk.
Yolks of four eggs.

LIGHT.—One cup sugar.
Half cup butter.
Half cup sweet milk.
Two cups flour.
One teaspoonful baking powder.
Whites of four eggs.
One teaspoonful vanilla.

Mix the dark and light parts separately, bake in jelly cake tins and arrange in alternate layers with icing between each.

8.
"How to make hop yeast."
Mrs. J. N. P.

One cupful hops, sewed up in cheese cloth bag.
Six medium-sized potatoes.
Half cup flour.
Quarter cup white sugar.
Eight cups cold water.

Put the potatoes, peeled, and the hops over the fire in the cold water. Boil, covered, until the potatoes are soft enough to wash, then remove them with a split spoon, leaving the hops still boiling. Mash the potatoes, rubbing with them the sugar and flour, and wet up gradually with the hop water, adding it while boiling hot. Add all the water and set the mixture aside to cool, putting with it, when about lukewarm, half a cupful of good yeast. Set uncovered in a bowl and let it work until it stops bubbling. When it reaches this point, bottle it, cork tightly and wire down the corks. Keep in a cool place.

9.
"How to make potato yeast."

Use precisely the same ingredients as in hop yeast, with the exception of the hops. Prepare in the same manner, using the water, in which the potatoes were boiled, to moisten the potatoes, sugar and flour. Add the same quantity of yeast, let all work, as directed, bottle and keep in a cool place.

10.
"How to can corn in Mason's glass jars."
Maggie F. Rubien.

Boil the ripe corn on the cob until it is tender, and cut it off while hot. Salt well, return to the fire and heat to scalding, stirring incessantly to prevent scorching. While boiling hot fill the glass jars, setting each on a wet cloth to prevent its cracking. Seal up while hot and keep in a dark place.

11.
"How to put up peaches in self-sealing jars."

Peel and stone large, firm peaches, dropping each piece in cold water. When all are done pour a cupful of water into the bottom of a preserving kettle, and place the fruit in it in layers, sprinkling each stratum with a tablespoonful of white sugar. Bring slowly to a boil and let the fruit simmer about five minutes. Turn into cans and seal while scalding hot. If the directions are faithfully followed, they will keep perfectly.

12.
"How to dry cherries."
Mrs. M. Florence.

Stone seven pounds of ripe, tart cherries and arrange them in layers alternating with white sugar, as directed for canning peaches. The proportion of sugar should be two pounds to the seven pounds of fruit, *before stoning*. Set the saucepan over the fire and scald the fruit, but do not let it boil. Take the cherries out of the syrup, spread them on flat, earthen dishes, and dry them in the sun. When perfectly dry, pack down in stone jars and keep covered. If the scalding has been thorough, there will be no danger of worms.

13.
"How to can strawberries without cooking the fruit." Mrs. M. Florence.

Choose firm, perfect berries and hull carefully, taking pains not to crush them. To each pound of fruit allow half a pound of sugar, or if you wish them quite rich, three-quarters of a pound. Proceed exactly as above directed for dried cherries, scalding the fruit and then spreading it on plates to dry, without freeing the berries from the syrup. Spread gauze over the plates to protect from dust. When the syrup thickens, the fruit is ready to be put up in scalded jars. This process preserves the color and form of the fruit much better than does the ordinary method of canning.

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(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

DRESS FANCIES.

Odd Freaks of Fashion. Suggestive Notions Gleaned at Recent Exhibitions. Novelties in Materials for Summer suits. Lovely Laces, Crapes and Tissues. Silk, Woolen, Camel's Hair and Mixed Goods. The Newest Ideas in Cotton.

BY MRS. JAMES H. LAMBERT.

The wonderful productions of the modern loom, to be found in the various stores this season, are beautiful beyond description; and the thoughtful woman of Fashion can hardly realize how the exquisite gossamer tissues, the woolens, with intricate designs, and the superb silks presented, can be machine woven, for it seems fitting work for fairy fingers to weave the dainty diaphanous textures used for evening gowns, and the superb embroidered robes, look as if fashioned by one skilled in needlework, instead of being the creations of an inanimate but untiring worker, a mere thing of metal.

The extreme high novelties in Lyon's silks, show immense designs in flowers very much larger in size than nature's beautiful children, and then there are numbers of brocades and pekins just as handsome, but less striking. In some specimens, the brocaded sprays, carelessly scattered on the silken ground, are in the same color as the ground, and in one other color, frequently white, and camaïle effects are also in great favor.

A beautiful silver faille shows wide stripes created by a series of large stone colored satin spots, while in spring green novelty has alternate bands of silk, and is made decorative by the application of a bouquet composed of pink, cream, and cardinal flowers, at intervals, on the satin stripe.

The new veloutine, which is now so fashionable, is really a soft, rich quality of French faille. At one of the spring exhibitions, a church dress of this silk was displayed. The skirt was draped slightly in front and at the back, and slit open all the way down on the left side to show an underskirt of dark blue, and steel gray shot silk, the over drapery being in a bluish-stone color. The peaked bodice was put on with plaited fronts to a shoulder-piece of the shot silk, which came down into a deep point both in front and at the back. The sleeves were of shot silk, with peaked reveres of the plain fabric.

For evening wear the Directoire style of dress is popular. The long, plain skirts are sometimes embroidered over the hem, or up the front with pearls, gold thread, and crystal beads, their creation giving employment to thousands of hands. The dress is completed by a large, wide scarf tied around the waist. Then there are gowns of gauzes striped with satin, and trimmed with cascades of ribbon ends. Jetted grenadine, too, is much used, often being draped all down the front of a velvet dress.

Among other imported novelties is an elegant toilette of cactus-colored silk crape, to be worn over a satin foundation of the same color. With this dress is a fan representing the leaves of the cactus. Lovely dresses are of embroidered tulle, under silk or satin dresses, open at the side over the tulle. A high chemisette and long puffed sleeves of the same tulle are worn under the low, silken bodice.

Very few ladies are able to possess the high class novelties in dress goods, brought out this season for the fact of their being new, adds to the price at which they are sold by the manufactures, many dealers marking them at "fancy" figures. Doe-skin is the name of a fabric used for jackets, while a new high cost material called "silk-kid" is made in all colors, and makes exceedingly stylish walking costumes. One of these suits in bronze kid, is trimmed with a chenille passementerie in the same color, richly beaded with illuminated bronze beads *Capote en suite*, trimmed with ribbons and roses in front.

In camel's hair and woolen goods, there are numbers of expensive specimens, the plush striped and checked or flowered materials costing from $5.00 to $8.00 and $10.00 a yard, while the lower grades and reduced odds and ends are marked as low as $1.00, $1.50 to $5.00 a yard. Very fine checked cloths, which are lovely and soft, sell for $3.50 a yard, while the American reproductions of these English novelties are $1.50 and $2.50 a yard, and some particularly good imitations are only 75c. a yard. Then there are varieties of serges and other woolen stuffs costing anywhere from 37½c. a yard, up to 75c. and $1.00.

Lighter in weight and particularly desirable for dresses intended for visiting and home toilettes, are the handsome silk-warp materials, which come in jet and blue black, and can now be found in white, and hence will be in demand for evening and dinner robes. The Gypsy cloth is really the lightest of these novelties, being something like Grenadine in nature; the Feather cloth is next in weight, being a little lighter than the lustrous, crapy Convent cloth, and the smooth, beautiful Clairette. These white silk-warp fabrics have been largely used for confirmation toilettes, and will be generally adopted for commencement purposes, as the youthful wearers can make them serve double purpose, and utilize them during the summer at the seaside, as they are not injured by salt atmosphere.

Fine woolen fabrics, like Mousseline de Laine, are made up with the same material striped with wide silk bands, ornamented with a brocade design; and still lighter is a fabric with fancy silken stripes, which is very pretty in antique blue, with stripes in white silk; this stuff makes charming dresses for young ladies.

Cotton goods, or washing materials, deserve special commendation, for some of the novelties are very pretty; they come in all colors, and are often in such shades that they will not soon require laundrying. An entirely new sample shows diamond design, in lace and stripe pattern. Tyrolese stripes are seen on a close, firm canvas ground, in goods that sell at only 12½c. a yard, and costumes composed in all colors, have horizontal stripes in embroidered designs, in white and contrasts.

Pattern robes of Toile du Nord, with plain and checked goods sufficient for a dress, cost $1.75, while the goods by the yard sell at 12½c., and the now popular cotton Cleghorn novelties are to be found in retail houses at 25c. a yard for the moss stripe portion, and 15c. a yard for the plain goods.

From foreign authorities, in matters of style, may be learned that Parisian fashionables have discarded the small hair cushion, which formed the upper part of the tournure, and in its place they use our Philadelphia Lady Washington bustle of braided wire which, they say, is decidedly more comfortable, and produces a much better effect than the cushion. In Europe, this bustle, which is now incased in a net-lace cover, is known as the Myra.

In dress furnishings a novelty is the model dress or skirt extender, which is of spring steel, cloth covered, and tipped with leather, which serves double purpose of keeping the steels from cutting through the cloth, and acting as a loop at each end, by which the extender is held in position. These steels come in sets, and cost 15c. for the three.

The wide, large plaided sash ribbons are now used to form the wing-like bows, with which the sides and fronts of stylish hats are now decorated.

Practical looking bonnets are formed of pine cones, and many effective designs on hats and bonnets are executed in bright surfaced melon seeds; and another peculiarity in this season's millinery, is the use of colored petal instead of the entire flower.

A very stylish bonnet made of pine cones, is trimmed with embroidered lisse of a corresponding color, and is bordered with rose leaves that shaded from cloth of gold to biscuit, having a high standing butterfly bow to complete the effect.

Gauze ribbons, with fancy corded edge, are used in conjunction with loops of rich velvet.

For information, thanks are due Le Boutillier Bros., Broadway and 14th St., New York, and Sharpless Bros., Philadelphia, Pa.

BRILLIANT OPENINGS.

In Boston, New York and Philadelphia, some of the largest Palaces of Fashion have, in the spring and fall, a grand opening, or in other words, a special exhibition of seasonable, imported and domestic novelties in dress goods, costumes and wraps, with trimmed hats and bonnets. On the days set aside for these expositions, the stores are thronged with curious and appreciative ladies, who are on the outlook after new styles.

Prior to such events, attention is often invited to a new room, which, perhaps, has been appropriately appointed for the better display of special articles, but it is rather an unusual occurrence for an immense building to be suddenly added to an already large store, a mercantile feat just accomplished by Strawbridge and Clothier, who "opened," with their original establishment, the store recently occupied by Hood, Bonbright & Co., prominent commission merchants and importers.

In light, airy and handsome rooms, dress goods are attractively arranged, and in addition to the departments of costumes and wraps, on the second floor, considerable space has been devoted to the novelties in hats and bonnets, and everything in millinery. So rapidly is the business of this house increasing, that with all this recently acquired space, there is still a demand for more room, for even now, a good-sized building near the store is used as the publication office and editorial rooms of that valuable and unique periodical, Strawbridge and Clothier's Magazine, a quarterly, devoted to the interests of house-wives and society ladies.

***

A particularly bright example of the gradual growth of a well conducted business, is realized in the House of E. Ridley & Sons. Year by year, the enterprising head, added space, to the original room occupied as a small trimming or notion store, until now an immense building, covering almost an entire block on Grand Street in New York, includes within its limits over fifty distinct departments.

At the recent opening at E. Ridley & Sons, silks, woolens, and cotton goods were exhibited, together with all articles in the line of wearing apparel and house furnishing goods, while most attractive to ladies was the large and handsome new millinery parlor, carpeted in velvet, furnished with mahogany tables and cases, numbers of beveled plate glass mirrors, two Oriental fire-places in antique brass, while between the windows in the front of the room is Moorish fret work in wood; and in each window is hung an ornamental Mosaic medallion in colored glass. Two thousand trimmed hats and bonnets, in subdued and brilliant colorings, no two being alike, added to the appearance of the room.

The chief attraction for young folks, at this opening, was the room devoted to the reproduction of the beach at Coney Island, illustrating in miniature the scenes always transpiring there, during the gay summer season. Wagon loads of real sand formed the beach and in simulated waves, doll bathers, in neat suits, sported. On one pier a ball was in progress, and electric lights added to the brilliant appearance of the elegantly dressed ladies, with trained robes, and gentlemen in full evening dress. Sweet-faced dolls looked out of every window of the elephant hotel, and hundreds of dolls in walking costumes, watched the mechanical elevator, the dancing bears, the merry-go-rounds, and even patronized the refreshment stands where they were mechanically served with lemonade, and a mechanical street Arab, in trying to pick the pocket of a gentleman, is caught by a fine-looking wound-up policeman.

***

Doubtless, at least, three-fourths of our four hundred and fifty thousand readers have heard of Philadelphia's John Wanamaker, his five thousand employes, and his mammoth magical store, which can be correctly compared to a high-class world's Fair; for here are found valuable and odd specimens of various articles from all parts of the earth, artistically arranged and displayed in the appropriate portions of the wonderful building, where one is constantly surprised by the introduction of new and costly features, and the never-ending expensive improvements.

The casual visitor to this establishment, as well as the largest buyer, becomes, on entering its doors, the guest of the house, and can wander at will, over fourteen acres of space, among a wilderness of artistic loom creations,—for Wanamaker is known as the largest dry goods house in the world,—through a labyrinth of laces, can rest at pleasure among books of all ages, or become a victim to covetous desire, when pass-

(*Concluded on page 12.*)

Wanamaker's

On the 4th of April last we made a Grand Occasion in Dress Materials. The Exhibition proved beyond question, that WANAMAKER'S, great as it is in other departments, is first, and above all else, a Dry Goods Store; and, more than that the biggest Retail Dry Goods House in America.

The prices are always WANAMAKER'S prices, i-m a fair advance on wholesale bed rock. Here are some of them:

French Sateens, choice designs	25c.
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Bellon's Black Silk, pure vegetable dye, cost $1.84 a yard to import	$1.25
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Mayfair Suitings, irregular checks and brilliant plaid effects	36c.
All-wool Tricot, for walking or traveling costumes	50c.

In writing for goods or samples be definite. If you don't know exactly what you want give a hint that'll help us to select for you.

JOHN WANAMAKER.

For further information read "Grand Spring Openings," in this paper, and when writing to John Wanamaker for samples of any kind of dress goods, please mention LADIES' HOME JOURNAL in letter of advice.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

SUMMER FASHIONS,

Dainty Dresses for Outdoors and Evening Wear. Novelties in Bodices and Summer Wraps.

BY JENNY JUNE.

There are many charming features of the present fashions, which are well adapted to the season, and especially becoming to the young. One is the use of simple materials, in fine stripes, and checks; another the return to simpler forms; and a third the substitution of natural (artificial) flowers, in place of the tinselled rubbish, which was for a time employed as a substitute. The delicate spring-like coloring too, is a matter for congratulation. The glaring reds and yellows are toned down, or have disappeared altogether. Soft shades of yellow are used, but in cooler and fresher combinations, with pale blue, or wood brown. Spring green, in lettuce, cress, and moss shades, appears in thin summer materials, as ornamentation, united with cool greys, fawns, and soft browns, reproducing atmospheric tones, and open-air effects; where there is sufficient intelligence, and knowledge of color, to work up available resources to the best advantage.

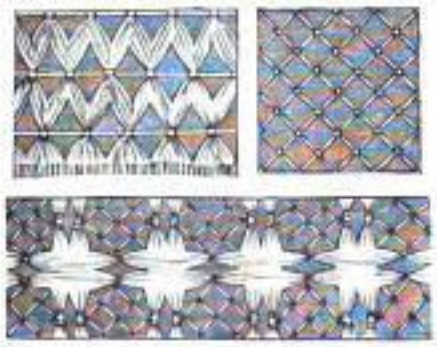
There is nothing striking that is not bad in street dress, the predominating influence being, exactly as it should be, quiet and practical. Young girls reserve the short cloth jackets, in fine check, or plain cloth, unlined, untrimmed, and only faced interiorly with silk, for cool morn-

ing wear in the country, over the cambric, gingham, batiste, or flannel gowns, which form the staple of the summer wardrobe. Trimmings have not disappeared, but they have become less elaborate, and less conspicuous. Dull wax beads are used for bordering, pearls, and delicate combinations of color, for open sprays; which show the silk beneath. The fine summer wools are trimmed with silk galloons, which have looped edges, and narrow ribbons are employed in the form of rosettes, and clustered loops; or panels, with gathered ends, which form a point, and is finished with a rosette.

The revival of the habit chemisette, or plaited vest, has had an instantaneous success because it is found so useful and becoming. In one, or another, it is universally adopted, some having it inserted as an integral part of the bodice, others having several made independently, of foulard, or crepe, and ribbon, of ribbon, and lace, and the like, so that they can be adapted to any dress.

The outdoor garments for summer street wear, have grown smaller by degrees, until there is little left of them. The newest are mere capes, which fall an inch, or more short of the line of the waist, but have quite long ends in front, or they are made with narrow, fitted basque back, a shoulder cape for sleeve, and loose fronts. Most of them are masses of bead work, wrought into the meshes of silk netting which forms the open ground plan.

White embroidery, and white lace, are no longer used upon colored cottons, the work is



done in white, and colors upon the material. Some of it is executed in raised work, some in open work, some in solid color, some in varied colors, and some in different shades of one color, or in combination of a color with white.

The study in grey and brown, which is given under the title of a "Summer Walking Dress," is copied from a batiste, the skirt of which is composed of brown stripes, and cluster lines of grey, and white. The overskirt and basque are checked, in the same colors, and the full vest is of soft silk, in lines of yellow, and brown. The cuffs and collar are of nut-brown velvet. The hat of crinoline, is of grey, striped with brown, and trimmed with brown velvet, and lilacs in the

natural color. The drapery is of the simplest, and falls in a series of natural ripples from the sides, which are turned back from the front. The back may be arranged with or without a *pouf*; the effect of the latter being to depress the centre, and throw the fulness more to the sides. There is a difference which should be noted this season, in the length of the sleeves.

For several years they have been very short, so that the arms must either be covered with very long gloves, or exposed to the roughening effects of sun, and wind. It is not always possible to wear long gloves, and often looks like an affectation, while for the majority, is useless extravagance. This year the sleeves are cut a more natural length, arms are better protected, and gloves do not need to be so long.

The application of drawn work to linen is shown in a pretty costume which a young lady wears who is evidently taking her little fox terrier for an airing. The detail of the work is given below, the spaces showing where ribbon, or velvet may be run in to add to the effectiveness of the work. The square mesh is usually about an inch and a-quarter in width, and is placed over a color, unless threading the diamond with narrow ribbon or silk cord, is preferred.

The model as here given, is of cream linen lawn. The overskirt falls straight all round. It is tucked in front, very finely, and bordered down

the sides, with three rows of drawn work, through which black velvet is run. Collar, and sleeves are finished to match. The chemisette is tucked to match front, only still more delicately, a bow of ribbon uniting the collar, at its points, and dividing the tucked vest, into upper and lower parts. The sailor hat is of coarse straw, is bound with black velvet, and trimmed with lettuce green ribbon, with double picot edge. The gloves, and parasol, are both of a very faint, and charming shade of lettuce green. The parasol, is covered with open, embroidered muslin.

The "tucked" bodice gives an idea of the uses to which tucking is put, and the new application of pinked, or what is called "flower" ruching, to indoor dressing. This pretty bodice is made of soft silk, or muslin, in any soft shade of forget-me-not blue, yellow, terra-cotta red, tinted white, or black. It is simply tucked to form a yoke, to

mould the waist, and shape the top, and bottom of the sleeves. The finish is with pinked-out ruching of the material, except when made of muslin, then it is with ruching, or looping of ribbon, or gathering of narrow (doubled) lace. It is a most useful little bodice for afternoon wear, with white skirts, and in black, or grey pongee, may be worn under a mantle, for the street, or in traveling.

Another pretty design, more suitable for dressy purposes than the preceding, is the "Cora" jacket. It is made in cloth, cashmere, Bengaline, *peau de soie*, plush, or velvet; lined with silk, and edged with dull wax beads. The model from which our illustration is drawn, is of golden brown plush, lined with pale yellow silk, and edged with dull, yellow wax beads. It is worn over a dress of India mull, with high, full waist, and long, full

sleeves, which show below the upturned cuff of the jacket. Two yards of plush, and two yards of silk will make it, and a few strings of rather large wax beads.

Some of the prettiest of the spring, and early summer costumes are of vicuna cloth, trimmed with moire antique, and having full vest of china crape, or surah. All the gray shades, from fawn to steel, are in favor; the watered silk matching the cloth, but the vest may be cress, or lettuce green. Cowslip yellow, a new and delicate combination with grey, or coral pink. Moire antique is used in combination with wool, and for the high collars, cuffs, *revers*, bands, stripes, panels, and the like, very much as velvet has been for two years past. It has not however, displaced velvet entirely.

Striped materials are as much in vogue as ever for tennis, croquet, and outdoor games. They are very simple, consisting of a rather short skirt, and "Garibaldi" bodice, which should be made of a plain material, or a narrower stripe than that of the skirt. The true Garibaldi bodice, is a loose blouse waist, cut long, so that the fulness which is gathered into the belt, falls over it. If the bodice is striped, the cuffs, and collar, are of a plain material in the color of the stripe. There is no ruffle, flounce, or drapery upon the skirt, which may be simply gored, laid in perpendicular tucks across the front, and gathered at the back. A new idea this season, is the placing of square pockets at the sides of the skirt; and employing them instead of drapery to hold the back in position. They are useful, as well as effective, and render an apron with pockets unnecessary.

The dainty evening dress of sprigged muslin, will go straight to the hearts of all young lady readers. So inexpensive too, and so easily made. The skirt is perfectly plain, slightly gored, hemmed, and gathered straight, the fullness, of course, massed at the back, and only just enough of it distributed in front and upon the hips to make it hang well. There is no other draping, no looping, no bunching, and no overskirt; nothing but a panel at the left, formed of three sash ends of wide ribbon, graduated in length, gathered upon the ends, and attached by rosettes at unequal distances, to each other, and to the skirt. The bodice is round, and low, and finished with a little heading of lace, and ribbon; and the arms and neck. There are no sleeves, but the gloves come nearly to the top of the arms.

The design can be made much more expensive. The underdress may be of silk, with narrow plaitings upon the edge. Over this two skirts of silk tulle, one plain, the other dotted with silver, or sprigged with embroidery. The edge of the upper one finished by hand, with dots, and button-hole stitch, in floselle. The ribbon may be silk, or satin, or moire, but it must match the sprig if this is in color, and the rosettes must exactly match the ribbon.

The new summer wraps are very small, and revive many old ideas. They are very short on the back, and either form a sort of pelerine cape, with square ends in front, or a fitted basque back, with half sleeves, which are often composed wholly of falls of lace, or lace intermingled with ribbon loops. Many of the capes, and smaller mantles are composed wholly of jet, or jetted silk, woven in an open work, and showing pendant attachments. Others are in-wrought with lace, as in the jetted mantle, which we illustrate, and which is finished short across the back, and with no unnatural height, or fulness upon the shoulders.

The Lace Wrap is one of the prettiest, and most becoming of out-door garments for summer. It is of beaded lace, and jetted galloon. The back is basque shaped, the fronts somewhat loose, but slightly gathered in, and the sleeves loose also, so

that a certain amount of fullness is gathered into the armholes, and the wrists, which are finished like the neck, front, and lower edge, with a ruching of lace, in which narrow loops of galloon are set.

Narrow ribbons, and galloons with looped edges, are among the newest, and most fashionable styles of ornamentation. The narrower the galloons, the closer the loops, the more there is of them in a series, the better, and more distinguished the design.

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DRESS FANCIES.

[*Concluded from page 10.*]

ing by tables and tables, spread with beautiful and high art gems in pottery and exquisite glassware.

For the weary there are rooms everywhere for rest, reading, and refreshment, and last week a magnificent new parlor for the display of trimmed millinery novelties was opened in conjunction with the spring exhibition of new dress goods, which stock embraces the largest and most varied assortment of materials in the country, including every standard brand of every line of fabric, from those costing the highest prices, through the intermediate grades, to the very cheapest stuffs, that is low priced, but good, and suitable for every day wear, or working dresses, long enduring, and easy to laundry.

Of special interest to out-of-town readers is the newly organized mail order department, wherein all commissions intrusted to this house by distant purchasers, are carefully and promptly executed, from an order for the very smallest article, to the selecting of a bride's *trousseau*, or the complete furnishings for a handsome house, for Wanamaker keeps everything.

***

A notable opening of spring specialties was at the curious establishment of Lewis S. Cox, in Philadelphia., where the Oriental finishings and furnishings of the handsome rooms, proved fitting and appropriate surroundings, for the beautiful toilettes, and elegant wraps for ladies, and the attractive and useful garments of all kinds for misses and children, boys, girls, and babies.

In outside coverings for spring and summer wear, every fashionable shape, in the newest material was represented, from the odd mantelet of silk in black, and the new colors, with decorations of jet and variously hued beads, to the raglans, and new-markets, in light weight cloths. Then there were jackets in leather cloths, with boxed seams, and fancy walking-jackets, in English checks and plaids, with Jersey waists and jackets showing new features in weave of cloth and make of waists, while in similar elastic cloths, in odd designs and combinations, in plain, striped and embroidered fabrics were novelties in the Jersey box robes or suits, with made waists, and sufficient stuff to form a stylish skirt.

Among the rich toilettes exhibited was one of china silk, with black ground and red flowers, fancifully made and trimmed with black chantilly lace, and red ribbons, two or three superb Parisian dresses in black silk with lace combinations and jet decorations, and some lovely tea gowns. In beautifully fine cloth in plaided-checks, and plain cloths, were very stylish street suits in drab and in brown, with large pearl buttons, as the only decorative feature, besides the trimming formed of the fabric.

The costumes and dresses for misses were tempting enough to fascinate any mother; there were odd little formations in fancy fabrics with surah, plain and plaided, and lovely dresses of all surah. In one for a miss of ten, two of the berry juice shades were put together with lovely effect, the one forming trimming on skirt, and front fulness, while over jacket and skirt were of the lighter shade surah. The other dress of mastic Henrietta had full front of Gobelin surah, the cloth portions of the suit being smocked after the English conceit.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"V. and E.," Columbus, Ohio:—There are fabrics made specially for such suits; they are known as tennis suitings, and are to be found in cotton and wool in similar stripes, in varied combinations, such as blue and red, blue and gold, red and gray, two shades of drab, and the wood browns. The dresses have kilted skirts, folded aprons, and slightly looped back drapery; jacket of either plain, or striped goods, with or without vest of the contrast.

"Lill May":—Pretty yokes and sleeves of net or dotted lace, are made full; full bodice, with belt and skirt gathered on to belt, with pointed front drapery, and looping at the back.

"A Sincere Friend":—Experience teaches that the best flannel for baby's every day use is, that with cotton mixture. You can get a good quality of Gilbert's flannel for 50c. a yard, from any advertised houses. The cotton keeps the flannel from shrinking. To wash, let the garment stand ten or fifteen minutes in soapy, lukewarm water, then wash, rinse, and hang up quickly to dry.

"E. L. D.":—Your shawl is in just the fashionable shade, as all tones of Heliotrope or purple are now in style. You could make an elegant suit or dress, by using purple velvet or Arcadia velveteen, which has a heavy pile, for underskirt and corsage, and forming stylish drapery on skirt and basque of the crepe shawl. If you like black, best, it will dye elegantly, and can then be made up with black Henrietta, silk, or velvet.

"The Weary Invalid" who wants light but good and moral reading to while away hours of pain and loneliness—and would prefer complete stories. A foreign publication of that character, can be procured through the International News Co., 31 Beekman St., New York. It is called "The Family Library," is published monthly, at 15c. a single number, or $1.75 a year's subscription.

"Mrs. C. F. E.," Easton, Md., writes, in reply to inquiry of Mrs. F., of New Cassette, Cal., concerning the best paper for very small children:—Please inform Mrs. F., that I find *Little One's Own*, published by John Wanamaker, 13th and Chestnut Sts., Philadelphia, Pa., to be the very thing she wishes. It comes every week, and is, therefore, much nicer for small children than a monthly. It is illustrated with bright pictures, and only costs $1.50 a year. My two little ones, aged 7 and 8 years, look for it eagerly, every Saturday, and enjoy it more than any childish magazine they ever had.

"Mrs. B. K.":—Tweed mixtures, checked or plaid cloths, and any plain woolen goods will make neat suits for small boys from three to five years old; make kilted skirt and jacket or blouse. For your own traveling dress, you will find woolen goods much better than cotton; and you can get them so cheap now, as you can see by price lists given in this JOURNAL, by our leading merchants in Philadelphia and New York.

"Mrs. E. M. H.":—You can get decorative fabrics for combinations and trimmings, to be used with plain goods, from any and all of the retail Houses in large cities. Read the address of Dry Goods' Establishments, given in this paper, and write to any one direct, for just what you want.

"Mrs. J. E. B.":—Small girls are now wearing little dresses with full skirt and waist, belt and yoke of inserting, or the yoke may be tucked. Large leghorn hats, or lace or muslin caps, are becoming to darling Tots. The House you mention is entirely reliable; all merchants keep their specialties, in ruchings, laces, and dress trimmings.

"Charlotte":—You should be able to wear certain light and dark shades of any color. Navy and light blue, shrimp pink and old rose, the browns, cream, lavender, or any pinkish Heliotrope tone, will be becoming to you.

"Mrs. S. F. O.:"—The butterfly puff for back of stylish skirts is produced by dividing the width of the back breadth into three, and gathering the centre piece into the waistband; the piece thus left on either side is tacked to the side of the breadth, forming a point, and these points are allowed to mingle with the fulness at the top, and form the butterfly bow.

Perhaps there are no fashions which change so often, or are capable of such modifications, as those of wearing the hair. The low pug of to-day will be superseded by the high twist of to-morrow; the straight bang of yesterday, gives way to the pompadour or montague of to-day. But be the fashions what they will, at the Hair Emporium of John Medina may be found always the latest style, and any one desiring anything in this line, would do well to send to him. We say "send" advisedly, because he makes a specialty of sending goods out on approval—an accommodation to be found at no other establishment, we believe, dealing in the same line of goods. Note his advertisement and send to him for information and goods.

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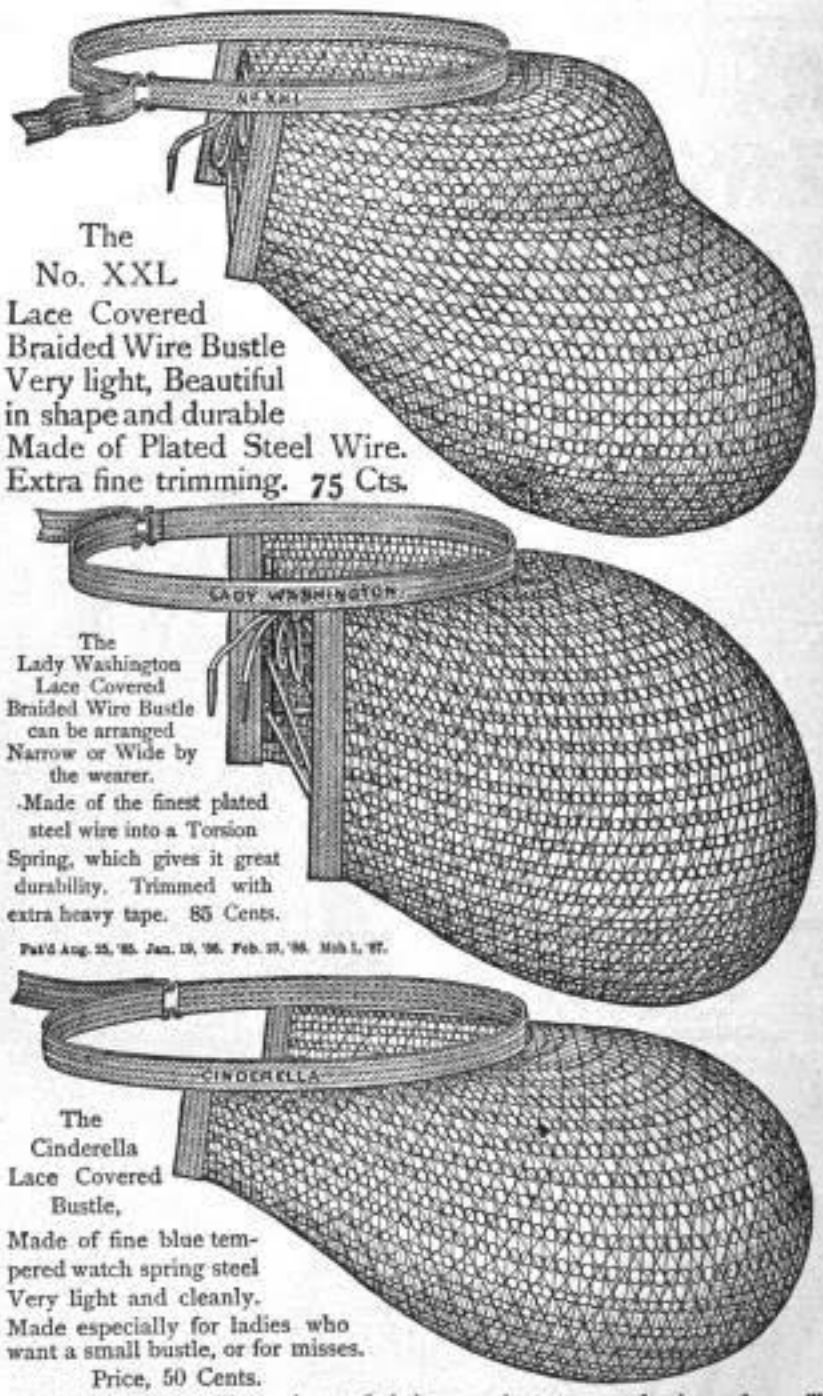

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[For the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

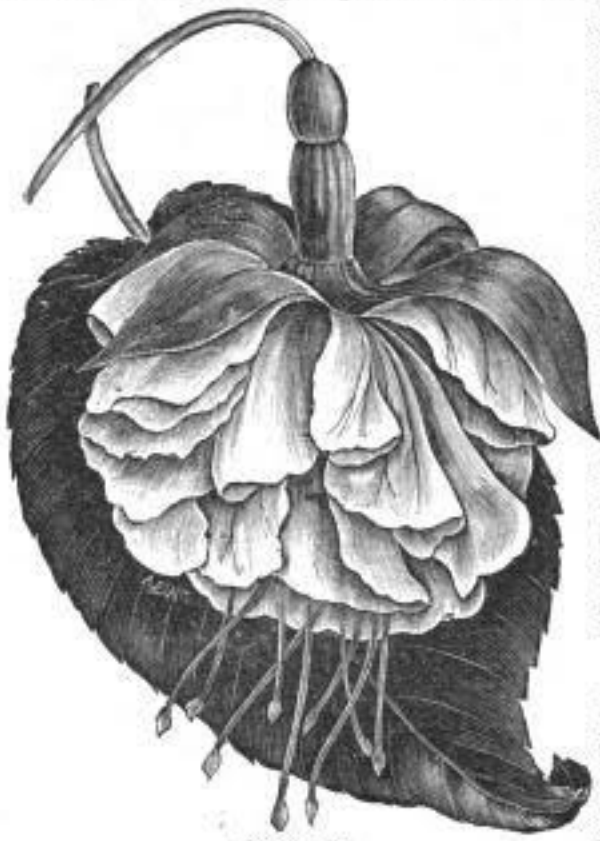
TO CORRESPONDENTS:—All inquiries about flowers and their culture will be cheerfully answered to the best of my ability in the columns of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, when they are of general interest. Those of a personal character, and not of general interest, will be answered by mail,—provided a stamped envelope is sent for reply; and not otherwise. If an immediate reply is desired, it can only be obtained by mail, as the matter for the paper is made up several weeks in advance of date, and any reply which comes through the paper will necessarily be delayed. In asking questions about plants which you have failed to grow successfully, tell what kind of culture you have given them, and this will often enable the editor to get at the difficulty, and give you the information you require.

Send all letters directly to the address given below, and not to the office of publication.

SHIOCTON WIS. EBEN E. REXFORD.

TWO FINE NEW FUCHSIAS.

Two of the finest Fuchsias of recent introduction are illustrated in the engravings which accompany this article. The first, "Storm King," is what is called a weeping sort; its branches are of somewhat slender growth, and the profusion of its blossoms cause them to droop, and the result is that a well grown plant is a fountain of foliage and flowers. The flowers are very large, and of fine form, and are borne in wonderful profusion. I have never seen any other variety which had such floriferousness. On a large plant the buds in all stages of development, and the fully matured flowers can be counted by the hundreds, and small plants are covered with them. The sepals are very brilliant, glowing scarlet, and the corolla, which is large and exceedingly double, is white, veined with rose. It is a great acquisition to the list of desirable Fuchsias, and we have so many fine sorts that a new variety must have great merit to entitle it to a place on the list.



STORM KING.

The other new kind, Phenomenal, was introduced two or three years ago, and has been distributed to some extent among the flower-loving people, but it is still new to most, and is well deserving the attention of all who are on the alert for the "best of everything." It is as meritorious in its way as "Storm King." It is a much stronger grower, but not as free a blooner, though more floriferous than most of the older varieties. It has the largest flowers of any Fuchsia I have ever seen. They are more than two inches across when the corolla is fully expanded. The sepals are scarlet, and the corolla is a very dark, rich purple. It is the good old variety, Elm City, greatly improved.

If you are wanting any new Fuchsias this season, I would advise you to add these two to your list. You will be delighted with them.

SOME HINTS ABOUT FUCHSIA-GROWING.

If you want well-developed specimens, and you should be satisfied with nothing less, you must see to it that the roots are given a chance to develope steadily from the time the plants are received; by that, I mean, you must shift the plants whenever you find that the soil in which they are growing is filled with roots. If you allow them to become root-bound the plant will receive a check from which it will take it a long time to recover, and checks of all sorts should be guarded against in order to secure the best development of the plant. It may be necessary to give the plant a large pot, but the room it will require is well paid for by the satisfaction afforded by a fine specimen, when it is fully matured, and any one who has compared a specimen when well grown, with the ordinary plant, will see that it is worth while to give it the little extra attention it requires.

The best soil for the Fuchsia is made up of leaf-mold, with a liberal admixture of sand. Plenty of drainage should be provided, for stagnant water at the roots will have a tendency to induce disease, and in order to get fine plants, and have them give large and continuous crops of flowers all through the season, you must keep them in health. The roots require a great deal of water, but it should be supplied frequently, rather than to have it retained by the soil because of lack of drainage. If the soil is not well drained, it will become sour.

It is quite important that the Fuchsia should have water applied to its leaves as well as its roots. If this is done regularly, and daily, taking care to throw it up among the foliage so that the underside of the leaves will be reached, as well as the upper, the red spider will cause no trouble; but if this is neglected it will frequently be the case that the first you know the leaves will begin to turn yellow and drop off, and in nine cases out of ten this is occasioned by the ravages of this minute but terribly destructive insect. The only antidote is water. He will not stay where it is used freely and persistently. A damp, moist atmosphere is not at all to his liking.

If you want a well-shaped plant, care must be taken in training it during the early stages of its growth. If you allow it to go up tall and scrawly, as most persons do, because it "seems such a pity to cut it off," you will not have a well-balanced, symmetrical specimen; you will not have many branches, and the fewer branches you have the less flowering surface there will be. If you pinch off the top of the young plant when it has reached a height of a foot, you will induce side branches to start below, and by pinching off the ends of these when they have made some growth, you can force the plant to become bushy and compact, and you will have a large surface from which flowers will be produced. It is almost always necessary to prune and pinch in this plant in order to secure a well-developed specimen, and we have no plant which is more tractable, and which will stand pinching and pruning better.

Of course, if you want a standard, or tree-shaped plant, it will be necessary to allow but one stalk to grow until it has reached the height where you want the top to form, and all branches should be kept cut off below the point where the head is to be. There you can allow all the branches that start to develope, taking care to cut them back until you have a sufficient number to form a thick and compact head.

I am not an advocate of trellis-training. It is too prim and formal a way of growing this plant, which is at its best when as far removed from formality as possible. It is necessary to give most sorts some support, because they are not strong enough not to support the weight of their branches, but it will be found more satisfactory to provide a small iron rod with holes through it, at intervals up and down it, through which a stout wire can be twisted. This wire will form a support for the branches, without being at all conspicuous. Trained in this way the plant will have a natural look about it, the ends of the branches drooping gracefully on all sides, and the effect will be found far more pleasing than when each branch is fastened to a flat trellis, thus destroying all of the plant's individuality.

AMPELOPSIS VEITCHII.

This is a variety of Ampelopsis of recent introduction. It is from Japan, and is one of the best plants we have ever received from that country. It is, like the American Ivy, or Virginia Creeper, of which it is a relative, a climber which supports itself on any surface, clinging tenaciously to walls of wood, stone or brick. It is not so rampant a grower as its Virginian cousin, but it is more desirable because it gives a more complete covering to the walls you train it over without taking up so much room. Its leaves are smaller, but much the same in shape as the American variety. In the fall it takes on the richest of maroon, crimson and scarlet hues, and is quite as ornamental in this respect as our native sort. It is by all the best climber we have for covering a wall surface with foliage which is attractive all through the season.

SHRUBS.

Do not neglect to plant some shrubs if you have none growing about the house. The lover of flowers who confines his or her attention to bedding plants and annuals makes a great mistake in doing so. There is nothing which can impart a greater charm to the yard about the house than a few well grown shrubs. There need not be many, and they need not be of expensive varieties. Some of the old kinds are still the best for general use, because they are quite as beautiful as the newer sorts, and we know how to treat them, so that there will be no experiment in undertaking their cultivation. The Deutzias are all fine. So are the Spireas, and Weigelias. For places where a large bush is wanted there are the Lilacs, the Mock Orange, the Hawthorns, and Viburnums. For trellises you can get nothing finer than the hardy Honeysuckles. They will give you flowers all the season, both beautiful and fragrant. If you want the best effect from them plant the red and white varieties together, and let the branches of the two mingle all over the trellis. They are excellent plants for an arch over the gate or path, and for use about the porch or door. If you want a climber which will reach up to the second story, and on up to the eaves, the Ampelopsis or Akebia quinata is preferable.

ANNUALS.

In making beds in which you intend to grow annual flowers, or flowers which are to be raised from seed, it pays to take pains to have the ground spaded up thoroughly to the depth of at least a foot. If this is done there is much less danger of the plants grown in such a bed suffering from drought than in the beds where the soil has merely received a stirring on the surface. The soil, if opened for a free admission of air and whatever moisture is in it, will absorb rapidly, and does not give off its absorptions as freely as one might suppose. It acts very much like a sponge. But if the soil is not stirred up to a considerable depth, there will be little or no chance for absorption to take place, and the result is that the roots of plants will suffer, for when they have penetrated below the stratum which has been stirred up they will reach a hard, dry one from which they can obtain no nutriment because there is no moisure, or, at least, not a sufficient amount of it to make the food it contains soluble, and therefore available. The scientific farmer understands this thoroughly, and stirs the surface of his cornfield frequently during spells of dry weather; he knows that an open surface will allow the moisture to penetrate to the loosened earth below, where the roots of growing crops will take it up before it has had time to evaporate. If the soil were to be crusted over it would absorb nothing from the atmosphere.

It pays to have the soil on the surface of the bed made light and fine before seed is sown, because many seeds are so fine that they fail to germinate if sown carelessly, under lumps and clods. They should have but a slight covering, and that is better if sifted on, because it can be made more even when applied in that way than when scattered by hand. After covering them, it is a good plan to press the soil down lightly with a smooth board, for this makes the surface compact and prevents the too rapid evaporation of moisture on a hot, dry day. It is well to sprinkle the beds at night, if the weather is dry, until germination takes place, and the plants are well established. For this purpose a watering pot with a fine rose nozzle should be used. This divides the stream into a spray, and none of the seeds will be stirred from their places as is often the case where a stream of water is turned on the bed.

It is well to begin weeding as soon as you are able to tell weeds from flowers. If you give the weeds to understand from the beginning that they are not to be tolerated there, and enforce your decree by a vigorous war of extermination, you will not find it a very difficult matter to keep them down. But if you allow them to get a start,—to secure a foothold,—you will have to fight them inch by inch all summer, and the labor will be such that you will be likely to get discouraged and give up to them.

TALKS WITH CORRESPONDENTS.

The editor of this department would be glad to have those who love and cultivate flowers send in bits of experience for publication in this column. Tell us what you have found out about the plants you grow when you think you have something which would be of use to others. In this way we can get at facts which the experience of one person is not likely to furnish. Write briefly and to the point. If you have not written for publication, you may feel assured that your letters will be quite as welcome as they would be if they came from practiced hands, for it is the ideas that are wanted, not fine writing. If they require any corrections, the editor will make them cheerfully. Let me hear from you. Send your communications directly to me, and not to the publication office, for that occasions delay, and a good deal of trouble, as letters sent me there have to be remailed and forwarded.

"Maude R.:"—If your Amaryllis is healthy, and grows well, I do not think it would be best to change the treatment in order to coax it to bloom. I have found that such plants will bloom when they "get around to it" without giving any special treatment. What is required on the part of the cultivator is patience. The Mrs. Pollock Geranium will lose its bright colors when grown in a window where it does not have plenty of sunshine. You say that your Amaryllis ought to have a flower shaped like a Calla, one flower on each stem. The Amaryllis has flowers with six petals, is shaped more like a Lily than a Calla, and bears several flowers on each stalk.

"Salina Jones:"—Cyclamen seed ought to be sown now if you would have plants come into flower next season.

When your Bermuda Easter Lilies have done blooming, set the pots containing them aside in some cool place, withholding water, and let the bulbs ripen. I do not think it would be worth while to use bulbs which have bloomed in the house once, a second time for that purpose. I would advise planting them out in the garden as soon as the weather becomes warm, and letting them remain there until fall. Then they can be taken up and wrapped in paper, and kept in the cellar with Tuberose, Dahlia and Gladiolus bulbs, and next spring you can use them in the garden.

"M. P. B.:"—This correspondent says that she has very vigorous Geraniums, but they won't bloom. They grow tall and seem to be in perfect health, but she wants flowers instead of leaves. She does not tell what sort of treatment she gives them, but I imagine she has them in too large pots. In order to get profuse crops of flowers from this plant, the roots must be allowed to fill the pots. When this is done the growth of top will cease, and the plant will begin flowering. She says that she has the same varieties which bloom well with others. I would suggest that she compare her treatment with that which others give similar varieties, from which satisfactory crops of flowers are obtained, and in this way she may be able to discover where the fault is.

PHENOMENAL.

"F. L. C.:"—I am unable to give you the information asked. If there is such a book, I have no knowledge of it. I do not think you will find one.

"Viola:"—The Ampelopsis requires no special treatment. It likes a good, rich soil to grow in, and if that is given it it will do well under almost any circumstances. It may be necessary to fasten the early growth to the wall or whatever surface it is trained on, but it will soon take hold of what comes in contact with its aerial rootlets, which have a sort of sucker-like disc at their extremities which enable them to support the vines.

"Mrs. P. D. R.:"—If the ends of your Cyperus are dead, cut off the old leaves, and the root, if the plant is not diseased, will soon send up new shoots.

"J. C. M.:"—In the answer to Salina Jones you will find the information you ask for regarding the Bermuda Easter Lily after blooming in the house.

Amaryllis Belladonna should have alternate periods of growth and rest during the year.

"Miss C. D.:"—This correspondent asks what will destroy black insects on English Ivy. I do not understand whether she refers to the scale which often infests plants of this class, having thick, firm leaves, or to the little fly which seems to breed in the soil. This fly I have never found to be harmful, and it soon disappears. The scale must be removed by washing the leaves carefully on both sides, and sufficient force must be applied to cause them to loosen their hold. I use an old tooth-brush, and apply soap suds, until I think the plant is free from the pest. Then I wash it well with clear water. In this way you can keep the bug from injuring your plants, but the washing will have to be repeated frequently.

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TWO POINTS OF VIEW.

[Continued from page 4.]

refused at least two offers. Her latest victim is a young Englishman, and Stanley Richards bids fair to be the next; though I doubt if he meets with the same fate as his predecessors. Milly bewilders me. She is nervous and restless, and even cynical at times. My dear child, I so fear your experiment has been a mistake, and that she will go back to work more discontented than before. You know I warned you Alice. I can but think she is looking forward to the close of the summer—which is not far off now—with dismay. How will she ever settle down again to drudgery after her luxurious life! I overheard a remark of hers the other day which the young lady she addressed probably failed to understand, but which was full of meaning to me. I did not hear the first of the conversation, but Miss Bates said laughingly and with an evident desire to ascertain the facts: 'But you have more money than you know what to do with.' 'Yes,' replied Millicent bitterly, 'Fairy gold that will soon turn to moss and dead leaves in my fingers.'

"How I long to be once more with my sweet, restful Alice! Don't work too hard, my child. Your uncle sends love. Write soon to

"Yours affectionately,

"MARY GRANT."

Alice read this letter through twice thoughtfully and then turned to this passage in Milly's letter: "I am a cheat, Alice. I begin to despise myself. What right have I to any man's admiration, respect or love? I told you that Mr. Hunt asked me to marry him, and I think he really cared for me. I didn't love him, so there it ended; but oh, Alice! what if I had loved him? To be obliged to confess how I am masquerading in borrowed finery and on borrowed money! How the man would despise me! I have thrown away all chance of winning a true man's regard."

"What if it has been a mistake?" said Alice to herself. "But Stanley Richards will not fail her," she added hopefully. "She loves him; and I am sure he loves Milly for herself; not her money or position. He will not fail her. He will not despise her."

Voices broke in upon her thoughts. A group of men had entered the office. They seated themselves to wait for Mr. Rogers. Alice recognized the voices of Henry Day and Fred Blakesley, two well-known men of her acquaintance. She listened dreamily as they talked of one thing and another, till her attention was aroused by a gentleman, who was a stranger to her, saying: "I hear they have a new belle at Saratoga this year."

"Yes; Miss Duncan, the Californian heiress," replied young Blakesley, carelessly.

"Do you know her?" inquired the first speaker.

"Oh, yes, indeed!" returned the young man with an air of superiority. "Haven't you seen her? Pretty as a picture; rich as Crœsus; and totally unconventional."

"They say that she has refused that young Englishman, Hunt, and that Stanley Richards is bewitched after her," remarked Henry Day.

"Don't believe all you hear, my boy," was Fred's fatherly advice. "Stanley Richards is deucedly fastidious, and one wants more 'form' in a wife. After all, there's no one like Alice Grant."

"Queer where she has buried herself this season," said Mr. Day. "Does any one know of her whereabouts?"

"Not a soul!" responded Fred decisively. "Her sudden disappearance has created a good deal of comment in our circles. You can't get a word out of the Grant's. I pumped the dragon aunt, who is chaperoning Milly Duncan this season, for an hour, but to no avail. I suppose she is in the country somewhere. Alice is full of freaks. I thought I would run down and enliven her self-imposed exile," with a complacence which made Alice's blood boil.

"I have heard of her," said the stranger. "She is the daughter of the late Senator Grant, is she not?"

"The same," answered Henry Day, "and a mighty nice girl, too."

"Not beautiful, but clever," drawled Fred. "But her money is her chief attraction. I would not mind marrying her myself, if I wanted to settle down."

"She wouldn't have you," laughed Mr. Day.

"Well; I don't know about that if I chose to exert myself," responded Fred, twisting his moustache. "The fair Alice is proud and independent, but she has a vein of sentiment. Here's Howard looking as black as a thunder-cloud," he broke off with a laugh. "Why that disgusted expression, Dave, my boy?"

"Because it seems to me neither manly nor courteous to discuss a lady in this way," was the frank reply. "I have not the honor of Miss Grant's acquaintance, but from all I hear of her she seems a most lovely and lovable girl, and I do not like to hear any woman spoken of so lightly."

"You are young yet, Howard," sneered Blakesley. "When you arrive at years of discretion you will find the lovely creatures less white than they are painted. Come on boys; we can't wait for Rogers any longer."

"Tell him we called. Why hasn't he put in an appearance at any of the watering-places this season? Is there any special attraction in the city?" said Henry Day, as they departed.

Fred Blakesley's words had angered Dave more than they would three months ago. He had always reverenced women, but his love for Alice Foster had given them a new sacredness. And the very name of "Alice" was so dear to him, he had disliked to hear it familiarly from Blakesley's lips.

He had made a great stride in Alice's regard, though he knew it not; and was puzzled to account for the grateful look in her beautiful eyes when he came to her desk later in the day.

"Miss Foster," said Mr. Rogers one afternoon, "May I count on your help this evening? We have a number of papers which must be copied before to-morrow, and we are a good deal behind with the work. If you will stay and do some copying, I will see that you get home safely."

Alice assented readily, and the gentleman continued:

"We won't any of us go out to dinner, but I will order some things, and we will lunch here."

Mr. Rogers went out to give the order, and Dave Howard said to Alice: "It is too bad to ask you to stay, Miss Foster; but I shall consider it a personal favor if you will. You know I am particularly interested in the trial coming off to-morrow."

When Mr. Rogers returned, preparations for the lunch began. David made the coffee, chatting merrily with Alice as she improvised napkins and table-cloth out a sheet of tissue paper. Mr. Rogers produced from a cupboard an odd assemblage of cups, saucers and wooden plates; Tom, a surly lad, who did copying, opened the boxes of sardines, salmon, and potted meats—for Mr. Rogers had ordered a variety in hopes of suiting Alice's taste; while the other copyist watched Alice in dumb admiration as she spread the tissue cover on the office table, and arranged the so-called "china" to the best advantage, giving color to the table by piling in the centre the fruit Mr. Rogers had so bountifully provided.

Alice Grant had been to many elegant dinners, but never had she enjoyed one like that merry *impromptu* lunch. There was a piquancy and freedom which stimulated each one. Mr. Rogers put off his legal frown and joined in the fun; Dave Howard's wit fairly scintillated; Alice's face was luminous with enjoyment; and Tom lost his accustomed surliness. But the lunch, like all good things, was soon over. Ten minutes after the boys had cleared away the *debris*, the office presented quite a contrast to its *debonnaire* appearance during the lunch. The silence was hardly broken but by the sound of the busy pens. Mr. Rogers said to Alice, in a low tone: "You understand, Allie, that I am to be your escort, so don't accept other company. I have a carriage."

It was nearly midnight when the work was over. Never dreaming that the quiet, middle-aged lawyer had forestalled him, Dave went to Alice's desk, and said, "You will let me take you safely home, please, Miss Alice?"

(To be Continued.)

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

WHAT AND HOW TO READ.

"May blessings be upon the head of Cadmus, the Phœnicians, or whoever it was that invented books."—*Thomas Carlyle.*

But one with a reputation for greater wisdom than Thomas Carlyle has declared: "of making many books there is no end, and much study is a weariness of the flesh." Let us applaud the expression of the sage, for what one among us has not knowledge of the fact that some books are actually a "weariness of the flesh." However, not unlike everything else, printed products of the brain affect different people in dissimilar manners. For instance, there are those who feel the natural demands of neither hunger nor sleep, while they can maniacally clutch, and with bulging eyes gloat over a morally unhealthy, emotion exciting, debilitating and grossly improbable narrative, which is often an inextricable maze of wily and cunning villians, weak but wordy women, envying maids, aspiring coachmen, and jockeys, races, hunts, etc., all ending in an indescribable blur or else in a heartrending situation where it is difficult to remember anything but pistols, swords, fainting ladies, shrieking maids, blood and destruction; in short, "the trough of Zolai-sm."

Solomon, without a doubt, you were wise.

Immoral and sensational literature, like poor and meanly cooked food, is indigestible and will cause grave disturbance of the mind. Prescribed for cases where such intellectual living has been indulged in, is a conscientious and systematic course of reading.

One redeeming feature of contemptible literature is that its effects are easily expunged from the mind's fair pages by the study of the inspiring productions of only the best writers.

As much taste and distinction are required in the selecting and reading of books as is necessary in the writing of any one of them.

HOW TO READ.

An excellent aid in reading profitably is a card or sheet of paper placed between the pages of any volume you may be discussing, and to be used for making memoranda of words, names of places, people, or anything which puzzles you. This will greatly economize time when reference is made to encyclopædia or dictionary; for unless a reader has an unusually large vocabulary and a brain already well stored, there will often be needful a rigorous "looking up."

Always remember that an interchange with others of ideas and opinions about what you read, will be far more valuable than can be constant but solitary research.

If you are a very slow, laborious reader, plodding wearily along, making the journey tiresome by a burden of conjecture and speculation, try if a little "bracing up" will not increase your interest and comprehension.

Skim more rapidly down a page, avoid trying to read between the lines, and at the bottom pause and see if you have caught the thought or teaching of your author. In this way you will acquire a bird's-eye-view of the subject and finding which way the land lies, approach it understandingly and delightedly.

If upon the reverse, one finds himself rushing pell-mell through some beautiful or sublime creation, he should adopt an exactly opposite procedure. All writers, and especially those of massive genius, do not trouble themselves to set the jewels of their thoughts, or string the pearls of their imagination; hence the heedless reader will blindly miss gems of great value and in his haste, lose many inspirations to noble mind work. Under such circumstances it will be wise to "con the pages o'er and o'er."

To find both pleasure and profit in the perusal of a book or poem, place yourself intellectually in the power of the writer. Resign yourself to the enjoyment offered by superior fancy or ability. Let the musical fingers of genius play upon your soul. Follow your author through pleasant field, into lovely valleys, over lofty mountains, to the edge of wonderful chasms or canons, across vast oceans to distant lands, drinking gladly all proffered information of strange people, lands and customs.

WHAT TO READ.

Presupposing a fundamental knowledge of the three R.'s at least, and in many instances a few gleams of light from the sciences, a sadly curtailed but we hope helpful list of books is suggested in reply to that oft-repeated query: "What shall I read?"

The great need among young men and women of leisure after leaving school is of some mental impetus. The mind appears to lack inertia. Upon the other hand, the urgent question of many bread-winners and bread-makers is more often the pitiful cry: "How shall I find time for reading?" It seems unkind and almost impossible to dismiss the thought of these workers in human hives with merely an expression of sympathy, and the hope that the opportunity for culture will always reward earnest desire and endeavor.

Entertaining and simply written works on Geology, Astronomy, Botany, Chemistry and all sciences are now sold for a comparatively small price and form a most substantial part of the foundation the mind must build upon.

Plato, Herodotus and Plutarch are grand writers who for their depth of thought as well as the mines of inestimable, historical wealth offered by the last two mentioned, should be read and prized by every diligent worker.

Contemplation of the productions of Plato will cultivate clear logical reasoning and concise forcible utterance.

Plutarch's "Lives" are the most read of all his literary works, and the most helpful pair, "The Lives of Alexander and Cæsar," are sold at the popular price of ten cents per volume, in paper of course. This is the authority from which Shakespeare drew the facts for his "Julius Cæsar" and "Anthony and Cleopatra."

To read Shakespeare is to be lifted into a rarer, finer mental atmosphere. So beautifully do the words of Dr. Holmes describe the effect of a study of the English king of the drama, that they shall be here inserted: "I think most readers of Shakespeare sometimes find themselves thrown into exhausted mental conditions like those produced by music. Then they may drop the book to pass at once into the region of thoughts without words."

Milton, the grandest poet, next to Shakespeare, who ever wrote in any language, the Homer of that tongue, is most sublime, both in design and execution in Paradise Lost; but many of the shorter poems, L'Allegro, Il Penseroso, Hymn of the Nativity and others, are exquisite.

In so short a paper, few names, however great and good, can be mentioned, and thus many towering landmarks in the vast expanses of English literature must be passed in silence.

Bacon, "the wisest, brightest, meanest of mankind" must not however be thus neglected. Few books are more quoted than his "Essays," "coming home" as he himself says of them, "to men's business and bosoms."

It is not always safe to advise people to read Byron and Pope, for notwithstanding the peculiarly beautiful exceptions in both, their poor perverted and disappointed nature's impelled them to breathe a spirit of wretchedness and discontent that are always so contagious and consequently dangerous. It is also a fact that optimists truthfully say that were Byron to appear upon the world to-day with the manuscript of a second Don Juan or Childe Harold, he could find no publisher in the length and breadth of the land who would dare print and place it before a decent public of the 19th century.

Macauley's History of England, Hume's Decline and Fall, should be in every library where at least the English language is spoken. Addison's Essays, Dean Swift's "Tale of a Tub," and especially "Gulliver's Travels," as the peculiar vagaries of imagination in the latter constantly provoke quotation, "Don Quixote," for the same reason, all should be read.

Oliver Goldsmith is loved everywhere; even the little flaxen haired German girl and the dark eyed mademoiselle of the country of the Louises, stumble into their English over the "Vicar of Wakefield."

Subjoined is a list of books so powerful and good in influence that they will be everlasting aids to growing minds.

Wordsworth's Poems; Coleridge's Table Talk, The Ancient Mariner and others; Scott's Waverly, Bride of Lammermoor, Rob Roy, Marmion Lady of the Lake; Keats Hyperion.

The following books are a fragment from the selection of Prof. Henry Beers, of Yale College.

Dickens—Pickwick Papers, Nicholas Nickleby David Copperfield, Bleak House, Tale of Two Cities.

Thackery—Vanity Fair, Pendennis, Henry Esmond, The Newcomes, The Four Georges.

George Eliot—Scenes of Clerical Life, Mill on the Floss, Silas Marner, Romola, Adam Bede, Middlemarch.

Macauley—Essays, Lays of Ancient Rome.

Carlyle's Works.

The works of Alfred Tennyson.

Selections from the poetical works of Robert Browning.

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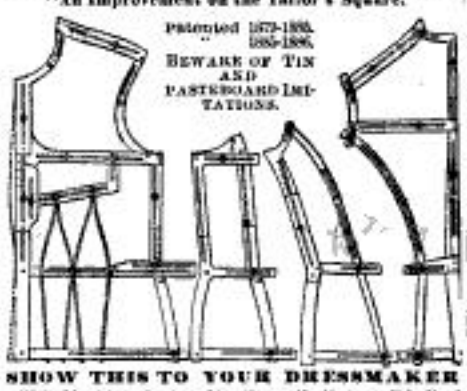

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SOME HINTS ON MONEY MAKING.

BY ELLA RODMAN CHURCH.

VI.

Opportunities for money making in the country come with the first spring flowers—these wild blossoms having been elevated by the sceptre of fashion to a place among the most dainty belongings of a city drawing-room. Arbutus and Hepatica and Marsh-Marigold, and all the pretty train, now hold full sway during their bright, brief period of bloom; and many and many a bog filled with the carefully-tied bunches wends its way on an early morning train to the city market or the city florist.

Here, again, is work for impecunious women; and work, too, that is neither hard nor exacting as to hours. The hardest part, that of gathering the blossoms, can all be done by assistants,—a band of chubby children, for instance, who would gladly earn a few pennies in this way. Children know where the first wild flowers bloom, and where they grow the thickest: and small prizes for the largest blossoms, or the greatest number in a given time, are wonderful incentives. Seated on the grass, or on a shaded piazza, the mistress, herself, can comfortably tie up the bunches and arrange them in the basket; making sure that they were not gathered with the sun shining on them.

The best time to cull flowers for market is the evening before they are shipped, or in advance of the morning sun, which keeps them from wilting. If they are not to be packed at once, a dark, cool cellar is the place for them; and a good showering with tepid water, late in the evening, will insure their condition in the morning. They seem to have the dewy freshness of buds just opened in the outer air, and are well prepared to encounter the wear and tear of a journey.

The sale of wild flowers will not yield a handsome income to the woman who engages in it, but it will put some very acceptable extra dollars into her purse; and she will find it quite worth her while to study the best methods of preserving and packing these frail blossoms. The *Trailing Arbutus* is, from its delicious odor, the most saleable of all; and a great point gained would be to find where the very earliest clusters first peep through the snow, no matter how many miles away. These daintily blushing flowerets were never intended to be tied in stiff little bunches bare of leaves; but as their natural foliage is dingy and imperfect, it would be a vast improvement to place a bed of damp, fern-moss in the bottom of a paper box and stud the blossoms thickly through the moss. This arrangement could be transferred by the purchaser to a flat receptable for flowers, and, with a daily showering, it would keep its beauty for some time.

There would be no difficulty in disposing of these bits of greenery and bloom in the right neighborhood; and even people of moderate means would gladly purchase them, as they would be sure to yield at least three or four days of beauty and fragrance. The very fact of arranging them in an original manner would enhance their value.

Next to Arbutus comes the flowering of the fruit trees; and any rifling in this direction is sternly frowned upon by the owners. Yet, their crops would be finer if they were more generous with the blossoms; and an enterprising woman, with an orchard of one or a thousand trees, can make it pay in both ways. Apple blossoms, especially, are always in demand; their delicious fragrance places them in the same rank with the Arbutus; and many a traveller who is borne by relentless steam past the pink wealth of the orchards—or, worse still, brought to a stop in full view of the beauty that cannot be attained, would joyfully see the prize-candy boy, the sandwich boy, or the literary boy, supplanted by a vendor of apple blossoms. Modest button-hole bouquets and pearly, blushing clusters lying on moss in boxes would both be welcomed and bring more than their weight in silver.

Wherever a train makes a reasonable stop, this floral merchandise can be disposed of through the windows, and the experiment is at least worth trying. Careful arrangement will be found to pay in the end; and the trimming of the trees for choicer fruit is not a loss, but a gain.

Bunches, too, of the great blue-eyed, brook violets—although scentless, as nearly all our wild violets are—have an untainted rurality about them that carries its own charm; and if they can be kept from fading, their worst vice, during a journey of an hour or two, they might be sold to advantage for a few cents each. One thing with another makes a respectable aggregate; and even a dollar a day earned, after paying all expenses, is not to be despised.

Yet, those who move into the country, rather than those to the manner born, are most likely to profit by the advantages of their surroundings, possibly because they best know the value of what are common, every day things to those who have always dwelt among them. Besides the wild flowers and the fruit blossoms, many sweet, old-fashioned garden flowers would be found saleable. Among these are the White Lily, the old-fashioned White Rose, pearly and beautiful, a very Queen of June, the deep-hearted Damask Rose, and a host of belles of the olden time, sacred now to the enclosures of old-fashioned gardens. These plants, if scarce, can all be cultivated as well now as formerly; and a quarter of an acre devoted to their accommodation would probably yield satisfactory returns.

Various things, however, can be done in the country without any cultivation at all; and an impecunious dweller in the city for nine months in the year can make her three months in the country not only pay expenses, but provide a nice winter wardrobe as well. But to insure this, she must go to some place off the line of railroads, where board and provisions are very low, and marketable productions not in demand. There are localities, and pleasant ones, too, where delicious butter may be bought in the autumn at from fifteen to twenty cents a pound; where eggs sell at the good old-fashioned price of ten cents a dozen; and where wood and stream and field yield their ready tributes free of cost.

The widowed mother of two growing boys, obliged to be very economical, yet feeling that it would be poor economy to keep the lads in town during their summer vacation, carefully studied the papers to find some desirable place in the country, where boarders were wanted at a very moderate remuneration. After long waiting and much discouragement, the particular niche, into which they could fit themselves, seemed to have appeared. "Large, airy rooms," "delicious air," "plenty of milk and cream," "fresh vegetables and fruit," with "home comforts," were promised; and after some writing back and forth, and an agreement upon very moderate terms, the trio started hopefully forth.

Mrs. H—— declares that if she lives to be a hundred, she will never forget that first dismal evening of arrival. Twelve miles in a rickety stage-coach over the roughest of roads awaited them on leaving the cars; and as the boys fell fast asleep, for it was quite dark, she was left to her dreary reflections. The few houses they passed scarcely showed a glimmer of light; and it seemed as though they had come quite to the end of everything like action. But the end of that wretched ride was a long time in appearing; and "Fern Cottage," as it had been introduced in the preliminary correspondence, loomed in the far distance as a haven greatly to be desired.

When they had finally arrived, however, the first sensation was a strong desire to turn back again. But the stage had lumbered off and left them, and two hopeless-looking females were showing them the way into the house,—a small edifice shaped like a box and painted white. The owners were mother and daughter who looked very much of an age, and who had just started upon what they expected to be a brilliant campaign of taking summer boarders. The parlor was furnished principally with a melodeon; and the "airy rooms" were about ten by twelve, with a small window on the front, another at the side. The airiness apparently consisted in the absence of furniture, as there was little beside the beds.

The boys were soon locked in the deepest slumber; and Mrs. H——, weary and discouraged, yet resolved to taste the quality of the outside air before deciding on an ignominious return. Their drive had been sufficiently uncomfortable to suggest, at least, picturesque scenery. But she could not take kindly, as yet, to a hard, straw bed, with a comfortable spread over it in lieu of springs; and instead of following the example of the youngsters, she spent most of the night in hard thinking.

The breakfast table was not reassuring, and the meal was evidently a movable feast; for having descended at half-seven, in accordance with the information received the night before, they were kept waiting until half past eight, with only the unsubstantial solace of a photograph album politely thrust upon them by Mrs. Jones. They were very hungry, but the people in it did not look good to eat, nor good, in fact, for anything. At length, they were summoned to the dining-room, another bare apartment; and there they learned that the delay of that particular meal was caused by a dilatory milk boy. Later, came the discovery that most of the meals were punctually unpunctual.

"Milk boy!" Mrs. H—— repeated in consternation, "I supposed that your milk was furnished by your own cows, as you spoke of having it in abundance."

Mrs. and Miss Jones smiled pityingly at such dense ignorance. They did not care, they said, to wait upon cows, as there were no men folks around; but they calculated to have plenty of milk, and they had told Jim to leave a quart a day now.

The boys looked aghast at this announcement, as each one of them could drink that; while their mother feared that their summer outing would scarcely yield the benefit she had hoped for. The coffee was tasteless, and the bread wretched; but the butter was delicious and the eggs—of which there were just one apiece—delightfully fresh. The cream, which was more like rich milk, was in a tiny pitcher, and Mrs. Jones put a few precious drops into each cup. So far, the "home comforts" had been kept in the background.

All this was very irritating, after such a misleading advertisement; but few things happen by chance, and Mrs. H——'s clear vision soon discerned a possible advantage in her sojourn at Fern Cottage. The back of the house was more picturesque than the front, as it looked out on a pretty piece of woods, on the edge of which were great patches of ferns; and Miss Jones, whose principal brain food was the *Young Ladies' Record*, had named the box-like dwelling accordingly, in imitation to a "sweet place in England." The outer air proved to be all that was claimed for it, and the country around was picturesque. By a special arrangement, an extra quart of milk was procured for the hungry boys; and Mrs. H—— was graciously allowed to officiate as cook whenever she pleased, as Mrs. and Miss Jones frankly confessed to "hating" it. They did not appear to be particularly qualified for taking boarders, and Mrs. H—— found herself wondering in what direction their talents did lie.

That lady, however, pursued the even tenor of her way, and made many outside discoveries. She took long walks with her boys, explored the woods, and ventured on an occasional drive when a steady-going horse was to be had. She visited the wives and daughters of distant farmers, and asked various questions that surprised them considerably; but one and all voted her "real pleasant." Then Mrs. H—— went to the city and stayed all night,—leaving Ralph and Harry at Fern Cottage, where their entertainers were very anxious to know what business had called their mother off. Had they succeeded in their inquiries, they would have been even more astonished than they expected to be; but the boys were well trained and never discussed their mother with strangers.

Mrs. H——'s first visit was made to a grocery and commission merchant of high standing, to whom she represented the quality of the farming products in the little settlement where she had taken up her temporary abode and asked if he wished any such consignments and at what rate he could afford to pay for them to sell again! The man of business listened with great interest and replied that first-class butter was scarce just then, and he would like to have several tubs of twenty-eight or thirty pounds each shipped to him at once. Eggs, too, were in demand, and a barrel of nice ones would be acceptable. His terms seemed so liberal for a wholesale dealer, that the lady was quite dazed and sat down to recover herself.

Then they talked of chickens and turkeys, and geese and calves, and young horses, and celery and honey, and maple sugar, and pears and apples and nuts; and Mrs. H—— returned to Fern Cottage with her head in such a whirl, that she could not eat a mouthful. And Mrs. Jones—who said she felt sorry for the poor woman, as she guessed she'd lost all the money she had—urged her to bear up, as things might not be as bad as they looked. Mrs. H—— had reason to suppose that they were quite as bad; and she made a very successful effort not to laugh.

The tubs of butter were soon started on their winding way, and resulted in a profit of several dollars; other tubs followed, and several barrels of eggs. Then Mrs. H—— became the happy proprietor of several calves, that were kept for about a month by a farmer for a reasonable consideration, and then sent, with several additional pounds of flesh on their bones, to the purchaser already provided for them in the city. After deducting all expenses, the calves brought in a twenty dollar greenback; and two more relays did equally well. The butter and egg business was a regular thing; and presently, dressed poultry was added.

Meanwhile, as her boys must be in their places at school by the middle of September, Mrs. H—— went in search of two or three little fellows who would be glad to strip the grand chestnut trees that abounded in the vicinity, as soon as the nuts were ripe, and send them to her in the city at a very low price, which seemed to them munificent. She was almost astonished at her own enterprise, and at the ease with which one thing seemed to lead to another. But she had tried the delights of being poor, with two children to educate, and had had quite enough of it.

Mrs. and Miss Jones often spoke of their boarders as "queer", but they had no idea of the extent of their queerness. Even the boys were beginning to look upon everything they encountered in their walks with a speculative eye, and the sight of flocks of young quail, running nimbly along on the edge of the woods, was regarded in the light of a great discovery. A native boy and a gun were forthwith in request; and quail on toast was greatly in vogue in Philadelphia restaurants. As Ralph and Harry declared, there were lots of things at Five Corners that people wanted in the city; and Mrs. H—— was obligingly supplying those wants.

The outcome of this undertaking was, that a plain cottage was rented of a farmer at a very low rate, and made picturesque with rough logs and wild vines; and in this cottage Mrs. H—— and her boys found the "home comforts" that were so conspicuously absent at the Jones'. It is their summer residence, and late autumn finds them back again in the city; for the supply department of country produce is bringing in large profits, and the clever manager even talks of building a cottage to suit herself. Eating is a business so thoroughly well established, that all who are engaged in supplying the wherewithal can scarcely fail of success.

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[For the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HINTS UPON ETIQUETTE AND GOOD MANNERS.

BY MRS. S. O. JOHNSON.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A Subscriber" asks—"What should a lady say when asked by a gentleman for the pleasure of her company for a certain evening?"

Answer: If she desires to accept his company, she should say: "Thank you, I shall be pleased to accept your escort." If she desires to decline it: "Thank you I have made other arrangements."

"Dandelion" writes:—"Would it be a breach of etiquette for a gentleman to call a lady by her given name after meeting her once or twice?"

Answer: Decidedly so. The title "Miss" should always be given unless the parties are engaged to be married, or have been brought together in terms of great intimacy. No well-bred young man would do so.

"A Reader" asks:

1st. "If a gentleman escorts a lady home is it etiquette, providing it is a seasonable hour, to invite him in?"

2d. "Is it advisable for a young lady to attend entertainments, frequently, in the company of a young gentleman whose attentions she does not wish to encourage beyond that of a friend?"

Answer 1st. You can say, "Will you come in?" without any breach of etiquette, at an early hour of the evening.

2d. No, it is not advisable to do so, unless the young man has been an intimate friend, from childhood, and understands the situation perfectly, and only offers the attentions in a brotherly manner.

"A Subscriber" writes.

1st. "Should a school-girl repeatedly accept the escort of a young gentleman when she does not wish to advance beyond the limits of friendship?"

2d. "How can a young gentleman be shown, without offending him, that his attentions are too marked to be agreeable?"

Answer 1st. She should by no means accept this attentions to such a degree that he will be led to think that she desires to receive him as a lover.

2d. Your own intuitions should teach you how to receive his attentions in such a manner that he cannot draw the inference that they are particularly agreeable to you, and you can plead a prior engagement so as not to accept his invitations too frequently, and you can cease inviting him to the house, and by a slight coldness, or by the style of your conversation show him plainly, that you do not reciprocate his feelings Most men are ready enough to take such hints but there are those who are too blind to see that their attentions are not desired, and they are the ones who, after a rejection, will declare that women are flirts and fools, and only lead men on to make proposals, for the pleasure of rejecting them. Treat a young man as you would like to be treated if you were he, and you will not offend him.

"Brown Eyes" asks:

1st. "When a young gentleman takes a young lady to the opera, to a concert, a lecture, or any other place of amusement, how should she express her thanks for the evening's pleasure?"

2d. "When calling during muddy weather, is it most polite to leave your overshoes outside the door?"

3d. "When complimented on your dress, your appearance, and your performance at the piano, what should you say?"

4th. "When a young gentleman is introduced to a young lady, and says, 'I am happy to meet you,' what should the lady say? Thank you?"

Answer 1st. The lady should say, "I thank you for a very pleasant evening," or "I have enjoyed the evening exceedingly."

2d. If you cannot cleanse them from mud upon the door-mat, it would be well-bred to take them off in the vestibule or in the hall.

3d. You can reply, "Thank you, you are very kind," or simply say, "Thank you." The lady should smile, and bow gracefully.

4th. It is the gentleman's place to express pleasure in the introduction, not the lady's, and she should not thank him for it, but reply to his salutation by some remark upon the surroundings or the weather, which always afford some topic for conversation.

"Daisy" asks:

1st. "Please tell me what I should say if a gentleman asked to see me home! Also what I should say if I was not willing he should?"

2. "If a lady wishes to be introduced to a gentleman, should I first ask his permission?"

3d. "Is it always the lady's place to bow to the gentleman when they meet first?"

Answer 1st. You should say, "Thank you," or "Thank you, I should like your escort," or I shall be pleased to go with you." You can plead a previous engagement by saying, "Thank you, but I have an escort."

2d. It is usually the lady's prerogative to give or refuse permission of introduction to a gentleman. But under some circumstances, the gentleman can also be asked, if he wishes the acquaintance of the lady. Society is on such an extended basis, now, that some limits are desirable.

3d. Yes, always, because in a ball-room, or elsewhere, she may be introduced to some person whose acquaintance she would not desire to retain, therefore she must have that privilege.

"Lillie" asks:

1st. "Would it be etiquette for a young lady to send a gentlemen of her acquaintance a valentine?"

2. "Would it be polite for her to ask him for his photograph?"

Answer 1st. Yes, valentines are sent to whoever one likes best, but care should be taken that the receiver should not discover who was the sender—at least, not for a long time.

2d. It depends upon circumstances. If the gentleman shows his photographs, the lady can say, "Please give me one," or, if he says he is having some taken. But unless he speaks upon the subject, it is not well-bred to ask for one.

"Subscriber:"—You can obtain wedding cards at any engravers establishment, in town or city.

2d. Yes, they are called "after-cards" and are sent to friends and acquaintances, after the marriage ceremony has been performed.

"Constant Reader:"—The April JOURNAL was in print before your letter was received.

1st. The exchange of rings is not necessary, but optional with the young lady.

2d. Thousands are married yearly, among Protestants, without a ring. Yet no Episcopalian is ever married without plighting his troth with a golden circlet, placed upon the third finger of the woman's left hand. And it is considered better form to use a ring in all marriages performed by clergymen.

"A Subscriber:"—There are no formal phrases in use to announce a daughter's engagement. The mother should write as her heart dictates, and if she recognizes superior qualities in her prospective son-in-law, she can allude to them.

"A Subscriber" asks:—"Is it a lady's place to speak first to a gentleman without an introduction?"

2d. "How should you address persons on the street if you are slightly acquainted? Would you always mention their name?"

Answer 1st. No lady would do so unless there was some special cause for it, such as having lost her way or being in some trouble; and then she should speak to an elderly rather than to a young man. Young girls cannot be too careful in their behavior upon the street, and should take care not to do anything to attract attention; or to laugh and giggle and talk loudly.

2d. Bow, and say "Good-morning," or "Good-evening," mentioning a lady's name always, and a gentleman's as an usual thing. Thus: "Good-morning, Mrs. Jones," and bow politely. Do not give a lady or a gentleman a jerky nod of the head. Gentle, dignified manners are a great blessing to their possessor.

"Bettie" writes:—1st. "Should the hostess precede callers, either ladies or gentlemen, into the parlor?"

2d. "When a small company is assembled, and a gentleman comes in late, the hostess, of course, rises to receive him, and remains standing while the host introduces the gentleman to all present. Should all remain standing, or each one after the introduction be seated?"

3d. "At a society meeting where quite a number of ladies are seated together, and a stranger, gentleman or lady, is introduced, should the ladies rise to acknowledge the introduction, or simply bow?"

4th. "Is any reply necessary to 'I beg your pardon?'"

5th. "Is it necessary to write thanking the hostess for the pleasant visit enjoyed at her home, when you did so at parting, and are not a correspondent of the same?"

Answer 1st. No, the hostess should stand back and let her visitors enter the parlor first.

2d. That is optional with each person.

3d. This also depends upon one's desire. If the ladies are the senior of the gentleman, a bow and a smile is sufficient. If, however, he is the elder, the younger ladies should rise, and stand for a few moments.

4th. No, simply bow and smile. It is merely a conventional phrase much used in polite society.

5th. Yes, it is only a proper return for the hostess' hospitality; and it is an assurance to her that you have arrived home in safety. Decent politeness demands this attention from every visitor, but if not a correspondent of the same, the lady need not reply.

"Two Orphans:"—1st. Young girls of 16 and 17 years are not old enough to go into society, or "to go with gentlemen," as you phrase it.

2d. We never heard of the "postage stamp flirtation."

3d. If a lady and gentleman make a call together, the lady should first propose going away.

4th. It is proper for two young ladies to ask a young gentleman to accompany them on an excursion, if they pay their own expenses; and equally proper to do so if there are others going.

"An Enquirer:"—1st. It is proper to call upon a wife or mother after the death of a husband or son, within three days or a week after the funeral has taken place. The call should not be returned during the year of deep mourning—unless the acquaintance is of a most intimate nature.

2d. Before returning an ordinary social call, one can wait a few weeks or a month, or six months, if one does not desire to be upon intimate terms with the caller.

"Louette:"—1st. If you are moving from a place, and have been intimately acquainted with a young man, you can say with propriety: "Please let me hear from you," or, "Please write me all about yourself."

2d. If a gentleman has lost any article belonging to you, and desires to replace it, you should allow him the privilege.

3d. If you go to church with a gentleman, and your family have a pew there, you should take the lead, walking up the aisle first, and sit in your own pew.

4th. Ladies and gentlemen can exchange gifts at Christmas, or on other occasions if they are not engaged.

5th. The gentleman can give the lady, for an engagement ring, a solitaire diamond, or a pearl ring, or a handsomely engraved gold ring.

"Ignorance:"—You might say: "I heartily congratulate you upon the close of your collegiate course, and hope that success will attend you through life."

"A Subscriber:"—A young gentleman has the right of selecting his partners for the supper table, at a festival; and if he had been sociably conversing with three ladies during a part of the evening, and then invited two of them to go to supper, the third should not consider herself neglected—three being one too many for the young man to attend to.

2d. If a young lady is visiting an acquaintance in the city, or is staying at a hotel, it is perfectly proper for her to enclose her card, with her address written upon it, to a gentleman friend residing in the city. She need not write a letter, as the card is sufficient information of her desire to see him. Yet if she is on very intimate terms with him, a letter might be sent in lieu of the card.

We must again request the "sisters," no matter what *nom de plume* they may desire to assume, to *invariably* send us well their own full address. We receive many letters addressed to the "Addies," "Mollies" and "Jennies" of the JOURNAL, which might be of value to the person addressed if it were possible to forward them. Having no clue to their identity, however, the letter is quietly dropped into the waste-basket, unopened, and the information or inquiry lost forever.

Pall Mall Electric Association, London.

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The finest Tooth Brush ever made, constructed by a new patented process which renders it impossible for bristles to come out in use. Each of above articles guaranteed and sent on trial, postpaid, on receipt of price, 50 cts., or both for $1. They may be returned if not satisfactory. Canvassing Agents wanted for Dr. SCOTT'S ELECTRIC CORSETS, BRUSHES, BELTS, &c. No risk, quick sales. GEO. A. SCOTT, 52 Broadway, New York. Sold at Drug and Fancy Stores. Mention paper.

LOUISA M. ALCOTT.

With much difficulty, we have finally secured the services of that most popular writer, Louisa M. Alcott. To those in whose homes the names of "Little Women" and "Old Fashioned Girl," have become household words, a little sketch of this writer will doubtless prove very interesting.

Her birthplace was Germantown, a well-known suburb of Philadelphia, Penna. When but little more than an infant, her father went to Boston to open a school in the Masonic Temple. Louisa was one of four daughters, and as unlike the other three, as is her "Joe" different from "Beth," "Meg" and "Amy March." Indeed, in her "Little Women," one may read the life-history of this well-known author, for in that, with such slight changes of name and incident as are absolutely necessary, has Miss Alcott taken the "Alcott family" for her theme.

At the age of eight, she was an uncommonly active, tall, well-developed child, fond of boys' sports, and hailed by all her boy friends as "boon companion." Her mind was as active as her body, and at sixteen her first book was written, "Flower Fables." This, for various reasons, when published six years later was not a success, however. Nothing daunted, and conscious of innate mental power, Miss Alcott still continued to write, short stories, with varied success.

Sending a collection of these to Roberts Bros., of Boston, they strongly advised the writing of a continuous book, as there was no special demand for a collection of tales in those days. They advised her further to write a book for girls. Half acting upon their suggestion, half desiring to prove that writing for *girls* was a thing she could not do, (feeling so much more at home with boys) she produced "Little Women." By the time she had begun her second volume of that work, she found herself famous.

She has been besieged with thousands of letters in behalf of the "March family," and has produced several volumes in order to supply the demand to know what "had become of them all," but now we understand that she has asserted positively, that she will tell the public no more of the adventures of this family. To quote words attributed to her, she is "tired and sick of them," threatens dire vengeance upon those who demand further news of them.

Though Concord is her home, very little of her literary work is done in that place.

She pursues a regular system. When intending to write, she goes to Boston, shuts herself up in hired rooms and *writes*, sometimes as much as fourteen hours per day.

Her literary work accomplished, she returns to Concord exhausted, there to recruit for future effort. Her works are not the result of much manual labor, as she seldom corrects, and never copies. All her characters and scenes come to her before she puts pen to paper. When she begins to write, she is ready and her actual labor, at that especial time, is but little more than copying.

We consider ourselves specially fortunate in having obtained this eminently popular woman as one of our contributors.

We have likewise been able to secure at a special bargain a number of her works, each volume of which we are able to offer as a premium for only 8 subscribers, as described below. Or, if desired to be purchased outright, we can sell them for One Dollar per vol.

Among the popular writers whose services we have been able to obtain, is Mrs. Mary J. Holmes. So well known is she as a writer of fiction, that no words are necessary on our part to win for her the welcome she deserves when she shall appear upon our pages.

We will publish in the July issue, one of a series of articles, "Homely Homilies," from the pen of that inimitable writer, Robert J. Burdette.

How to Make, Your Own **CANDIES.** By an Experienced Confectioner. Book containing 66 Recipes mailed on receipt of 25 cts. L. SCHWARZ Confectioner, 68 Fulton St., N.Y.

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NEW Sample Book of Beautiful Cards; 14 amusing games; 12 tricks in magic; 61 autograph album verses, for 3c. stamp. Star Card Co. Station 15, O.

10 SECRETS, including one to develop the form, and a cake of Toph's finest perfumed soap on earth, for 25c. Agents wanted. Toph & Co., Cincinnati, O.

160 New Scrap Pictures and large Sample Card Out fit, 5c. ÆTNA PRINT. CO., Northford, Conn

350 Assorted embossed Scrap & transfer pictures in bright designs, 10c. Gem Card Co. Brooklyn, N.Y

CARDS Send stamp for our new sample pack CLINTON & CO., North Haven, Ct.

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LADIES SHOPPING BAG !

We offer as a free present to any lady who will send us 10 subscribers at 50 cents each, one of our newest and latest styles of Shopping Bags.

If preferred, it will be given for only 8 subscribers and 25 cents extra; or, for subscribers and 40 cents extra.

This is a very popular shopping bag with ladies, and is a very convenient arrangement for carrying purse, handkerchief, and other such small articles when on the street or shopping. It has nickel trimmings and is made of fine leather. The style in shape is constantly changing, and we will send the best shape or style at time it is ordered. Given as a premium for 10 subscribers at 50c. each. Price, including one year's subscription, $1.65.

Miss Louisa M. Alcott's Famous Books !

MOST POPULAR BOOKS EVER WRITTEN FOR GIRLS.

By a Special Bargain with the Publisher of these World-Famous Books we can now offer them

This cut is taken from the book. The following quotation describes the picture and shows you the exact type in which the book is printed:

"They all drew to the fire, mothe, in the big chair with Beth at her feet, Meg and Amy perched on either arm of the chair, and Jo leaning on the back, where no one would see any sign of emotion if the letter should happen to be touching."

☞ ***Free to any person sending us ONLY 8 subscribers at 50 cents each per year, or for only 6 subscribers and 25 cents extra, or for only 4 subscribers and 50 cts. extra, or for only 2 subscribers and 75c. extra.***

Parents, as well as children, are delighted with Miss Alcott's beautiful stories.

Little Women! Who has not read about them! Who does not want to read about them again! Let us recall their names—Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy. The story and its author need no introduction. Price, now only $1.00. Former price, $3. Postage and packing, 15 cts., when sent as a premium or purchased.

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Ladies' Fancy Work. New Edition. Revised and Enlarged.

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A NEW BOOK, giving designs and plain directions for Artistic Embroidery, Lace Work, Knitting, Tatting, Crochet Work, Net Work, Kensington Painting, Wax Flowers, Painting on Silk, and all kinds of fancy Needle-work. This VALUABLE BOOK is printed on fine tinted paper, has a handsome cover, and contains over

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Every lady will find this book a useful companion and invaluable to all who love fancy work. Plain directions with each design.

Jenny June, in her preface to this book, says: "The present volume does not pretend to furnish the theory or practice of the highest Needle-work art, but it does aim to supply within its compass a greater variety of excellent designs—every one of which is useful for dress or household decoration—than have ever before been gathered within the leaves of one manual."

Given for a club of 3 subscribers at 50 cents per year each. Price, when sold alone, 50 cents.

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LETTERS AND MONOGRAMS, for Marking on Silk, Linen, and other Fabrics; for Individual and Household Use.

Edited by Jenny June.

One of the aims of this new book has been not only to give as great a variety of Initial Letters, Alphabets and Monograms as possible, but to teach how and where the different sizes, forms and models of letters can be most suitably applied, and with what materials they can be most suitably reproduced. There is a great value in the knowledge and application of a system of graded and artistic marking, by initial letter or monogram, of articles for personal or family use. This book is printed on fine paper, with handsome cover, and contains

Over 1,000 Illustrations,

Comprising Alphabets, Monograms and Initial Letters for marking—Baby Blankets—Banners—Bed Linen—Bed Quilts—Book Covers—Book-marks—Breast Scarfs—Card-board Embroidery—Children's Handkerchiefs—Doylies—Duster Cases—Ecclesiastical Embroidery—Gentlemen's Handkerchiefs—Gentlemen's Underclothing—House Linen—Ladies' Handkerchiefs—Ladies' Underclothing—Laundry Bags—Pillow Shams—Portfolios—School-Girls' Underclothing—Sermon Cases—Sofa Cushions—Splashers—Table Linen—Tea Cloths—Tidies—Tobacco Pouches—Towels—Umbrella Cases—Work Aprons—Work Bags—Etc., etc.

Ladies will find this the only book of Initials, Monograms and Alphabets published in this country.

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Canning and Preserving!

By MRS. RORER. 12mo, with index; paper covers 25 cts.

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MRS. KNAPP, editor of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL considers it a most excellent publication, and a splendid premium for our practical housekeepers. We mail it free to any address, for only two subscribers. In this attractively printed volume Mrs. Rorer discusses at length the canning and preserving of fruits and vegetables, with the kindred subjects of marmalades, butters, fruit jellies and syrups, drying and pickling. As in her larger work, the Philadelphia Cook Book, the recipes are clearly and simply given, while an exhaustive index affords easy reference to every subject. In it will be found directions for canning and preserving, with recipes for various methods for pickling, making catsups, fruit butters, marmalades, etc.

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GIVEN AS PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 2 SUBSCRIBERS, AT 50 CENTS EACH PER YEAR AND 10 CENTS EXTRA for postage and packing.

These are designed to be placed back of a wash-stand to protect the wall from be spattered. They are embroidered mostly in outline with embroidery cotton or etching silk, and are washable. They are finished by fringing and drawn work, according to taste. We will send one Splasher and three skeins of French cotton for a club of only 2 subscribers, or 50 cents.

We have all the new and latest designs. One of the most popular premiums we have to offer. Only six subscribers required to secure it. Easily done, by simply showing a copy of the paper to six of your friends or neighbors. Splashers mailed to any address, postage paid.

These Splashers have proved to be a very popular premium, and are easily secured. Any one can easily find two new subscribers, or if your own subscription is expiring, find one new subscriber and send her name with your own renewal, thus making two subscriptions sent at once, and we will send you the splasher for your trouble,—provided you enclose 10 cents extra to pay postage,—don't forget that!

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EMBROIDERY STAMPING OUTFIT!

FREE TO ANY WOMAN WHO WILL SEND US ONLY 2 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS PER YEAR EACH, or, if prefered we will send it free, for only 4 subscribers for 6 MONTHS at 25 cents each.

Given to the Philadelphia LADIES' HOME JOURNAL Subscribers Only!

Designed under the supervision of Mrs. Louisa Knapp, Editor of the Philadelphia LADIES' HOME JOURNAL AND PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER, Expressly for the Subscribers of that paper.

A Woman Knows What a Woman Wants.

We feel sure that the ladies of this country have had enough of the Outfits containing only small patterns, and that they will appreciate an Outfit in which every pattern is made for practical use. With this idea in view, Mrs. Louisa Knapp, editor of THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, has designed an Outfit which will meet this long-felt want, and which is worth for real use, **DOUBLE ANY $1.00 OUTFIT** heretofore offered by us or by any other party in the country.

We are well aware that this Outfit contains a less number of patterns than those described in **FLASH ADVERTISEMENTS**, but the aim has been to produce an Outfit **EVERY PATTERN OF WHICH WILL BE USED**, instead of having an immense number of worthless bugs and butterflies, so crowded together as to render them entirely useless.

THIS OUTFIT CONTAINS NO TRASH!!

Mrs. Knapp has discarded the tidy, silks, needles, etc., and has put the **ENTIRE VALUE INTO THE PATTERNS**, adding only a box of powder, distributor and book of instruction.

The Outfit comprises patterns for every branch of needlework and flower painting, and **EVERY PATTERN IS THE FULL WORKING SIZE.**

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Among the designs are two very beautiful sprays for the end of a table scarf, one of Roses, and one of Daisies and Ferns each 15 inches long, six exquisite fruit designs for Napkins and Doylies; Cup and Saucer, Sugar Bowl, etc., for Tray Cloths.

Design for Slumber Pillow, full set of Outline designs for Tidies, and complete set of Initials, large enough for Towels, Napkins, Handkerchiefs, etc. Besides these the Outfit contains Bouquets (not little twigs) of Poppies, Bachelors Buttons, Pond Lilies, Roses, Daisies, and many others, and a beautiful new design for Tinsel work.

ALL THESE DESIGNS ARE ENTIRELY NEW and as Mrs. Knapp has designed the Outfit expressly for the readers of the L. H. J., it can be procured from no other source.

Each Outfit is accompanied by directions for Stamping by **Parker's New Patent Method** without Paint or Powder, and with no dash.

We have made a contract for 50,000 of these Outfits, to be delivered during the season, and shall **Give them away right and left**, to any one will send us only two (2) subscribers at 50 cents each per year, or, if prefered, we will send it free for only 4 subscribers for 6 months, at 25 cents each.

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★ Special Star Premium List of New and Rare Plants. ★

OUR PREMIUM OFFERS in the February number of this Journal were so satisfactory, and brought in so many subscribers, that we have concluded, with the co-operation of our florist, to make our readers another grand offer of New and Rare Plants. Every plant below named is a gem, and indispensable to every lover of fine flowers. They are all plants which are offered in many catalogues at high prices; yet in order to reward you for working up our circulation to the **half million line** we will GIVE them all to you. We are receiving constantly large additions to our subscription list from the labors of our friends who were attracted by our former premium offers, and now, to enlist the invincible energies of every lady among our present great array of over 400,000 subscribers, we offer the best premiums yet. A little effort NOW will secure you free these floral beauties for your yard, garden or window, and also give your friends the same pleasure you derive from being a subscriber to THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. Now to work—it won't take much time if you strike at once, while the thing is fresh in your mind. Send us all the recruits you can from our grand army of subscribers, and we will promptly send you the premiums you select, carefully packed, and guarantee you satisfaction with them. Full directions for culture will be sent with every package of plants, and success is easily attained by following them. **Now is just the time** to get these plants, at the opening of good growing weather, so go at it promptly.

NOTE.—The splendid offers in our February number are still open, and you can choose from them if you wish, or from the "galaxy of stars" that follows.

DOUBLE GOLDEN MARGUERITE.

(Anthemis Coronaria, fl. pl.)

This beautiful new plant is first offered this season, and by only a few of the leading florists. We have seen it, and are much taken with it, and offer it knowing it will please. Our engraving gives a fair idea of it. Nothing could be more showy, either as a pot plant or bedded out. This plant might well be called the "Shower of Gold," as it is a perfect mass of rich, golden yellow flowers the whole year round, well grown plants having as many as 150 flowers on them at once. The single "Marguerites" or "Paris Daisies," as they are sometimes called, have been popular plants for years, and we are sure this double form will be much admired. It is a plant which will grow and bloom profusely without a great amount of care—all that is required is to give it good soil, a fair amount of sun and an occasional watering. You will be able all through the season to gather an increasing quantity of bright flowers.

For three subscribers at 50 cents a year, or for six subscribers at 25 cents for six months, we will send you one of these golden gems.

DOUBLE GOLDEN MARGUERITE.

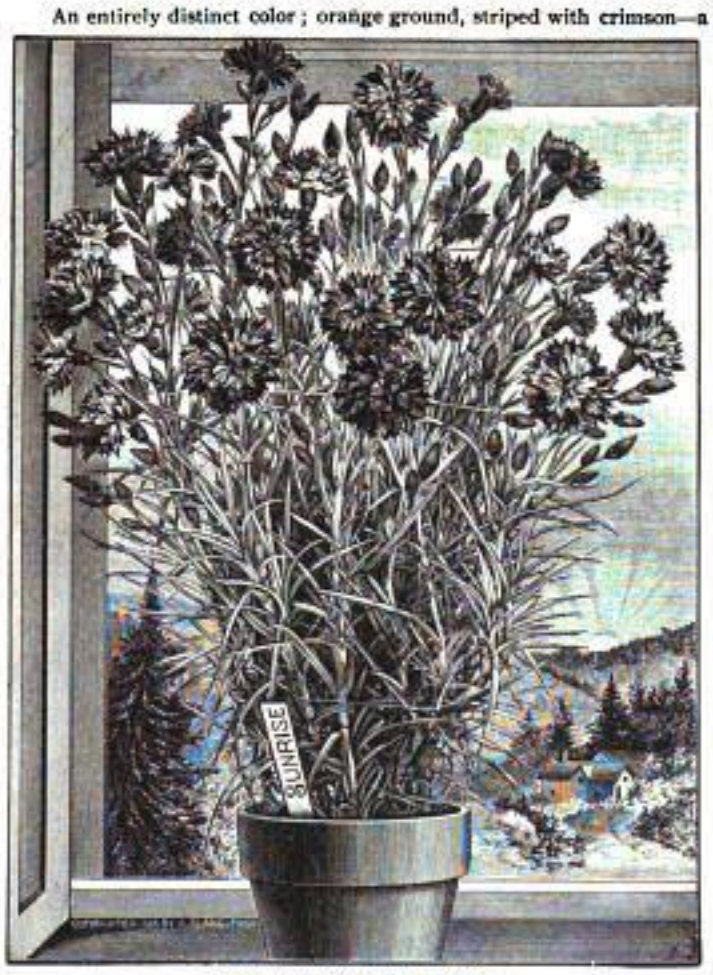
"BUTTERCUP" CARNATION.

Not strictly a new variety, but the finest Carnation of its color, which is a rich deep golden yellow similar to the *Marechal Niel* rose, with only a few clear streaks of carmine. The flowers are very large and double, often measuring two and one-half inches in diameter. It is an early and constant bloomer, a good grower and always healthy. A valuable winter bloomer, and should be largely grown on account of its rare and beautiful color. The flowers are mostly produced on long stems, and present a lovely appearance surmounting the strong and thrifty plant.

For three yearly subscribers at 50 cents, or six half-yearly subscribers at 25 cents, we will send you "Buttercup" Carnation.

NEW CARNATION, "SUNRISE."

An entirely distinct color; orange ground, striped with crimson—a real "terra cotta" colored monthly Carnation; flowers full, double, fringed and of rich clove fragrance; unsurpassed by any variety in its profusion of bloom, and of a strong vigorous, healthy growth hitherto unknown in the yellow or orange colors. A variety certain to become a standard sort, as it possesses every good quality. Offered for the first time last year, and yet quite scarce—we consider ourselves fortunate in being able to offer our readers the opportunity to get it so easily. It was named from the resemblance of its tints to some of the gorgeous hues of a June sunrise, and the artist has caught the idea in his picture, which also fairly represents the elegant habit of the plant.



NEW CARNATION, "SUNRISE."

For three yearly subscribers at 50 cents, or six half-yearly subscribers at 25 cts., we will send you this splendid new Carnation.

NEW ROSE, "AMERICAN BEAUTY."

Really an American Rose, with nothing "Frenchy" about it! It is a rose, too, that has made every one who has seen or tried it enthusiastic over its many merits. It originated in Washington, D. C., on the grounds of the veteran historian and rose-lover, Hon. George Bancroft, and the plant was sold by a gardener to a florists' firm for a small sum. It was not even named, or was its value discovered for some time, until it had attracted attention by showing its magnificent buds and flowers at an unexpected time. Briefly described, it is a *hardy* everblooming rose of large size; the color is a clear deep red or pink, always beautiful; the form is full and globular, and the petals are crimped on the edges; the fragrance is a most delightful combination of the real June rose odor with that of the Teas. The plant has rich foliage, and is of strong, robust growth, and the rose is decidedly the finest introduction of the last decade. We offer it with pleasure in this collection, knowing it to be a true gem. The engravings that have been made of this rose do not do it justice, so we omit a cut, and only assure you that it is a most charming and superior variety.

For three yearly or six half yearly subscribers and $1.50 we will send you a good plant of this grand rose.

NEW WHITE TEA ROSE, "THE BRIDE."

Most fitly named is this elegant new rose, which in its lovely form and purity of color surpasses all other white roses. It is a "sport" from the queen of pink roses, *Catharine Mermet*, and is identical with that favorite in all but color and blooming habit—its flowers are produced with much more freedom. The flowers are large and very double, on long stiff stems, and of fine texture and substance, lasting longer in a fresh state after being cut than any other known white variety, making it one of the finest flowers for corsage wear or bouquets imaginable. We cannot too highly recommend this beautiful rose to our subscribers, feeling assured that it will give unbounded satisfaction. No new rose has ever before attained so complete a popularity in so short a time—the leading florists near the large cities have planted it in great quantities to "force" for its lovely buds, and these now are among the standard roses used in all floral work. This is a severe and thorough test of the quality of a rose. We feel proud at being able to offer fine plants of it in our "Star Premium List," and feel sure our subscribers will largely grasp the opportunity to secure it at no cost but a little effort among their friends. Plants were $1.50 each last year, and most florists are now asking 75 cents to $1 each for them; yet we make you this very liberal offer:

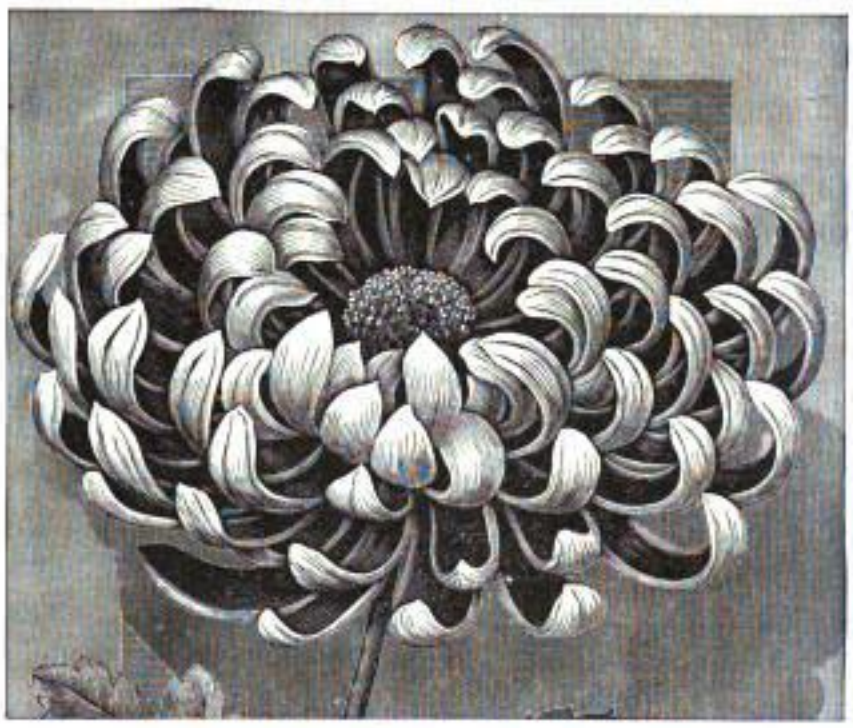
For only three yearly or six half yearly subscribers, we will send you a good plant of "The Bride."

NOW LOOK AT THIS!

For ten yearly or twenty half yearly subscribers, accompanied by the subscription price, $5, we will send you THE ENTIRE SET of five plants.

We mean to send you good plants with good roots—not weak slender things that struggle into a sickly growth after much nursing, but nice plants, well grown and ready to bloom a short time after planting. Another special offer we will make you—for

CHRYSANTHEMUMS.



These grand flowers, which are attracting so much attention now, are the very best autumn blooming plants. The "Queen of Autumn" is adding many thousands annually to her devoted subjects, and in order to give our subscribers an opportunity to enjoy some of the most beautiful sorts yet produced, we offer plants as follows:

For five yearly or ten half yearly subscribers we will send you seven choice varieties of Chrysanthemums, or for ten yearly or twenty half yearly subscribers we will send you fifteen splendid Chrysanthemums.

NOW, FRIENDS,

Let us hear from you promptly on these splendid offers, and join in to roll up the subscription list to a round half million. Just think—if only one in four of our present subscribers would make enough effort to get any of our splendid floral premiums, the total would soon be way beyond that figure! Don't put the matter off—drop in and see your friends at once, and secure their names and money. Every number of THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL is worth many times the subscription price.

☞ DON'T FORGET that our February offers are still open, and if any were deterred from sending by the lateness of the spring and bad weather, you can now take advantage of any of the liberal offers there made.

Be sure to give address of each subscriber plainly. Remit by Postal Note, Post Office Order, Bank Draft or Registered Letter, and address all to—

LADIES' HOME JOURNAL,
441 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

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FRIVOLITY AND FLIRTATION.

LECTURE IV.—PART II.

BY REV. F. E. CLARKE, BOSTON.

In the last chapter but one I told you about the sisters of *aimlessness*. In this, let me say a few words about some relatives (they are at least as near as first cousins) of *frivolity*.

One of these first cousins of frivolity is *exaggeration* in the use of words, and a very near relative of this exaggeration is slang.

"I was walking along the street the other day," says Dr. Holland, "when I met an elegantly dressed lady and gentleman upon the sidewalk. As I came within hearing of their voices—they were quietly chatting along the way—I heard these words from the woman's lips: 'You may bet your life on that.' I was disgusted. I could almost have boxed her ears.

"A woman who deals only in superlatives," he continues, "demonstrates at once the fact that her judgment is subordinate to her feelings, and that her opinions are entirely unreliable. All language thus loses its power and significance. The same words are brought into use to describe a ribbon in a milliner's window, as are employed to do justice to Thalberg's execution of Beethoven's most heavenly symphony. Let me insist upon this thing. Be more economical in the use of your mother tongue. If a thing is simply good, say so; if pretty, say so; if very pretty, say so; if fine, say so; if very fine, say so; if grand, say so; if sublime, say so; if magnificent, say so; if splendid, say so. These words all have different meanings, and you may use them all of as many different objects, and not use the word perfect once. That is a very large word!"

This is the same vice at its root that leads the boor on the street, or the hoodlum to be profane; the desire to overemphasize your words and give them a little temporary importance.

Where you say a thing is "perfectly splendid," or "too awfully good for anything," he will prefix a vile oath. Neither of you mean what you say, or know what you mean.

This whole custom was satirized a few years ago by the sunflower æsthetics who exhausted all epithets and had recourse only to reduplication to express their feelings; so that a thing became at last, "too utterly utter," or "too too." Such ridicule ought to have shown the folly of this straining after hyperbole, but I'm afraid it did not altogether accomplish its object. We must remember that this was a subject which our Lord himself did not think so insignificant for him to touch upon since he tells us: "Let your conversation be yea, yea, and nay, nay, for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil."

Two more first cousins of frivolity are mesdames *gossip* and *slander*. One able-bodied gossip or slanderer is enough to break up a whole church and inaugurate the vendetta in any community. My soul loathes with a perfect loathing that one who from pure maliciousness takes up a talk against her neighbor; and I warn you, young friends, have nothing to do with such a one, be she young or old. Remember, the same finger of God that wrote on the rock table—"Thou shalt not kill"—also wrote: "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor;" and gossip is always next door to false witness. This is a habit that grows with what it feeds on. The young tattler is the middle-aged gossip, and the old slanderer.

Why, I know women, and men too, for that matter, who are as much wedded to their gossipy stories, as any old tippler to his cups. It would be just as hard to reform one as the other. We have inebriate asylums, where the poor fellow is shut away from the taste and smell and sight of liquor. We ought to have *no* rests for confirmed gossips, where they could never mingle again with their kind; for as sure as they do, they will find something to gossip about. In fact, their case is worse than the toper's; for while he may regain a healthy stomach, and an invitiated appetite, the slanderer's heart, even if touched by the Spirit of God, will never lose the pits and scars which mar it. I have seen such gossips, with whom you could not talk five minutes on any subject without hearing something bad of some one. Their neighbor across the way they have no good word for, the church they attend is full of cheats and shams; after awhile they have no friends; their sharp tongue makes acquaintances shy, and neighbors give them a wide berth. They become unhappy, moody, miserable, despicable, until at last they drop into an unwept grave, and every one breathes more freely, because they no longer pollute the common air.

Bunyan's Pilgrim, in the Interpertor's house, saw a man very busy with a muck-rut, gathering together refuse and rubbish, while all the time their hung over his head a golden crown, waiting for him. But he never lifted his eyes to it. "But the man did neither look up nor regard, but raked to himself the straws, the small sticks, and dust of the floor," says Bunyan. What a perfect description of the gossip and slanderer! She rakes together all the dirt she can find. In another person's character she tries to find it; in the unsavory talk of the police court; in the reeking columns of the low newspaper. Wherever she finds it, she gathers it together and saves it for future distribution. Marion Harland compares her to the carrion fly, who only enjoys food after it is so rank that no decent person wants to touch it. "The gamin," she says, "who would not hearken to a story of a good little boy unless he might afterward be treated to one about too bad little boys—'uncommon rum 'uns you know'—was honest in the expression of this instinct. At heart he was a nascent vulture, and in his simplicity revealed the hankering after carrion." If these carrion flies were only bad little boys in the street, we could take care of them easily. Sometimes they live in a fine house, sometimes by mistake they get into the church, but you can tell them by their buzzing, by their fault-finding, by their back-biting, by the way they seek to sting, and by the way in are distrusted and disliked. "One of the the attractive sights," says one whose words to women are always wise, "is that of a young lady who not only will neither say nor hear notice ill of one, but who takes especial pains to woman is to whom the crowd neglects. Such a worth secure admired of all whose admiration is you are one of. And now, young woman, if to say sharp and sharp ones, and are tempted very great danger, remember that you are in injuring yourself, not only in your own soul, but in the eyes of all those whom you imagine you are pleasing."

But, after all, nearly related to frivolity, as are these evils—gossip, slander, loud talk and immodest behavior—there is one mother of them all, and I should not be doing my whole duty, did I not point her out to you.

This mother of so numerous a family is *impurity*. The scarlet letter is somewhere to be found on the mother of this hateful brood. In Hawthorne's powerful story you remember the poor, sinful woman of the tale had to stand on the pillory all day, with the blazing scarlet A imprinted on her breast, that all might see it. Ah, if we could always see it. We should shudder with affright and turn away as the old Puritan did from the hapless woman of the story.

But the scarlet letter is there, perhaps, printed on the secret heart, where no eye but God's can see, but always there. Do not say it is a harmless flirtation; do not call it mere loudness or brassiness or romping frivolity. Of course I am not speaking now of girlish glee or fun or effervescence of animal spirits, all this I rejoice in. But wherever there is a taint of immodesty, the scarlet letter is always there, and you have begun to walk in the ways of her whose steps take hold on death. Because of the preciousness of your treasure, I urge you with all earnestness to guard it well. You are tossing away your Koh-i-noor when you are dallying with temptation of this sort. The frivolous flirt throws her only jewel into the gutter for swine in human form to tread upon.

The bloom on the peach once brushed off does not return. Paint it ever so skillfully, you cannot restore its bloom. The virgin lily once crumpled and bruised is never itself again, however you press out its white petals. The snow, smirched and blackened, is never again the symbol of purity that it was when it fell from heaven. Therefore I would say to you with words, burning hot, if I could compass them, Beware, beware, beware of the first steps on the road that may lead you at last to the pillory, to take your place beside the outcast woman with the blazing scarlet letter on her breast.

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LADY BOUNTIFUL'S TRIUMPH*

BY WILL CARLETON

I.

She was modestly winsome, and stylishly fair,
And the sunbeams had spun the rich skeins of her hair,
And her eyes were as bright as pure diamonds be,
And her form had the grace of a zephyr-tossed tree;
She was "pretty," some whispered, and "handsome," some said,
And "beautiful" others described her instead;
And covetous glances were after her sent,
And flattery followed wherever she went.

II.

And her heart was as soft as her ribbons were gay,
And she loved all the world, in a general way
(For the hard jailor Fashion, with all of his art,
Can not chain up a really generous heart),
And her white hand was open, to prince or to boor,
If he only was ragged, and wretched, and poor.

III.

And her husband coined there from day unto day,
And she faithfully struggled to give it away;
For if he from the world to win gold had a knack,
She esteemed it her part to pay some of it back!
And Charity knows very well how it thrives,
When 'tis zealously managed by rich people's wives;
There's many a lady, whose alms would ill fare,
If it wasn't for a selfish old husband somewhere!

IV.

And he smiled on her giving (she gave, as he knew,
A dollar, where he made a thousand or two);
But his smile had the feel of a good-natured sneer;
For he fought with the world, and approached it more near;
And he noticed that all is not Want that complains,
And that Charity often is scorned for its pains;
That the unctuous asking of alms is a gift,
And that Poverty, sometimes, itself is a thrift;
And that he who will carelessly bounties accord,
Oft is lending to Satan, instead of the Lord.

V.

And the first piteous mortal she happened to meet,
Was a woe-begone beggar, who crept thro' the street;
With face properly sad and form carefully bent,
And a way that strewed sorrow wherever he went.
And she wondered what terrible lot could be worse,
And gave him such cash as she had in her purse;
And then went home at once, with a face like the sun,
With her husband to share the good deed she had done.
But he laughingly said, when she pictured her friend,
"That poor scamp has a bank-book, and money to lend."
And she wept with vexation; and vowed not to give
To a beggar again, long as Heaven let her live.

VI.

And a little while after, it chanced to befall,
That a sad-looking gentleman made her a call;
With late news from her pastor; which bade her extend
To this brother afflicted, the hand of a friend.
And the sad-looking man drew a picture of gloom
Of a sick, wretched wife, in a comfortless room;
Of the bad luck around him accustomed to lark,
And the way he had worked, that he might obtain work;
And he made her believe, that if help were not found,
He would starve ere another bright Sabbath came round.
Then he offered for sale—sadly resolute still—
A small one-dollar book, for a five dollar bill.
And sweet sympathy warmed up her heart, through and through,
And instead of one book, she invested in two;
And waited her husband's home-coming, to run
And share with his heart the good deed she had done.
But the afternoon paper contained a hot sketch
Of this scamp, whom it called "an unprincipled wretch,"
Informing an oft-told community how
He had swindled for months, and was swindling them now;
And it gave a long history, gloomy with fact,
And a full-length description, absurdly exact.
So her husband she met with a pain-chastened grace,
And a queer look of innocent shame in her face;
And instead of her setting his heart all astir,
He employed the whole evening in comforting her.
And she vowed, if she lived to be ninety years old,
Of no agent again would she buy, and be sold.

VII.

And the next case of pity her heart chanced to greet,
Was a hand-organ woman who sat in the street;
Who, old and unfeminine, said not a word,
And played a queer tune that could scarcely be heard.
And 'twas plainly apparent, and hard not to see,—
There were two wooden stumps where her feet ought to be.
And our sweet Lady Bountiful's heart nestled near
This sister, so palpably wretched and drear;
And she gave her enough, moved by Charity's call,

To buy the dame out—legs, hand-organ, and all.
And she went home at night with her heart all aglow
With the help she had given to this daughter of woe;
And this sweet-bread of deeds,—like a generous child
She shared with her best friend—who praised her, and smiled;
For he knew all the time, and so, shortly, did she,
That this pauper of streets was as rich as need be;
And had married a daughter, with splendor quite rare,
And had given her jewels a duchess could wear.
And our dear Lady Bountiful drooped with dismay,
At having been tricked in this high-handed way,
And vowed none again with her bounty to greet,
Unless blessed with the requisite number of feet.

VIII.

And the next, and the next, and the next, and the next
Of the times she was tricked, made her almost as vexed;
But there came, one dark evening, a gleam of surprise,
From a woman whose heart had a home in her eyes;
Whose words sweetly warmed her fair friend; for they burned
With gratitude true, that had truly been earned.
And she murmured, "To me you are dearer than breath;
You snatched me from sorrow, and suffering, and death;
You lifted a burden my soul could not bear;
You tided me over the rocks of despair.
You saved me my daughter—my husband—my son;
God bless you and yours, for the deeds you have done!"

IX.

And the lady's tired heart on this gratitude fed,
For her husband had happened to hear what was said;
And the man of the world—as a tear graced his eye—
Felt as if he had news from the world in the sky;
And he said to his wife, as her gemmed hand he pressed,
"This transaction defrays the expense of the rest."

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(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

TWO POINTS OF VIEW.

BY JESSIE O'DONNELL.

"Thank you, Mr. Howard, but Mr. Rogers has arranged that," was the reply. She chatted with him a moment about the trial which was to take place on the morrow. As she turned away she caught a glimpse of the unhappiness in the young man's usually sunny face. Dave had been thinking all the evening of the walk with Alice through the deserted city streets at the quiet midnight hour. He had thought how she would notice the rest and stillness, and tried to fancy the pretty, poetic thoughts which slid in and out of her conversation like sparkling threads. He had thought of the touch of her hand on his arm; of her luminous eyes glancing softly up to him in the dim light; of the fair face so near his own, as he bent his head to talk to her. He had been happy in thinking of it, and it had slipped away from him. The disappointment in his face touched Alice, and she reached her hand to him graciously as she said "Good-night."

The touch of her hand thrilled Dave Howard to his inmost being. Roused as he was, it was more than he could bear. Crushing the little hand in his, he took the bewildered girl in his arms and kissed her passionately—once—twice—and then called to his senses by Mr. Rogers' voice: "Are you ready, Miss Foster?" he released Alice flushed and trembling from his arms. She answered Mr. Rogers in as quiet a voice as she could command, and stepping out from behind the screen, without one look or word to the young man, she joined the older lawyer in the main office.

"I will leave you to close the office. I am going to take Miss Foster home," said that gentleman to Dave in blissful ignorance of the little episode behind the screen.

The young man was left alone in the room. A long time he stood where Alice had left him, his head bowed on her desk. He lived over the happiness which had filled his soul when he had held Alice in his arms, and said: "She shall find her home here next my heart forever. I do not know if she loves me, but she shall. I will be so tender—so thoughtful—my peerless Alice! I will work for her harder than I ever dreamed of doing. I will relieve her of this drudgery which is wearing on her, poor girl!"

It was nearly dawn before he left the office. He was advocate in an important trial which was to be tried on the morrow. He had thrown more of energy and determination into the working up of this case than he had put into any other; for the gain of it would materially affect his fortunes; and he said to himself many weeks ago: "If I win I will ask Alice to be my wife."

Alice leaned back in the carriage with a sudden weariness. She was nervous and exhausted. She answered Mr. Rogers, who had taken the opposite seat, at random. Suddenly he leaned over in the darkness and took her hand.

"Are you so very tired, little girl?" he asked softly.

Had Alice not been preoccupied with her own thoughts she must have noticed the tenderness in her friend's voice and the clasp of his hand. But filled with the memory of Dave Howard's passionate kisses she did not notice Franklin Rogers' slight caress. The knowledge of Dave Howard's love had come to Alice suddenly. She had been unusually blind. The girl had had other lovers, but she had been so absorbed with the novelty of her work; so intent on gaining expansion and growth of soul from her experience in the lawyer's office, that she had failed to read the love which was patent to her employer. Perhaps his own love helped him to understand that of the younger man.

"You know Dave's case is to have its final trial to-morrow," remarked Mr. Rogers. "Wouldn't you like to go over to the court room? I will secure a good seat, though I cannot be with you all the time. They have had a hard fight, but Dave is sure to win. He has both law and right on his side. He has prepared a magnificent speech. I didn't know he had it in him. It is a master-piece, and no mistake!" said Mr. Rogers, giving this gracious praise to his rival ungrudgingly.

"Tell me about it," said Alice.

Mr. Rogers explained the case in detail and ended with an urgent invitation to attend the trial. A day before, Alice would have been delighted with the thought; but now she said: "I think I won't go, Mr. Rogers. But I shall be glad of the holiday if you will give it to me." She dreaded inexpressibly a meeting with David Howard. "I want to go up home to-morrow and see that the housekeeper has everything in readiness for Aunty. You know she and Milly come home in two weeks."

"And you go back home," said Mr. Rogers sadly. "Yes; I know it. What shall we do without our little girl in the office?"

"Will you miss me?" asked Alice wistfully.

"The office will have lost all its sunshine," said her friend, as the carriage stopped at Mrs. Barker's door.

The following day David Howard rose refreshed after a few hours' sleep. He went directly to the court-room. The trial opened in the morning, but it was four o'clock in the afternoon when the jury brought in the final verdict. David Howard had won his cause. Turning from the congratulations which were showered upon him he dispatched the following note by a messenger boy:

"DEAR MISS ALICE:—May I call to receive your congratulations this evening?

"Sincerely yours,

"D. N. HOWARD."

to which Alice responded with the following:

"DEAR MR. HOWARD:—Shall be glad to see you this evening. I am heartily glad you have won the case.

"Very truly yours,

"ALICE G. FOSTER."

Dave found a number of people in Mrs. Barker's parlor that evening. Alice came down in walking costume, and said as they exchanged their quiet greetings: "Mrs. Barker is to have a 'social' to-night, and I have no room to receive you in. So I put on my hat, and thought we would take a little walk."

"Let us find some quiet place where we can talk," said Dave, as they went out. "Will you drive with me?" hesitatingly.

"No;" replied Alice. "Let us take a car up town and then walk in some of the quiet streets."

The ride was a quiet one, each finding commonplaces hard of utterance. At Alice's request, they got out at a street leading to the avenue where her uncle's home was situated.

"Mr. Rogers sent me word of your success as soon as the verdict was known. I am very glad," said Alice.

"Thank you. It is for your good opinion that I care." Dave bared his head a moment to the night breezes; looked up at the silver stars and down into the eyes whose steady radiance rivalled the starlight. In his frank, manly way he told Alice how precious she had become to him; how unconsciously to himself she had grown into his heart; how his very being was permeated by love for her.

Alice listened in silence to his words. When she spoke it was to say: "Let us rest on these steps. See! the house is closed." They had reached Alice's home in their walk, and sitting there in the warm dusk evening, Dave closed the recital of his love: "And so, Alice, darling, I dare to ask you to become my wife. I am not rich, but my success has begun, and I have enough that my wife need never want. I can release you from all necessity of work. I will take such loving care of you. No trouble shall come near you. I love you, Alice! I love you! Don't you care just a little for me?"

Alice's eyes were full of trouble. She had seen Dave Howard to-night under a new aspect. She had not known the earnestness and tenderness of his nature. She liked him better to-night than ever before; she had always been interested in him and cared about him; there was a certain tenderness in her regard for him! but this was not love. "The great wonder-flower" had not bloomed for her. She told him the truth gently.

"You have told me there is no one else. I will make you love me yet, my peerless Alice! You like me?" Dave pleaded.

"Yes; but it has been an interest such as I would have for a hero of romance or history who pleased me," replied Alice. "Not altogether that—there has been more of the human element in my regard than that. But I have been so interested in studying you and all persons and things connected with my experiment, that it never occurred to me that you might care for me."

"Your experiment?" repeated the young man wonderingly. "I do not understand."

"I will explain," said Alice, rising and ringing the bell. "This is my uncle's home. We will go in."

Alice asked the servant who opened the door if the small reception room was lighted. Receiving an affirmative answer she led her bewildered companion thro' the softly carpeted halls to a small but elegant room. The young man turned to Alice for an explanation. She motioned him to a seat, and told him briefly what her experiment had been and some of the motives which had influenced her in assuming the disguise.

Dave's Howard's face was white and set as he said: "And you are Alice Grant, the heiress of whom I have heard. That puts you further away from me than ever. Forgive my presumption, Miss Grant."

"I don't want you to feel that way, Mr. Howard," and Alice's sweet lips trembled. "I am no further from you as Alice Grant than as Alice Foster. Alice Grant will be proud to claim you as a friend, if you will let her; more than friendship neither can give."

The two young people talked long and earnestly. It was late when Dave rose.

"Shall I take you back to Mrs. Barker's?" he asked.

"No; I will stay at home to-night," Alice said.

"O Alice! my own sweet love! how can I put you out of my heart?" cried the young man. "Tell me I may visit you and try to win your love."

"No; it would not be [illegible] still after several months have passed you may come to me then," said Alice, finding it harder to part with him than she had dreamed.

"And I am not to see you meanwhile?"

"No; I shall learn better in your absence if I can ever love you."

Dave took the trembling hands in his and smoothing back the soft chestnut hair kissed the white brow reverently, as he said: "Good-bye for six months, my darling. Then I shall come back to win you."

The next morning David came to the office long before Alice was there, and told Mr. Rogers he should be out of town for several weeks. A glance at the young man's stern, pale face told his companion what had occurred, and there was a very honest sympathy in the hand-clasp he gave him.

A week later Mr. Rogers detained Alice in his office one night after working hours, and said: "Why did you refuse Dave Howard, Allie?"

The young lady was hardly surprised at the abrupt question, and without attempt at evasion replied: "Because I didn't love him."

"Do you love any one, Allie?" asked the lawyer quietly, with a keen look into her steady eyes.

"Not in that way, Mr. Rogers."

"Then there is no chance for any one—not for one who has loved you all his life!" with a long, yearning look.

"Have I made him love me, too?" thought Alice despairingly. "I care for no one above another, Mr. Rogers," she answered sadly.

A great sob rose in the man's throat, but he said tenderly: "Never mind, little girl. Don't let it sadden your heart. I am an old man and had no business to love you."

That night Alice found a letter from Milly awaiting her announcing her friend's engagement to Stanley Richards and overflowing with happiness.

"I told him all about our change of position, Alice," ran the letter. "And he was so noble and generous. He didn't despise me; he said it was but natural to accept your kindness. He is more than grateful to you, and he says he is glad I am not rich so he can give me all."

Alice laughed and cried over this characteristic epistle and then sent her congratulations in a long letter to her little friend. Having devoted a great many pages to her sympathy in Milly's happiness, she wrote:

"I have found many pleasant things in my life here; have had my old regard for Mr. Rogers strengthened, and have made some strong new friends. But aside from these things which have come to me as an individual, I have learned other things as a working woman. And I want to tell you some things which you didn't see, or didn't appreciate.

"Do you remember our conversation about the deference paid to society women which you missed in your life? It is true, Milly, that men do not treat you in the office as they approach a rich and petted belle. But there is a deference paid by men to working women which it seems to me is far truer and finer than the other. They recognize you as a worker and a helper, and a reasonable being.

"I have found, too, men who seem the merest fops and bores in society display common sense and even talent in business relation.

"I like the independence such a life gives one. It is ennobling to have some work to do if one aims to do it well, even if it is not a great one. Then one has no time to be petty. Isn't it Lowell who says:

'Work! you have no conception how 'twill sweeten
Your views of Life and Nature, God and man.'

"I have taken more real pleasure in the money I have earned than in the thousands of dollars I have spent so recklessly. I have learned the value of money. I shall never again be extravagant as in the past.

"It is not true that a woman who earns her own bread and butter need neglect her mind and person; need grow brusque or masculine; or lose any of the graces of womanhood. She may be herself in any place and a true woman will be recognized and treated as such."

Alice dropped her pen and thought of many things she had not expressed in her letter to Milly.

"The experiment has been a success as far as Milly is concerned" ran her thoughts. "Has it been so with me? I have gained what I looked for—experience which I shall put to practical use; expansion of ideas; growth of soul. I am a broader-minded woman than I was three months ago. Am I a better one? I have hurt the lives of two men. But I didn't know they were loving me. I wonder why the thought of Dave Howard's love is so sweet to me? Can it be possible I care for him more than I thought? After all, the life of a working woman need not be desolate or hard, if love—the sweetest thing in the world—comes into it."

Alice was to go home in the morning. "I must accustom myself to taking up the old life," she said, "for to-night Alice Foster dies."

Four months later Milly Duncan Richards and Alice Grant sat together in the latter's home. Milly had been quietly married after her return from Newport, and had been traveling since. She was prettier than ever and assumed little matronly airs which amused Alice.

The experience Alice had gained in the office had not been wasted. She had learned there were needs in her own soul she had not taken thought of when she refused David Howard's love. She did not learn until she began to do without him how firmly he had established himself in her heart. And, sometimes, the months which must pass before he came to her, again seemed very long to keep the sweet new secret in her heart. She had gained a new love for humanity. She had learned to be helpful in many little ways to the working women in whom she took a new interest. She was growing keener-eyed to the stories written in the faces she met. She was learning to draw out the best from all with whom she came in contact.

"Alice, you have seen what I failed to see," said Milly. "You seem to have grasped the harmony of humanity under all the disguises of surface polish or roughness. I think you have learned what Carlyle meant when he said: 'See deep enough, and you see musically; the heart of Nature being everywhere music if you can only reach it.'"

[THE END.]

(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

THE STRAIN FOR WEALTH.

It is true that the pleasures of home life are very much undervalued and overlooked now. There has been for years, and is still, a rapidly growing tendency to make the family residence a mere place of business, in which meals and sleep are taken and toilets made, while the members of the family look to the outside world for their amusements and individual happiness.

We see this in the absorbing passion for fashion and society, and in the numberless clubs that have sprung up within the last two or three years. The watering place, with its fascinations, however hollow and unsatisfactory, is thronged from early summer to the first frost, and many homes are consequently unoccupied and shut up. In the winter season it has now become quite customary to dispose of the home residence entirely and take a suite of rooms in some palatial hotel, and turn night into day, by spending the nights between the opera-house, ball-room and parlors, and sleeping away the hours of sunlight in poorly ventilated, darkened rooms.

There is no doubt that, for a time, there is an irresistible and exquisite pleasure in this kind of life. It is a half-dreamy existence, thrilling and captivating the senses and nourishing all.

It feeds the mind with some new surprise almost hourly, and the glitter and attractiveness of every surrounding keeps up the unnatural excitement. But this soon reaches a satiety. The nerves cannot long stand the constant strain; pleasures that flow from such sources soon become wearisome and almost painful. We see this disregard of home life, too, in thousands of families, where everything is sacrificed to enable them to "make a show" outside of home, or to excel a neighbor in something, thus endeavoring to satisfy a gnawing envy. We meet with it on every hand, in wives and husbands stinting themselves and their children of comforts and even necessaries, in order to hoard money.

In short, in nearly every position and walk in life, there is this same selfishness and mistaken pursuit of happiness—this rushing on to the end of life in a whirlpool of excitement, and in a cesspool of deceit and shams. This is no cynical view of our neighbors, nor the fault-finding of a morbid mind, for it is undoubtedly the exception to find a person who is a thorough "home-body." Seek out one family which has made a home home-like, and would rather spend an evening in that home with no one but the family present, than to go pleasure-seeking away from home, and in your search, you will find a hundred who cannot comprehend, "for the life of them," how any one can be so stupid as to stick so closely at home.

This can, of course, be accounted for easily.

The average American is a decidedly restless and never-to-be-satisfied being. The unsettled and rude condition of the country at large at one time demanded, and, to a limited degree, now demands, great activity. Then the comforts of home were not obtainable except at great cost and by the utmost exertion. It required careful saving and sacrificing to get even the necessaries of life and luxuries were indulged in, and enjoyment taken, only on holiday occasions. At an early day these were considered trials that had to be gone through with, but now they have become almost national characteristics.

Men labor from morning until night year in and year out, long after they have obtained a competence, still unsatisfied, neglecting all home pleasures, and living on the thought that in some near future they will slacken their pace and live. But these habits become so deeply rooted that it is finally impossible to eradicate them, and the man never checks up his slavish course.

As we grow older as a people and as a nation, there will probably be an increase of the enjoyment we take in life. In the older countries of the most civilized portions of Europe, home life is rendered extremely attractive. Peasant life there, in its sweet quiet and freedom from cares and responsibilities, clusters about its little cottages and contented inmates, joys and satisfaction more genuine than the wealth and herculean exertions of any millionaire in this country can create in his luxuriant and costly residence.

Americans get the name of living fast. They scarcely taste one pleasure or attain one object of their ambition, before it is dropped, and the dissatisfied mind fixes on some other prize to be won and discarded in its turn. At railroad speed each one rushes on, jostling and trampling down his nearest competitor, always in a fever heat, and never knowing aught of rest or peace of mind. Fortunes are made and lost in a day. To-day poverty-stricken, to-morrow a millionaire, and *vice versa*.

This is the drama enacted about us daily, and it will be repeated again and again so long as the getting of money and immense wealth is the ambition of so many thousands of people; and until people are satisfied to live more temperately, and to take their ease when they are pecuniarily able to do so, we may expect to see home happiness very little prized.

But where a more sensible view of life is taken, where the pleasure of being at home, outweighs all other pleasures, and when quiet and retirement are preferred before excitement and being before the public, then will home be something more than a hotel, and the family circle more than a band of society's slaves. Our homes should be our sanctuaries, around which should cluster all our joys, our hopes, and our ambitions. All our exertions should be to beautify them, and to render them attractive. They should be held sacred in our thoughts and memories, and the ever-intruding and worrying, cares of business, should be forgotten when we cross their thresholds. Life has little enough of poetry and peace in it at best, and it seems like a sacrilege to break the spell that is naturally thrown about our home. We must look almost in vain for any true happiness outside of home. Momentary pleasures and delights may present themselves, but they are not to be compared to that sweet and lasting reality, that supremest of joys, and taste of a higher life—home happiness. As we value contentment and a fulness of pleasures that are satisfying, we must learn to appreciate our homes, to feel that in them we can always find a refuge from disappointment and trouble, and to see in the family circle, hearts that are ever true and ready to bear the heaviest burdens of our lives.

MAMIE.

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COLUMBUS, ALA., June 15, 1886.

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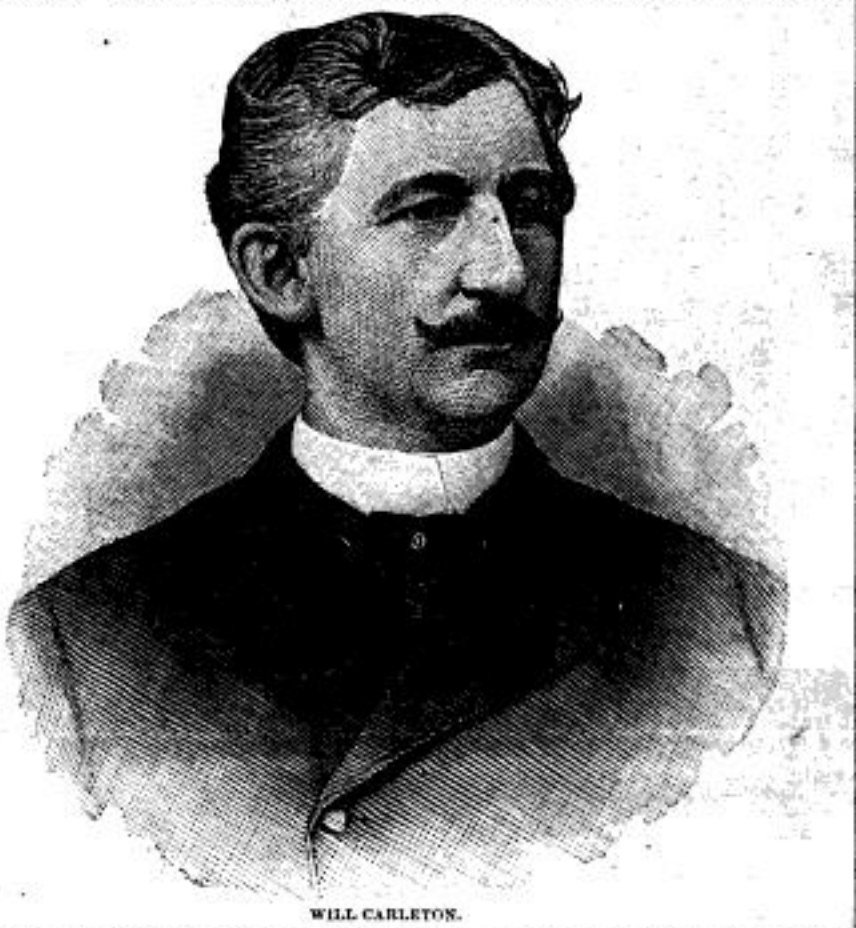
[For the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

WILL CARLETON.

America's Most Popular Home Poet. His Verse Romances of Fancy and Fireside.

"Two things," says a brilliant essayist, "are necessary to the poetic aspiration that results in fine achievements; the sympathetic applause which ministers to the last infirmity of noble minds, and the common wage that enables a laborer to do his work. The rewards of authorship have been sufficiently doubtful and varying in times before our own * * * We now know that in art, as well as in life, ideal productiveness follows, and does not precede, material security and wealth. The most creative eras of historic lands were those when their cities were the richest, when their galleons sought out distant ports, and their nobles and burgesses, sure of life's needs, craved for the luxuries of taste and emotion. Literature thrives as a means of subsistence, nor is poetry an exception to the rule. The supply answers to the demand."

Apparently exhaustless in its resources, our country has, within the past twenty years, marvelously prospered. Art and letters have fully kept pace with the rapid increase of opulence in town and farm lands. The people have become more cultured, their dwellings more attractive. To such an audience, waiting for a genius in homespun, a native, untrammeled balladist, who could metrically voice their ambitions, labors, trials, victories, joys and sorrows, in everyday phrase, WILL CARLETON was introduced by an Ohio newspaper. It was during 1871 that his first poetic success appeared in the *Toledo Blade*, under the title of "Betsey and I are Out." The popularity of this hearth-stone romance was immediate. Its fame spread like prairie-fire, and the pen of its author has since known few idle moments or niggard requitals.



WILL CARLETON.

Lineally descended from the Carletons of England, and a sturdy New Hampshire yeomanry, the poet was born in the mellow autumn of 1845, near the village of Hudson, Lenawee County, Michigan. His father was one of the pioneer settlers of that State, and with his own hands cleared the forest, where he erected a rude but comfortable log-cabin, faithfully pictured in "Out Of The Old House, Nancy," where kitchen and parlor and bedroom—they had 'em all in one. In his recently published experiences as a lecturer, Will Carleton tells how his oratorical spasms began at home on that Michigan farm. He humorously says: "Having succeeded in hearing two or three good speakers who had visited our little neighboring village, I decided straightway that forensic effort was to be part of my life-business. So the sheep and cattle were obliged to hear various emotional opinions on subjects of more or less importance, and our steeds of the plow enjoyed a great many comfortable rests. One of them persisted in always going to sleep before the discourse was finished,—a custom that is not obsolete even among his human superiors. The first lecture-course of this series came to an end quite suddenly; for my shrewd, hard-headed New England father began to suspect that agriculture was being sacrificed to eloquence. So he appeared unexpectedly in the audience during a *matinee*, and told me he had heard most of the harangue, and that he feared I was spoiling a tolerably good farmer to become an intolerably bad orator. Though of a kindly, generous disposition, he could throw into his less gracious words a great deal of sarcasm to the square inch, and the lecturer of the afternoon, crushed but not convinced, wakened the off-horse and thoughtfully drove his plough toward the blue woods at the other end of the furrow. It is a pleasant memory that my father lived to see me earning a hundred dollars a night, and admitted, with a grave twinkle in his eye, that, having looked the matter over from a non-agricultural stand-point, he had concluded there was more in me than he had supposed. But in those boy-days both lecturing and literature developed very slowly. How was I to get audiences, either for pen or voice? The harvest was ripe, but there were great reapers thundering up and down the field and warning me, with my poor little sickle, to keep out of the way."

Then he philosophically acknowledges that the great secret of commencing is *to commence where one can*. So the winter months of the unfledged poet's life were spent at district school. His summer evenings, on the farm, were devoted to mastering Latin, geometry, algebra and other studies. When he was sixteen he became a teacher, and thus helped to defray the expense of his academic and collegiate tuition. In 1865, he bid a final adieu to farm toil and entered Hillsdale College, whence he graduated in 1869, on Bunker Hill Day, delivering a class poem, entitled "Rifts In The Cloud." Journalism naturally attracted Will Carleton, and as early as 1861-1863, he wrote for the *Detroit Tribune*, of which he became editor in 1870, the year his beautiful memorial verses "Cover Them Over" were first given to type. In 1872, he quit active newspaper work and with characteristic vigor embraced authorship and lecturing as a joint means of obtaining a livelihood. Since 1873 five volumes of his ballads have been published by Harper & Brothers and nearly half a million copies have been sold. The demand continues unabated, Mr. Carleton having been paid a liberal royalty on no less than thirty thousand copies, during the last six months in 1886. His books are severally known as "Farm Ballads" [1873] inscribed to his mother; "Farm Legends" [1875] dedicated "to the memory of a nobleman—my farmer father;" "Young Folks' Centennial Rhymes" [1876] inscribed to Young America; "Farm Festivals" [1881], a literary memorial of and monument to sisters and brothers, "all gone on through sad, mysterious mists into the great brightness;" and "City Ballads" [1885], a husband's offering to "Adora—friend, comrade, lover, wife."

The unprecedented sale of these poems has excited much speculative, not to say, absurd criticism. "There are," writes George Parsons Lathrop, (in defence) "fashions, conventions, formal traditions in poetry as in other fields of human thought, and there are critics who are distressed by the idea that a simple and sincere exposition of every-day occurrences, or of common phases of emotion, in unaffected rhythmic and rhymed language, should be classed with other poetic literature of a more classical type. The same critics, however, recognize that when Tennyson writes a 'May Queen,' or dialect pieces like 'The Northern Farmer,' or 'Grandmother's Apology,' he conquers a realm of realistic interpretation which is quite as well worth ruling in as the more artificial one represented by poems cast in the formal and accepted mould. If a significant national literature is to be developed, there ought not to be much doubt that we must cordially give place to every frank expression of American life which finds its way into honest and workman-like utterance in verse or prose, whether or not it conforms to certain standards of finish arbitrarily fixed."

It is Will Carleton, who, with frank American expression has awakened a national cordiality. He understands the people and they understand him. On the platform he is as popular as ever. His favorite lectures are "Science Of Home," "Chain Of Success" and city or country life, as he has beheld either, in varying phases. His extensive acquaintance with the real folks, whom he knows so well, together with home and foreign travel, materially broadened a humor, as quaint as it was natural. For a large and appreciative crowd of listeners he ever cheerily sings, how:

"A doubly pious way consists,
When we our thanks would bring,
In recollecting God exists
In every living thing;
That when or beast or man we touch
With pity-helping care,
'Tis known in Heaven just as much
As if we did it there;
That when our voice in kind behalf
Of any grief is heard,
Heaven's wondrous, gold-foiled phonograph
Is taking every word."

***

At forty-one, Will Carleton occupies a position among the more-fortunate of American authors, at once unique and enviable. He is greatly sought after, and makes his own terms for writing and lecturing. Europe has twice attracted him, and his friends in England and Scotland are counted by thousands. For the past three years he has resided, in elegant style, in one of the newer sections of Brooklyn, N. Y., where he has become identified with the highest literary circles and is deservedly esteemed for his talents and prestige. His venerable, and kindly-voiced mother, who, for half a century, was "as brave as she was good," in the early Michigan days, and the junior Mrs. Carleton, an accomplished and charming lady, are the poet's only home idols.

As this genial and popular writer has been lately enrolled among the contributors to THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, I have thought it no more than proper that he and its four hundred thousand readers should get better acquainted. Now they know who he is, where he came from, and how he works for humanity, reputation and cash. That he writes as acceptably as ever is witnessed by his illustrated poem, "Worried About Katharine," in the April issue of this periodical. *Harper's Magazine* for March, 1884, contained a good likeness of Will Carleton, but the portrait here presented has been expressly engraved for THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL from a recent and more truthful photograph by Sarony. It is the poet as his most intimate friends know him, to-day; and may his to-morrow be an unalloyed felicity.

HENRY CLAY LUKENS.

JERSEY CITY, May 9th, 1887.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HOMELY HOMILIES.

BY ROBERT J. BURDETTE.

"SALUTE TRYPHENA AND TRYPHOSA."—ROM. 16. 12.

Sometime, oh daughter of Eve, when you are bewildered with the many—I might say, manny—definitions of that much discussed and vaguely described condition nebulously known, or rather unknown, as "woman's sphere," I want you to sit down and read the XVIth chapter of Romans. No, no; the epistle to the Romans is not in the Pentateuch; it is farther on; now you are looking in the minor Prophets; you will find it in the New Testament, right after the Acts. Yes, of course, I knew you knew where it was; that's just what your brother said the other day, after he had hunted all through the "Sermon on the Mount" for the ten commandments.

Now, I want you to read that chapter for your own encouragement. I want you to see how highly and how tenderly St. Paul appreciated you, and how he stood on this question of "woman's sphere," a question that was under discussion even in his day. Undoubtedly, woman has a sphere; the only trouble seems to be in defining its limits, or rather in setting any limits to it. You see, the great mass of people who quote St. Paul on this subject, construct his platform wholly and exclusively from first Corinthians, XIV., 34-35; and first Timothy, II., 12. And so they never get past "Let your women keep silence in the churches," and "I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over a man." And I doubt not you have heard all that until you wonder that St. Paul didn't get him to a monkery, where the women cease from troubling.

But you see, the Apostle wasn't that manner of man, at all: it is in this closing chapter of his letter to the Romans that you find how warmly he appreciated and commended his fellow workers, your sisters. "I commend unto you Phebe, our sister," he says in the first line, "a servant of the church." She was a deaconess, this Phebe. Her name means "the Moon." How many times had she made the gloomy night of doubt bright as the day spring of promise; how often had she silvered the lowering clouds that overcast the skies of despondent men. If her path lay through the murky shadows, she glorified them. If the skies were gemmed with stars, still she moved among them, queen of the firmament. Paul and Peter, John and Apollos may be glorious suns of blazing splendor, but "Phebe our sister," only the moon, shining with a light, borrowed, it may be, from the preacher, moves in an orbit nearer to the world, closer to the heart of humanity, and so most tenderly outshines them all.

"Greet Priscilla." The name means "ancient." (What a rare thing, in these days of perennial youth, is an ancient woman.) A sweet faced, old-fashioned, home-keeping woman, with a gentle touch and a low voice, I think Priscilla was, loving the old ways of ancient days; a lovable woman, too, for Paul calls her by a pet name, Priscilla being the diminutive of Prisca. This is something for these kiln-dried old mummies who protest against our calling Abigail, Abbie, and Jane, Jennie. They may call her Prisca, if they will; we will not go back on St. Paul. The Apostle boarded with Priscilla and her husband in Corinth, when he was making tents and preaching the gospel, and well do we know in what esteem he held them, for when he sends this greeting to "Priscilla and Aquila," he mentions Priscilla first. This is as it should be. The saints forbid that we should put the woman after the man. For of a verity the man will *always* come after a woman if she wait patiently and long enough; then when he does come she can—and oft times she does—make him wait.*

"Who for my life laid down their own necks." All the churches of the gentiles bow in gratitude before this noble woman and her husband, Aquila—it means "Eagle." His wife, as many a loving wife has done since the day of this Priscilla, made a dove-cote of his eyrie. "Greet the church that is in their house." Do you suppose this woman "kept silent" in that church? Or that the Apostle for whose life "she had laid down her own neck," would have shouted at her, "Let your women keep silence in the churches!" No, by the memory of Eunice and Lois, he would not. Priscilla probably had a great deal of influence and authority in that church; as much it may be, as a board of man trustees.

"Greet Mary, who bestowed much labor on us." Miriam, it used to be. We lift our eyes and look down a long vista of history when we greet that name. Across the tossing waves and yeasty billows of the Red sea, ministers of the wrath of God, gleams the bright white light of the Shekinah; the roar of the closing waters thunder to the lowering heavens that give back again their angry voices, and as the fury of the contending waves subsides, and the dimpling sea smiles carelessly above its dead, we hear the sound of timbrels and the voice of song. Miriam and the daughters of Israel,—"Sing ye to the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously." Who should sing when Pharaoh's host was overthrown if Miriam must be silent? Mightier than Moses, the helpless infant, was the mother whose mother-love and womanly ingenuity was devising means for preserving his life while his father was doubtless in a condition of man-like helplessness and general imbecility. Not Moses' brother Aaron, but his sister Miriam, with loving heart and eager eyes runs along the reedy shore, watching the ark that bore the tender hope of her people; and it is a woman stoops to lift the great Lawgiver from his cradle of rushes to a canopied couch in a royal palace. Though every preacher in every pulpit in every land should stand up and shout, "Let your women keep silence in the churches," yet had Miriam the right to stand there on the echoing rocks and sing till the unborn centuries should give back her song triumphant, and all the voices of all the men who might be shrieking "Let your women keep silence" were drowned in the triumphant chorus. Let your women keep silence, indeed. I should like to see the man who thinks he can make her keep silence, when she has anything to say.

Why, there was no injunction against "a woman usurping authority over a man" when Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite delivered Israel. No man shouted "Let your women keep silence" when Deborah "arose, a mother in Israel," to utter a song, "Blessed above women shall Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite be; blessed shall she be above women in the tent." And why Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite? Why should Heber the Kenite be dragged into history, clinging to his wife's skirts? Whatever had Heber done except to marry Jael? Why not say then, Heber the husband of Jael? True, it speaks volumes for a man when such a woman as Jael marries him; still we insist that it should even then be "Heber the husband of Jael."

So, through all the oratorio of history we hear the voices of women whom no man could compel to silence. We hear the sorrowful notes of the song of Jephthah's daughter, mingling with the tender voice of Ruth, "standing breast high amid the summer corn;" tremulous with a woman's fear, but resolute with sublime purpose, comes the voice of Esther, carrying her life before the golden scepter for her people's sake; we hear Elizabeth speak with a loud voice and no man can silence her; women bring their little ones to the Saviour, in the face of his Disciples' rebuke, and He does not censure them for "usurping authority over a man;" a woman washes his feet with her tears, Joanna, Mary, Susanna, and many others "minister to him out of their substance," women lingered near the cross when all men forsake him and fly,—why then, be proud that you cannot wear a beard and vote; be proud that you are a woman.

Always most unselfish when you are most in earnest; always—or nearly always—most thoroughly devoted to some one else who is not always so thoroughly devoted to you, it is the fate of your sex to serve. You are the dependent of the nurse while you are in the cradle, a serf and a bond-maiden to your big brother when you are a little girl; in abject and weeping bondage to your teachers and caramels all your school days; a slave of fashion from the time you graduate until your wedding day, after which you are ruled with more or less tenderness by your husband, (whom I know personally to be the best man in the world,) and tyrannized over with a rod of iron by your servants. Later on, you are a servant, nurse and governess to your children until they are married, after which you are reigned over by an imperious family of daughters-and-sons-in law, and at last you will live and die in gentle, loving bondage to a tribe of grandchildren. Believest thou not my prophesy? Ask your mother and grandmother. And yet somehow, despite your life-long bondage, there is a general impression that you have your own way about five times out of a possible four, or so often as you think your own way the better way, which, in our judgment, is liable to be the case—let us say—sometimes. And so we gladly receive the Apostle's message, and obedient thereto, we "salute Tryphena and Tryphosa," Persis and Priscilla, Mary, Phebe, Julia, Rufus' mother, Nereus' sister, and all their sisters. This nineteenth century is Tryphena's Sunday out. She has earned our homage. Sometimes I am inclined to think she is even man's physical superior. True, she cannot sharpen a pencil, and, outside of commercial circles she can't tie a package to make it look like anything save a crooked cross section of chaos; but land of miracles! see what she can do with a pin! I believe there are some women who could put a glass knob to a door. She cannot walk so many miles around a billiard table without going to eat, and nothing (to speak of) to drink, but she can walk the floor all night with a fretful baby, without going sound asleep the first half hour. She can ride five hundred miles without going into the smoking car to rest, (and get away from the children.) She can go to town and do a wearisome day's shopping and have a good time with three or four friends without drinking a keg of beer. She can enjoy an evening visit without smoking half-a-dozen cigars. She can endure the torturing distraction of a house full of children all day, while her husband cuffs them all howling to bed before he has been home an hour. Every day she endures the torture of a dress that would make an athlete swoon. She will not and possibly cannot, walk five hundred miles around a tan bark track in six days for five thousand dollars, but she can walk two hundred miles in ten hours up and down the crowded aisles of a dry goods store when there is a reduction sale on. She hath no skill at fence, and knoweth not how to spar, but when she javelins a man in the ribs in a Christmas crowd, with her elbow,—that man's whole family bowls. She is afraid of a mouse, and runs from a cow, but a book agent can't scare her. She is the salt of the church, the pepper of the choir, the life of the sewing society, and about all there is of a young ladies school or a nunnery. A boy with a sister is fortunate, a fellow with a cousin is to be envied, a young man with a sweetheart is happy, and a man with a wife is thrice blessed more than they all.

And now, do you feel pretty well satisfied with yourself? Think you are about as nearly perfect as this imperfect old world can stand? Don't know that you could be much better without making the angels a little envious? Well, that's right; that's the way I want you to feel; you stick to the XVIth chaper of Romans for the next three or four weeks anyhow: in the meantime we'll look around and find an angel to measure by, then you come in, in about a month, and we'll see how much you have outgrown the angel. We can tell then, whether to order new clothes for the Millenium, or just go on wearing out the ones we have.

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"ROBINSNEST," April 26.

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[For The Ladies' Home Journal.]

SAMANTHA ON A TOWER.

BY JOSIAH ALLEN'S WIFE.

(Copyright by Marietta Holley.)

Miss G. Washington Flomm is a very fashionable woman. Thomas J carried her through a law suit, (she wuz in the right on't, there hain't no doubt of that.)

She had come to Jonesville for the summer to board, and bearin' of Thomas Jefferson, had employed him. She wuz rich as a Jew before she got this money, but she wuz as tickled over gettin' it, as if she wuzn't worth a cent, (it fell onto her from her father.) She paid Thomas J well, and she, and Maggie, and he, got to be quite good friends. She is a well-meanin' little creeter, what there is of her. I've seen smarter folks than she is, and then again, I've seen them that wuzn't so smart.

She lives in great style, at Saratoga, has a splendid cottage, or she calls it a cottage, *I* should call it a house, for it is as big as our house, and Deacon Peedickses, and Mr. Babbetses all put together, and I don't know but bigger. Well, she invited Josiah and me to drive with her, and so her dog and she stopped for us. I put the dog first, for truly she seemed to put him forward on every occasion a front of herself, and so did her high-toned relations who wuz with her, or I s'pose they wuz her relations, for they set up straight, wuz dutiful dressed up and acted awful big feelin', and never took no notice of Josiah and me, no more than if we hadn't been there. But good land! *I* didn't care if they didn't, but Josiah, on account of his tryin' to be so fashionable, felt it deeply, and he says to me, while Miss Flomm wuz a bendin' down over the dog, a talkin' to him, for truly it wuz tired completely out, a barkin' at Josiah, it had barked at him every single minute since we had started and she wuz a talkin' earnest to it, a tryin' to soothe it, and Josiah whispered to me:

"I'll tell you, Samantha, why them fellers feel above me, it is because I hain't dressed up in such a dressy fashion. Let me once have on a suit like theirs, white legs, and yeller trimmins, and big shinin' buttons set on 'em in rows, and white gloves, and rosettes in my hat—why *I* could appear in jest as good company as they go in."

Says I, "You are too old to be dressed up so gay, Josiah Allen. There is a time for all things, buttons and rosettes look well with brown hair and sound teeth, but they ort to gently pass away when they do. Don't talk any more about it, Josiah, for I tell you plain you are too old to dress like them, they are young men."

"Well," he whispered in a deep resolve, "I will have a white rosette in my hat, Samantha. I will go so far, old or not old. What a sensation it will create in the Jonesville meetin' house, to see me come a walkin' proudly in with a white rosette on my hat."

"You are goin' to walk into meetin' with your hat on, are you?" says I, coldly.

"Oh! ketch a feller up. You know what I mean. And don't you think I'll make a show? Won't it create a sensation in Jonesville?"

"Yes," says I, "most probable it would. But you hain't a goin' to wear no bows in your hat, at your age, not if I can break it up," says I.

He looked almost black at me, and says he:

"Don't go too far, Samantha! I'll own you have been a good wife and mother, and all that, but there is a line that you must stop at, you wuzn't go too far. There are some things in which a man must be foot loose, and that is, in the matter of dress. I shall have a white rosette in my hat and some big white buttons up and down the back of my overcoat! That is my aim, Samantha, and I shall reach it if I walk through goar."

He uttered them words in a loud, fierce whisper, which made the dog bark at him for more'n ten minutes, stiddy, at the top of his voice, and in quick, short yelps.

If it had been her young child that had been yellin' at a visitor, in that way, and ketchin holt of him, and tearin' at his clothes, the child would have been consigned to banishment out of the room, and mebby punishment. But it wuzn't her child, and so it remained, and it dug its feet down into the satin, and laces, and beads, of Miss Flomm's dress, and barked to that extent that we couldn't any on us hear ourselves think. And she called it "Sweet little darlin'," and told it it might bark "its pitty, little, tummin' bark." And we endured it as best we could, with shakin' nerves, and achin' earpans, why I never had my pans ache any worse, never.

It wuz a curious time. The dog a harrowin' our nerves, and snappin' at Josiah anon, if not oftener, a ketchin' holt of him anywhere, and Josiah lookin' so royalent at it, that it seemed almost as if that glance could stun it. And in intervals of rest from the bark, for truly, such a bark as that *had* to rest reasonably, Josiah would look covetously up at the clothes of her relatives, and they would look haughtily away, and not notice him.

It wuz a curus seen, but worst wuz to come, for Miss Flomm in an interval of silence, says:

"We will go first to the Gizer Spring, and then afterwards to the moon." Or that is what I thought she said, and though I kep still, I wuz determined to keep my eyes out, and if I see her goin' into anything that looked dangerous, I wuz goin' to reject her overtures to take me. But thinkses I to myself: "I've always said that I believed we should travel to the stars sometime, but I little thought it would be to-day, or that I should go in a buggy."

Josiah shared my feelins I could see, for he whispered to me: "Don't less go, Samantha, it must be dangerous." But I whispered back: "Less wait, Josiah, and see, we won't do nothin' precipitate; but," says I, "this is a chance that we most probable will never have agin—don't less be hasty." We talked these things in secret, while Miss Flomm wuz bendin' over and conversin' to the dog, for Josiah would rather have died than not s'posed to be *ob fay*, as the English girl would say, in anything fashionable—and it has always been my way to wait and see, and count 10, or even 20, before speakin'.

And then Miss Flomm says sumthin' about "what beautiful fried potatoes you could get there in the moon, and you could always get them there any time you wanted 'em."

And the very next time she went to kissin' the dog so voyalently, as not to notice us, my Josiah whispered to me, and says: "Did you have any idea that wuz what the old man wuz a doin? I knew he wuz always a settin' up there in the moon, but it never passed my mind that he wuz a fryin' potatoes."

But I says: "Keep still, Josiah, it is a deep subject, a great undertakin', and it requires caution, and deliberation."

But he says: "I hain't a goin', Samantha, nor I hain't a goin' to let you go, it is dangerous!"

But I kinder nudged him, for she had laid the dog down on her lap, and wuz ready to resoom conversation. And about that time we got to the entrance of the Spring, and one of her relatives got down and opened the carriage door.

I wondered again agin, that she didn't introduce us—but I didn't care if she didn't—I felt that I wuz jest as good as they wuz, if they wuz so haughty. But Josiah wantin' to make himself agreeble to 'em,—he hankers after gettin' into high society—and he took off his hat and bowed low to 'em, before he got out, and says: "I am proud to know you, sir," and tried to shake hands with 'em. But the man rejected his overtures—a big-feelin' high-headed creetur. Josiah Allen is as good as he is, any day. And I whispered to him, and says: "Don't demean yourself by tryin' to force your company onto them, any more."

"Wall," he whispered back, "I do love to move in high circles." Says I, "Then I shouldn't think you would be so afraid of the undertakin' ahead on us."

"But I don't want to go into anything dangerous," says he.

But jest then Miss Flomm spoke to me, and I moved forward by her side. It wuz a middlin big room, and in the middle wuz a long sort of a well like, with the water a bubblin' up, into a clear crystal globe, and a sprayin' up out of it, in a slender, misty, sparklin' spray.

It wuz a pretty sight. And we drinked a glass full of it apiece, and then we wandered out of the back doorway, and went down into the pretty, old-fashioned garden back of the house.

Josiah and me and Miss Flomm went, the dog and the 2 relatives, didn't seem to want to go. The relatives set up their straight as 2 sticks, one of 'em holdin' the dog,—and didn't even look round at us.

"Felt to big to go with us," says Josiah, bitterly, as we went down the steps. "They won't associate with me."

"Wall, I wouldn't care if I wuz in your place, Josiah Allen," says I, "you are jest as good as they be, and I know it."

"You couldn't make them think so, dumb 'em," says he.

I liked the looks of it down there. It seems sometimes that Happiness gets kinder homesick in the big, dusty, fashionable places, and so goes back to the wild green wood, and kinder wanders off, and loafs round amongst the pine trees, and cool sparklin' brooks, and wild flowers, and long, shinin' groves, and slate stuns, and etc., etc.

I don't believe she liked it half as well up in the beautiful hotel garden, or the parks, as she did down there. You see it seemed as if Happiness would have to be more dressed up, up there, and girted down, and stiff actin', and on her good behavior, and afraid of actin' or lookin' unfashionable. But down here by the side of the quiet little brook, amongst the cool green grasses, far away from diamonds, and satins, and big words, and dogs, and parasols, and so many, many, many that are chasin' of her, and follerin' her up. It seemed more as if she loved to get away from it all, and get where she could take her crown off, lay down her septer, unhook her corset, and put on a long loose gown, and lounge round, and enjoy herself (metafor.)

We had a happy time there. We went over the little rustick bridges, which would have been spilet in my eyes, if they had been rounded off on the edges, or a mite of paint on 'em. Truly I felt that I had seen enough of paint and gildin', and ornaments, to last me through a long life, and it did seem such a treat to see a board agin, jest a plain bass wood board, and some stuns, a layin' in the road, and some deep grass that you had to sort o' wade through. Miss Flomm seemed to enjoy it some down there, though she spoke of the dog, which she had left up with her relatives.

"3 big-feelin' one's together," I whispered to Josiah.

And he says: "Yes, that dog is a big-feelin' little cuss—tomer. And if I wuz a chipmunk, he couldn't bark at me no more than he duz."

And I looked severe at him, and says I: "If you don't connect your sylables closer together, you will see trouble, Josiah Allen, you'll find yourself a swarin' before you know it."

"Oh show!" says he, "customer hain't a swearin' word, ministers use it."

"Yes," says I, "but they don't draw it out like you did, Josiah Allen."

"Oh wall! folks can't always speak up pert and quick, when they are off on a pleasure trip, and have been barked at as long as I have been. But now I've got a minutes chance," says he, "let me tell you agin, don't you make no arraingments to try to go to the moon. It is dangerous, and I shan't go myself, nor let you go."

"*Let*!" says I to myself. "That is rather a gaulin' word to me. "Won't *let* me go." But then I thought agin, and thought how love and tenderness wuz a dictatin' the term, and I thought to myself, it has a good sound to me. I *like* the word. I love to hear him say, he won't let me go."

And truly to me it looked hazardus. But Miss Flomm seemed to be ready to go on, and onwillingly, I followed on after her footsteps. But I looked round and said "Good-bye" in my heart, to the pine trees, the clear brown waters of the brook, the grass, and the wild flowers, and the sweet peace that wuz over all.

"Good-bye," says I, "if I don't see you again. You'll find some other lover, that will appreciate you, though I am far away."

They didn't answer me back, none on 'em, but I felt that they understood me. The pines whispered sumthin' to each other, and the brook put its moist lips up to the pebbly shore, and whispered sumthin' to the grasses that bent down to hear it. I don't know exactly what it wuz, but it wuz sumthin' friendly I know. For I felt it speak right through the soft summer sunshine into my heart. They couldn't tell exactly what they felt towards me, and I couldn't exactly tell what I felt towards them. Yet we understood each other. Curus, hain't it?

Wall, we got into the carriage agin, one of her relatives gettin' down to open the door. They know what good manners is, I'll say that for 'em. And Miss Flomm took her dog into her arms agin seemingly glad to get holt of it agin, and kissed it several times, with a deep love and devotedness. She takes good care of that dog. And what makes it harder for her to handle him, is, her dress is so tight, and her sleeves. I s'pose that is why she can't breathe any better, and her face and hands is red, and kinder swelled up. She can't get her hands to her head, to save her, and if a arsassin should strike her, she couldn't raise her arm to ward off the blow, if he killed her. I s'pose it worrys her.

And she has to put her bunnet on jest as quick as she gets her petticoats on, for she can't lift her arms after she gets her corsets on. She owned up to me that it made her feel queer to be walkin' round her room with not much on, only her bunnet, all trimmed off with high feathers and artificial flowers.

But she said she wuz willin' to do anything *necessary* and she felt that she *must* have her waist taper, no matter what stood in the way on't.

She loves the look of a waist that tapers. That wuz all the fault she found with the Goddess of Liberty in New York harbor. We got to talkin' about it, and she said "If that goddess only had corsets on, and sleeves that wuz skin tight, it would be perfection."

But I told her "I liked her looks as well agin, as she wuz. Why," says I, "How could she lift her torch above her head? And how could she enlighten the world, if she wuz so held down by her corsets and sleeves that she couldn't wave her torch?"

She see in a minute that it couldn't be done. She owned up "that she couldn't enlighten the world in that condition, but as far as looks went, it would be perfectly beautiful."

But I don't think so, at all. But as I say, Miss Flomm has a real hard time on't, all bound down as she is, and takin' all the care of that dog, day and night, for she said it slept with her. She has always been too weakly to sleep with her children, as I have always heard. But she said "this dear little dog wuz so delicate, that she didn't dare to trust him out of her sight." But she is jest devoted to the dog, anybody can see.

Why, jest before we started, a little lame girl, with a shabby dress, but a face angel sweet, come to the side of the carriage to sell some water lilies. Her face looked patient, and wistful, and she jest held out her flowers silently, and stood with her bare feet on the wet ground, and her pretty eyes lookin' pitifully into ourn. She wanted to sell 'em awfully, I could see. And I should have bought the hull lot of 'em immediately, my feelin's wuz such, but unfortunately I had left my portmoney in my other pocket, and Josiah said he had left his, (mebby he had.) But Miss Flomm would have bought 'em in a minute, I know, the child's face looked so sorrowful, and appealin'. She would have bought 'em, but she wuz so engrossed by the dog. She wuz a holdin' him up in front of her, a admirin' and caressin' him, so's she never ketched a sight of the lame child.

Wall, we drove on down to what they called Vichy Spring, and there we see a boat with a bycycle on it, and a boy a ridin' it. The boat wuz rigged out to look like a swan, with its wings a comin' up each side of the boy. And down in the water, a sailin' along closely and mystirusly at its side wuz another swan, a shadow swan, a foilerin' it right along. It wuz a fair seen. And Josiah says to me, "He should ride in that boat before he left Saratoga—he said that wuz a undertakin' any man might well be proud to accomplish."

Says I, "Josiah Allen, don't you try to do anything of the kind."

"I must, Samantha," says he. And then he got animated about fixin' up a boat like it at home. Says he, "Don't you think it would be splendid, to have one on the canal, jest beyond the orchard?" and says he, "mebby bein' on a farm, it would be more appropriate to have a big goose sculptured out on it, don't you think so?" says he.

Says I, "Yes, it would be far more appropriate, and a goose a ridin' on it," says I. "But you will never go into that undertakin' with my consent, Josiah Allen."

"Why," says he, "it would be a beautiful recreation, so uneek."

But at that minute Miss Flomm gin the order to turn round and start for the moon. And I whispered to Josiah, and says, "She means to go in the buggy. For the lands sake!"

And Josiah says, "Wall, I hain't a goin', and you hain't, I won't let you go into anything so dangerous. She will probable drive into a baloon, before long, and go up in that way, but jest before she drives in, you and I will get out, Samantha, if we walk back."

"I never heard of anybody goin' up in a baloon, with two horses and a buggy," says I.

"Wall, new things are a happenin' all the time, Samantha. And I heard a feller a talkin' about it yesterday. You know they are havin' the big political convention here, and he said, he wuz a real cute chap, too, he said "If the wind wasted in that convention, could be utilized by pipes goin' up *out of that building* into a baloon, it would take a man up to the moon. I heard him say it, and now who knows but what they have got it all fixed. They wuz dretful windy speeches this mornin', I heard 'em, and I'll bet that is her idee, of bein' the first one to try it, she is so fashionable. But I hain't a goin' up in no such way.'

"No," says I, "nor I nuther. It would be far from my wishes to be carried up to the skies on the wind of a political convention. Though," says I reasonably, "I hain't a doubt that there wuz sights and sights of it used there."

But jest at this minute Miss Flomm got through talkin' with the driver about the road, and settled down, a caressin' the dog agin, and Josiah hadn't time to remark any further, only to say: "Watch me, Samantha, and when I say jump, *jump*."

And then we sot still, but watchful. And Miss Flomm kissed the dog several times, and pressed him to her heart, that throbbed full of such a boundless love for him. And he lifted his head, and snapped at a fly, and barked at my companion with a renewed energy, and showed his intellect, and delightful qualities, in several such remarkable ways, that filled Miss Flomm's soul deep with a fond joy in him. And then he went to sleep, a layin' down in her lap, a mussin' down the delicate lace, and embroidery, and beads. He had been a eatin' the beads, I see him gnaw off more'n 2 dozen of 'em, and I called her attention to it, but she said "the dear little thing had to have some such recreation." And she let him go right on with it, a gnawin' 'em down, as long as he seemed to have a appetite for 'em.

And I asked her, and I couldn't help it, "How her baby wuz, and if she ever took her out to drive!"

And she said "she didn't really know how it wuz this afternoon, it wuzn't very well in the mornin', the nurse had it out somewhere, she didn't really know jest where;" and she said "no, she didn't take it out with her at all, for she didn't feel equal to the care of it this hot weather."

Miss Flomm hain't very well, I could see that, the care of that dog is jest a killin' her, a carryin' it round all the time, daytime, and bein' up so much with it nights, for she said it had sort o' chills, nights, and she had to be up a warmin' blankets to wrap round it. But she is faithful to it, there hain't no doubt on't. She said it wuz so sensitive, she couldn't trust it with a nurse, its nerves wuz. All the night before she had been up a warmin' blankets.

Wall anon, or jest about anon, Miss Flomm turned to me and says: "Moon's is one of the pleasantest places on the lake. I want you to see it. Folks drive down there a sight from Saratoga."

And then I looked at Josiah, and Josiah looked at me, and peace and happiness settled agin into our hearts.

Wall, we got there before long, and Miss Flomm, and Josiah, and me, got out, right onto the long piazza. But her relatives stayed back in the buggy, and Josiah spoke bitterly to me agin:

"They think it would hurt 'em to associate with me a little, dumb 'em. But I am jest as good as they be any day in the week, if I hain't dressed up so fancy."

"That's so," says I, a whisperin' back to him,

(Concluded on page 15.)

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ED. L. H. J.:—I should like to tell all the mothers of babies just learning to walk, to keep a bottle of extract of Witch Hazel, Pond's or Risley's, and put on every bump the baby gets. It is my cure-all; I know of nothing to compare with it: we use it on bruises, burns, scratches, cuts, as a gargle for sore throats, for hemorrhages of all kinds, etc., etc. It is wonderful how many "black and blue" marks are prevented, by merely rubbing it on baby's head when he bumps it. My baby always asks for "witwazt" as soon as he gets hurt. We take a bottle to the drugstore and buy it by the ounce. MRS. A. E. CHAPMAN.

PENN YAN, N. Y.

PHILADELPHIA, March 14, '87.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—A lady in "Mothers' Corner" asks what she shall give her baby for costiveness. She had just stated that baby's mouth was washed with "strong sage tea." Of course baby must swallow more or less of it, and it would tend decidedly to produce constipation.

Doubtless, also, the little one's system would receive more or less of the tannin (previously mentioned) by absorption. This would help in the same direction. If these *daily small doses* were stopped, it is very possible that the difficulty would disappear. MRS. A. R. COUCH.

1518 SWAIN ST.

[Annie C. Jenkinson, Bellevue, Pa., another sister of the L. H. J., recommends feeding oatmeal or "costiveness in babies." Cook it thoroughly, and feed it in the form of very thin gruel to very small babies, and thicker, like porridge, as they grow older.—ED.]

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., March 13, 1887.

ED. L. H. J.:—I am very much interested in the "Mothers' Corner," for there I have found much help. I would like to say to "Mrs. J. A. B." that I *permanently* cured my little girl of costiveness, by packing the back, the same as you would the lungs. Take a large, soft cotton cloth and fold it to about the size of your hand, wet it in lukewarm water and place it as low down on the back as possible, to make it stay; place over this a dry cloth, folded in the same manner, then take another cloth and bind it around, fastening in front. This must be put on when the stool is wanted. The first cloth should retain all the water possible, and dry ones enough over it to keep from wetting the clothing. Keep it on until the bowels move, which will be in an hour or two.

My little girl was so bad that injections had no effect. Tropical fruits and Castoria helped her for a short time, but soon lost their effect, as all medicines will. This mode of treatment was given me by a physician in the country, where I was visiting. On returning home I told my family physician, who was very much struck with the idea, and proposed to adopt it in his practice, hereafter. M. E. T.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

CHILDREN'S DIET.

What a number of things we mothers have to learn as we pass through life! and what endless trouble and anxiety we often bring upon ourselves, with reference to the bringing up, and management of our children, until certain necessary lessons have been taught us by that best of school-masters—personal experience. The learning of these lessons is often such a hard, painful process, that once having mastered them our elves it seems but natural, and kind, to give what help we can to others who have the same road to travel. It is much easier to avoid the pit-falls if we have bad them pointed out to us. I hope, therefore, that some young mothers who chance to read these lines, will "suffer the word of exhortation" from an older mother who has already made the health and happiness of her darlings her first object in life.

There are many little points respecting child-life which, I hope, at various times to have an opportunity of speaking about, for it is a subject which lies very close to my heart, but what I wish more particularly to say a few words about just now, is children's diet. This is a far more important subject than some appear to consider it, and in many cases it fails, I am afraid, to obtain the care and attention which its importance demands. Every mother, I am certain, hopes sincerely that her little ones may grow up, and develop by and by into strong, healthy men and women, blessed with good wholesomesome appetites, and sound digestive organs, but how is this worthy end to be accomplished if we persistently neglect their diet when young? Then is the time to sow the seeds of a strong, hardy constitution, if ever it is to be done; not after we have made the painful discovery that the children have grown into miserable little dyspeptics. Some children are naturally so hardy and robust, that from their very birth, they seem able to bear almost any sort of treatment and thrive under it. But many mothers to whom I may now be speaking, know how few and far between, such cases are. Would that they formed the rule, but they do not.

Children's diet ought to be both plentiful and varied, at the same time plain and wholesome. They are very much better without those little tid-bits which some parents, but more especially grandparents, are so fond of bestowing upon the little ones, "as a treat" they say. Such thoughtless indulgence does the children a great deal of harm, by lessening their appetite for the plainer food which is so much more suitable for them, and by creating an unhealthy longing for dainties. The food given to children should be well and carefully cooked, and their meals should be served as regularly as possible. The habit of eating between meals is a very injurious one, and ought never to be encouraged as it tends to destroy their natural appetite. If a child is delicate and really cannot eat sufficient at one meal to last it till the next, of course, an exception must be made, but never when it is to gratify a mere whim.

For breakfast nothing can be better for children than a plate of nicely cooked oatmeal porridge. The very best quality of meal should be used, and the porridge well boiled. When it is poured out on to the plate, sprinkle a little sugar over and serve with milk. There are very few little folks who object to this wholesome dish, with most of them it is a great favorite; but for those who do object, bread and boiled milk, is the best substitute. Cut the bread into small dice and put it into a basin; cover it entirely with boiling milk to which has been added a little sugar, and if approved of, a tiny grating of nutmeg. Put a plate over the basin to keep in the steam, and let it stand a few minutes until the bread is softened and nicely swollen out. It is then ready for use. Some persons steep the bread in boiling water previous to pouring on the milk, but this is not nearly so good a plan as using all milk. This will be quite substantial enough breakfast for very young children; those who are more advanced may be allowed a tiny piece of toasted bacon, or a new-laid egg, and a cup of milk or cocoa, afterwards.

At dinner time there are certain articles of food which should be most rigidly excluded from the children's bill of fare; I mean such things as veal, pork, etc., and all rich "made dishes." Solid meat of any kind should never, I think, be given to children until their teeth are grown sufficiently strong to masticate it thoroughly. And even then I should give it very sparingly. Beef tea, or mutton broth is much better suited to their little stomachs than the meat itself. Given in this form the children obtain all the nourishment contained in the meat without any strain being put upon their digestive powers. Good ripe fruit, sometimes raw, sometimes nicely stewed; farinaceous puddings of all sorts, fresh, well-cooked vegetables; poultry, fish, and rabbits—these form a splendid diet, if given with discretion, at seasonable times, and properly prepared.

Tea and coffee I consider most injurious for children; they are too stimulating and tend most decidedly to weaken the nerves. Milk is by far the best beverage, although the little ones themselves do not always think so. If the milk proves too heavy for the child's stomach, or if it causes a sensation of chilliness—as it does sometimes in very cold weather—a little boiling water and a small piece of sugar may be added. Rich cakes and pastry should be strictly prohibited on the children's table, at every meal. This may sometimes be a great disappointment to the wee pets at the time, and they may perhaps think mother is very hard-hearted for not giving in to their wishes, but bye and bye, when they are grown older, and find themselves the happy possessors of an unimpaired digestion, they will thank you for your firmness.

Opinions differ widely as to the question of supper, or no supper for children. I have heard many arguments on both sides, but my own opinion is, that a little light suitable nourishment taken before going to bed, is much better for a child than going to sleep with an empty stomach. The fast between the afternoon meal and breakfast next morning is too long, I consider, for a child's strength to sustain. I have tried both ways, but I always found that when a child was put to bed fasting, it awakened in the morning weary and fretful, a sign quite as often of weakness, as of ill-nature. Since then, of course, I have carried out the other plan. The afternoon meal, which we call tea over here, is, I believe, called supper in America; that however makes no difference to the above suggestion, for, after all, "What's in a name?" the meal is still the same.

This sort of children's diet entails undoubtedly more labor on the mother's part; but if, during the childhood of her little ones a woman cannot make up her mind to fit herself, by constant patient effort to be, above and before everything else, a faithful judicious nurse, rich indeed will her reward be afterwards when her children rise up to call her blessed. We should always remember this fact, that if we ourselves are not prepared to sacrifice other things in order to pay strict and constant attention to the apparently trifling, detail life of our children, we cannot reasonably expect others to do it, even if we are willing and able to pay for it. We all know that love is a thing which cannot be bought.

MARY GARRETT BROWN.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MY BABY'S NURSES.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

Mrs. Jones was the first. She took charge of the puny, delicate little girl, when it first opened its eyes upon a world of pin-pricks and colics, and after the approved custom of the old-fashioned monthly nurse, forthwith proceeded to do all in her power to handicap it in its struggle for existence. Like most of her class, she was fat. She was also slightly deaf and further still was somewhat addicted to a private dram upon occasion. In public, she loudly professed the most lofty and incorruptible temperance principles. The brandy bottle that stood in full sight on the mantel, in case of emergencies, was never lowered by her. Her mild tippling was confined to the seclusion of her own apartment and manifested itself by unwonted cheerfulness, alternating with deep drowsiness and added deafness.

Her first step with the baby, after arraying it in its new garments, was to prepare a mixture of milk and water, flavored with anise cordial and well sweetened, and administer it to the helpless innocent. As the poor little creature still seemed tolerably comfortable after this dose, she returned to the charge with a teaspoonful of olive oil, brought by the addition of sugar, to a syrupy consistency. This had the desired effect of rendering the baby supremely miserable, and Mrs. Jones rested on her laurels—for a time.

I, an inexperienced mother, ignorant of everything with regard to the care of such a very young child, watched these proceedings with awe and interest. A flitting idea crossed my mind that nature had shamefully neglected her duties in sending a creature into the world so badly put together that the first thing to be done with it was to try to repair it; but conscious of my own incapacity, I held my tongue. I said nothing when the poor dear was trotted with a violence that would have caused my own brain and stomach to swim, had I been subjected to such treatment, and ventured only a mild protest when the baby's wailing remonstrances brought upon it a dose of gin and hot water, made, like everything else, thick with sugar. I was promptly silenced. "Law, ma'am, jest don't you bother yourself! A little hot gin-sling is the best thing in the world for a baby, as you'll find out when you've had four, as I have, and buried 'em all!"

In spite of this weight of experience, the baby did not thrive. It certainly could not have been from lack of care, for, as Mrs. Jones asked, triumphantly: "Didn't she physicked it shiddy, from the start?" The only inference was that, as I have said, the baby was sickly, to begin with, and Mrs. Jones added, as her testimony, that a dog had howled under the window all the night after baby's birth, and that was a bad sign she had never known to fail. "That child was marked for death before it was twenty-four hours old."

The inconsistent little being persisted in living, however, though in such a discouraged half-hearted way that for weeks it seemed very doubtful whether she might not relinquish the attempt in dispair. To quote Mrs. Jones, again: "If I hadn't a' been here, that child would a' died, sure, for a sickliler young one I never, seen!"

The baby was irregular about sleeping from the outset. She kept awake at night and slept all day. Mrs. Jones was very fond of informing me that "she hadn't closed an eye all night," and continued this asseveration in face of my assurances that I had heard her snore. She "always breathed heavy when she was tired." If the baby had been capable of an intelligible assertion of her opinion, I am positive it would have agreed with mine, for the little dear would sometimes moan and whimper for ten minutes before her fretting and my calls would succeed in rousing the Argus-eyed attendant. Matters came to a crisis one night when I heard the baby's cries across a hall and through two closed doors, and on dragging myself out of bed and into the nursery, I found Mrs. Jones slumbering peacefully on the couch and the baby weeping piteously at her side. After that, I had my bed made on a cot in an adjoining room and kept the door of communication always open.

All blessings must take their flight sooner or later, and Mrs. Jones was no exception to the rule. The six weeks of her stay came to an end at last, and she departed, leaving a legacy in the shape of a nurse, recommended by herself, a stalwart negress, black as the ace of spades and ugly as sin, who rejoiced in the melting cognomen of Arethusa. She proved a worthy successor to Mrs. Jones. She had cultivated to the utmost the inborn propensity of her race for dropping down and going to sleep at all times and seasons and combined with this a love of untidiness that drove me nearly wild. The weekly wash was swelled to such proportions that the laundress gave warning, but despite an unlimited supply of slips, frocks and wrappers, baby looked like a little chimney sweep within an hour after her toilet. It really seemed as though Arethusa's black rubbed off. She had heart trouble, too, or said she had, and found it impossible to run up and down stairs. So I did that, besides washing and dressing the baby, taking care of her every night and two afternoons and evenings in the week, and preparing her food. The only advantage we could conscientiously claim for Arethusa was, that she set off the baby's complexion.

Still, she was not unkind to the little thing and I was averse to a change, especially as I had an exaggerated idea of the difficulty of procuring a good nurse. So it was with dire dismay that I received Arethusa's announcement that she had decided she could not go to the country with us. I had stipulated that she should do this at the time I engaged her, but as the day of departure drew near, her courage failed and I found myself at almost the last moment left without a nurse. I telegraphed to a friend residing near my destination to procure me one, and my husband and I started on our all day's journey with our tiny three-months-old, with forebodings of a trying trip.

Our worst anticipations were more than realized. The day was hot as it can be only in mid-June, and very dusty. The poor little baby really suffered from the heat and the jarring of the train, and fretted constantly, missing the cool quiet of her shaded nursery. She protested vigorously and loudly against the change from cars to carriage, from that to the boat, thence to the cars again and then once more to the carriage. We had boundless trouble in heating the milk. Matthew has no false pride, or, if he has he smothered it on that occasion and filled me with wonder and admiration by stalking down the car aisle and through the boat saloon with baby's feeding-bottle in one hand, a flask of peptonized milk and a funnel in the other.

Our friend met us as we alighted from the cars, hot, tired and dirty. She hastened to tell us that she had secured a young Irish girl to take care of baby. She was rather uncouth in appearance and very "green," but she had been a nurse in her last place and professed to know all about the charge of a young infant. I drew a breath of relief at the pleasant prospect; and even poor baby seemed lulled by the stillness and fresh air to something more like content than anything she had shown since we left home. Now that the strain was removed, I realized my fatigue, and it was with deep satisfaction that I descended from the carriage at the door of the comfortable looking farm-house, where we had engaged rooms and glanced around eagerly for my new acquisition. I had not long to wait before Isabella appeared. Uncouth was certainly the word to apply to her. With her black hair hanging to her eyebrows in a heavy bang, her short dress, her huge feet and her awkward gait, she impressed me at once most disagreeably. My dislike was not lessened when, on my laying the baby in her arms, she showed plainly that she hardly knew how to hold it. To get the tired little thing undressed and fed was the first step, and I called Isabella's attention to my manner of disrobing the baby, saying that would be one of the nurse's duties.

"Indade, mem, you'll niver ketch me handlin' anythin' as small as her," she replied, promptly. "Shure, in the last place I lived, the baby was bigger'n that whin he was born, an' at sivin months he weighed twenty-sivin pounds!"

"He must have been very heavy to carry about," I said, severely.

"Feth, thin, that's somethin' I niver did. In all the time I lived there, he was niver onct out of the house!"

A promising beginning! Nor did affairs improve. Isabella did not know which end of the bottle to put in the baby's mouth, received every instruction with some comment, generally adverse, and utterly refused to tolerate reproof. To crown all, she knew nothing of the care of a baby, notwithstanding her assertions of capability, and I felt as though I risked my child's life every time I left her alone with the nurse. I stood it twenty-four hours, paid her in full and dismissed her. Then, committing my child to the mercies of Providence and of Matthew, I made a flying trip to an intelligence office in the neighboring city and returned the same evening with a nurse of my own choosing.

(To be continued.)

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

MARY F. KNAPP, EDITOR.
No. 20 Linden St., S. Boston, Mass.

Terms Used in Knitting.

K—Knit plain. P—Purl, or purl is sometimes called, Seam. N or K 2 tog—Narrow, by knitting 2 together. Over—Throw the thread over the needle before inserting in the next stitch. This makes a loop which is always to be considered a stitch, in the succeeding rows or rounds. Tw—Twist stitch. Insert the needle in the back of the stitch to be knitted, and knit as usual. Sl—Slip a stitch from the left hand to the right hand needle without knitting it. S and B—Slip and bind—slip one stitch, knit the next; pass the slipped one over it, exactly as in binding off a piece of work at the end. * indicates a repetition, and is used merely to save words. "Sl 1, k 1, p 1, repeat from * 3 times"—would be equivalent to saying sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1. Tog means together.

Terms in Crochet.

Ch—Chain; a straight series of loops, each drawn with the hook through the preceding one. Sl st—Slip stitch; put hook through the work, thread over the hook, draw it through the stitch on the hook. S c—Single Crochet; having a stitch on the needle (or hook) put the needle through the work, draw the thread through the work, and the stitch on the needle. D c—double crochet; having the stitch on the needle, put the needle through the work, and draw a stitch through, making two on the needle. Take up the thread again, and draw it through both these stitches. T c or Tr—Treble Crochet; having a stitch on the needle, take up the thread as if for a stitch, put the needle through the work, and draw the thread through, making three on the needle. Take up the thread and draw through two, then take up the thread and draw it through the two remaining. S t c—Short Treble Crochet; like treble, except that when the three stitches are on the needle, instead of drawing the thread through two stitches twice, it is drawn through all three at once. L t c—Long Treble Crochet; like treble, except that the thread is thrown twice over the needle before inserting the latter in the work. The stitches are worked off two at a time, as in treble. Extra Long Stitch—Twine the cotton three times round the needle, work as the treble stitch, bringing the cotton through two loops four times. P—or picot; made by working three chain, and one single crochet in first stitch of the chain.

Will some one give directions for knitting blanket stitch? T.

Will some one send directions for making wide diamond rick-rack? and oblige Mrs. C. W.

Will some one tell me how to color a white straw hat a dark shade? GRACE H.

Can any one give directions for making a cat tail lamp-mat, called by some a caterpillar lamp-mat. SUBSCRIBER.

Can any one give correct directions for knitting silk stockings for a girl five years old? MRS. WM. THOMAS.

The directions for Apple Leaf lace in February number are correct. I have knit from them two or three times. M. F. K.

Can any of the readers of the JOURNAL send directions for mittens to fit a child four years old? I would like fancy cuck. MOTHER OF TWO.

"Subscriber:"—There is a fur called astrachan which is taken from a sheep. There is also astrachan cloth, used for outside wraps, trimmings, etc.

If any of our readers have correct directions for Infants Crochet Shirt, high neck and long sleeves, will they please send them to M. F. Knapp, S. Boston, Mass.?

Please ask the ladies through the JOURNAL if any one knows how to make a worsted bird over a wire frame? MRS. J. H. W.
CORNWALLIS, OREGON.

Can any of the readers of the L. H. J. inform me of a method of preparing mountain ferns and sea moss for decorating screens, etc.?
MRS. ELLA SHELHAMER.
PASADENA, CAL.

"Subscriber" will find cork dust the best filling for cushions; get it from fruit dealers. It is used to pack white grapes. Of course it must be put in an oven and dried, before using.

"A. M. S.:"—The cuts you sent me did not come from L. H. J. I cannot work from them. If you wish them returned, send me your address. M. F. Knapp, S. Boston, Mass.

"Nellie B.:"—Join crochet blocks for afghan with black worsted, and crochet three rows round the afghan with black, and finish with a scallop. It is much prettier than fringe, as the sides and ends all need finishing.

"Mrs. Clara W.:"—We cannot furnish you with back numbers of L. H. J.

If you would like directions for Rose Leaf lace send 10 cents in stamps to M. F. K., 20 Linden St., S. Boston, Mass. Send your full address.

"Etta:"—Get some coarse canvass and fill it with railroad stitch. Work six stitches of a color, hap-hazard. You can make a chair seat, or sofa cushion, according to the quantity of worsted you have. M. F.

"Mrs. C. S. B.:"—Mats for dressing-case are rather *passé*; make scarfs of crash and outline something pretty on the ends; make a square for the centre of dressing-case and outline a border round it, and fringe the edge.

Can any one send a pattern in knitting or crochet for dress yoke or sleeves?
MRS. H. M. STEWART.
CARLETON, NEB.

[Why not use crochet rick-rack trimming?—ED.]

Some time in March I received a note with 2 one-cent stamps enclosed. It was dated from Charlton, but no signature was given. Now will the one who wrote it send her address, and state what issue of the L. H. J. she saw "Achsah's" request in? M. F. KNAPP.

"Subscriber:"—Take a large open Japanese fan, and set it on a rest, which comes for the purpose. It is an ornament to the room, as well as a screen to the grate. If you have draperies in the sitting-room, drape the conservatory door to match. If you have not draperies, hang something heavy, either in rep or velours. M. F. K.

DEAR JOURNAL:—I wish to say to "L. B." who wants to know what is wrong with the mitten directions in October number, that I think the mistake on her part. I have just finished a pair of mittens from the same directions, and had no trouble. If you find one stitch too many on the second round, just drop the last stitch, and proceed. You will have to knit two rows of hearts before you can see the pattern. E. M. H.
HARTFORD, MICH.

"Mrs. M. H., Clintonville:"—Paint the wine bottles any color you wish, and tie a bow of satin ribbon of contrasting color around the neck. I know of no way to decorate a spinning wheel. I have seen a pot with an ivy growing in it placed beside the wheel, and the ivy allowed to run over it, which looks very pretty. If you like, you can tie a bright ribbon bow on the wheel, which would look well with the green leaves. A large bow of ribbon tied round the middle of the flax adds to the effect. L. F.

Knitted Collar—Vandyke Pattern.

Two No. 19 knitting needles, spool cotton No. 40. Cast on 62 stitches; knit across plain.

1st row—Slip 1, narrow, *over, narrow* 12 times, knit 10, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 5, over, slip and bind, knit 4, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 10.

2d row—Slip 1, knit 1, *over, narrow* 3 times, over, k 2, over twice, purl 2 together, knit 11, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 35.

3d row—Slip 1, knit 1, *over, narrow* 11 times, over, knit 12, over twice, purl 2 tog., k 3, narrow, over, knit 1, over, slip and bind, knit 3, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 11.

4th row—Slip 1, knit 1, *over, narrow* 3 times, over, knit 3, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 11, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 37.

First row of gusset—Slip 1, knit 1, *over, narrow* 11 times, knit 12, turn, slip 1, knit 35.

5th row—Slip 1, knit 1, *over, narrow* 11 times, over, knit 14, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 2, narrow, over, knit 3, over, slip and bind, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 12.

6th row—Slip 1, knit 1, *over, narrow* 3 times, over, knit 4, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 11, over

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twice, purl 2 tog, knit 39.

Second row of gusset like first one.

7th row—Slip 1, knit 1, *over, narrow* 11 times, over, knit 16, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 5, over, slip and bind, knit 1, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 13.

8th row—Slip 1, knit 1, *over, narrow* 3 times, over, k 5, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 11, purl 2 tog, knit 41.

Third row of gusset like first one.

9th row—Slip 1, knit 1, *over, narrow* 11 times, over, knit 18, over twice, purl 2 tog, narrow, over, knit 7, over, slip and bind, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 14.

Little Gusset—Slip 1, knit 1, *over, narrow* 3 times, over, knit 5, turn, slip 1, knit 13.

Second row of Little Gusset—Slip 1, knit 1, *over, narrow* 3 times, over, knit 2, turn, slip 1, knit 10.

Last row of Little Gusset—Slip 1, narrow, *over, narrow* 4 times, k 2, turn, slip 1, knit 11.

10th row—Slip 1, narrow, *over, narrow* 4 times, knit 4, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 11, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 43.

Fourth row of gusset like first one.

Fifth row of Gusset—Slip 1, knit 1, *over, narrow* 11 times, over, knit 6, turn, slip 1, knit 30.

Sixth row of Gusset—Slip 1, narrow, *over, narrow* 12 times, knit 8, turn, slip 1, knit 33.

11th row—Slip 1, narrow, *over, narrow* 12 times, knit 17, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 2, over, slip and bind, knit 3, narrow, over, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 14.

12th row—Slip 1, narrow, *over, narrow* 4 times, knit 3, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 11, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 43.

Seventh row of Gusset—Slip 1, narrow, *over, narrow* 12 times, knit 11, turn, slip 1, knit 36.

13th row—Slip 1, narrow, *over, narrow* 12 times, knit 15, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 3, over, slip and bind, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 3, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 13.

14th row—Slip 1, narrow, *over, narrow* 4 times, knit 2, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 11, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 41.

Eighth row of gusset like seventh.

15th row—Slip 1, narrow, *over, narrow* 12 times, knit 13, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 4, slip 1, narrow, bind slipped stitch over, over, knit 4, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 12.

16th row—Slip 1, narrow, *over, narrow* 4 times, knit 1, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 11, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 39.

Ninth row of gusset like seventh.

17th row—Slip 1, narrow, *over, narrow* 12 times, knit 11, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 4, narrow, over, knit 5, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 11.

18th row—Slip 1, narrow, *over, narrow* 4 times, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 11, over twice, purl 2 tog, knit 37.

Repeat these 18 rows, inclusive, twelve times more, which will give you thirteen points; then knit first row, then one plain row, bind off evenly, and you will have quite a pretty collar.
MRS. R. P. THOMPSON.
CHESTNUT, MONTANA.

Crochet Edging.

No. 20 cotton. Make a chain of 12 stitches.

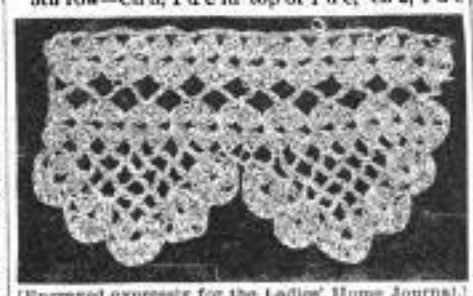
1st row—3 d c in 3d stitch of chain, ch 2, 3 d c in same, ch 3, skip 3 stitches in chain, 3 d c in 4th st, ch 2, 3 d c in same, 1 d c in stitch at end of chain; turn.

2d row—Ch 3, shell in shell, 1 s c in top of last d c in the shell, ch 3, shell in shell, 1 d c in top of last d c in shell; turn.

3d row—Ch 3, 1 d c in top of first d c in shell, ch 2, shell in shell, 1 s c in top of last d c in shell, ch 3, shell in shell, 1 d c in top of last d c in shell; turn.

4th row—Ch 3, shell in shell, 1 s c in top of last d c in shell, ch 3, shell in shell, ch 2, 1 d c in top of last d c in shell, ch 2, 1 d c in top of 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c at end of row; turn.

5th row—Ch 3; 1 d c in top of 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c



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in top of 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in top of 1 d c, ch 2, shell in shell, 1 s c in top of last d c in shell, ch 3, shell in shell, 1 d c at end of row; turn.

6th row—Ch 3, shell in shell, 1 s c in top of last d c in shell, ch 3, shell in shell, ch 2, 1 d c in top of last d c in shell, ch 2, 1 d c in top of 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in top of 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in top of 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c at end of row; turn.

7th row—Ch 3, 1 d c in top of 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in top of 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in top of 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in top of 1 d c in shell, ch 2, shell in shell, 1 s c in top of last d c in shell, ch 3, shell in shell, 1 d c in top of last d c in shell; turn.

8th row—Ch 3, shell in shell, 1 s c in top of last d c in shell, ch 3, shell in shell, skip 1 hole made by ch 2, make a shell in next hole, skip a hole, make a shell; so on 'til you have made 5 shells, 1 s c in top of first d c in shell of first row; turn.

9th row—6 d c in middle of shell, 1 s c between the shells; do this 5 times, shell in shell, 1 s c in top of last d c in shell, ch 3, shell in shell, 1 d c in top of last d c in shell. This finishes one scallop.

1st row in second Scallop—Ch 3, shell in shell, 1 s c in top of last d c in shell, ch 3, shell in shell, ch 2, 1 d c in top of last d c in shell; turn. Repeat from 2d row in first scallop.

D. C.—Thread over the hook, then through the work, thread over, draw it through 2 stitches, thread over, draw it through the remaining two.

Infant's Sacque.

Materials: split zephyr, 2 ounces of cream white, ½ ounce of light pink, and a small hook.

Make a chain in white of 80 stitches, using the wool double for chain.

1st row—3 ch, 2 t c in the 6th stitch of chain from hook, 1 t c in the 4th stitch of ch; this stitch is made in this way: after making the 2 t c throw the wool over the hook, insert the hook back in the 4th stitch of chain, draw the wool through to the length of the former stitches, wool over, draw it through 2, wool over, draw it through the 2 remaining; (these 3 stitches form 1 shell,) 2 t c in the 8th stitch of chain, 1 t c back in the 6th stitch of chain with the 1st stitches; continue until you have made 38 shells; turn.

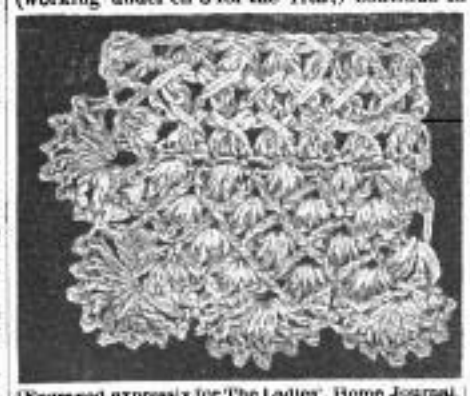
2d row—3 ch, 2 t c in the 2d shell, (between the crossing,) 1 t c back in the 1st shell, 2 t c in the 3d shell, 1 t c back in the 2d shell; continue thus until you have made 11 shells, 4 t c in the 12th shell of 1st row, 15 shells the same as though no increase had been made, 4 t c in the 27th shell, 11 shells; turn. The edge will be irregular for 4 rows.

3d row—3 ch, 11 shells, (beginning last one between 1st 2 stitches of increase,) 4 t c in the middle of increase, 8 shells crossing of 1st between last 2 stitches of increase, 2 t c in the 15th shell. This increase for back must be made in every row by putting 2 t c in the middle of the last increase with a part of the shell stitches in same, 8 shells, 4 t c, 11 shells; turn.

4th row—3 ch, 11 shells, 4 t c, 9 shells, 2 t c, 9 shells, 4 t c, 11 shells; turn.

5th row—3 ch, 11 shells, 4 t c, 10 shells, 2 t c, 10 shells, 4 t c, 11 shells turn.

6th row—3 ch, 11 shells; turn. Ch 3, 11 shells, (working under ch 3 for the 11th;) continue in



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this way until you have made 8 rows; do not break the wool at the end. Take another ball and join the wool between the 2 last stitches of increase, ch 3, 11 shells, 2 t c, 11 shells; turn. Ch 3, 11 shells, 2 t c, 12 shells; turn. Make 8 rows, working under ch 3 for 1st shell at the end. Break the wool at the end of the 8th row, and make the other front the same as 1st, breaking the wool at the end.

4th row—Commence at 1st side, make 11 shells, (tie for sleeve;) make the next shell by putting the hook through 1st shell of back and ch 3 of front; continue the back and tie the other sleeve, 11 shells; turn.

Make 6 rows, then 2 rows of pink, 2 of white. You now ought to have 61 shells. Join the pink wool, ch 1, 1 d c fasten in the 3d stitch of chain; work in every other stitch to the end of row.

Sleeve: Commencing where it is tied for sleeve, make 3 ch, 20 shells. Always begin last one to the left of ch 3, and finish with a slip stitch in ch 3; turn. Repeat until you have made 14 rows.

15th row—2 ch, 1 d c in each shell; continue thus making chain tight.

16th row—3 ch, 1 d c under ch 2; repeat until you have made 5 rows.

Border: 1st row—Begin at bottom of sacque with white, ch 3, make 4 t c, (beginning in 1st d c;) then between every other one, middle of back 4 t c in increase; turn. (Across bottom only.)

2d row—Make in 1st stitch of 4 t c a chain of 3, insert the hook in the space between the t c stitches and make 4 t c; continue 4 t c to the end.

3d row same as 2d row.

4th row—Commence at neck, work down the side 4 t c in ch 3, ch 1, 4 t c in space between the 4 t c on preceding row, (at the corner make 8 t c in the space to prevent the border having a curled appearance.)

Collar: 1st row—Begin at corner of neck (using the wool double for this row;) make 1 t c in every stitch of chain where the stitches of the shells were made.

2d row—3 ch, 4 t c between every other t c; turn.

3d row—Ch 3, 4 t c in space between the 4 t c; turn the 2d and 3d rows over for collar, and with pink double make a chain of 3 in 2d row, 1 t c between the same to the end of row. (This row is for cord.)

Tie pink in 1st d c of pink at bottom, ch 4, fasten by s c through the centre of 4 t c, ch 4, fasten by s c in 1 ch of pink. (This will form a scallop in chain stitch;) continue across bottom only; break the wool, and begin at corner where you tied the wool.

2d row—Make 4 ch, tie the wool between 4 t c stitches, and through the pink scallop, (this fastens the scallop down;) then make 4 ch and put hook under 1st row of scallops and through centre of 4 t c, and fasten by s c continuing across the bottom.

3d row same as 2d row.

4th row—Commence at neck, (tie wool at corner;) make 4 ch, insert hook in centre of 4 t c, fasten by s c, 4 ch fasten in t c of shell, continuing around the sacque (except neck.)

5th row—Begin at corner of neck, make 7 shells in ch 1, (by making 1 t c, ch 3, and 1 s c in 1st stitch of chain; repeat until you have 7 t c, 1 s c in the next ch 1; continue in this way around the sacque; at the corner make 9 t c.) Finish the neck with scallops, and shells like last row. Sleeves 5 shells of 5 t c. Double pink wool 4 times, and make a long chain for neck. Tassels of pink bunched up without cutting the ends.
RIVERTON, N. J. V. RUDDEROW.

The above cut gives the stitch of sacque and border.

Crochet Trimming.

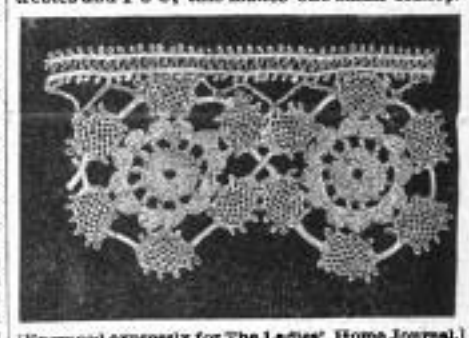
With two kinds of Novelty braid, and No. 30 spool cotton. Medallion in centre.

1st row—Ch 6, join together.

2d row—Ch 3, make 23 trebles in the loop formed by ch 6, fasten in ch 3.

3d row—Ch 4, skip 1 st, put 1 treble in the next st, *ch 2, skip 1, 1 treble in the next st; repeat from star until you have 12 holes; fasten in ch 4.

4th row—Make 1 s c in first hole and 2 trebles, then take the braid and the medallion in the left hand, and catch the second loop of the braid with the second treble just made; make two more trebles and 1 s c; this makes one small scallop.



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

For the second scallop, make 1 s c and 2 trebles as before, drop the stitch from the needle, and draw the third, fourth and fifth loops in the braid through each other, then catch up the dropped stitch in scallop with the fifth loop in braid, and finish the scallop by making 2 trebles and 1 s c as before. Catch 2 scallops with each of the 3 medallions in the braid. Take another piece of braid for the lower half of the circle. Cross the braid, and while making the scallops in the centre piece, catch 2 scallops with each of the 3 medallions as before. This makes one pattern. Begin another centre with ch 6, etc., and proceed as before, sewing the braid together slightly where it crosses. For the top edge, take straight novelty braid, with feather edge. Fasten the cotton to the braid, *ch 3, fasten between the 2 medallions in the lace just made, ch 3, skip 4 loops in the top braid, and fasten in the 5th. Catch 4 loops in top braid, with the 4 in the medallion braid, skipping the first and last loops in the medallion. Chain 3, fasten between the medallions. Chain 3, skip 3 in top braid and fasten in 4th. Chain 5, fasten in 2 medallions together, by catching the 4th loops together. Ch 5, skip 5 on top braid, fasten in 6th. Ch 3, fasten braid between medallions in next figure.- Repeat from star.
MRS. A. K. S.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

INTERIOR DECORATION.

I.

BY A. E. RAMSEY.

In no one thing has America seen greater changes during the last fifteen years than in the matter of interior decoration. Pre-Centennial days dawned upon blank walls,—or with walls covered with huge and pale calico patterns, upon pictures hung close to the ceiling, venetian blinds and the like moustrosities. This was the case in most of the homes of our great democracy and only the favored few knew enough to disapprove of those things, and still fewer had the taste to change them.

The Centennial exhibition brought us into closer contact with European idea, and gave to many their first hints of European interiors—both French and English. With American quickness and adaptability it was not long before copies, in varying degrees of excellence, flooded the land and then we went into a transition stage where it was the rage to fill the house with countless articles articles of bric-a-brac, lovely or hideous.

The stiff formality of olden times was replaced by a bewildering amount of careless ease. Indeed, there is still to be seen amongst us the parlor where every article of furniture is flying from the walls toward the centre of the room, and where bows and useless bits of drapery fill every nook and space.

But things are changing for the better. People are realizing that decoration is an art, with rules and principles, and that some of them are so plain and sensible that he who runs may read. It is the violation of these rules—the want of knowledge of them—which makes so many homes—costly ones as well as humble ones—anything but things of beauty.

The first and most obvious rule is that every room should be more or less the expression of the people who live in it. It is the unconscious working of this law which makes women who love beauty, reach out on every hand for pretty things with which to ornament the rooms of which they are mistress. It is this which puts books into the parlor of those who love books, which makes a cozy nest of the parlors of color-loving people.

The second canon of the decorators art is that rooms shall exactly express the uses for which they are intended—the public rooms of a house of course are not used as are the private ones and this difference of character makes it bad taste to put in a parlor the decorations which be entirely suitable for a bed-room.

The scale of expenditure too, is to be evenly kept and the decoration which is entirely appropriate to the vast drawing-room of some city mansion is out of place even in reduced proportions to a snug little parlor or country sitting-room.

The position of the room must also be a factor in its treatment. For instance, a light room can afford a more quiet tone of color than can be well used in a dark room; a room to be used chiefly at night or by artificial light should not be in so dark a color as to eat up the light in its walls and draperies.

There should be no decoration absolutely useless—such as a bow around a chandelier—which would hang as straight and burn as well without it—nor, (as I have often seen) a ribbon tied in gorgeous generosity of bow around a milkmaid's three legged stool which was of itself somewhat out of place in a parlor. If the bow or ribbon is needed as a bit of color let it be treated in a way which simulates a possible use—tie up a tidy with it, if you must hang up a banjo or a basket by a brilliant band, or loop up a curtain therewith but spare the footstool!

To pervert a thing from its use is almost as bad taste as decoration for which there is no use. Not long ago a wood-box in the form of a man's hat stood by the fire-place in a parlor and few decorative blunders could have been more ridiculous. Owls and men with holes in their heads for salt-boxes are certainly not in good taste nor pleasant to look at.

Fig. 1.

KENSINGTON OR OUTLINE STITCH.

But in decoration almost everyone is forced to begin on the foundations laid by some one else where perhaps every law of art is already violated. To such a one the task is first of all one of concealment—the hiding of defects which must be covered up before the better decoration can begin. In this matter the greatest aid comes through the right and skillful use of color—and the wise woman will not disdain to give a great deal of time to the careful study of the harmonious combinations and contrasts which will add an indescribable charm to the rooms under her sway.

This is the more easily done in these days of cheap wall-paper, where even in goods of the lowest price there is a fair choice of color and designs.

On this one subject a number of chapters might be written, and I cannot leave it without a few suggestions which may be of general usefulness. Where a room is to be made to look larger, a light paper is needed, and as blue is known to recede from the eye, some of the cooler shades of this color, especially those of a greenish cast are best, if other things in the room will allow of its use. A room whose first qualification is to be "coziness" or warmth, may be hung with a light red or orange—terra-cotta being very valuable in this case—but orange will be especially appropriate if the room is used at night or is mostly without sunlight. It is not intended to have these papers of a *plain tint* for these wear badly showing every spot and stain and are cold and stiff looking. There are many combinations which by blending two colors produce another in general effect. The orange may be made by a pink ground closely covered with a fine design in yellows. The pale blue may be a ground of deep blue with interlacing wheels of grey, or white, or palest green. A sage green effect may be had from a blue ground covered with a close design of olive green and a tiny amount of gilt.

Fig. 2.

OUTLINE FOR SERRATED LEAF EDGE.

But whatever the paper, large figures should not as a rule be used—however beautiful such papers look in the roll there are few cases where they can be successfully used in an ordinary house.

Plain papers to are not advisable for even the Boston felt, which comes in such exquisite shades, does not wear as well as a paper with small figures.

Papers in parlors should not be too light nor with too much gold—indeed gilt is best very pale and in the background, unless everything in the room is quite gorgeous in style; while the white walls and silvery tones now in vogue, require furniture of the most delicate description and make trying backgrounds for the rich sombre colors of our modern costumes.

Fig. 3.

LONG AND SHORT OR HALF SOLID STITCH.

With the help of wall-paper, too, some radical defects may be hidden. A ceiling, too high, may be brought lower by frieze and dado (and in this last matter the friends of the large figured papers have the field all to themselves,) or a ceiling, too low, may be made to look higher through perpendicular lines, and hangings.

A door, one too many in a room or in the wrong place may be concealed by a curtain.

A cheap one can be made of bright colored cheese cloth run on to a rod at the top and bottom and fastened to the door jamb—if necessary a third rod may be run through the middle to hold the fulness in place if the door is very high—but if the door is to be used the rods must be fastened to the door itself and the curtain cut to allow the handle and key to come through.

Another friend to concealment is a screen—its uses are manifold and manifest, and no two people occupying one room will ever be willing to give up the use of a screen if once enjoyed.

Besides though they are exceedingly decorative they are yet not difficult to make at home and may represent every degree of expensiveness; but in this last matter the use of the screen and its surroundings guide us rather than the purse of the owner.

One lately shown in a fashionable furniture store can be easily and exactly copied at small cost—but of course stained wood is used in place of mahogany. The screen was in three leaves covered with the rich Japanese paper in imitation of leather. In this case a gorgeous but somewhat golden brown background was covered with splashes of dull greens, glowing browns and reds scattered over it in irregular design.

The lining was of plain golden brown sateen, the nails were large and square pieces of wrought brass. The paper may be bought at any first-class paper-hangers, or sometimes fine specimens of it may be found in the Japanese art stores. The usual cost is from one to two dollars a yard; it generally comes a yard wide and is in many varieties of tint and design. A carpenter will make a frame with three leaves (each six feet by two and a-half feet) for three dollars. This should be carefully stained (not painted) with ebony, walnut or cherry stain to accord with the color of the leather. The lining is then put on face downwards, with tiny tacks close enough together to allow the sateen to be pulled very tight and smooth. With a sharp knife or scissors, all the projecting edge beyond the back is cut away. The paper is then laid on, face upwards, and the same process repeated with it, using the small tacks. A furniture of dark reds and browns is used to cover the raw edges, and is tacked over them with fancy, brass-headed nails, an inch and a-half apart.

Another style of screen—the curtain screen—requires rather more carpentry work, but as one may make the curtain cost very little, the extra expense can be balanced. There are but two leaves—they are supported by a standard at the front edge of each leaf and one where they join; the standards may have small castors to add to the convenience of handling. Beneath the top bar of each is placed a curtain rod and rings from which a curtain hangs. The curtain, which may be of any material, should be full and lined if not of heavy goods.

A lovely one lately exhibited had curtains of dark red Chinese silk lined with buff sateen, the silk being bordered by a band of the bordering which is woven in imitation of the ancient tapestries, and is one of the most artistic borders to be found; the colors, of course, are the pale, pale greens, blues and yellows of the ancient tapestries, and these blend well with the subdued tints of the Chinese silks.

Another curtain screen had hangings of wooden sateen of a rich golden brown lined with pale pink Chinese silk, and bordered by a band of plush of a darker shade of golden brown. On one curtain a branch of dog-wood blossoms with leaves, buds and open flowers was worked, and on the other a spray of blackberry vine was trailed diagonally across. Some of its leaves and stems even dropping on to the plush border. The designs are to be worked in the "half solid" or "long and short" stitch described further on.

An easy chair or a sofa in common use, is sure to become worn and shagely in the places where the head or hands rest—a concealment of this trouble may be made rather a pretty addition to the color of the room. A piece of goods of some color to contrast or accord with the original cover is laid smoothly from the top of the sofa and of sufficient depth to cover the worn place. The upper edge is securely tacked to the woodwork by a band of gimp and brass-headed nails; the lower edge can be decorated by a fringe of ball fringe, or by pinking the edges, if the piece is of sateen or felt. The lower edge may be a straight line, or it may be cut to a graceful curve to suit the outline of the back of the sofa. Over the arms a piece of the same material is put, and trimmed to correspond with the back.

Where the original covering was of figured stuff, the effect is pretty if the piece is of the same color as the background, and has a running vine or border worked over it in Kensington stitch in the other colors.

A lovely table-cover lately finished in a leading establishment for "art needlework" was of pale green felt with a plush border eight inches wide of a deeper shade of green, on this border and covering it entirely was worked the annexed design in pale pink and pale gold silk; the flowers being outlined in "half solid" stitch of pink floselle, but everything else done in gold and with the Kensington stitch.

From the same place comes a mantel scarf worth copying. It was of the thin sheer material known as bolting cloth; across each end as a border was a number of circles and parts of circles in various colors and positions—two or three overlapping each other in a group, an occasional single one and then again a group of as many as five, lying one on another so that only a part of each of the other four could be seen, the idea being that these brilliant drops of color had been scattered carelessly over the delicate fabric. The decoration extended about fifteen inches above each end, and the scarf was finished by a lace three inches deep sewed on rather full. The circles were simply pieces of silk carefully cut by the same pattern of a circle and applied to the bolting cloth, the edges being held down by the button-hole stitch in silk of the same color as the upper circle.

A new material for mantel scarfs is madras serim, a peculiar looking stuff something like brown seersucker of flimsy quality. It is woven in stripes alternately loose and tight, which produces the crinkled effect. Chair-backs, scarfs for tables, mantels and bureaus, are made by pulling out the lengthwise threads of the *loose* stripes and in place of them weaving a bright ribbon just a trifle narrower than the original stripe. A scarf shown at Wanamaker's had a stripe of copper color and a stripe of reddish-brown ribbon alternating. Each row was finished at both ends by a bow of the ribbon, and between the silken stripes the stripe of serim terminated by a tiny ball of silk in the shades of the ribbon.

For the work described in this chapter several embroidery stitches are needed. Of those illustrated the first is Kensington stitch, called also, outline stitch, stem stitch or test stitch. It is so well known that perhaps but few readers will need to have it described, but even to old workers some hints may be new. The stitch should always be worked with the thread to the right of the needle. Knots must be avoided by running the outline back a few stitches; the stitch is worked away from you, and on the wrong side the appearance is that of a long back-stitch. Care is needed on three points; first: do not make the stitch very long, and eighth of an inch is generally long enough, and the shorter it is the more even the work is and the better it will look and wear. Secondly: do not make the stitch so tight as to draw the material, neither must it be loose enough to "pop up" away from the stuff. Third: fasten off (as you begin) by running the design for a few stitches in front of the next stitch to be taken.

The stitch itself is simple enough and the outline gives it fairly; the outline is followed by putting the needle in at (one) and bringing it out at (three) half way down and to the left of the last stitch. To give a serrated edge to leaves, the stitches are slightly more at an angle, as in figure 2. It will take but little time to master this stitch, and to acquire sufficient skill for very good work, but it must be well mastered before another stitch is possible. The best materials for it are crewels and filoselle; both of these wash if properly handled, and the last may be so divided that the outline is the merest hair-line drawn on the fabric. In this case the finer the silk, the smaller and closer the stitches should be.

The next stitch, called "long and short" and sometimes "half solid," is much more difficult, though it is only the development of the last and used like it for outlining. It consists in taking first a long and then a short stitch at an angle with the outline, radiating from the centre of a flower or the stalk end of a leaf or petal, as in figure 3. Start from the narrowest part of the petal making a close, even line around the edge and a broken one on the inner side. Take care to make the long stitches at the widest part, of even length and equal distances apart. The chief difficulty will be to make the curves smooth and regular, and to make both sides of the leaf or petal, the left hand side being at first very troublesome. But practice makes perfect in this, as in other things; you can study this stitch by trying it on bits of waste material, first learning to work one side, then the other, till you can make a perfect outline with all the stitches radiating from the centre to the edge.

Avoid long needlefuls, they are apt to pucker the work, and drawing them through too often frays silk and weakens crewel, making great waste in the end.

The stitch is especially appropriate for thick crewel or heavy, loose strands of silk and filoselle. When worked on plush it is charming as the stitches hold down the pile of the material at the edge of the flower but allow it to rise in the centre, thus producing a rich effect with comparatively little work.

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The majority of the best known and leading newspapers in this country make great pretentions to honesty and impartial motives in their editorial columns, and then deliberately swindle their readers, in the advertising columns, by allowing any cheat or fraud representation therein, provided he can pay for it. True it is that the mass of intelligent readers understand that the publishers allow these things to fill the advertising columns because the space is paid for, and that the editors do not indorse anything in the business columns.

There is no excuse for an editor, who does not edit every column, advertisements as well as reading matter. The claim most of them make, that they "cannot undertake to vouch for etc., etc.," is absurd. It is their BUSINESS to know whether an advertiser is honest or not, before he is admitted to an audience with their readers.

If a publisher will deliberately, or carelessly, allow his readers to be swindled by advertisers for the few dollars it will bring in, then he is not too honest to sell his editorial opinions to the highest bidder.

We intend to have every column of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, advertisements and all, *clean, safe* and *trustworthy*, and will not admit into our advertising columns any advertiser to whom we would not ourselves send an order, cash in advance if required, if we happen to want what that advertiser, offered at the price he asked.

We hope this policy will win the confidence of our readers and induce them to read our advertising columns if they have not heretofore been in the habit of reading advertisements. It is a mistake not to read advertisements, for they always give valuable information and make interesting reading matter.

BIND YOUR JOURNALS.

We furnish "The Handy Binder," to JOURNAL subscribers at 75 cents each, postpaid. Made specially for the JOURNAL; very neat and handy. Makes a strong book. The operation of binding is exceedingly simple and readily understood.

OUR PLANS FOR AUTUMN.

Marked Improvements in the Ladies' Home Journal.

The coming autumn issues of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL will contain some of the best matter ever received by our editors. We shall publish a series of biographical sketches, with portraits, commencing with Will Carleton, to be found in this number, followed by one of Marion Harland in August, Christine Terhune Herrick in September, "Josiah Allen's Wife" in October, to be followed in turn by others. One of the most popular story writers in America is Mrs. Mary J. Holmes, who is engaged on a story for our columns; Elizabeth Stuart Phelps will probably furnish a Christmas story,—one of her best. A splendid domestic story, "*How One Man Lost His Wife*," by Marion Harland, will appear in one of the early autumn numbers. Mrs. Herrick will continue her articles for mothers and housekeepers, and Mrs. Eliza R. Parker will furnish papers on receptions and suppers; "John's Wife" will contribute some excellent correspondence. A paper on "Early Marriages," by Louisa M. Alcott, will appear in the August number. "Interior Decoration," by Mrs. Ramsey, will be continued; also a series of practical and valuable articles, of great importance to mothers, on "Kindergarten Training for Children," by a lady of experience and unquestioned ability.

The ever-popular "Josiah Allen's Wife," will keep us laughing right along at her clever hits. We have in hand now some of the best work "Josiah Allen's Wife" has ever done. If you never have fully appreciated her before, you will surely do so when you read these.

Admirers of Will Carleton will be glad to learn that we have placed his future poems in the hands of the best artists in the country, for illustration. In fact, all the illustrations for the JOURNAL will be the finest of their kind ever produced in this country, having engaged for this purpose the services of the best artists, etc., known to the publishers of such periodicals as *The Century, Harper's*, etc., regardless of cost.

To our already fine list of contributors we have added Louisa M. Alcott, Robt. J. Burdette, and Mrs. M. P. Handy.

We are also adding an entirely new feature to the JOURNAL,—a feature which should make our paper specially valuable and attractive to careful mothers and their households. This is a series of "Talks" with mothers by eminent physicians. These physicians are specialists of wide experience, and their expressions may be regarded as authority. We issue the initial number of the series this month, a paper on summer hygiene, by Edward W. Watson, M. D., so long known in the medical world as a writer on these subjects, and as a reviewer of medical works. In this first "Talk" he clearly demonstrates the fact that prevention is more than half the battle. His second paper will treat of the care which is to be exercised by mothers, after summer troubles have really set in with their children.

His articles will be followed by papers by equally eminent men, on subjects of equal and vital importance.

No mother can afford to lose the practical suggestions and good advice which will be conveyed in these "Talks."

Our readers will, many of them, we know, be glad to learn that "Scribbler" still lives, and that she will give us (or somebody else) a letter once in a while. Altogether, we consider that we have occasion to felicitate our readers upon the treat in store for them. And if we may regard our work during the past year with justifiable pride, (and we think we may) we have still more cause for self-gratulation when we regard the work laid out, contracted for, and put in progress for the coming year.

ETIQUETTE.

One is frequently asked, in a tone of derision, after one has remonstrated with another in regard to some particular breach of etiquette, "Ah! Is that the 'propah capah?'" Now, while the "propah capah" is a thing which certainly can be carried to excess, there is no manner of doubt that "ceremony" is the thing which keeps society together. Not only is it "the tie that binds" society, but it is the back bone of government of every kind, be it social, religious, or civil.

Nearly all forms, abused though they be, have arisen from some real or fancied need—that is, they have been made to suit some particular occasion. If the occasion never comes to you or me, we have no need of the form, but if it *should* come, do let us conform to that which general custom lays down as the "correct thing" to do.

Suppose each one in church should pray or sing as he felt inclined, what a bedlam there would be. Church government has prescribed certain forms and ceremonies for each denomination, and only in conforming to those forms and ceremonies, is the church government safe.

Civil government has prescribed certain other laws and ceremonies, and without them where would civil government be?

Why not social laws, as well? "I don't like hypocrisy!" some one exclaims. "I am not going to return Miss So-and so's call and be civil to her, when I can't bear her, just because she has called on me and 'society' says I must return it. Suppose, too, I am *obliged* to ask her to my house. I *ask* her because I *must*, but I'm not going to be such a hypocrite as to ask her for the 'pleasure' of her company, when it is no pleasure at all."

Let us inquire, when you met Miss So-and-so last, did you not say, "How do you do?" or "How are you?" or "Good morning?"

Did you *care* how she did, or was? or did it strike you that "Good morning" was merely an abbreviation of the wish for "a good morning to you?" Was not this hypocrisy as well? Why speak to her at all?

When one gives a dinner, it is customary to have soup, fish, meat, etc., in regulation order. Everyone who gives a dinner, does just this, and wherever the guest goes, he knows just what to expect, and can arrange his appetite accordingly. This custom has been the outgrowth of various necessities. Gastronomes discovered years and years ago, that a little soup was an excellent appetizer; so the custom of soup first, began to prevail. But custom likewise says "a *little* soup," so that no matter how hungry we may be, or how delicious the soup, a *little* is all one takes. Why should not one eat more of it, if one wants it? Because if one did, the appetite of the guest would be satisfied with the soup, and all the dinner following, would be a failure to the guest, and a disappointment to the hostess.

There is no more reason in one guest continuing to eat soup till satisfied, than there is in one soldier putting out his left foot, when all the rest of the regiment put out their right.

There is nothing wicked in using one's knife to eat with, but custom again remonstrates and asserts that the fork is the more dainty as well as the less dangerous tool.

It is ill-bred to leave one's spoon standing in one's cup, but why is it ill-bred? Etiquette discovered long ago that a spoon standing in a cup was a possible source of much discomfort to the careful housemother, as, in the most unwitting way, a wide sleeve or a carelessly handled napkin, might, and often did, upset the full cup, and thus destroy all the neatness of the daintily-set table, as well as make the washing of extra table linen necessary. So etiquette laid down the iron rule that the spoon must *not* stand up in the cup.

It is useless to cite further instances, but all these only go to prove that from some cause in each case, other than mere whim, etiquette has gradually evolved her code, and that this code, if one would live in unity with his fellow men, (likewise women) it is well to follow when occasion offers.

POSTAGE TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

A discrimination in the rates of postage to city subscribers is made between weekly and monthly periodicals, to the great disadvantage of the latter; for, while the weeklies can be mailed to city subscribers for one cent per pound, monthlies can not be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent for each two ounces, except where the subscribers go to the post-office for their mail. And, as the JOURNAL in its present form weighs over two ounces, we are, therefore, obliged to ask Philadelphia subscribers twenty-four cents extra or postage, unless the paper is addressed at the post-office to be called for, or to any P. O. box.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MRS. W. P. D.:—We know nothing about the parties.

How can a "Subscriber" take out sugar-of-lead stains from a carpet?

E. K.:—Granite iron-ware may be may be mended the same as tin-ware, by soldering.

MRS. A. C. T., CHICAGO, ILL.:—There is no premium on a coin of that value of the date mentioned.

MRS. J. J. CLARKSON, PARK PLACE, PA.:—See answer to "Ethel Brooks" in correspondence columns of May No.

MRS. L. A. M., DESDEMONA, TEXAS:—Address Fleischmann & Co., Perry and Washington Sts., N. Y., for their yeast.

ESTHER:—The second day of December 1839 came on Monday, and the twenty-fourth of October 1848 on Tuesday.

S. E. CHURCH, SHERBURNE, N. Y., AND OTHERS:—A. M. Smith, 533 Chestnut St., Phila., Pa., purchases rare coins.

WILL some of the "sisters of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL" inform "A New Subscriber" how to wash a rattan baby carriage?

MRS. M. L. GERMAN, SLATINGTON, PA.:—Your wax sticks to your Calla Lily mould because the mould is not sufficiently oiled.

C. H., QUINCY, ILL., desires some of the sisters of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL to tell what will take rosin out of light dress goods.

A SUBSCRIBER, MT. STERLING, ILL., desires some of the sisters of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL to tell her how to clean a set of white furs.

A NEW SUBSCRIBER:—Fine salt, well rubbed in, at night, is excellent for the growth of the eyebrows. Judicious trimming will improve the looks.

MRS. M. P. FUGATE, WILLOW SPRINGS, VA.:—For Lincrusta Walton address J. Marsching & Co., 27 Park Place, N. Y., enclosing stamps for catalogue of prices.

MRS. LESTER B. TERRY:—We understand that the Rev. F. Clark intends publishing in book form the series of letters that have been running in the HOME JOURNAL.

S. B. JAMES, ADRIAN, BATES CO., MO.:—See advertisement of Barbour Brothers Company, Philadelphia, Pa., in June No., for linen threads. Send for catalogue of prices.

IF "Jane," Bangor, Me., will address the New Training School for Nurses, Spruce and 34th Sts., Philadelphia, Pa., she will in all probability get the information she desired.

RUSTIC READER:—Much information and pleasure may be obtained by a thorough study of botany, even without a teacher. We would advise Gray's Botany, price about $2.00.

BESSIE SHEPPARD, QUINTON, N. J.:—Send 10c. to J. S. Ogilvie & Co., 31 Rose St., N. Y., and get a book of dialogues. See May number LADIES' HOME JOURNAL for recipe for ink stains.

MRS. C. G. SHELL, MOUND, TENN.:—It is beyond our province to give prescriptions for diseases. In such cases as the one of which you speak, a reliable physician should be consulted.

ED. L. H. J.:—Can any of your many readers inform me, through the columns of your paper, how to remove finger-marks from Russia stove pipe? and oblige

A SUBSCRIBER.

APRIL 16th, 1887.

MY DEAR EDITOR:—Will you kindly inform me, through the JOURNAL, of a good recipe for staining a floor? and oblige a new subscriber.

Yours truly, MRS. BOWEN.

CAMBRIDGE, KS., April 5, 1887.

DEAR EDITOR:—Can you inform me, through the columns of the JOURNAL, how to remove green tube paint from a pongee silk dress?

MRS. C. M. RUGGIN.

MRS. E. EDWARDS, CARTHAGE, MISS.:—Send for Strawbridge & Clothier's Spring Quarterly Magazine; it has a description of how to make Honiton lace; they, also, keep the materials. The magazine is 50c. a year.

WILL some of the readers of the L. H. J. tell "Alice" how to make good soap (either hard or soft that will not hurt the hands) without using lye made from ashes; also, how to renovate old walnut furniture, that has the varnish nearly worn off, but otherwise good?

C. H. W.:—The fault is in your cows. The one that is going to be fresh should be milked separately, and strained separately, and not churned at all. A little salt added while churning is a great help.

MARY MITCHELL.

MANSFIELD, MO.

A NEW SUBSCRIBER, LAWRENCE, MASS.:—No premium on the coin of the date given.

The "gum" meant in the April number is ordinary mucilage.

Gum tragacanth makes nice paste for scrap books. Get 5c. worth of the druggist and dissolve in warm water. Ready for use as soon as dissolved. Add more water when dry.

MAXWELL, GREY CO., ONTARIO, CANADA.

IF the lady who asks, (in the May number of the JOURNAL) for receipt to cure sleeplessness will send her address, I will send her some recipes which others have found beneficial.

LOUISE STERLING.

MIFFLINBURG, April 18, 1887.

ED. L. H. J.:—If Mrs. Wm. Piera would use Lustro for nickle on her stove, she would have no trouble to keep it bright. I have been using it for some time. I do not know how I could get along without it. It is very nice for silver also.

J. B. M.

A pretty picture frame is made by having a carpenter make a frame of two parts, (one to sit inside the other as gilt is put inside walnut,) cover the inside one with glue, then sift on sand. Pound old pieces of glass dishes and put on the outside one so as to look thick, then gild it all over. Do not pound the glass too fine. C. B.

ED. L. H. J.:—Can you tell me in your paper how to make a satin panel? What should I put in it to make it stiff.

SALLIE L. HUFFISH.

HAYMARKET, VA.

[Cover pasteboard or thin wood of the desired size with satin.—ED. JOUR.]

G. D. B:—Your first question is not sufficiently definite for us to reply. You would best address some book publisher upon the subject.

2d. Address a stamped envelope to Curtis Haven, 1323 Chestnut St., Phila., Pa.

3d. Brown's English Grammar and Quackenboss' Rhetoric.

WILLIE, DAISY AND OTHERS:—We do not like to recommend anything for the complexion but plenty of out-door exercise, good wholesome food, (well cooked) and bathing the face in hot water, especially just before retiring for the night. Use some kind of white soap, and wash in clear warm water after using soap.

MRS. H. R. STOUGHTON, SHELBY IRON WORKS, ALA.:—If you mean "Puddings and Dainty Desserts," we offer it as a premium for two subscribers and 25c. extra.

MRS. E. C. Hewitt's book is in the hands of the publisher and will appear soon. Mrs. Johnson's articles are not in book form as yet.

BONNYLIN:—We fear your bright red cheese-cloth, stained with tea, is ruined, as we know of nothing that will restore the color in cotton material.

2d. Goodfellows' is a good one. If you will send your address to the Royal Baking Powder Co., 106 Wall St., N. Y. City, you can get a good one and it will not cost you anything.

MRS. V. A. BENDALL, WARRENTON, VA.:—In our March issue you will find all the necessary information in regard to the silk-worm business.

We know of nobody who buys plots for stories. Subscribers names are credited to the agent who sends them in, but we do not keep any list of samples, and credit the names of such persons as may afterwards send for yearly subscribers, to anybody.

To the many inquirers about "head-light" oil, we will say it is petroleum double refined, (or kerosene refined) and can mostly be obtained at drug stores if not kept by grocers. The kerosene used for lamps will answer every purpose for washing, as we have used it for that and know it is a valuable aid. We prefer to wet the clothes before putting them in the boiling suds. We think the better plan is to soak them over night, and wring out in the morning when ready to begin washing. If "head-light" oil can be obtained use it in preference to other kerosene, as it is purer and has not the strong odor of the cheaper oils.

HIGHGATE, April 26th, '87.

ED. LADIES' HOME JOURNAL—SIR:—In your number dated May, 1887, I see an article written by "L. M. M." of New York City, stating "Canadian sisters do not read." Well, Mr. Editor, I beg to differ from her.

The "Canadian sisters" as a rule read far more than any other people we know of. True, a great many of us knit and sew, but do not a great many of our American sisters do the same? and is it not a great deal to be contented than to be always worrying about what cannot be helped? Besides this, "L. M. M." says all "boodlers" "cross the line." True, but Canadian "boodlers" take refuge in the U. S.; so you see they go both ways.

EDITH.

WOLCOTT, ILL., April 20, 1887.

ED. L. H. J.:—Will you kindly permit me to enter the charmed circle of sisters? A loving sister (not of the band, but of flesh and blood) subscribed for your valuable paper for me last September. Up to that time I had never seen a copy of it, but since then a friend has kindly loaned me several back numbers. Just how much comfort I have taken with them, would be a difficult task to tell. They have enabled me to pass delightfully, what would otherwise have been many a weary hour. I am one of the "shut-in's," and have been for nearly five years. How much I thank sister "Helen Ayre" for writing about the "shut-ins;" and how glad I would be to get a package of those papers and magazines. I think if all the sisters would give their true names and address it would be very nice.

MRS. M. A. BISHOP.

NEW YORK, April 9, '87.

ED. L. H. J.:—Enclosed please find my subscription for one year. I am delighted with the JOURNAL; it embraces so many subjects and treats them all so thoroughly. The "Mothers' Corner" is my especial delight, as are also the letters from those distant correspondents who describe themselves as "shut-in's," which term may apply to their residences, but surely not to their minds. I like to hear of their inventions, and perhaps they may be interested to know how I transformed a couple of shabby bedroom chairs into the two very ornamental ones which now grace my parlor: I first sand-papered them to get rid of what little varnish my children had suffered them to retain, then painted one white (seat and all) with ordinary mixed paint, and added with the third coat enough amber enamel to give it a finish, ruled the seat with fine gilt lines, also the back, legs and rounds. The second chair I gilded all over with bronze powder, mixed with the medium which comes for that purpose; two coats were sufficient. The entire cost was 15c. for paint, 15c. for brush, two packages of bronze at 20c., and 15c. for medium; in all 85c. The enamel I had in the house. I also made a very pretty ornament out of a stone Seltzer jug, which I plastered roughly with putty, then stuck thickly with shells; (collected on the seashore last summer) when it had hardened I bronzed the putty with gold bronze, the shells with copper, and tied a bow of gold and copper colored ribbons to the handle. It is very effective and so inexpensive.

E. F. G.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

COTTAGE DINNERS.

JULY.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

Among the useful and pretty contrivances in table furniture that one sees now-a-days, none are better worth having than silver pudding or vegetable dishes. They are really more economical than the china vegetable dishes, for although the first cost is greater, they outlast the porcelain ten to one, being practically unbreakable. The housewife who owns them bids farewell to the qualms of dismay that have stirred her soul at the sight of knobless tops, that compelled her to open the dish by awkwardly lifting the cover at the edges, of missing handles that were a constant eyesore to her, or worse still, of dishes that lacked tops and tops that were minus dishes.

The worst that rough usage can do for metal dishes is to dent them,—a misfortune any silversmith can remedy at small expense. If they are washed carefully in hot suds after each time of using and given a minute's vigorous polishing with a chamois skin, they will keep bright for a long time with no further exertion. A rubbing with a little electro-silicon once in a week or ten days will be all that is needed even when they are in constant service. They brighten a table and have the great advantage of keeping food hotter than any other kind of dish except one provided with a spirit lamp.

There are two styles of these dishes. One, meant for vegetables or food of any kind prepared in other ways than by frying, have tin inside porcelain casing, but are plated within and without. The bake dishes, on the contrary, are supplied with a porcelain-lined vessel of a size that fits snugly into the outer form. These inner receptacles are proof against heat. The food is cooked in them and they are then simply set in the silver dishes without the trouble of transferring their contents. This is a great improvement upon the white napkin neatly pinned about the pudding dish, which was for a long while the only method of disguising the unsightliness of the yellow earthenware, or the discolored porcelain that, originally white had been "crazed" and stained by exposure to the heat of the oven.

Pie plates come in the same material. For these, as for the pudding dishes, it is well to have more than one inner vessel. An excellent plan is to have half-a-dozen tin pie plates made to fit the same silver frame. With pudding dishes, one extra bake dish will usually be sufficient, as a large number of puddings is seldom baked at once. It is useful, however, to be able to have a scallop appear at the first course and a pudding at the second. The additional inner vessels do not come with the dishes but may be readily picked up at a tin store.

As pretty, if more perishable, are the china pudding dishes. These come in all prices, from three up to twenty dollars apiece and in a variety of wares, from the plain English to the costly Worcester and Crown Derby. The inner dishes are of plain white stoneware, warranted to stand heat.

For a small family, the medium sized dishes, holding from one to two quarts will be found more useful than the larger dishes in which a not very big pudding looks absurdly small.

SUNDAY.

Beef *a la mode*.
New Potatoes. Lima Beans.
Stuffed Tomatoes.
Pineapple Pie.

BEEF *a la mode*:—Order from the butcher a round of beef, from which the bone has been removed. Bind it firmly into shape with a band of stout muslin. Cut perpendicular incisions in the beef, through the round and through, these draw narrow strips of salt pork. Make the cuts not more than an inch apart. Into some of them stuff a forcemeat made of chopped salt pork and fine breadcrumbs, well seasoned. Lay the meat in a deep dish and pour over it a cup of vinegar in which has been stirred half a teaspoonful each of allspice, cloves, pepper, salt and mustard, and a teaspoonful each of minced sweet marjoram, summer savory, parsley and thyme. All this should be done on Saturday, and the meat allowed to lie in the vinegar until Sunday morning, turning it several times. Sunday morning put it into a broad pot, nearly cover it with boiling water, put on a well fitting top and stew at the rate of half an hour to each pound. Turn the meat once. When done cut off the muslin band, thicken a cupful of the gravy with browned flour pour over the meat in the dish. Set the rest of the liquor aside for soup stock. Slice the beef horizontally. It should be nicely mottled with the pork.

NEW POTATOES:—Wash, rub the skins off with a rough cloth, put on the fire in boiling water, slightly salted and cook until tender. Serve whole.

LIMA BEANS:—After shelling, cook about half an hour in boiling water with a little salt. Drain dry, and after dishing stir in a lump of butter half the size of an egg and pepper and salt to taste.

STUFFED TOMATOES:—Cut the tops off large, fine tomatoes and scoop out the inside, taking care not to break the outer skin. Mince what you have removed fine, add to it half as much bread crumbs, season to taste with salt, pepper, sugar and a little butter and refill the shells. Replace the tops and if there is any stuffing left, put it between the tomatoes as they are placed side by side in a pudding dish. Cover closely and bake half an hour, uncover and brown.

PINEAPPLE PIE:—Peel a pineapple and cut it into inch square bits. Line a pie dish with good pastry, and fill it with the pineapple, sprinkling it plentifully with sugar. Cover with a top crust and bake. Eat either warm or cold.

MONDAY.

Pressed Beef.
Baked Squash. Whole Stewed Potatoes.
Cream Raspberry Tart.

PRESSED BEEF:—When the beef is removed from the table on Sunday fasten the band tightly about it again, lay it back in the cold soup stock and put a thick plate on top of it, bearing a heavy weight. On Monday take it out, remove the band and serve the beef cold, garnishing with parsley.

BAKED SQUASH:—Boil and mash the squash, stir in two teaspoonfuls of butter, an egg beaten light, a quarter cupful of milk and pepper and salt to taste. Fill a buttered pudding dish with this, strew fine bread crumbs over the top and bake to a nice brown.

WHOLE STEWED POTATOES:—Peel the potatoes and put them over the fire in cold water. Bring to a boil and cook until tender. Turn off the water, cover them with warm milk and stew ten minutes. Transfer the potatoes to a vegetable dish, thicken the milk in which they were cooked with a teaspoonful of butter rolled in a tablespoonful of flour, and season with salt, pepper and mixed parsley. Pour this over the potatoes, pressing each with a spoon so as to crack it.

CREAM RASPBERRY TART:—Line a dish with pie paste and fill with raspberries, red or black, sweetening them well. Lay a top crust lightly over them and bake. When done, lift the top crust and pour into the pie a mixture, made of a half cup of boiling milk into which has been stirred the beaten white of an egg, a tablespoonful of sugar and half a teaspoonful of cold starch, rubbed smooth in cold milk. These should have been boiled together five minutes and should be cool before put into the tart. Replace the top crust, sprinkle sugar over it, and eat the tart when cold. This may be prepared on Saturday at the same time with the pineapple pie.

TUESDAY.

Beef Soup with Macaroni.
Liver and Ham.
Moulded Mashed Potato. Sliced Cucumbers.
Lettuce, Crackers and Cheese.

BEEF SOUP WITH MACARONI:—Remove the fat from the stock in which the beef was boiled and strain it into the soup pot. Break a cupful of macaroni into pieces about an inch long, and cook them tender in boiling water. Drain and add to the soup when it is scalding hot, let them boil together fifteen minutes, and serve.

LIVER AND HAM:—One pound calf's liver, half pound ham, half cup gravy from your soup stock, one cup fine bread crumbs, two eggs, well beaten, minced onion and parsley, pepper and salt at discretion.

Boil the liver and chop it fine. If you have no cold ham in the house, buy a slice, boil it and chop it also. Mix with the liver and add the soup stock. Stir in the seasoning, eggs and crumbs. Grease a Boston brown bread mould or a small tin pail with a closely fitting top, put the mixture into this, fit on the lid and set in a vessel of boiling water, taking care that the water does not come to the top of the mould. Boil two hours, turn out and pour a cupful of good drawn butter over it.

MOULDED MASHED POTATO:—Prepare mashed potatoes as usual, with milk, butter and seasoning, press them hard into a fluted mould that has been wet with cold water. Turn out, set the dish on which they are in the oven for five minutes, and serve. If you wish, brush the potato over with beaten egg after turning it out, and before setting it in the oven.

SLICED CUCUMBERS:—Be sure that your cucumbers are perfectly fresh. Peel them and lay in ice water an hour before dinner. Slice them and serve with bits of ice laid among them. Just before eating, season with pepper, salt, oil and vinegar. A great many people always wish a couple of young onions sliced with the cucumbers.

LETTUCE, CRACKERS AND CHEESE:—Make a separate course of these. Pick the lettuce leaves apart and lay them in ice water long enough to have them crisp and fresh. Pass Durkee's salad dressing with the lettuce and let each one help himself. Serve crackers and cheese as directed in "Cottage Dinners" for May.

WEDNESDAY.

Braised Chickens.
Baked Potato Balls. Green Peas.
Huckleberry Roly-Poly.

BRAISED CHICKENS:—Stuff and truss a pair of well grown fowls as for roasting. Lay them on slices of fat salt pork in a broad pot, pour over them a pint of boiling water, cover closely and cook slowly two hours, or until the fowls are tender. Remove them then to a dripping pan and let them brown in the oven while you strain the gravy that is left, thicken it with browned flour, and boil it until it is of the right consistency. Dish the fowls, season the gravy to taste and send to table in a boat.

BAKED POTATO BALLS:—Form cold mashed potato into balls with the hands, having first beaten up an egg in it. Roll the balls in flour, lay in a well greased pan and bake to a good brown.

GREEN PEAS: — See "Cottage Dinners" for June.

HUCKLEBERRY ROLY-POLY:—Four cups flour, two cups milk, two tablespoonfuls mixed lard and butter, one teaspoonful soda, two teaspoonfuls cream tartar, saltspoonful salt, four cups huckleberries.

Sift the salt and cream tartar with the flour, rub in the shortening and wet with the milk. Roll out into a sheet longer than broad and quarter of an inch thick. Spread thickly with the fruit, sweetening it well with white sugar. Roll up the dough with the berries inside, as you would a sheet of paper, pinching the ends together that the juice may not run out. Baste it up in a pudding cloth that has been wrung out in hot water and well floured. Bake an hour and a-half. Eat with hard sauce.

THURSDAY.

Chicken Mince.
Boiled Sweet Corn. Fried Egg Plant.
White Pudding.

CHICKEN MINCE:—Trim the meat from the bones of yesterday's chickens, and cut it into small neat pieces. Heat the remaining gravy and stir the chicken into it, seasoning well. Simmer for five minutes and turn out on a hot dish. Surround with potatoes browned whole.

BOILED SWEET CORN:—Strip off the husks and free the corn from every thread of silk. Put on in boiling water, salted, and cook half an hour. Send to table folded in a hot napkin.

FRIED EGG PLANT:—Slice the egg plant about half an inch thick, peeling the slices. Lay them in salt and water for an hour, placing a plate on them to keep them down. Wipe each slice dry and dip into a batter made of a beaten egg, a cup of milk, a cup of flour and pepper and salt. Fry in boiling dripping and serve on a hot dish, first draining off all grease.

WHITE PUDDING:—Four cups milk, in which is dissolved a bit of soda the size of a pea, one cupful sugar, one cupful boiled rice, four eggs, one heaping tablespoonful cornstarch, pinch of cinnamon, grated peel of a lemon.

Bring the milk to boiling in a double boiler, add the cornstarch wet with cold milk and the sugar. Pour a little on the beaten yolks of the eggs and return with these to the saucepan. Stir in the boiled rice, cook until it thickens, remove from the fire, season and pour into a buttered pudding dish. Bake until firm, draw to the door of the oven and spread with a *meringue* of the whites of the eggs beaten stiff with a little sugar. Brown delicately and eat *very* cold with cream and sugar.

FRIDAY.

Fish Chowder.
Creamed Eggs and Bacon.
Corn and Potatoes.
Blackcap Shortcake.

FISH CHOWDER:—Two pounds fresh cod, six large potatoes, quarter pound fat salt pork, two cups boiling milk to which has been added a pinch of soda, six Boston crackers, split and buttered, chopped onion and parsley, pepper and salt to taste.

Cut the pork into dice, the fish into strips. Peel, slice and parboil the potatoes. Cover the bottom of the soup pot with fish, strew with the onions, the pork and the potatoes. Season each layer, and continue arranging the ingredients in this order until all are used. Pour in just enough boiling water to cover all and stew gently three-quarters of an hour. Line your soup tureen with the buttered crackers, pour boiling milk over them, and turn the chowder upon them. Add the parsley just before taking the chowder from the fire. Pass sliced lemon with it.

CREAMED EGGS AND BACON:—Boil six eggs hard and cut them in slices. Arrange on a platter and pour over them a cream sauce made by stirring a teaspoonful of butter rolled in one of cornstarch into a cup of boiling milk and cooking until it thickens, and seasoning with pepper, salt and minced parsley. Arrange thin slices of bacon, fried to a crisp around the edge of the platter.

CORN AND POTATOES:—Cut the cold corn left from yesterday from the cob, and mix it with an equal amount of cold boiled potatoes, chopped. Heat a spoonful of dripping in a frying pan, stir the corn and potatoes about in it until they are smoking hot, and send to table in a deep dish.

BLACKCAP SHORTCAKE:—Two cups sour milk, four cups flour, one tablespoonful lard, one tablespoonful butter, one egg, beaten, one teaspoonful soda, dissolved in hot water, one teaspoonful salt.

Make a dough stiff enough to handle, and roll into two sheets, one quarter of an inch, the other half an inch thick. Lay the former in a greased baking pan, spread blackcaps thickly over it, strew them with sugar, cover with the upper crust and bake to a good brown. Cut in squares, pile on a dish and eat hot, splitting and buttering each piece before sprinkling it with sugar.

SATURDAY

Veal Chops.
Boiled Potatoes. Scalloped Tomatoes.
Currant Pie.

VEAL CHOPS:—Trim off superfluous fat and gristle, and broil over a clear fire. Place on a hot dish, pepper, salt and butter each one and sprinkle with minced parsley.

BOILED POTATOES:—See previous directions.

SCALLOPED TOMATOES (fresh.)—Prepare as in recipe given for scalloping canned tomatoes, only cutting the raw tomatoes into slices instead of using that already stewed. This will take a little longer to cook.

CURRANT PIE:—Pick the currants from the stems, rejecting all that are soft. Fill a pastry lined pie dish with the fruit, sweetening it very plentifully. Cut more pastry into strips with a jugging iron and lay them in a lattice work across the top. Bake in a moderate oven and sprinkle with powdered sugar before sending to table.

QUERIES FOR RECIPES.

14.
"How to preserve strawberries."
Mrs. M. G. Smith.

Hull the berries, and put in a preserving kettle with a pound of sugar for every pound of fruit. Heat over a slow fire, that the sugar may have time to melt. When they are scalding, let them come to a quick boil and cook fast for half an hour. Take out the fruit with a skimmer and put it into glass jars. Let the syrup boil hard five minutes after the berries are out, skim it, and pour it, still scalding, over the fruit in the jars. Seal immediately. Keep in a cool closet.

15.
"How to prepare pickled (or spiced) relishes of meat."

Chop remnants of cold beef, veal or mutton very fine, and mix with it a quarter as much cold ham or bacon, also minced extremely fine. Season to taste with allspice, pepper, salt, and if desired, sweet herbs. A little anchovy paste, thoroughly mixed in is a pleasant addition. Put the compound into a covered jar, set this in an outer vessel of boiling water and cook until the meat is heated through. Take from the fire and press into a plain, square or round mould, well buttered, packing the meat in tightly and placing a heavy weight on it. When entirely cold, turn out and cut in slices. It may be kept for some days by pouring mutton suet or melted butter on top, to exclude the air and setting in a cold place.

16.
"How to make rye pan cakes."
Mrs. M. J. C.

One cup Indian meal.
Two cups rye flour.
Half tablespoonful molasses.
Two eggs, beaten light.
Hot milk to make ordinary batter.

Scald the Indian meal with the milk, stir in the rye flour and the molasses, add the eggs, beat hard and fry.

17.
"How to fry turn-overs."

Make turn-overs in the ordinary manner, with a good paste enclosing the fruit, and drop each into boiling lard, cooking as one does doughnuts.

18.
"How to preserve persimmons."
Mrs. Wm. Johnson.

Select firm, ripe persimmons, and take the equivalent of their weight in sugar. Let the persimmons lie in cold water for twelve hours. Put them on the fire in enough water to cover them and stew gently until they are tender. Take them out with a split spoon and spread them out to become cool and firm. Make a syrup by adding a cup of cold water to every pound of sugar and boiling until clear, skimming constantly. When clear, put in the persimmons and cook ten minutes. Take them out, spread again upon dishes and set these in the sun. Add the juice and peel of a couple of lemons to the syrup, boil it thick, return the persimmons to it, cook twenty minutes more, pour into glass jars. Seal *when cold*.

19.
"How to have cucumber pickles crisp and green."

Gather cucumbers not more than three inches in length. They should be picked early in the morning, if possible. Pack them in a crock, strewing each layer thickly with dry salt. When you are ready for pickling, wash the cucumbers off in fresh, cold water. Arrange them in a preserving kettle, sprinkling powdered alum among them in the proportion of a teaspoonful to a gallon. Fill with cold water, cover with grape leaves and steam for several hours, not letting the water boil. Drain and throw into cold water, and proceed as usual in pickling.

20.
"How to pickle cucumbers, gherkins and green muskmelons together." M. E. B.

Follow the directions given for salting and greening cucumber pickles. If the melons are to be stuffed, the seeds should be extracted through a slit on the side, when the melons are first picked, and they must be stuffed after greening, with the mixture given below. The opening must then be sewed up and they, with the cucumbers and gherkins, packed into a stone jar. Pour over them enough scalding vinegar to cover the pickles, having boiled with each gallon a cup of white sugar, forty whole black peppers, forty cloves, thirty allspice and twenty blades of mace. Drain off this vinegar after two days, scald it again, and pour it back on the pickles. This should be done every two days for a week, when the pickles may be covered closely and set aside to ripen. The melons will not be ready for use in less than four months; but the others will be eatable in half that time. There is no advantage in using rain water in pickling. Good spring or well water answers the purpose quite as well.

STUFFING FOR GREEN MUSKMELONS.

Half cup good mustard seed. Three tablespoonfuls grated horseradish. One tablespoonful chopped onion. One teaspoonful white sugar. One teaspoonful olive oil. Half teaspoonful ground mace. Half teaspoonful ground nutmeg. One teaspoonful ground mustard. Half teaspoonful ground ginger. One teaspoonful celery seed. Twenty whole black peppers.

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MID-SUMMER STYLES.

The New Materials for Wearing in Rain and Sunshine. Fashionable Fabrics for Evening Gowns. The Novelties in Cotton Goods. Original Outing Costumes.

BY MRS. J. H. LAMBERT.

The various complications and minor details of a modern outfit, are numerous enough to perplex the clearest brain of the strongest-minded society lady; nevertheless thousands of even the weaker votaries of Queen Fashion, seem to understand, intuitively, just what articles are needed to complete each stylish toilette, and exactly how many suits, costumes, gowns and accessories, are required by those who pretend to dress *a la* mode.

The best, the next best, and two dresses for every-day service, the number that used to be considered quite enough to gratify the ambition of any modest miss, are now hardly counted, for it is in good style at present to have a distinctive dress or costume for each special purpose, and that garment is usually created in material manufactured with a view to its being made up in an adaptive fashion, suitable in every point to be worn upon the occasion for which it was designed and constructed.

Suggestive materials are shown in countless varieties; there are sponged cloths that will not shrink, intended for traveling, seaside and mountain wear; emblematic jersey cloths and flannels, which are not only flexible, and light in weight, but also show lines indicative of their uses; as for instance in a navy blue elastic cloth, with woven figures of bat and ball in old gold; while on sea-green ground, anchors, oars, and even sail boats are thickly scattered.

Exquisite festival fabrics for evening wear are the cloud-like textures in cream, pink, blue, and heliotrope, with decorative silvery stars and crescents; while foulards and China silks for fruit *fetes* and for garden parties, show dainty sprays of flowers, and clusters of luscious-looking berries, with cool green leaves, sprinkled over the delicately-tinted surface of the beautiful materials.

One of the most elegant imported materials for handsome dresses is a broad, yellow striped velvet, on a cream ground, intermixed with satin stripes of a lighter tone of yellow; the stripes are really in open work, with tiny pin points all over, and there is much depth and intensity in the darker yellow shade. Some of the new brocades have alternating stripes of satin and moire, united by a floral design in matte brocade, the whole scattered over at wide intervals with bunches of flowers in the faint antique coloring of long ago; this can be had in make ground, gray, blue, and in other tones.

Pekin Surah grenadine is much used; it has Surah stripes in various colors, with grenadine stripes, and costs from $1.50 to $2.00 a yard. Tussare pongee grenadine is a lace-like silken stuff, valued at $1.00 and $1.25 a yard, and makes up splendidly over skirt of black velvet. A new summer silk called Louisine Cadrille, sells at $1 a yard.

LAWN TENNIS STRIPES.

Nothing can be prettier or brighter, than the striped materials, now so popular for young ladies and misses who are fond of out-of-door sports.

Most of them have fine flannel or serge-like ground, and show the oddest and most pleasing color combinations one can possibly imagine. In one line of dainty serge samples, at 75c. a yard, may be noticed alternating cream and pink stripes, next to a scrap showing white, red garnet, and white, blue and garnet, to be made up over skirt of garnet or red in plain, or self-colored serge.

Pink and blue, with mastic and white lines; orange, navy and white; ecru and cardinal; black and white; bois-brown; navy and rich sky blue; gold and plum; red, alternating with red spotted navy blue stripes; bottle-green and cardinal; and also lovely specimens with apricot-colored ground and lines of pink and blue; bluish mode ground with white, pink, and ecru; and mixed grounds with stripes in Egyptian designs, in rich colorings, costing respectively 50c., 62c., and 80c. a yard.

Still another line of these serges at 75c. a yard, must not be overlooked, for they are so pretty; one style with white ground, shows over-lapping diamonds in red and navy blue; while another has linked triangles in mastic, blue lined and red; while the third has red nail points and black spots; and the fourth is quaintly lined with red and blue, forming diamond checks, joined by small solid diamonds in the rich colors, which show most effectively on the white or cream colored grounds.

ELASTIC SUITS.

The increasing demand for the boxed suit in flexible cloth, with made waist and enough material for skirt, has led to the manufacture of such suits in summer-weight cloths.

The most stylish specimens are made all in one kind of goods, either solid-colored cloths, in garnet, brown, navy, red, gold, and green; or in elastic stuffs, in mixed effects, or as if each line was formed in chain stitch; while still another shows tiny zig-zag effects; and the fourth has dark solid ground, with rail-fence surface lines in gold and silver, creating a really novel effect.

The suits of the gold and silver jersey, boxed, cost $15 each. The zigzag suits are $14. Those of the lighter mixed stuffs are $12. The others with chain-stitch lines cost $17; and those in solid-colored stuffs are each $12.50.

The new jerseys, which are sold for all purposes, with solid-colored or striped skirts, come in all colors and combinations; such as black and red, navy and red, blue embroidered with cream or gold crescents, and in blue and gold twill effects.

Dainty jerseys are in cream, pink, blue, heliotrope, white, and flesh color, for evening wear; while those for out-of-door sports, are in red, blue, garnet, brown, gold, black, green, and in any rich dark color one can call for.

CURIOUS COTTON CLOTHS.

The most decided novelties in cotton are the Cleghorn-Braidettes, which come in three shades of blue, in odd browns, black, heliotrope or purples, and other fashionable colors. The braidettes come in stripes and half plaids, the lines, or blocks of solid color being defined or edged with a curious woven, braid-like border in darker shades than the stuff color, or in contrasting lines; for instance: one in dark, light and stone blue, the braided lines are in white, red, and gold; while brown is brightened by ecru, red, and olive lines, and on ecru is seen cream, blue, and red.

The newest tufted Cleghorns have clusters of fine stripes in pink, lavender, or blue and red, with inter-lines of white woven in lace design, very slightly open, with narrow tufted or moss stripes between, in white, red, and twine color.

Very pretty and strong are the new Ardennes, which are even more difficult to describe than the braidettes and tufted goods. They have large solid-colored checks, alternating with blocks in basket, braided or plaited effects, in white, and in some bright contrasting color. A lovely ecru has blocks in rich brown and white, and a rich brown has mosaic spots of a darker brown and white, while a light blue shows red and and white in the blocks, and a lavender is enriched with purple and white. These goods will wear splendidly and wash like Scotch ginghams.

THE TUXEDO COSTUME.

The well-known founder of the Tuxedo club and park, Pierre Lorillard, decides who shall, and who shall not be admitted to Tuxedo, and it is whispered that he is slightly critical regarding the attire of the lady members, who are generally most elegantly and appropriately dress.

The favorite suit there worn is said to be the Tuxedo costume, an exclusive creation of a New York house; and is because of its coloring and texture, especially adapted for lawn tennis, yachting, rowing, gymnasiums, the mountains, and all athletic an out-door sports.

The odd and handsome Tuxedo suits are of the finest worsted materials, regular knit, in pleasing contrasting colors; for instance the cap, blouse, skirt and sash are all finished with border or band in stripes of the decorative hue; a dress of navy blue has stripes of scarlet; another in navy is enlivened with white; on royal blue suits scarlet or white stripes are shown; and very pretty is one dress in silver gray with stripes of blue, and in novel black suits the orange stripes create striking results; white on cream, stripes of blue, or of black, form a most decided contrast.

The blouses come in various sizes, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measures, which is the only measure required when ordering a suit, as the skirts are all full length. The Tuxedo costumes for ladies and misses, with cap and sash, cost $22.50 each.

For information about, and samples of striped Serges and Tennis Cloths, thanks are due John Wanamaker. For specimens of New Box Elastic Suits, Lewis S. Cox. For notes on general dress goods, Sharpless Brothers, of Philadelphia. For samples of Braidettes, and other just-introduced novelties in cotton fabrics, we are indebted to the courtesy of Denny, Poor & Co., agents for manufacturers, 114 Worth St., New York.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Stylish Eloise:"—Make your skirt of the Gobelin blue silk; arrange in large plaits. Have waist and overdress of the blue serge spotted with red, and let the tunic form panniers; finish waist with red surah waistcoat, collar, cuffs and sash—red velvet may be used if preferred.

"Mrs. L. Y.:"—You can create a very pretty suit for your five year old darling, of beige woolen, and silk *grenel* ribbon. Make skirt with two flounces raudyked at the edge, the lower one falling over the kilting of the underskirt. Let the full blouse bodice fall over the garnet velvet band, and outline a pointed yoke in front, and a round one at the back with velvet ribbon.

"Miss L. A. M.:"—The new Norfolk jackets in tweeds are particularly suitable for tennis or country wear. The colored woven Norfolk and other jerseys are rapidly growing in favor, and red ones are worn over navy blue, black or brown skirts, for indoors; or tiny spotted or striped ones with any skirt that agrees with the shade. Silk jerseys are splendid for tennis and general wear; they are really economical, too, as they can be worn with any ready-made skirt, if perfectly new, or with skirts, the bodices of which are shabby or worn out. They are made in three sizes, so any figure can be fitted.

"Theresa Langley:"—Yes, your information is correct, heliotrope is said to be the color of the season, and some shades of it are really objectionable. Grey and blue are also popular, and at present a dark rich green, and ruby are worn.

"Mrs. S. C. K.:"—All fashionable bonnets are not pretty. One recently worn by a society lady was of black velvet and jet. It had perfect imitation of donkey's ears at each side, but close together, made in black velvet, lined with white silk, and having a jet dagger down one side. Another style in what is termed the flower shape is really very pretty.

"Miss Myra N.:"—The set of model dress extenders with leather tips, and in three lengths, will cost 15 cents by mail. You should be able to find them in any of your Brooklyn stores.

"Mother" and "C. E. S.:"—To wash gauze or woolen undervests, make a lather of yellow or Frank Siddall's soap, and blood warm water. Let the vests lie in suds about twenty minutes, then draw the articles through the hands, but do not rub them; then rinse quickly in lukewarm water, roll in a dry cloth, shake out, and dry at once. Never leave flannel or gauze in cold water all night.

"Miss L. P.:"—Lace is much used in bonnet trimming in Paris; indeed many of the French bonnets are formed entirely of lace, with finish of ostrich tips and jet ornaments.

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Black Satin Parasols, $1.50, worth $3.
Good Black or Colored Satin Parasols $1.38.
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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

PRACTICAL DRESS

For Girls. Their Summer Days. A Tennis Suit. An "Aunt's" Costume, and a Mountaineering Costume.

BY JENNY JUNE.

In a certain way the girl of the period has solved the problem of dress for herself in a very satisfactory manner. She is always well-dressed, that is in a certain restricted, conventional manner. She has a marvelous faculty for finding out the new little "kinks," and adopting them; and she accomplishes it all, in most cases, upon a very restricted income, often upon no regular income at all. How she manages may puzzle much wiser heads than her own; for the spring suit, the pretty hat, the *ecru* tinted gloves, the fresh ribbons, the latest touch in cards, stationery and correspondence, are always on hand, and always forth-coming. But it must be remembered that a girl does not last long, not as a girl. From eighteen to twenty-one is her interesting period, to her family. Before that age she is immature, after that, if she has not become married, or at least engaged, she is a source of anxiety. Of course there is the exceptional girl, who is independent, and self-reliant; and wants a career, and does not care much about new fashions, but she is the exception still, though more numerous than formerly.

The girl satisfied by the opinion of the majority; is the one whose butterfly existence begins and ends within the short space of three years, a pretty creature, light and airy enough to live upon air, though she really does nothing of the sort.

Here she is in her "coming out" dress, and sample though it looks, it cost much anxious

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]
A "COMING OUT" DRESS.

thought; and as there was no money to spare for it, it had to be contributed, after a fashion, and in fragments, by different members of the family. It is of the softest, thinnest India mull over ivory surah; with surah sash, and bodice, and tulle tucker. The muslin sleeves are made a little full over the surah foundation, and have a narrow ruffling of tulle let in at the back. The ornamentation is exquisitely simple, and pretty, it consists of several rows of thread beading, through which very narrow ivory ribbon, with *picot* edge is run. All the color is derived from brown hair, bright eyes, and the lovely tints of a young, fresh complexion, unspoiled by cosmetics. But the ribbon can be changed, instead of there being ivory lines and fairy bows, lines of mauve or yellow may be substituted, or slenderest threads of black velvet, and bows to match these.

A young lady who is dainty in her ways, can wear a dress of this description, many times, and by cool, careful ironing, keep the muslin lookin' new. The change in the garniture consists only in running in a different color of ribbon, the cost of which is twenty-five cents for six yards. All this was considered in the making of the dress. It was also considered that the lovely mull could be taken off, and used for a dress, by a younger sister, and that the Surah would serve for the foundation part of an embroidered gauze, or *crepe de chine*, such as *debutantes* want, for a more elaborate evening display, during the second winter.

There is proper, and suitable dressing now for every age, and every purpose under the sun; what could be better than this for lawn tennis? if one must wear skirts. This essential part of a woman's costume is, in this instance, made of summer woollen plaid, soft, fine, prettily colored, in brown, gold, red, and green, on a cream ground. The drapery, plaited bodice, and sleeves are of cream wool, and the collar, cuffs, and belt of bronze velvet. They might be of the plaid of the skirt, but velvet is becoming to the com-

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]
A TENNIS SUIT.

plexion, and the same aunt who gave our girl the Surah, and India mull for her coming-out dress, gave her this tennis dress. She always did, and does things nicely, though she is a little prim, and dictatorial, fond of laying down the law, as you will see, by-and by.

Her neice is just now paying her a visit in Newport, and is having a "lovely time." This is another marvelous faculty of the girl of to-day, her adaptability, and faculty for seeing on which side her bread is buttered. She does not object to her aunt's "ways," she feels the latent springs of them in herself, but now it is not her *role*. She is young, she must be gay, she must be pleased, admiring, and affectionate, or she will not get what she wants. She believes she loves her aunt, but, it would not cause her one pang if she were to drop out of her life to-morrow, provided she left her benefactions, in available form, behind her.

Do not blame the girl too much; life has become a Committee of Ways and Means, which sits perpetually. The majority have no time, or force left to cultivate affection.

The Aunt always wears handsome costumes, and the present faithful model is of Chantilly, in magnificent flouncing which entirely covers the

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]
AN "AUNT'S" COSTUME.

skirt, over a soft, rich *faille*. None of your surahs, satin *merveilleux*, or any other make-believe for this stately lady, it must be the best, or nothing. I often wondered if her habit would be respected after she leaves this world. She is a handsome woman, wears little jewelry, not any save diamond earings, and lace pin. The full black lace front of her dress is made over white China crape, otherwise it is black, with fullness of lace forming *revers*, and flots of *moire* ribbon the garniture for skirt, and front of bodice. The standing collar is also of *moire*, with lace bow.

This kind of dress is a summer stand-by with many middle-aged ladies. It is an excellent dinner, and in-door dress, and employed in this way, may be worn every day, for a whole season. But "hacked about," used to ride in, or subject to any active service, and it is soon unfit for any purpose whatever.

The younger sister who is to have the mull muslin made over for her next year, has been sent to a farm-house in the country, with a maid, and the still smaller children. The sensation she made in this costume, among the small boys of the neighborhood, when she appeared among them with her hoop, was remarkable. They voted her the "stunningest stunner" they'd ever seen; and she has been better than a Queen of Sheba to them ever since, for she is a jolly little girl, and doesn't think much about her clothes, only that they are a "bother." This play dress is of soft, thin wool, grey-green in color, with square yoke, and cuffs of red velvet. Beyond the solid edge of the velvet, is a honeycomb embroidery of red purse silk to match the velvet; forming a pretty, open border, which lightens the effect. The hat

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]
CHILD'S PLAY DRESS.

is of red straw, with a Spanish fork, grafted upon its original honest Tam o' Shanter pattern, and a scarf of thin, red wool is tied at the back of the perfectly plain, gathered skirt, which has several narrow tucks above the hem, for its only attempt at decoration.

This is one of the prettiest and most convenient designs for children ever made. The yoke it will be observed does not reach to the shoulder. In fact the yoke part is simply put on as a collar, and requires no fitting, or adjustment, except to the form of the body. The fullness is gathered, or rather shirred, upon an under belt, of lining back and front, and the sash tied over it. The material may be cotton, wool, or linen. The yoke, and cuffs, may be striped, checked, or spotted, the body part plain, or *vice versa*; the body part may be striped, or figured, the mounting solid. It is easy as an apron to make, and very easily laundered, if made all of cotton, or linen materials. A row of muslin insertion, or colored cotton embroidery, laid flat like insertion, will serve the purpose of the honey-combed embroidery.

[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]
A MOUNTAINEERING COSTUME.

Here is a study of an actual costume for mountaineering purposes. It was made for the Tyrol, but is just as good for the Adirondacks, or the mountains of our great West. It is a perfect dress for climbing, and ought to be good for tri-cycling. It is made in Isle of Wight serge, and the skirt is cut upon a new principle, on the bias, and so that no fullness, except a large fold at the back, is required. The jacket is an old-fashioned jersey, the same depth all round, and forming a short, second skirt. The trousers are of the same material as the dress, and are attached to a lining waist, which serves as a corset cover, if one is worn. It is better however, to wear a firm "Swiss" bodice, well fitted in, and moulding the waist, as that sustains weight, without in the least impairing freedom of motion. The trousers are cut wide, though somewhat narrow at the knee, below which they extend about three inches, and are then gathered into a narrow band, and buttoned over the soft, leather leggings, of undressed kid. Soft gauntlets cover the hands, and a hat with a brim which can be turned down, the head. The final features in the equipment, are the Alpenstock, and regulation climbing shoes. Everybody now is making their preparations for going somewhere. If our girls could take the money that is paid in dressmakers' bills how rich they would feel. "No," said one of them, "my father will pay it to the dressmaker, but he would not pay it to me, so where is the object."

But dressmaking is not alone an active industry, it is becoming an art. It demands many artistic qualities, and is well worth study, and preparation. There is more than an honorable independence in it for girls who bring intelligence, trained ability, conscience, and perseverance to the work. Untrained they must be always unsatisfactory drudges, and with a mere vulgar ambition to make money, they constitute a part of those minor frauds, which make so large a draft upon the strength, and endeavor of our lives. No good American girl should be satisfied with this. "Best, or nothing," is an excellent motto, but, instead of *have* the best, let it be *give* the "best or nothing;" and that best in a line which is helpful, and enlarging to one's self, and others. Dress is no ignoble occupation, unless the work in it is ignobly done.

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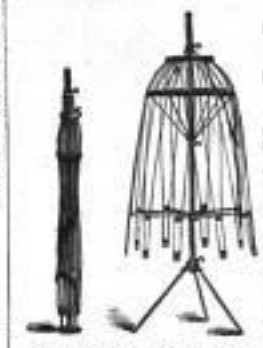

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TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

The New Gladioluses.

TO CORRESPONDENTS:—All inquiries about flowers and their culture will be cheerfully answered to the best of my ability in the columns of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, when they are of general interest. Those of a personal character, and not of general interest, will be answered by mail,—provided a stamped envelope is sent for reply; and not otherwise. If an immediate reply is desired, it can only be obtained by mail, as the matter for the paper is made up several weeks in advance of date, and any reply which comes through the paper will necessarily be delayed. In asking questions about plants which you have failed to grow successfully, tell what kind of culture you have given them, and this will often enable the editor to get at the difficulty, and give you the information you require.

Send all letters directly to the address given below, and not to the office of publication.

SHIOCTON, WIS. EBEN E. REXFORD.

It is extremely interesting to the lover of flowers to watch the improvements which are being made in such kinds as we have been in the habit of thinking as nearly perfect as possible. What the result will be of this constant effort in the direction of improvement it is hard to say. Already some of our poorest flowers have been brought to such a condition that they are becoming very popular, and those which were attractive before are being made miracles of beauty. All the faults are being eliminated, and the elements of beauty are being developed in a wonderful degree. Take the Aster as an illustration of this. A few years ago it was a single flower,—simply a row or narrow petals about a yellow disc. It was of a dingy color, and most persons did not care to grow it because it was coarse. The Aster of to-day is quite as beautiful as any Chrysanthemum. Its petals have been so multiplied that it is a perfectly double flower, and its color is as brilliant as can be desired. It bears but little resemblance to the old Aster of our grandmothers' day. The Balsam is another proof of this change for the better. It was formerly a single flower, with no particular claim to beauty, but to-day it rivals the Camellia in richness of coloring and form of flower, and no garden is considered complete without it.

Of late great advance has been made among the Gladioluses. We have new sorts of extraordinary beauty offered for sale each year. The French florists have been experimenting with them, and the result is two strains called Lemoinei and Saundersoni, of such rich and picturesque colors and markings that one is forcibly reminded of some of the finest Orchids when looking at them. They are among the ordinary Gladioluses what the "Lady Washington" Pelargoniums are among the ordinary Geraniums. No description can do justice to their exceeding beauty. They are finer than any of the Amaryllises, and more delicate in texture than any Lily, and nothing in the floral world can surpass them in richness and variety of color.

Those who are fond of this flower,—and who is not?—should secure a few of these new varieties. They will be more than delighted with them.

If you are sure that your enthusiasm over them will hold out, and that you will give them the care they require after they have ceased to bloom, I would advise you to get a few Hybrid Perpetual Roses. The name is an unfortunate one, for it gives persons who read about them the impression that they are perpetual bloomers, which they are not. They bloom very profusely during the early part of the season, and at intervals after that if they are given the proper care. But they are not free bloomers under any conditions all through the season.

Proper care consists in giving them a deep rich soil to grow in, and keeping it rich; also in pruning them judiciously, in such a manner as to encourage the liberal growth of new wood on which the flowers are produced. As flowers are only borne on new growth it will be readily understood that unless such growth is secured there will be no flowers. The manner in which this is secured is by enriching the soil and keeping it in that condition, and cutting back all branches to strong and healthy buds, which, stimulated by the soil and the vigorous life in the plant, soon break, and develope into flowering shoots. They are not quite hardy, though most dealers advertise them as such, and in the fall they must be laid down on the ground and well covered with leaves, litter, or evergreen branches. Unless this is done quite frequently the branches are so badly killed that you will get few flowers from them, their vitality being so exhausted that it takes them all summer to recover from the effects of their effort to resist the cold weather unprotected. You will see, therefore, that if you would grow this class of Roses successfully, you must give them considerable attention. But if you are a great admirer of Roses, and want the most beautiful of them, you can afford to do this.

A good soil for Roses is made up of garden loam made very rich with cow-manure which has lain until it is thoroughly decomposed. Old earth from the chip pile is very much to their liking. They do not care for a sandy soil, but prefer a heavier one, and like to have it made so light by spading that their roots can penetrate to such a depth in it that they can get below the dry portions of it. Some of the best varieties are:

Alfred Colomb, brilliant carmine, very large, full, and delightfully fragrant. A superb rose in all respects.

Baroness Rothschild, light rose, passing to white at the edges.

Charles Lefebre, bright, rich scarlet, with a velvety texture, petals thick, and shape perfection.

Countess of Oxford, a most magnificent Rose. Of great size, fine in form, very double, and deliciously fragrant. Color rosy carmine, changing to silvery rose.

General Jacqueminot, scarlet, bright and shining; superb in color, form, and freedom of flowering. One of the most popular Roses ever grown.

Magna Charta, rich dark pink, very large and exquisitely sweet. A very strong grower. There is scarcely any other Rose of this class which affords as much satisfaction as this variety does.

Merveille de Lyon, pure white, delicately shaded with palest rose. Flowers of great size, cup-shaped. A superb variety, and a general favorite.

Prince Camille de Rohan, velvety crimson, large, and a free bloomer.

Victor Verdier, deepest rose, shading into carmine. A perfect beauty.

Here you have nine of the very best of this class of Roses. They combine all the finest features of this royal family, and you need look for nothing finer. If they will not satisfy you I do not know what will.

In fall, when cold weather has really come, heap some earth about the base of each plant, over which the branches can be bent in such a manner as not to break them. Unless you take this precaution you may do serious injury to them, for the stalks are stiff and brittle, and a sharp turn will often cause them to snap short off. Lay the branches down on the ground, and put pieces of sod on them to hold them in place. Then cover with leaves if you happen to have them. If not evergreen branches are the next best covering. Cover to a depth of six or eight inches, and lay boards on the covering to hold it in place. Or, if you have no straw, leaves or branches, put earth over the plants. Some prefer this to anything else. I have found it very good for the purpose if it was dry, but when put on wet it has a tendency to rot the bark. Care should be taken to have the earth slope away from about the plant so that all water from melting snows will run off.

Do not uncover in spring until you are assured that warm weather has really come. If the covering is taken off before cold and freezing nights are past, great injury will be done to the plants. Nothing is gained by uncovering them too early, be the weather ever so fine, for they will not begin to grow until the ground becomes dry and warm.

If you think you can take care of them,—or rather if you think you *will* take care of them,—get some or all of these Roses, and try your luck with them. One good bush of either variety named will glorify your garden.

A Desirable New Carnation for the Garden.

A late candidate for favor among those who love Pinks,—and who that loves flowers does not have an especial fondness for these delightful flowers?—is a variety called Snow, a pure white sort, blooming all through the season, and perfectly hardy. It has flowers of the size of Monthly or greenhouse Carnations, possessing a rich clove fragrance. No flower is finer for buttonhole bouquets, or small vases, or the hair, than this, because it stands cutting well, lasts a long time out of water, and retains its fragrance to the last.

PLANT SOME VINES.

If you have no plants growing about the house, I would advise you to plant some at once. Nothing gives a more charming aspect to a home than vines about the porch and windows. They are preferable to trees, because they do not take up as much room, and don't keep out as much sunshine, and one does not have to wait so long for them. Most vines grow quite rapidly, and have become large enough the second season to be very enjoyable.

The American Ivy,—which can be had for the trouble of going to the woods or pasture after it in most localities at the north,—is one of the best climbers we have, because it grows rapidly, is perfectly hardy, and is always beautiful. It is fine all through the summer because of its rich, bright, profuse foliage, and especially so during September and October, when it takes on all the brilliance any plant is capable of assuming. It is a blaze of crimson and scarlet and maroon for two or three weeks during late autumn, and no one ever tires of it because its colors are constantly changing as the season advances.

The Clematis is a very desirable climber for summer blooming. It is best about the porch, and the veranda, as it does not grow to a sufficient height to make it a desirable plant for locations where a greater height than ten or twelve feet is desired. Its great, starry flowers are always sure to be admired, and they are truly lovely. It is also excellent for training over old stumps, fences, and arbors.

For the porch there is nothing better than the Honeysuckles, because they bloom all through the season, are beautiful, and so fragrant.

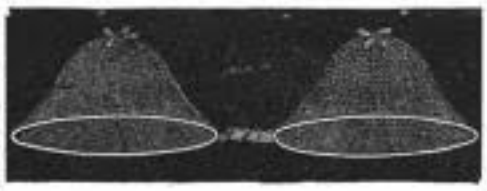
For places where the American Ivy is too rampant a grower, the Japan Ivy, or Ampelopsis Veitchii, is just what is wanted. It is a miniature variety of our native plant, but does not grow as luxuriantly. It reaches a great height in time, but it never throws out such riotous branches as the other does. It grows in a more dense and compact shape, clinging closer to the walls, and therefore much less likely to become loosened in heavy winds and rains, and come down in great masses which can never be put back in place satisfactorily, as is often the case with its American relative.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A Request:—Will each reader of this department oblige me by sending postal card with their name and address? If they will kindly do so they will be conferring a favor which I may be able to reciprocate. Address EBEN E. REXFORD, SHIOCTON, WIS.

"P. L. N.:"—If you want to get rid of the aphides on your Rose-bushes as easily as possible, you will get "Slug-Shot" and apply it as soon as you notice any of the pests. Before putting it on, syringe or thoroughly sprinkle the bushes all over, under side as well as upper side of the leaves. Then dust on the powder thickly. In a day or two you will find that the lice have taken their departure, and they will not come back if you keep a little of the powder dusted over the bush. I have used Hellebore, Paris Green, lime and ashes, and nothing has proved as effectual as Slug-Shot.

"A. C. B.:"—A very good substitute for the liquid shading you speak of on a greenhouse roof is thin muslin, put up in such a manner that it can be drawn down when required, and pulled out of the way when not needed. I am now having some put up in my greenhouse. Small rings are sewn to the edges of the cloth, and wires are strung from the wall to the peak of the roof, and the rings are slipped over these wires before they are fastened in place. By a string attached to the lower end of the cloth, the strips can be pulled up to the top of the glass, and by another string attached to the low end of the cloth the strip can be pulled down. This is much more convenient than any shading which has to be applied to the glass, because it can be brought into use when required; when not needed you can put it out of the way. The principle is the same as that of shades applied to windows, you will see, and some of the "men-folks" can study out a plan to put the cloth in place, and arrange for its adjustment as required, if my plan is not followed. All that is necessary is to have it so that the force of the hot summer sunshine can be broken by it.



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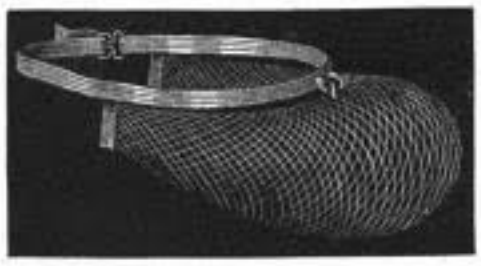

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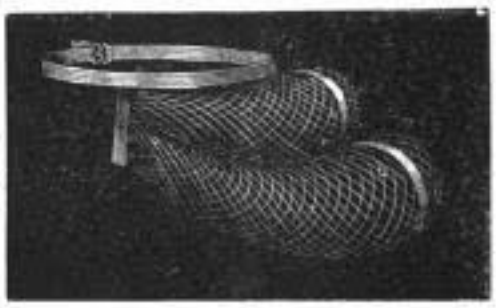

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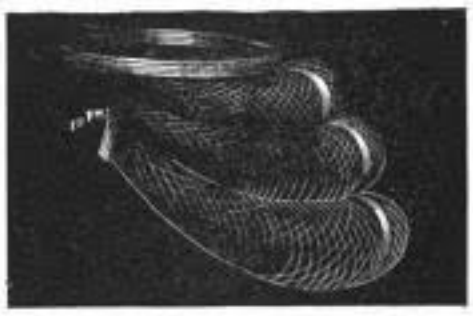

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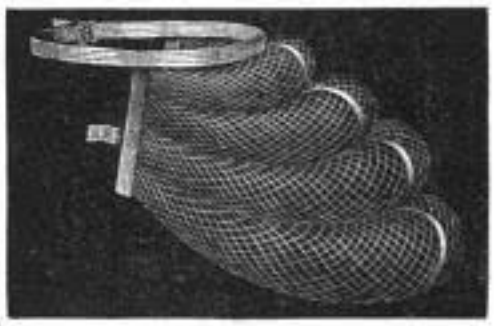
The HEALTH BRAIDED WIRE BUSTLE, NO. 3.

Larger than No. 2, about the same weight. Made with adjustable strap, so that the shape can be arranged to suit the wearer. Price, 75 cents.



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[For the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HINTS UPON ETIQUETTE AND GOOD MANNERS.

NO. XVI.

BY MRS. S. O. JOHNSON.

The Etiquette of Marriage. Wedding Breakfasts.

In England wedding breakfasts are the rule, rather than the exception, as with us, because no wedding ceremony is performed after 12 o'clock a. m., and the custom is growing in favor upon this side of the Atlantic, and many more weddings are solemnized at that hour than in the afternoon or evening.

The wedding cake always occupies the centre of the table, and is either wreathed with orange blossoms, or sprays of blooming myrtle are made into a crown to encircle it. The courses at breakfast are the same as those served at a stylish lunch-party. And the menu differs with the tastes of the families concerned. Raw oysters, when in season, in the shell or out, are served with a slice of lemon, and oyster forks, for a first course; and cold meats, with lobster and chicken salad, or salmon mayonaise, comprise the second course. Pinard sandwiches, olives and salted almonds, are the third course; and ices of all kinds, with fancy cakes, the fourth course. At this course the wedding cake should be cut by the bride, and handed around in small pieces upon a salver, while half sheets of white paper are served with it so that the guests can carry home the cake. Or boxes of cake are placed on a table in the dining-room, or dressing-room, with a maid in attendance to give one to each guest. If the bride's health is drunk, the bridegroom makes a short speech, as witty as he can compose, and some friend of his offers congratulations to the bridegroom. Coffee, chocolate, claret, punch, and frequently champagne, are served at a wedding breakfast by the attendants, who must take pains to pass each plate, cup and glass at the left hand of the guest. When every compliment and kindly wish to the newly-married couple have been proffered and acknowledged, the bride withdraws, attended by her friends, and nearest relations, to prepare her toilette for the wedding journey, or her departure for her husband's home.

At the table the husband and wife sit side by side at the centre of the table, while the father and mother sit at the top and bottom, and attend to the comfort of their guests.

Weddings in June are always profusely supplied with flowers, both in town and country, as a large supply can easily be obtained in this floral month, June roses being in the height of their beauty. A rose-lily wedding can be arranged, with an abundance of these exquisite flowers in every apartment. The latest device of the florists is called the "net." It is a tent-shaped arrangement in front of the window or mirror where the couple will stand, and it is made out of tennis-netting, which shall be suspended in the middle, and at the corner, with silver picture wire by an arm, or lever, such as is used to hang a floral bell. Both the wire and arm should be covered with flowers. Then hang flowers, and vines of the most feathery description, all over the net, fringing it with flowers all around the edges, and making it appear like a hanging net of flowers and foliage. The net should be ten feet long, and it can be drawn up at the sides like a canopy, with silver wires. At each point a large cluster of roses and lilies, or only of one kind of flower can be arranged. First cover the netting with vines and leaves, and then arrange in the flowers over them. The lovely asparagus vine will be very beautiful for this net, and sprays of Spirea, (bridal wreath) and of Deutzia, will contrast beautifully with the roses, which should be of purest white, palest lemon color, and blush-pink. Lilies of the valley, and Niphetas rose-buds will produce a lovely effect if arranged as a fringe all about the front of this tent-shaped net.

Floral bells are rather passe, but immensely large bunches of white blossoms, such as snow-balls, callas, hydrangeas, roses, lilies and hawthorn blossoms, are mingled with ferns, and vines, and leaves of coleus, and caladiums, and suspended between the apartments. Some of these bunches of loose flowers can be tied with white silk tulle, in long ends, and suspended above a mirror, or upon the gas chandeliers. In the apartment where the wedding ceremony is to be performed, only white and pale yellow and blush flowers should be used for the decorations, but in the other apartments, the brightest crimson, pink, and yellow flowers should be arranged. The bride's bouquet should be of rose-buds and orange blossoms, arranged with sprays of myrtle and a little feathery white flower. It should be tied with a scarf of white tulle, or with a wide satin ribbon. At the bosom, a small cluster of orange blossoms, with a few white rose-buds can be worn. Bouquets for the bride's attendants should all be unlike, and tied with scarfs of white tulle. One of moss rose-buds and mignonette; another of June roses; and another of field daisies or white pansies would be appropriate. The bridegroom and groomsmen should wear a *boutonniere* of lilies of the valley, or of Gardenias, (Cape Jasmine) or a single white or pale yellow rose-bud.

The table can be decorated with a bank of lilies and roses, starting from the wedding cake at each end, and extending more than half way to the ends of the ends of the table. The candelabras, and chandelier, can be festooned with daisies and roses, and asparagus vines, etc.

It is not considered good form for a bride to be so dressed that she will attract attention while traveling, and some very stylish brides of late, have insist upon wearing street dresses that have seen some service, rather than to be dressed in "speck, span" new attire. The old adage runs thus: "Something new and something blue" must be worn by every bride, and the blue is often introduced into the toilette in the shape of blue satin or satine corsets. A bluish-gray cloth of a chestnut-brown camel's hair suit, will make a stylish costume, while the gloves and hat are selected to match the shades. Black silk is often chosen by those who desire to wear something that could not be deemed "a regulation wedding traveling" dress." And it is as serviceable and desirable a traveling dress as can be worn. Undressed gray or tan gloves can be worn with it, and the hat can be whatever its wearer prefers.

WEDDING RINGS.

The pleasing old English custom of engraving "posy" upon the wedding ring grows in favor here, and we will copy some of them, which may please our readers:

"In love abide till death divide."
"Endless my love as this shall prove."
"To God and thee shall my joy be."
"In thee my choice I do rejoice."
"No gift can show the love I owe."

The ring finger is on the left hand the fourth one, counting the thumb the first. In the ancient ritual of marriage the ring was placed by the husband on top of the thumb of left hand, while he repeated the words: "In the name of the Father." Then he removed it to the fourth finger, saying: "and of the Son," and then to the middle finger, adding: "and of the Holy Ghost;" and finally, placed it upon the fourth finger, with the word: "Amen!"

WEDDING GIFTS.

It is no longer the fashion to display the presents at the wedding reception or breakfast, but they are arranged in a chamber and exhibited to the relations, and the nearest friends of the parties. Wedding gifts had become such an exhibition of display, that stern Fashion relegated them into the background. Loving friends would gladly offer some little memento which would be a pleasant reminder of their friendship, and as long as the gifts were the spontaneous offer of the heart, they were highly prized, but when expensive articles, such as silver, jewelry, pictures, etc., were presented, by those who could ill afford the expense, yet felt themselves forced to do so or be called "mean" and "close," the custom had become a nuisance; it was time to put an end to it. Besides, the expense it entailed upon the recipients was grievous to be borne by those who were not Dame Fortune's favorites. For in turn they must give back in kind, what they had received, and many a young husband has been forced to purchase gifts for the weddings of his friends, when he was forced to run in debt for them. Therefore it is better to intimate to your friends whom you know are not in circumstances, that you do not desire expensive presents, and that you hope they will give you only some slight remembrance, and if of their own work, it will be most highly prized by you. Upon many wedding invitations the words "No presents received" are engraved upon the left corner of the card; and it is a custom that is to be highly commended. Of course from relations who are well-to-do it is exceedingly pleasant to receive gifts of value, and it is equally pleasant for them to offer the gifts; and frequently, if they are given in the form of money, they will often prove very acceptable, as so many things are requisite in beginning a new home—articles too, that one would not often present as a wedding gift,—but which must be purchased, and the money will fill in many a gap.

"Policy counselleth a gift,
Given wisely and in season,
And policy afterwards approveth it,
For great is the influence of gifts."

Therefore, we would not advise our friends not to give wedding presents, but to give them wisely, and be just to themselves as well as generous to their friends upon the happiest occasion of their lives—their wedding day.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A Subscriber:"—The cards that are sent to friends with "Mr. and Mrs. So and So" engraved upon one, and another with the lady's name engraved thus: "Miss Jones," are called "after cards."

"Equality:"—1st. You should send a letter to the young man, simply stating that your young friend is to attend the same school with him, and than any attention shown to her will be fully appreciated by you.

2d. Don Quixote is pronounced Don Ke-o-te.

"Quidam:"—1st. Send your card with "Regrets" pencilled in one corner, to the parents of the bride who sent you the invitation.

2d. If you attend the wedding no reply need be sent.

3d. Enclose your card with the wedding gift.

4th. You can send a wedding gift as soon as you hear that the wedding day has been appointed.

5th. When a gentleman escorts you home in the evening, it is your place to say "Thank you, good night," and not invite him to come in, if the hour is a late one.

6th. To introduce yourself, you should say: "I am Miss So and So." To introduce others, mention the lady's name first, thus: "Miss Jones allow me to introduce Mr. Smith."

7th. If a lady invites a gentleman to a supper or a concert, she is not expected to "pay her own way."

8th. When introducing a doctor or professor to any one, you should give the title.

9th. In going up stairs the lady goes first, in coming down stairs the gentleman takes the precedence, so that he need not step upon her dress.

10th. A lady teacher attending a normal school, should as a general thing wait for an introduction to the students before she speaks to them, especially to young men; yet "circumstances alters cases" in all such matters, and no exact rules can be laid down.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS WITH MOTHERS, BY EMINENT PHYSICIANS.

The Care of Babies in Summer-time.

BY E. W. WATSON, M. D.

In the olden time babies grew up or failed in growing by the action of natural laws, though no one had written concerning the "survival of the fittest." The weak ones made a feeble struggle, the sturdy ones took the hard blows of life bravely, and there emerged from infancy to childhood a select, robust and hearty few who preserved the vigor of the race and perhaps in time to come delivered it over to the next generation somewhat better than they received it. Now, a change has taken place; we realize more the dangers of infancy, we perhaps set more store by infant life; we see its perils increasing as civilization increases, and science having shown us how to do it, we give the weak ones a chance. All possible perils are avoided; all the rough places in child life are smoothed away, and we endeavor in theory at least to give every life its best chance to live. *How* the child lives, what sort of a grown-up individual it may come to be, what kind of constitution it will have, are secondary matters. Now if we do not wish the world in the years to come to be overloaded with weaklings, and its population to become with each generation more puny and feeble, we must strive not only to secure life for our children, but good constitutions as well; and that this may be done in some degree, and without subjecting the child to grave risk is as certain as that modern science is better than folk-lore and the skillful physician wiser than Mrs. Gamp.

The infant, newly dressed, generally wears among its various and somewhat ridiculous garments the time-honored roller. This bandage which is generally discarded as the child grows older, is really of very great use if somewhat modified; it should be shortened and barely overlap in front, and in this shape should be in our climate constantly worn by babies until teething is over. A very good way is to make the flannel roller the waist of the child's under-skirt; the skirt being of flannel also in winter, but of muslin in summer, the skirt by its weight keeping the roller well down over the abdomen, with this protection to the abdominal organ, much greater freedom of dress and change of weight in garments will be safe, in the summer, since few children catch chest colds in that season, the roller being on, the shoulders may be more lightly clad in warm days. When nights and mornings are cool and mid-day hot, as in some portions of the country, light flannel night-dresses should be used, and a child should be dressed always with a view to health and comfort and never for display. In all pleasant weather out-door air is desirable, avoiding damp places, too deep shade and too glaring sun. A wide shaded piazza is as good and better than the surface of the ground. The air of pig-sty s and kitchen drains has no special value for children. Stables do not possess the remarkably bracing atmosphere popularly attributed to them. Children are not likely to gain power in resisting dampness by sending them out in the rain or by keeping wet clothes on them. A cool sponge bath morning and evening will do the work much better. Night air, *i. e.* being out in night air should be avoided, except in cities where at times it is a question of cool air independent of its purity; babies stifled by a hot midsummer day will be revived and sleep better sometimes if taken out after nightfall, since it is the heat that is injuring them most. In this country children should be housed before sunset. The adage about "early to bed" has some value for children, but as we grow up it fails perhaps to conduce to success in modern life. Children may bask in the sun, take sun baths—to a certain extent—if the air is cool and a breeze stirring, but to expose their thinly protected heads for any length of time in very hot weather is more dangerous than people imagine. Many a mysterious brain-fever or cholera-infantum is only sun-stroke. On the sea-shore they bear it better.

The rooms in which infants live and sleep should be selected with as much care as possible. Often, there is no choice, but at least certain dangers may be avoided. A room should be preferred which has sunlight in it either morning or afternoon; if the climate be very hot the former, since it gives a cooler room at night. Where city contrivances are in use, the further it be from a bath-room or water-closet the better. The evil reputation of stationary basins is well known. Where a bath room is of necessity next to a child's sleeping or living-room, the door between should be kept shut and some other means of entrance be used if possible; if there is no other entrance put a good spring on the door, see that the door shuts tightly and look sharply to the bath-room's sanitary condition.

But all other troubles connected with the rearing of infants, fade into insignificance in the summer season before the great question of feeding. When a baby is nursed at the breast there is little to say; the mother should guard her own diet within moderate limits. There is no use or possibility of toughening a child's stomach by means of a too varied diet on the mother's part. Maternal indiscretions will generally tell on the child. Calmness and an equable temper on the part of the mother are necessary if she would be a good nurse. Over-heating, a hard day's work, a fatiguing walk in the hot sun will often be followed by vomiting or diarrhœa on the child's part. Happy and wise the child who immediately rejects the poisonous draught from the maternal fount. Perhaps one of the most neglected yet most useful pieces of advice is to avoid nursing a baby at night, *i. e.* between the mother's bed-time and daylight. We will be told that the child *will* be nursed, but the child is really thirsty nine times in ten, and needs drink and not food. Very small babies can be accustomed to drinking cool water out of a glass, and will be glad to get it, when restless in the hot summer nights, instead of an extra meal which they do not need. The gain in rest to the mother by this and in improvement in the quality of her milk will be very great. Grown people cannot safely eat all night, nor can they safely be night long the purveyors of food to others.

The baby on the bottle however is the greatest problem of the summer. There are endless foods and endless ways of preparing them; most of them are good, in fact most of them are pretty much the same old food under different names. There are some broad rules, however. 1st, under 6 or 7 months, farinaceous foods, no matter what friends or neighbors may say, and wonderful instances may appear to prove, are digested with great difficulty, and tend to weary and overtax the stomach, and prepare the way for obstinate diarrhœa. By farinaceous foods are meant all foods made up in part or whole of starchy substances. Such foods as cornstarch, farina, corn foods, wheat foods, oatmeal, barley, and very many of the proprietary foods sold in packages and vaunted as the best in the world for infants' use. So they may be after the infant is seven months old.

2d. Whatever food is given at whatever age, exercise scrupulous care and cleanliness. A searching, far-seeing, almost Quixotic cleanliness. For in fact hygiene is cleanliness, and disease may be generally considered as dirt, and as originating in dirt, somewhere, and permitted by somebody. The cleanliness with the baby's bottle should begin with the bottle itself. The bottle should only not be scalded out each time it is emptied but should have a strong solution of washing soda or powdered borax poured into it and out again, then washed once more and placed upside down to drain and dry. The rubber nipple—both the long nursing tubes of glass and rubber are abominations—should be thrown into the soda or borax solution whenever out of use, first washing it carefully; in fact there should be several nipples on hand lying in the solution, one to be used on alternate days; these should also be washed before placing them on the bottle. The cow's milk itself which must form the staple of the child's nourishment, even in the country, and even if derived from that immaculate animal "one's own cow" must be carefully looked after. The milk should be scalded, not boiled, it keeps better, and babies like it just as well, if they never get accustomed to it unscalded; many complain that it acquires an unpleasant taste, but after standing awhile to cool, this is lost. The care of milk cannot be too great. Milk is a fluid that readily takes to itself, and probably rapidly increases, the germs of many diseases. While many affect to regard all such care as we describe as unnecessary and ridiculous, and all such people as the writer are termed by them alarmists, the fact that certain dangers lurk about milk is indisputable, the evidence against the promiscuous use of any milk in its raw state is overwhelming. The condition of the cow should be looked to if "one's own," its surroundings, its stable, its water supply, its healthy or unhealthy appearance, and its food. The writer once attended three babies with violent cholera-infantum, all getting milk from the same "one cow" and all taken sick almost immediately after partaking of the milk drawn from that cow, after two boys had spent a hot summer afternoon in chasing it about the pasture. If the cow appears ailing in any way, its milk should not be used. The condition of the milker, man or maid, as regards health, the cleanliness of the milk-pans or pails, the water in which they are washed, (too often a pump in the barn-yard) should be investigated. If milk be kept in an ice-chest there must be the greatest care exercised; the chest should always drain off its ice water, if an ordinary chest be used, by a short straight pipe, into a pan where it can be easily and frequently removed, its waste pipe should never connect with a drain or sewer, the ice-box itself should be frequently and thoroughly cleansed, with its ice-blankets, racks, etc., and where a special refrigerator for milk cannot be obtained there should be great care about the condition of the other contents. Anything spoiling at all will ruin the milk and make an infant very sick. The custom of adding lime-water to milk for infants is a good one, and a tablespoonful to a nursing bottle full is none too much; this tends to create a softer and more digestible curd, and perhaps will slightly rectify a milk which has imperceptibly changed.

How often should a child be fed? Not more frequently that every two hours no matter how young it is. After two months the interval should be extended to three hours, and a longer rest left at night, as mentioned before. Children can, by a little effort and firmness, be habituated to anything reasonable, and the great danger with a baby lies in over rather than under feeding. Hunger is such a fundamental instinct in a baby that at times it becomes almost absurd the infant crying from colic caused by too hearty a meal will still strive to appease its pain by swallowing more. No definite rigid rule can be given in regard to the quantity suitable for each meal. Careful observation will furnish the clue for each child, it depends somewhat upon the strength of the food. If pure milk be given less is required than when water is used to dilute it, at six weeks a child can take without discomfort from two to four ounces at a meal, *i. e.* 4 to 8 tablespoonfuls. Some children take much more than this, but their food will be found too diluted. Something can be learned from a child's increase in weight, a spring-balance used weekly or every 2 weeks will tell the tale. If the child without any particular disorder, no cold, no diarrhœa, or excessive vomiting after feeding, gains nothing in weight, it is not getting enough food. If it grows rapidly fat, diminish its food a little. The average gain in the early months is ¾ to 1 pound per week, but some very healthy babies never gain more than half as much, and after a few months, the weekly gain is very much reduced; very fat babies it should be remembered are by no means very healthy ones, the popular idea that diseases go hard with them has some foundation in fact.

Supposing cow's milk will not agree with the baby, suppose lime water has been added, and the milk has been tried diluted and undiluted and still it disagrees, what is to be done? and first how are we to be sure that it disagrees? The baby *will* perhaps vomit in a short time after feeding, hard masses of curd, and show signs of distress, pallor of face and perspiring forehead. Or it may commence to cry soon after feeding, drawing up its legs, and refusing to be comforted, or with or without the preceding symptoms it will have diarrhœa, its passages being curdy, green, and in a few days slimy. Moderate vomiting after feeding unattended with much effort or distress, where the milk comes up fluid, or in soft flakes of curd generally indicates that the child has taken more food than it can manage, or taken it too rapidly, and this can be remedied by giving it less at a time and slowly. Some diarrhœas when curd appears in great quantity in the passages, indicate the same thing. If such a child holds its own or gains somewhat in spite of such vomiting and diarrhœa, reduce the quantity or strength of the food. But some babies who begin life on the bottle, especially city babies, cannot manage cow's milk at all. Such cases can be tried on cream, one part to five of hot water, varied at each time of feeding, and will often do well; if this fails, and the baby cannot be removed to the country or seashore for change of air, which would often solve the difficulty, a good brand of condensed milk may be tried, and to each bottleful of food if it be constipated, a teaspoonful of Mellin's food may be added; some add a small quantity of barley water, but in the early months it seldom agrees. Condensed milk should not be given in too weak a solution; its great sweetness leads many to suppose that it may, but one cannot get something out of nothing, and when we hear of babies raised on one or two teaspoonfuls to the bottle there is some mistake about it. To feed a child with the equivalent of half good milk and half water, in condensed milk, must be to use one part of the condensed milk to seven of water; the sugar must also be allowed to have some nourishing power, so that one to ten is the very weakest out of which the child can extract life and growth. Generally speaking, unless at the seashore, avoid condensed milk if possible, the babies raised upon it while looking well for a time generally come to grief sooner or later.

As the child gets older and can be brought to the table do not begin by offering it anything, children never cry for improper articles of food till they have been tempted several times. It is not always the Eve in the family who does it, sometimes it is Eve's mother and sometimes, and to say, though of course rarely, it is Adam's representative. When once started a child's desire for improper food knows no bounds; it has a regular rule about it, it prefers the article that is most injurious, will refuse mashed potato and innocent puddings, and chew on a pickle with avidity, its instincts, if it has any, are not to be depended on. Above all, the best rule is to study simplicity of diet for children.

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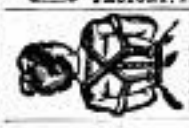

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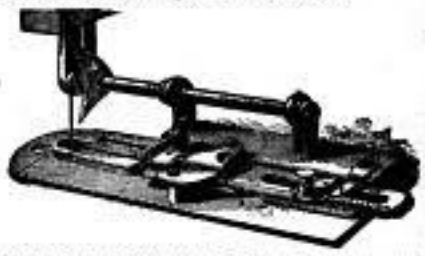

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"They say there is a sight of flirtin' done at Saratoga. I didn't hear so much about it as Josiah did, naturally there are things that are talked of more amongst men than women.

I told him from the first on't that he'd better let it entirely alone.

But he seemed set. He said "it wuz more fashionable amongst married men and wimmen, than the more single ones," he said "it wuz drefful fashionable amongst pardners."

There wuz a young English girl aboardin' to the same place we did. She dressed some like a young man, carried a cane, etc. But she wuz one of the upper 10, and wuz as pretty as a picture, and I see Josiah had kinder set his eyes on her as bein' a good one to try his experiment with. But I could see that she wuz one of the girls who would flirt with the town pump, or the meetin' house steeple, if she couldn't get nobody else to flirt with.

Well, Josiah Allen would set and look at her by the hour wholly fascinated."

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SAMANTHA ON A TOWER.

[Concluded from page 4.]

and don't you let it worry you a mite. Don't try to act like Haman," says I. "You are havin' lots of the good things of this world, and are goin' to have some fried potatoes, don't let them 2 Mordecais at the gate, poison all your happiness, or you may get come up with jest as Haman did."

"I'd love to hang 'em," says he, "as high as Haman's galluses would let 'em hang."

"Why," says I, "they hain't injured you in any way. They seem to act like perfect gentlemen. A little too exclusive and aristocratic, mebby, but they hain't done nothin' to you."

"No," says he, that is the stick on it; here we be three men, with a lot of women. And they can't associate with me, as man with man, but set off by themselves, too dumb proud to say a word to me, that is the dumb of it."

But at that very minute, before I could rebuke him for his fearful profanity, Miss Flomm motioned to us to come and take a seat round a little table, and consequently we sot.

It wuz a long broad piazza, with sights, and sights of folks on it, and little tables like ours, and over in the road by which we had come, wuz sights of vehicles, and conveyances of all kinds, from a big tally-ho coach, with 4 horses, down to a little 2 wheeled buggy. The road wuz full on 'em.

In front of us, down at the bottom of a steep, though beautiful hill, lay stretched the clear blue waters of the lake. Smooth and tranquil it looked in the light of the pleasant afternoon, and far off over the shinin' waves, lay the island, and white winged boats wuz a sailin' slowly by, and the shadows of their white sails lay down in the water, a floatin' on by the side of the boats, lookin' some like the wings of that white dove that used to watch over Lake Saratoga.

And as I looked down on the peaceful seen, the feelin's I had down in the wildwood, back of the Giver Spring, come back to me. The waves rolled in softly from far off, far off, beingin' a greetin' to me, unbeknown to anybody round me, unbeknown to me. It came into my heart unbidden, unsought, from afur, from afur. Whereditt it come from, that news of lands more beautiful than any that lay round Mr. Moonses, beautiful as it wuz? Echoes of music sweeter far than wuz a soundin' from the band down by the shore, music heard by some finer sense than heard that, heavenly sweet, heavenly sad, throbbin' throbbin' through the remoteness of that country, through the nearness of it, and fillin' my eyes with tears, not sad tears, not happy ones, but tears that come only to them that shet their eyes, and behold this country, and love it. The waves softly lappin' the shore brought a message to me, my soul heard it, who sent it, and where, and when, and why.

Not a trace of these emotions could be traced out on my countenance, as I set there, calmly a eatin' fried potatoes. And they *did* go beyond anything *I* ever see in the line of potatoes, and I thought I could fry potatoes with any one. Yes, such wuz my feelin's when I sot out for Mr. Moonses, but I went back a thinkin' that potatoes had never been fried by me, such is the power of a grand achievement over an inferior one, and so easy is the sails taken down out of the swellin' barge of Egotism.

No, them potatoes you could carry in your pocket for weeks, right by the side of the finest lace, and the lace would be improved by the purity of 'em. Fried potatoes in this condition! You could eat 'em with the lightest silk gloves on, and the tips of the fingers would be improved by 'em—*fried* potatoes, jest think on't!

Well, we had some lemonade, too and if you'll believe it, I don't s'pose you will, but it is the truth, there wuz straws in them glasses too. But you may as well believe it, for I am truthful, and then I have always noticed it that if things get to happenin' to you, lots of things jest like it will happen—that made twice in one week that I had found straws in my tumbler. But then, I'v had company 3 days a runnin', rainy days too, sometimes. It hain't nothin' to wonder at too much, anyway it is the truth.

Well, we drinked our lemonades, I, a quietly takin' out the straws, and droppin' 'em on the floor at my side, in a quiet, ladylike manner, and Josiah a betn' wink to by me, doin' the same thing. All over, our carriage draws up to the end of the piazza agin, and we sot sail homewards.

And the dog barked at Josiah almost every step of the way back, and when we got to our boardin' place, Miss Flomm shook hands with us both. And her relatives never took a mite of notice of us, further than to jump down and open the carriage door for us when we got out. They are genteel in their manner, and Josiah had to admit they wuz, much as his feelin's wuz hurt by this haughtiness towards him. And then, the dog, and Miss Flomm, and Miss Flomm's relatives drove off.

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I have an invalid sister who had not been dressed for a year. She has worn Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets for two weeks, and is now able to be dressed and sit up most of the time. MELVA J. DOE.

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I found Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets possessed miraculous power in stimulating and invigorating my enfeebled body, and the Hair Brush had a magic effect on my scalp. MRS. T. E. SNYDER, Fancy Goods Dealer.

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Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets have cured me of acute dyspepsia, from which I had suffered for eight years. His Electric Hair Brush cures my headache every time. MRS. WM. H. PEAK.

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Your Corsets have accomplished wonders in my case. I was previously thoroughly incapacitated, and could not help myself. I have worn your Corsets now for two weeks, and I am able to be up and around helping to do housework, etc. My friends are astonished. With many thanks, etc. JULIA J. MCFARLAND.

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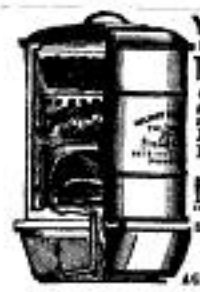

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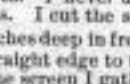
[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

BEE KEEPING AS A PURSUIT FOR WOMEN.

In the March number of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL I notice an article by Ella Rodman Church in which she mentions bee-keeping as a money-making occupation for women. I was much interested in its perusal, having been connected with a large apiary for three years, and having become quite expert in manipulating bees. I can, with a few exceptions, endorse what she wrote of it, and in this communication, will endeavor to set forth both sides of the story.

Bee-keeping *is* profitable, to those who have an interest in it, but the majority of small bee-keepers seem to think that, after they have placed colonies of bees on the summer stands, all they have to do is to take off honey. However this may be, *I* have always found it otherwise. As in any other pursuit there is work to do and plenty of it.

I differ with the writer about children and old people caring for bees. Children are useful in apiaries in watching the hives when swarms are expected off, and also in waiting upon the apiarist, while aged persons are generally too enfeebled to do more than children.

In regard to the outfit for bee-keeping, I will enumerate some of the necessary articles. The all-important thing is a movable frame hive. Of these there are many different styles manufactured. The Langstroth hive is, probably, the one most generally in use. The principal feature of this one is a long, shallow, frame. But I have had the best success with a hive called the New England No. 7. It is packed all around and underneath the brood nest, both in winter and in summer, and is adapted to the Langstroth frame. I have used a number of other styles but prefer this, on account of the larger yield of honey. The next necessary article is a smoker. The Quinby is the best. A bee hat is also needed. To make this, I go to the gentlemen's furnishing rooms and purchase a "last year's" hat having a rim two inches wide. I also purchase one and one-half yards of cheap, light-colored lawn, as bees take serious offence at dark or fuzzy goods. At the hardware store I get one-fourth of a yard of *black* wire screen cloth. I never use *green* as it is blinding to the eyes. I cut the screen cloth thus:  nine inches deep in front and two in back, and sew the straight edge to the hat rim and on the bottom of the screen I gather the one and one-half yards of lawn, lengthwise. This makes the best and most inexpensive hat I have used. When I have it on, I gather it tightly around or under the collar of my dress and fasten it down closely in front. I do not let my skirts sweep the ground and never use gloves as I deem them "more hindrance than help" and stings do not affect me much.

An authentic book on bees is also desirable. I will mention two: "Quinby's New Bee Keeping" and "Alley's Handy Book."

I have neglected to state that the *race* of bees is also very important. Pure Italians are very nice but I prefer a cross of Italians with Holylands, as they are better honey gatherers.

But I would advise beginners to use Italians at first as the Holylands increase too fast for inexperienced persons to handle.

In a *fine* locality ninety pounds of honey may be considered an average amount for a colony which swarms but once in a season, while in a *good* locality seventy-five pounds per colony may be expected. By a "fine locality" I mean a region where white clover and linden abounds. Raspberry is a very good honey plant, but does not last long. In case white clover is not found in one's vicinity, Alsyke clover may be grown in its stead.

One should not commence with over three colonies for the first year. They should be secured in April or May, perhaps earlier, in a warmer climate. If they are purchased from some one near by they should be moved before they have flown many times as they always mark the position of their hive and will return to the old stand if removed to another place in the vicinity.

Clear, white, honey, neatly put up in one pound sections, I have always retailed at 25c. per pound at the home market, and have wholesaled it at 20c. or 22c. per pound. I produce comb honey entirely as the extracted is not profitable. Let the apiarist seek diligently to create a *home market*. This is not difficult to do if one will occasionally distribute samples of their honey. In my vicinity where four years ago not over $25.00 was sold in a year, the market now demands between $300 and $400 every season in honey.

I do not consider my social or intellectual standing injured in the least by my labors in the apiary. During the past three years, beside doing this work, I have studied the Latin, Greek and German languages and higher mathematics, so that with one more year of study I shall be prepared to enter any New England college.

The coming summer I expect to take the entire charge of an apiary of seventy-five colonies, and shall in connection with that, study the French language and Greek and Roman history. Bee-keeping has been no hindrance to me in my studies as I shall see a few summers yet before I reach my twenty-first birthday. I would advise young women who desire an education, to take up this pursuit, as it is much more profitable than school-teaching, while being much more healthful, as it requires one's attention out of doors.

In closing I will say that to any one writing and sending a stamp for reply, I will send the address of the parties from whom may be secured the bee supplies I have mentioned in this communication.

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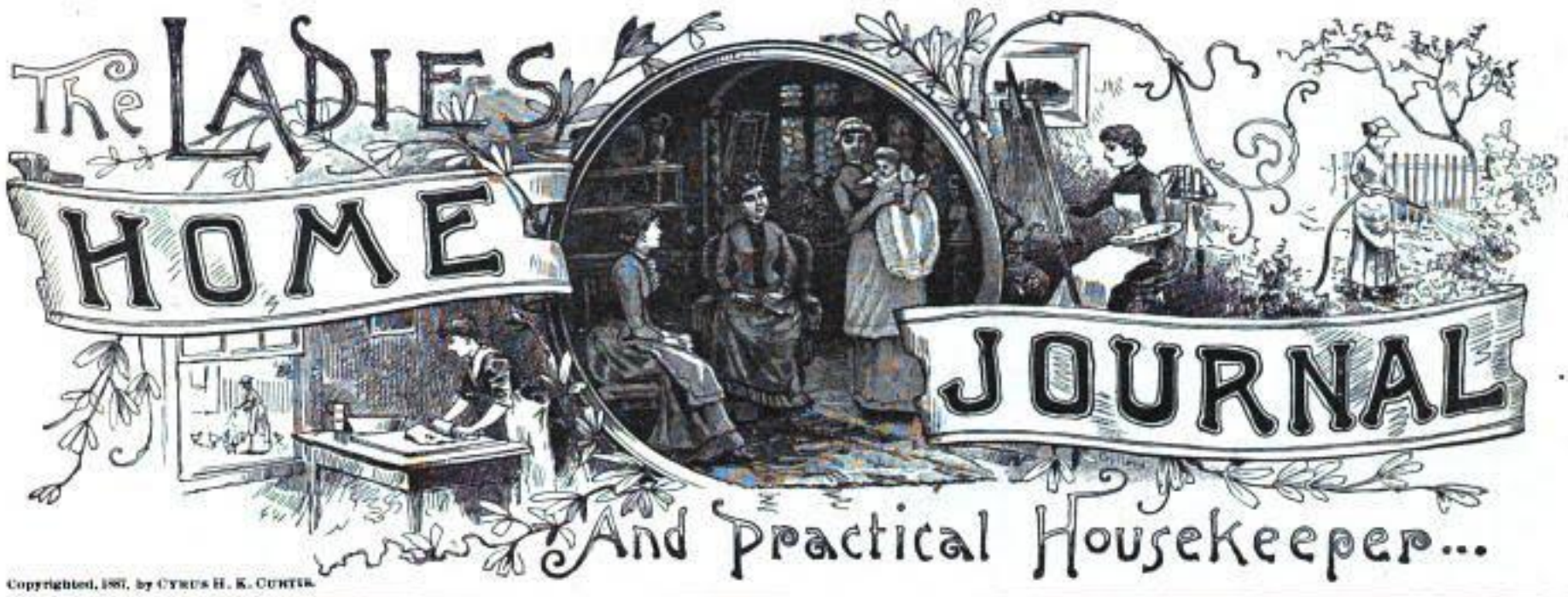

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[For the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

JOSIAH AND SAMANTHA ON THE STREET CAR.

BY JOSIAH ALLEN'S WIFE.

Josiah sold the yearlin' heifer at a good profit, and the 3-year-old colt, and he proposed to me that he and me should go up to New York village on a short tower.

I wuz agreeable, very agreeable to the idea, goin' on towers wuz always uplifitin' to me, and my pardner is the man I love, so I sot store on havin' a first-rate time. Though there wuz one thing that worried me. Josiah talked such a sight about fashion, and high life, and said he wanted to enter into 'em.

I tried to hold him back and keep him from the idea. But no, he wuz bound out. He said he yearned to launch out into Fashion, and he didn't know a better place to begin, than the village of New York, and says he:

"I do want to be genteel, Samantha, and show off some. I do want to be fashionable."

Says I, "Josiah give up the idea. Don't try to be fashionable at your age, and with your belt."

"Why," says he, "my belt is just right for it, I can get round easy, I feel light; I believe, Samantha," says he, almost whisperin' the fearful words to me, "I believe I could dance if I sot out to."

Says I in axents of horror, "What will you take it into your head to do next! Dance! where is your conscience, Josiah Allen?"

"Right in the old place, Samantha; it hain't stirred a peg, nor 'hain't a goin' to. And I didn't say I wuz goin' to dance, only that I could dance if I wanted to—methinks I could waltz."

I groaned, and rithed. He wuz touched by my sorrow, and says:

"I hain't a goin' to waltz, Samantha, most probable I hain't; I only mentioned the little fact merely to give you a idea of the state of my mind, and legs."

Says I without lookin' up from my work, (I wuz darnin' his heel) "They are small, all three on 'em."

"You never encourage me, Samantha, in any of my enterprizes, but this, I am determined to carry through. I am goin' to be genteel and fashionable, for a spell, anyway, and I don't know a better place fer it than the village of New York. For what can you do in the way of fashion and high life in Jonesville? I tell you, Samantha, it is discouragin', a man can't spread himself here as he wants to, a man can't show off to any advantage."

Says I again, in solemn axents, "Josiah Allen, at your age and with your rheumatiz. I wouldn't try to show off." Says I in a low and almost camp-meetin' tone, "It would be more becomin' in you and in me, to try to get ready for the other world that we are travelin' so fast towards, than to show off in this."

"Wall, one world at a time, is my motto, Samantha. When I get into the other world it will be time enough to look round and see what I can do."

Says I "Josiah Allen, such talk is nerrly if not quite, wicked, and you a perfessor."

"Wall, I calculate to have a good time while I am here, and I lay out to see fashion and high life."

Oh! how he kep a comin' back to that subject. It gauled me, but I thought as so very many female pardners do, that it wuz best to try and conceal the gaul.

Wall, when our 2 minds wuz fully made up about embarkin' on our tower, Josiah Allen begun to talk about puttin' up to his cousins, Susan Filkens. Says he, "She will be tickled to death to see us, and we owe her lots of visits."

But I hung back, and says I, "I guess Susan will live if we don't visither, and Miss Asterses tavern is my choice. Though," says I dreamily, "I don't know but I ort to send her word we are comin', for she is gettin' considerable along in years, and can't get round so spry as she used to, and if she don't happen to be baked up, she may feel mortified, but," says I, "I'll run the chance, for if I let her know she might go beyond her strength, and do more than she ort to, for one of her years, and I don't want to make her trouble."

So we didn't send her no word, but sot sail entirely unexpected and unbeknown, on the next Tuesday mornin' after layin' on the plan 2 days and 3 nights.

Goin' entirely for pleasure, and not lukes, or trouble, I laid out to dress easy, and not destroy my comfort by my clothin', or too great quantities of baggage. Though Josiah Allen did insist on takin' various neckties of variegated and strange colors, more than there wuz any need of, and I told him so. But he said in a blind way that there wuzn't any too many, or too curious colors for the aim he had in view.

And I groaned, and let him have his way, and went to packin' my own portmanty. We only took two, each one of us a carryin' one in our own hands.

I looked well. Though I s'pose not what you might call gorgeous. I had on a new parmetty, in color a London brown, trimmed with lace knife plaitin's round the bottom. A good, honorable-lookin' bunnet, that stood out some over my forward, and I hemmed over my long green veil, and when that is tied over my bunnet and hangs down in long graceful folds at one side, it gives a noble appearance to my mean that no other store clothes can. It makes my presence sort o' imposin', yet graceful.

I had on a wadded mantilly with tabs. I like tabs.

I had good black woostered gloves, new ones, that showed off to good advantage, as I grasped in one of 'em the portmanty, and in the other my faithful umberell.

We disembarked at the Grand Central depo, a good sizable buildin' about the size of Jonesville and Loontown. But there wuz too many folks in it for comfort that day. I persume to say, though I didn't ask no questions, but I persume to say that there wuz some funeral a goin' on, or some public doin's. Such a sight of men and women! And I dare persume to say, though I didn't ask no questions, and don't know positive—that they all on 'em got belated a doin' up their work in the mornin', they all seemed to be in such a harry, and afraid they shouldn't get there in time, afraid the funeral would be over before they got there.

Wall, Josiah thought he could walk to Miss Asterses. This wuz his first visit to the village, and I knew he didn't know how fur it wuz. But he insisted, and we sot out.

Wall, Susan Filkins, Josiah's 3d cousin, lived right on our way to Miss Asterses, and so I consented to stop there for a little while. Says Josiah "It would make her so happy. Why," says he, "her feelin's would be cut to the quick if we didn't stop. Don't you know, Samantha," says he, "how cordial she and Loozy Jane invited us to come when they wuz a visitin' Jonesville summer before last! And," says he, "hurtin' anybody's feelin's, is what I hate to do, Samantha. Susan is tender-hearted, and she might not get over it for some time. She is troubled with heart disease," says he, "and the blow, if she should hear that we had been to the city and hadn't come to see her, might be too much for her; I wuz always her favorite cousin."

I says "I guess it wouldn't kill her." I had my own ideas, but I kep 'em to myself.

They live in a big stun house, and we went up the steps and rapped, but nobody come to the door, and Josiah says, wantin' to make excuses for her:

"Probable Susan is washin' up the dinner dishes."

But just then a boy went up the steps with a bundle in his hand, and went to foolin' a little with the door trimmin's, as boys will. And just then a man come to the door. He wuz a sort of a pompos-lookin' man. But used as well, but distent.

Josiah seemed sort o' bashful and awed by him. But, good land! I wuzn't skairt by him; I asked him in a cool dignified tone "If she that wuz Susan Allen lived there, and if she wuz to hum."

"She that wuz Susan Allen!" he repeated, in amaze.

"Yes," says I, "Miss Filkins that now is."

"Yes," says he, "Miss Filkins is in."

"Wall," says I, "is Loozy Jane to hum?"

"Loozy Jane?" says he.

"Yes," says I, "her girl."

"Named after her grandmother," says Josiah.

"Oh! Miss Jennie," says the man. "Yes, Miss Jennie is at home."

"Wall," says I, "will you tell 'em, that Josiah Allen and his wife from Jonesville are here, and want to see 'em."

The man went out, and Josiah says eger, "how overjoyed Susan will be. I hope he won't tell her too sudden that we have come. Joy sometimes kills," says he.

I told him I guessed there wuzn't any danger that way.

And then we sot kinder still, a waitin' for what seemed to be hours, and hours. And finally I spoke up and says, "I guess you wuz 'more skairt than hurt' about Susan, she don't seem to be in any pertickuler hurry to see us."

Says he, with a anxious look, "I believe she's overcome by her feelin's. I am afraid the man didn't break the good news to her cautious."

Wall, in the fulness of time, (full as it could be) the man came back, and says he to me:

"Miss Filkins says, 'Seein' you are only goin' to stay a few minutes,' (we hadn't said a word to that effect,) 'she will ask you to come right up to her room;' she is dressin' for a party."

I got up, and Josiah did to. But I motioned him back firmly. And the man looked at him horrified. But he says "Samantha, Susan will be cut to the heart if she don't see me. Why, she made me promise sacred to come," says he.

"Wall," says I soothin'ly, "I will go ahead, and bime-by, if she wants to, we will send for you."

So I followed the man, up the broad stairway through another big hall, and just as we wuz goin' by a door, a pretty young creeter opened the door, and I see at once it wuz Loozy Jane.

She and her ma had spent weeks to our house in the summer, when they wuz a visitin' round amongst their relatives. And she had seemed to just worship Josiah and me, and the country, all three on us.

But she did not seem to recognize me in the least, and she said sumthin' to the man, and the boy with the bundle, and then wuz a goin' into her room, and I says:

"Loozy Jane, don't you know me?"

"Oh!" says she, "I didn't see you, I wuz in such a hurry." And then she put out her hand and took holt of mine, in a dretful loose way, and shook my hand about 2 or 3 times back and forth, I should say. (When she had parted with me in the country she had both her arms round my neck, and hugged me, and kissed me on both cheeks.)

But now she says, in a sort of a cool distent way, (about as distent as from our house to Fleming Haggbiones) "How well you are a lookin' you want to see mama, don't you? You can come right through my room."

She led the way in, and then as she turned to face me, I see plain how she wuz dressed, or ruther how she wuzn't dressed. I wuz dumbfounded. I stood stun still in front of her, with my head thrown a little back, and my hands clasped in front of me. And I'll bet I looked as distent to her, as she did to me. She wuz a lookin' on me then, about as distent I should say, as from our house to Loontown, and I wuz glad on't. I should be ashamed to be on close and intimate terms with anybody who wore a dress like that. Her face wuz pretty, pretty as a doll. But her dress wuz indecent—*indecent*.

And after givin, her that one long look, I turned slowly round on my heel (or heels) and went out of the room.

But she spoke to a girl who wuz a standin' by with a cap on, (I s'pose she had forgot to take her night-cap off, for she wuz too young to wear caps) and says she, in that far-away tone of hern: "Show this lady to mama's room."

So I followed the girl into another lofty, splendid room, and there stood Susan Filkins, the very picture of agony and distress. For a instant I thought "Mebby Josiah Allen wuz right, mebby she is overcome by her feelin's. But I gave up that idea at once, for she wuz just about as cordial as Loozy Jane had been, and shook my hand about twice and a half back and forth, and says she:

"I would see you for a moment, anyway. We are just a goin' out, and I hope you'll excuse me if I keep on dressin'.

I says "Yes, keep right on a dressin', it is the best thing you can do," says I dryly. For if you'll believe it, her dress wuz as low as Loozy Jane's, and looked far worse, for Loozy Jane wuz slim and slender, but Susan bein' so big boneded, and her hips and shoulders wuz so broad, and her waist been drawed in so tight, she wuz a sight to behold, a sight

Yes, that waist wuz a curious and a solemn sight—it sot in so strange-like, from the exuberant fullness on each side on't.

And as I stood a lookin' on in deep amaze, she loosened the waist at the bottom, and went to pullin' the corset strings strings still tighter.

And as I looked on that hazardous sight, I forgot her cool actions towards me, I forgot her indecent dressin', I forgot everything but, her peril, and my pity for her. And I says, in almost tremulous axents:

"Susan Filkins, I feel bad to see you draw yourself in so," says I. "Some day you will draw too far, and then you will be sorry. What do you do it for?" says I.

"I want to taper," says she in faint axents, and a holdin' on to her sides.

I says, "I have always noticed that them that taper so at the waist, their minds sort o' taper too, kinder dwindle down, and taper off small."

I don't s'pose she hardly heard my words, she wuz that took up with her job. And I went down and joined my companion. And he says, the first thing:

"Wuz Susan perfectly overcome by her joy at seein' us again?"

And I told him in sort of a blind way, "that I guessed her enjoyment wouldn't kill her."

And I made him go, though he wuz unwillin' to leave, I, a tellin' him I would tell him all about our interview at another time. And says I, "We shan't more than git to Miss Asterses now, by supper time, and it will make her lots of trouble, if we hain't on time."

"Wall," says he, "most probable you are right, and I can come here another time."

So we sot out, walkin' afoot.

Wall, we down that street, and turned off on another, and we see everybody and more too, and everything, and more, far more. Men and women and children, and horses, and buggies, and hand organs. And settin' in a doorway just as we turned round the corner, wuz a poor old woman a playin' on a accordeon, and singin'. And Josiah stopped stun still, and says he:

"Do you s'pose, Samantha, she knows the 'Cruel Mother-in-Law?' I'd gin a cent quick to hear it."

Says I, "Don't ask her, Josiah, she has got trouble enough without knowin' that tune."

And I bent down and looked at her in deep sympathy. Poor old creeter, humbly and ragged, and with such a voice to carry round, and such a accordeon."

But Josiah says, "I must ask her, Samantha, if she knows the 'Cruel Mother-in-Law?' it will kind o' show sympathy for her."

And I says, "You had much better gin her a quarter. It will do her more good."

But as I says this, he hurried me forward at a immense and almost hazardous speed. And anon he lifted up his cane, a butnut stick that he had barked himself, and pinted to a long gay-lookin' carriage and says:

"There goes a millionaire. They are enjoyin' life. If I wuz rich, I could own such a carriage

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and take my wife and children out a ridin'."

The man and woman who owned it wuz inside. We could see 'em through the winders. But if you'll believe it, just as Josiah said this the carriage stopped and the coachman out in front sort o' begoned to us to come and get in.

I wuz goin, to hang back, and says I: "We don't know the gentleman at all that owns the carriage, why should he take us out a ridin?"

But Josiah whispered back: "It is always so. I always get attention wherever I go; don't hang back, Samantha, and mortify me, as long as I am your husband, you will have to appear more or less in fashionable life. Come on."

So rather than be left alone, I followed him. He felt neat.

The man that owned the carriage wuz settin' up straight and genteel inside, and so wuz his wife. But they sot on different sides of the carriage, and I says to Josiah, "For married folks, they seem to be dretful sort o' cool and distant to each other, they don't act much as you and I do when we are out a ridin'."

I always want to set up kinder close to Josiah, and talk. But Josiah whispered back:

"It is the ways of fashionable life, Samantha. It is fashionable to be sort o' cool to your pardners." And he lifted up his chin and looked down sort o' distent at me, and I see he wuz a beginnin' to practice. And says I:

"Josiah, are you a goin' to begin to be distent and cold to your Samantha?"

"Wall," says he with a sort of a genteel axent that wuz a perfect stranger to him:

(To be continued.)

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE KINDERGARTEN.

II.

BY ANNA W. BARNARD.

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The twenty "gifts and occupations" used in the kindergarten, may be divided into five groups. The first group comprises the first six gifts, in which variously shaped solids are the objects of study; and deals, therefore, with the forms of solids. The children first learn the forms of sphere, cylinder and cube, and recognize, name, and count their surfaces, edges, points, etc. Then, by division of the cube, they make combinations of its parts in building. Counting and measuring by the eye, and the elements of numbers are prominent in all the groups, but especially so in the first one. The gifts belonging to each group will be treated separately, beginning with the

SOLIDS,
THE FIRST GIFT,
THE BALL.

The simplest and most perfect form in nature, and the one in which all other forms are contained; viz.: the ball, or sphere, is the first form Froebel would have presented to children. His first gift consists of six small, rubber balls; each one covered with a net-work of zephyr having one of the rainbow colors; viz.: violet, blue, green, yellow, orange and red. To each ball is attached a cord of corresponding color. These balls are used in the nursery to amuse and entertain very young children, even babies, who cannot in any way be injured by them, and to whom they are a great delight, because they are bright, small, round, soft, light, and easy to grasp and hold.

By swinging the ball from its cord, babies may be taught the meaning of up and down, near and far, slowly and quickly; of resting, rolling, hopping, etc. But one ball should be given at a time, and first, the *red* one, its bright color being most likely to attract attention. It is to be called the *red* ball, that the impression of the word *red* on the ear, shall be simultaneous with the impression of the color on the eye. Another color is not to be shown till a clear impression of the first one is gained, and then a *contrast* is given in the blue ball; when these two colors can be readily distinguished, the yellow ball is given, and then all three balls together, and the baby learns to choose his colors. Afterward, give green, orange and purple, one at a time, observing the same care as before, and each time associating the color with the word that names it. Very little ones may be taught to pass the ball from one hand to another, keeping time to a little song which the mother sings.

When at the age of three years, the babies leave the nursery for the kindergarten, they hail with joy the familiar ball, the first and favorite plaything. It is difficult to realize that the attention of a class of three-year-old's can be held for half an hour each week, simply by the aid of the colored balls, and in proving the fact, we are always surprised to witness the ever-fresh delight which the gift brings in its weekly visit.

In examining the ball, and trying to find out its qualities, the children will make many errors in speech, giving opportunities for correction in pronunciation, enunciation, etc. Whatever is said to or by them, should be pronounced very distinctly and accurately, so as to develope the organs of speech and correct defects of utterance, whether inherited or the result of neglect. If children learn to speak well, they will learn to read well.

The ball represents many objects, its form being found everywhere in nature, from the drop of dew to the planets. From it the children learn properties of form, size, weight, color and motion. In examining its form, they find that it is a perfect round body, like a globe or sphere, without planes, lines or points; that in comparison with other objects its size is large, small or medium, and its weight light or heavy. A word of suggestion reveals the fact that the ball is hollow and filled with air, and that it has an invisible center.

The children learn to distinguish and name the six colors, and by experimenting with different combinations of these, some idea is gained of the harmony of color. To look through colored glasses gives them great delight. Soap-bubbles may also be used in connection with this gift. I once purchased a chemical preparation called "Persistent Soap-Bubbles," which it was said would produce bubbles a foot in diameter, and if protected from a draught of air would last for hours. The bubbles were blown, and threw the flock into an ecstasy of gladness. To watch the rapidly-growing sphere with its shining surface in which they could see the reflection of their own faces, trees, houses, clouds, etc., floating past, with such swift motion, and in such gorgeous colors, was almost too beautiful. To cause such unbounded delight with such small outlay was reward enough, even if the bubbles did not expand into a circumference of *quite* three feet, and did not last *quite* sixty minutes by the watch; but as the druggist who sold me the preparation presented me with a handsome tin pipe all "in the cause of education," I forgave him and allowed him the usual privilege of the advertiser. And then the colors were exquisite! Such depth and brilliancy! Such royal purples and celestial blues! And if all the questions asked during the half hour's play were not answered, it must have been owing to the fact that all the kindergartner's efforts were concentrated on the blowing of the bubbles, and not at all to her inability to answer!

The old method of teaching the children that red, yellow and blue, are primary colors from which secondaries are formed must yield to a new one, for in the words of an authority on the subject, "Modern science has shown that white light is not resolvable into these three primaries. The theory of the three primary colors, red, yellow and blue, has therefore been abandoned, and with them the whole system of so-called secondary and tertiary colors has fallen to the ground. The three primary colors are red, green and violet."

The ball rests and moves, but from its tendency to constant motion, it has been called the "symbol of motion." Different kinds of motion may be illustrated by lifting the ball by its cord, up and down, swinging it backward and forward, to right and left, in opposite slanting directions, and round and round; by these varied movements showing the direction of vertical, horizontal and oblique lines, and the circle, spiral and helix; also, the points of the compass—North, South, East and West. Motion is also shown by rolling the ball, by dropping it, and allowing it to rebound, by throwing it up and catching it, by drawing it along a plane surface, and by throwing it through the air from one child to another. The ball may also be shown in motion on an immovable body; in motion upon, in or near a movable body;—at rest on an immovable body, or at rest on a movable body, etc.

When the material of the ball is examined; the children very soon learn whether it is worsted or wooden, rubber or marble, or whether its texture is smooth or rough. Elasticity is shown by rebound. Numbers are taught by counting from one to six. Resemblance to fruits in shape, size, weight and color is pointed out. Despatch and precision are gained by the quickness of movement requisite in passing the balls from one to another in certain games. The sense of order is awakened and cultivated by the position of the balls in the box, and in regard to each other. Neatness, regularity and exactness are taught by the manner in which the balls are made and kept; and gentleness and care by the way in which they are handled and used. A sense of harmony is felt on observing the beauty of their shape and color, and by the blending of colors. Last, but by no means least, is the love for the beautiful which is cultivated by the use of this gift, which leads to such close observation of form and color in fruit and flower, and grass and tree, and sunset cloud; and now that we have witnessed the happy marriage of Tone and Color, what harmonies of Light and Sound may not one day be revealed?

When the ball is thrown to the child, he exerts great energy to catch it, and uses great strength to hold it when caught, thus exercising every muscle of his body, in doing which his mental and moral nature also have a share. A sympathy is awakened between him and the ball, as you play with him in a rhythmical way, keeping time to the music and singing. The time should be strongly marked. "Nothing is more harmonious and helpful in a kindergarten than to get hands and feet accustomed to rhythmical motions. Fine music may come later, but a musical, rhythmical atmosphere is a necessity."

It must not be supposed that all of the things enumerated are to be taught to very young children; only as they are able to receive are the benefits of the gift to be dispensed. During the child's first year in the kindergarten, we should be amply satisfied if he learn to distinguish and describe the material, color, form and size, of the balls, remembering in what countless other ways he has been daily and hourly developing. We have seen the eyes brighten as they steadily and regularly followed the movement of the ball swinging to and fro, in imitation of the pendulum; the observation has quickened so as to cause our unbounded wonder, and the little hands that at first could with difficulty hold the ball, have now grown expert and graceful in throwing and catching. If in recognizing and naming the colors, any little philosopher should chance to make a mistake, how many bright eyes are dancing, how many eager voices are calling upon him, pointing out his error, and setting him in the right path! And, does the little one, after the manner of his elders when criticised, look insulted or aggrieved? No, he accepts the help joyfully, thankfully and kindly as it was meant, and thus we all learn a beautiful lesson.

If it be true as has been stated, that one person in fifteen cannot distinguish all of the ordinary colors; if one in fifty-five confounds red with green;—one in sixty, brown with green;—and one in forty-six, blue with green; it will readily be acknowledged how great is the necessity of early training the eye to detect differences in color.

A tailor has been known to patch a black coat with scarlet, and many persons can see no difference in the color of strawberries and their leaves. It is written of Dr. Dalton, the chemist, that he was installed in a red gown, and thought it was blue. Bartholomew, the sculptor, could not distinguish a green curtain from a crimson one. Beginning as a portrait painter, he painted the cheeks of a lady bright green!

Red is said to be the most difficult of all colors to distinguish;—it appears black and green. Green is often mistaken for red and blue. Signal flags of danger and safety used on railroads are of these two colors, red and green, so often confounded with each other. How important then that railroad officials should be able instantly to detect the difference. B. Joy Jeffries, A. M., an authority on color, states, that "Four per cent of males are more or less color-blind, and in females not over one-fourth of one per cent, are thus affected. My own tests of 19,101 males, 801 were color-blind. I found but 11 females among 14,731 defective in their chromatic sense. I found color-blind children of railroad engineers in Boston schools whose one idea was to follow their fathers' employment. In a Savannah school I found two brothers color-blind whose father was a Savannah pilot. The present United States laws would prevent these boys taking up their fathers' professions."

From Miss Peabody's lecture on "The Nursery" I quote this passage: "I believe that *color-blindness*, (which our army examinations have proved to be as common as *want of ear for music*,) may be cured by intentional exercise of the organ of sight in a systematic way, just as *ear for music* may be developed in those who are not born with it."

Froebel has furnished, not only in the first gift, but in all those which succeed it, most charming aids to this "intentional exercise" of the eye, by the proper use of which aids, may not "color-blindness," as well as many other kinds of blindness come to be of much less frequent occurrence than at present?

After children have spent a short time in the kindergarten, their powers of observation become so quickened that not a piece of zephyr an inch long can fall to the floor unnoticed by them; and contrasting colors to be woven together into mats are chosen, and shades of zephyr are readily matched at a distance. The dresses of the little companions, the carpet, the paper on the wall, each others' ribbons, hair and eyes,—leaves, grass, flowers, whatever has color, is noticed, commented upon and compared with other shades and colors.

"Sounds which address the ear are lost, and die
In one short hour; but that which strikes the eye
Lives long upon the mind, the faithful sight
Engraves the knowledge with a beam of light."

Perhaps some child has seen a brilliant sunset, whose glory must have left a lasting reflection in the happy face from its expression when telling of the lovely sight; and nearly every one has seen the "bow in the cloud," and wondered at its mystic meaning, as in the lonely Indian forest, the boy Hiawatha wondered, when he

"Saw the rainbow in the heaven,
In the eastern sky the rainbow,
Whispered, 'What is that, Nokomis?'
And the good Nokomis answered:
'Tis the heaven of flowers you see there,
All the wild flowers of the forest,
All the lilies of the prairie,
When on earth they fade and perish
Blossom in that heaven above us.'"

Another has seen the sun rise,—"in the East,"—and "he had on a red dress!" And if any stern advocate of the "Old Education," from her seat in the corner should chide me for encouraging the child in falsehood (!) I heed her not, but accept the image given, for if I rudely break it, how know I that I may not debar the world from listening to some future singer, who may rival if he cannot match this royal drapery of the King of Day?

"Forth from his curtain of clouds, from the tent of purple and scarlet,
Issued the Sun, the great High-Priest, in his garments resplendent,
Holiness unto the Lord, in letters of light on his forehead,
'Round the hem of his robe, the golden bells and pomegranates,—
Blessing the world he came, and the bars of vapor beneath him
Beamed like a grate of brass, and the sea at his feet was a laver!"

So, by a child's toy, the ball, we have been led into the presence of poets, the sunrise and the sunset, and the bow in the cloud. Thus, often, without words, with only an upward glance, if but the heart go with it, the child will follow, where you will, unless indeed, as will oftener happen, you follow him in his joyous journey upward to some ever-widening realm of beauty.

The plant forced to bloom in the stifling air of a hot-house, is not so dear to us as the simple violet, nurtured into beauty and fragrance, by the pure air, and sun, and rain of heaven. So the little seeds that are entrusted to our care, we are to drop gently into the waiting soil—we are to give them all natural, right, pure, true, sweet, gracious, tender influences,—let in the light and air of heaven, water them oft-times, perchance with tears, all the while, not forgetting to remember, that though "Paul may plant, and Apollos may water, yet 'tis God alone who giveth the increase."

In this beautiful Child Garden, hand in hand with Faith and Hope and Love we are to walk and work day by day, with patience watching and waiting for bud and bloom on our precious plants. If it be never ours to look upon a perfect flower, in some sunny future, other eyes and hearts may be gladdened by its beauty. Its fragrance shall arise to Heaven's gates, which open wide, and dews of blessing fall on plant and faithful gardener.

But what does it require to be entirely faithful to this cause we have espoused? Ask, rather, what it does *not* require, and the question may be sooner answered! Do you grow weary in the conflict? Let me whisper, that in a garden I know, there blooms a little "Heart's-Ease," one look into whose "bright and happy" eyes, makes one gardener, at least, remember, that

"God's in His Heaven,
All's right with the world!"

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MARION HARLAND AT HOME.

A Glimpse of Mrs. Mary Virginia Terhune in Her family Circle—Remarkable Success as Author and Editor—Her Knowledge of Home-Making and Housekeeping Not Confined to Books by any Means.

Every woman in the country who reads ever so cursorily the journals and serial publications of the day knows "Marion Harland," but comparatively few among the vast army of readers among the mothers and housewives who depend upon her friendly advice in home-making are acquainted with Mrs. Mary Virginia Terhune, who lives on South Ninth street, in Brooklyn, within easy reach of New York.

"Marion Harland" occupies a handsome four-story brown-stone front house by the side of which is a large garden laid out in picturesque walks among trees, shrubs, and, in their season, beautiful flowers. The spacious drawing-rooms are furnished in delicate tints, in frescoes, carpets and draperies, and back of them is the library, which is crimson. The decoration of the walls and ceiling, which is done in velvet paper laid in folds and framing at the four corners paintings of the "Neapolitan Boy," the "Odalisque," and other rich types, is very effective. In the large bow window looking out upon the pretty yard is a Wardian case filled with palms, ferns and mosses. A spinning-wheel with its bunch of flax stands near the fire-place and upon the wall are hung various engravings, among them those of Longfellow and Washington Irving and his friends, surmounting the book-cases. A writing-table and scrap-basket complete the literary appearance of this room. The atmosphere of the whole house is attractive and comfortable. "Marion Harland" is, indeed, a model housekeeper, for the home environment is made conducive to the enjoyment of the family, with none of the vainglorious insistence upon ways and means which is the discomfort of many a painfully precise management. She is the descendant of a cultivated Virginia family, of a mother gentle, refined and born and bred with quiet domestic and literary tastes and inherits from her father the pith and earnestness for which her life is distinguished. Her early literary diet was made up of the British classics, with now and then a diversion in reading Rollin's Ancient History. The *Spectator*, Thompson's "Seasons," Cowper's "Task" and Plutarch's "Lives" furnished light reading until the advent of *Graham's* and *Godey's* magazines. Marion Harland's first novel, "Alone," appeared in 1854, of which more than one hundred thousand copies have been sold. Of her "Common Sense" series no reader need to be told, as they are found in every home, and have sold more than one hundred and ten thousand in ten years, and the sale is unabated.

Her books, "Our Daughters, What Shall We Do with Them?" a helpful talk with mothers, and "Eve's Daughters," a series of discussions with the girls themselves, in a vein of infinite tact and purity on matters pertaining to the health and highest developement of brain and body, have reached many editions.

"Marion Harland" is the wife of the Rev. Edward P. Terhune, the popular pastor of the Bedford Avenue First Reform Church, a genial, magnetic man of splendid physique, standing six feet in his stockings and broad-shouldered in proportion. He is a specimen of muscular Christianity good to see, and is the object, (he sometimes declares the victim,) of the enthusiastic affection and loving familiarity of his family. He once remarked in comic despair when particularly dishevelled after a filial melee, "Oh, yes; I am not only hen-pecked, but I am chicken-pecked, as you see." His wife, "Marion Harland" of the cook-books, *Babyhood*, and editor of household departments which appear in various magazines, and are such a boon to women, is a medium sized woman, with a sweet, piquant face, dark hair and eyes sparkling with kindliness and a hopeful view of life.

As, according to Madame de Genlis a woman has nothing to do with dates, it is unnecessary to refer to Mrs. Terhune's age. Suffice to mention that she is the mother of three children. The eldest of them, Mrs. Christine Terhune Herrick, is a lady well known in literary circles not only as the able writer of articles upon the house and home, but as an accomplished linguist and one so thoroughly educated in English literature as to be qualified to grace the chair of that professorship in any college in the country.

Mrs. Herrick sent her first contribution to the press without consulting her parents or trading upon the family name and, as her mother proudly says, owes nothing of her success to the accident of her relationship with "Marion Harland." Mrs. Herrick's work is in such demand that her engagements for 1888 already fill her hands. She is engaged as a regular contributor to the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. The mother and daughter work together in literary matters, as in all things else, in delightful unison.

Dr. and Mrs. Terhune believe that every young woman should have some practical means of livelihood and educate their children accordingly. Miss Belle Terhune is a pretty, blue-eyed girl who already finds constant employment for her pen, and the son, a lad of fourteen, is working hard at school, taking time meanwhile to have grown within an inch of his father's heroic stature.

The great sorrow of their lives was the loss of a beautiful girl—a delicate, gifted child—who died from the effects of a fright given her by an ignorant servant. The maid appeared to her young charge at night as a ghost, and so terrified the imaginative little girl as to throw her into convulsions, from which she never rallied. Dr. Terhune's is a most methodical household. Each day after breakfast the members of the family separate, going to their desks for work or study, and when they meet at luncheon the business of the day is over, and social recreation begins. Dr. and Mrs. Terhune receive Monday evenings, and in their hospitable rooms may be often found many of the most distinguished people of the two cities spanned by the bridge. Mrs. Terhune is a faithful pastor's wife, taking charge of the social interests of the parish, working effectively in fairs and other benevolent schemes, and in her literary work is doubtless one of the busiest women in the country.

"Marion Harland's" work has always possessed a peculiar selling quality, and publishers fight hard to secure her engagements. Since the early days, when she made instant success as the author of "Alone," she has, with few digressions, turned her attention to work for home life. She says of herself that she is "good three-halves mother," and as she certainly compasses work enough for two women we may say that the fourth half of her nature is poetic and artistic. Her poems have touched the hearts of thousands and her hand, in so persevering a use of the pen, does not use its deftness with the brush. But the lady with such versatile gifts says she thinks, if she has any talent, it is in knowing in what line her best work is done. "Most people," says Mrs. Terhune, "want to do the things they are least fitted for. So many a stream which might be a beneficent one if turned into a channel where it could run full and strong, is spread out, thinly covering a large area and rises only in miasma from the marshes it has made. Therefore I keep to my line despite my frequent desires to branch into other channels, confining my efforts within limits where I am sure they do useful work."

"Marion Harland" is blessed with good health, but when the pressure of her busy life becomes too strong, taking all or one or two of her family with her, she flees the town with its excitement to constant endeavor, and goes for a few days rest to their country home named "Sunnyside," not far from Paterson, in the mountains of New Jersey. She was there during the first snow-storm of the season and speaks gratefully of the calm imposed upon her tired brain in looking at the mesmeric fall of the flakes and the pure soft blanket that gently covered the sere world.—*Florine Thayer McCray, in N. Y. World.*

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE HEATED TERM IN THE NURSERY.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

The mother who flatters herself that the warm weather heralds a relaxation of her cares, finds herself woefully mistaken. In winter, sudden and alarming as are draughts and changes of temperature, the risks are not half as great as in the summer months. From the former danger the babies can be guarded to a great extent by thorough wrapping and watchfulness, but against the latter more insidious perils even the mother's vigilance is not always proof.

Even putting to one side the dread of possible illness, the comfort of the little ones is difficult of attainment. Starch frocks and an abundance of undergarments are a burden to his tender flesh. The more lightly he can be dressed without exposing him to the chance of being insufficiently clothed, the better for him and for the nurse who has charge of his wardrobe.

The summer toilette of an infant in long dresses is very simple. The flannel or knit band comes first. Without entering here upon a discussion for and against the advisability of bandaging babies, it will at least be conceded that woolen over the bowels is an excellent protection against summer complaint. If the band is knit or crocheted it should be supported by shoulder straps made of wide twilled tape in preference to the worsted shoulder straps. These are apt to be heating to the tender skin and are besides, too liable to stretch. The gauze shirt that goes on next should be high-necked and have three-quarter sleeves reaching about to the elbows. The upper part of the arm, one of the spots most vulnerable to cold, is thus covered.

Over this must be the flannel petticoat and the plain unstarched cambric or mull slip. No linen shirt, no worsted jacket, no embroidery where it is likely to scratch the soft flesh, no heavy white skirt to make another wrapping about the perspiring little body and another dragging weight upon the delicate limbs. The feet must be clad in knit socks and these must be removed half-a-dozen times a day and the feet examined to see if they are warm and dry.

The babies' napkins require especial care in hot weather. While it is not essential that they should be ironed after each washing, they should be washed after each wearing, if they are to be put on again next to the skin. Those worn may, when perfectly dry be used outside, but only fresh ones must be worn inside. These must be of soft linen. For outer napkins some mothers use cotton diapering and even canton flannel. The latter are not at all to be recommended. They hold both warmth and moisture and are entirely too heating and heavy for such a use. Nor is a rubber healthful. It should only be used in traveling or when it will be worn for a short time. Its constant employment is apt to lead the nurse into habits of neglecting the frequent changing that is necessary in hot weather to prevent chafing. This trouble, by the way, is prevalent in summer, and should be watched for closely. Its first symptoms should be checked by the use of vaseline and by bathing with borax water. Tar or Cuticura soap and a generous application of carbolic talcum are admirable. When the tendency threatens to become chronic the inflamed parts should be bathed with borax water after each changing, then carefully dried and powdered.

With the baby in short clothes the same care of the diapers must be observed. Its undergarments should be the same as those of the younger child so far as shirt and band are concerned. Its short flannel and white skirts may be buttoned to the one little underwaist. Its slip or frock should be simply made and beautified with fine tucks or hemstitching. It is better to save money from lace and Hamburg trimming and expend it instead on enough plain frocks to allow frequent change without making the doing up of the wee dresses a burden on account of their elaborate adornment. Long stockings and shoes should cover the child's legs and feet, and these, like the socks, should be often removed to ascertain whether the feet are in the proper condition.

The night clothing should be yet simpler. A great mistake is made in overloading a child with a multiplicity of garments when he is going to sleep. Most children perspire in slumber and lose strength when too warmly clad. The best night dress is of flannel, of mixed cotton and wool, made long and full and gathered at the bottom by a drawing string. Under this there should be nothing but the band and diaper for a child over four or five months old. Children below this age are better in pinning blanket and cambric night dress over the shirt and band. No socks are necessary.

The clothing should always be changed at night leaving on nothing that has been worn in the daytime, and the child's body should be sponged off with tepid water before the night garments are put on. Under no circumstances should a rubber be worn at night. Not only is it uncomfortable and unwholesome but it is also apt to become mal-odorous. A small pad of cotton covered with cheese cloth and furnished with tapes to tie around the waist may be fastened on outside of the napkins or laid under the baby. The bed clothes should be light. If the child is apt to throw his arms about and refuses to keep his shoulders covered, little jackets of thin canton flannel may be made, reaching to just below the waist. These may be slipped on over the night dress on cool nights. The bag style of the night dress protects the feet.

Feather beds are never desirable for either adults or children, even in cool weather. Especially are they to be deprecated for the latter during the summer heats. A good hair mattress with a padded cover of cotton batting tacked between a couple of thicknesses of unbleached cheese cloth, a small hair pillow with a linen pillow slip are better for the baby's health and induce sounder and more refreshing slumber than all the feathers ever plucked. When possible, baby should have a bed to himself. While the well-known theory that a child generally loses vigor by sleeping with a grown person may not be true in the case of a mother and her babe, it is still unquestionable that both rest more comfortably on hot nights in separate couches.

The mother who is so happy as to nurse her own child is spared endless trouble in preparing and preserving food. For the benefit of those unfortunate ones who are obliged to feed their babies from a bottle or cup, aids have been devised by which food can be kept sweet without the exertion of a journey to the cellar in the dead of night.

The baby refrigerator is the best of these. It consists of a square tin case about the dimensions of an ordinary bread box, and is divided into compartments. In the bottom one, lined and prepared for the purpose, the ice is kept. This is furnished with a faucet by which to draw off the water as the ice melts. The upper compartment holds the milk or food for the little one. This refrigerator is an inestimable comfort to the mother of a young infant, particularly when at a summer hotel or boarding house. As a rule, a child who has reached his second summer should require nothing in the night beyond a drink of water, but even at this age he needs a drink of milk at an early hour in the morning and the refrigerator will keep this sweet.

To those who are unable to procure such an ice box a substitute may be improvised by placing a large block or several smaller pieces of ice in a pail and covering this with a thick flannel or a scrap of an old blanket. On top of this may be set the vessel containing the milk or food and over all must be thrown another heavy flannel. If closely covered the ice melts very slowly. The best kind of pail is of tin or of wood pulp. The ordinary wooden pail is prone to warp and crack.

It seems hardly necessary to utter a warning against giving cold food to a young baby, but it is safe to offer a word of caution against feeding undiluted milk to a baby on first going into the country. Even the purest milk that can be purchased in the city is not as rich as that procured straight from the cow. Until a child becomes accustomed to it, there is danger of its causing indigestion. Let it be given at first in the proportion of equal parts of milk and boiling water to a delicate baby, next reduce the water to one-third and then gradually make the quantity of water smaller, should the child continue well, until it is able to take it unmixed. The mother should convince herself by personal observation that the milk is fresh and that it is kept in a clean and properly ventilated place.

Questions of diet fall more strictly under a physician's supervision, but it may not come amiss to enter a protest against feeding a teething child in summer with grease or gravy in any form, fresh raw fruit, candy or cake. Sweets are best left alone except for a small amount of sugar on the cereal porridges which should be the child's principal food. Bread and milk,—with a little lime water added if there is any tendency to sour stomach—a semi-occasional baked potato or baked apple, beef juice or mutton broth once or twice a week, a soft boiled egg rather oftener, and the aforesaid cereals furnish quite sufficient variety. Try no new viands, but give those that you know agree with baby's stomach.

The baby must not be sent out of doors too early in the morning, but kept in until the sun has driven away dampness. Noon heats are equally undesirable. Keep him in the shade and avoid violent exercise for him in the middle of the day. Let him take his nap in a shady corner of the verandah or in his carriage under a tree, shielded alike from glare and draughts. Do not follow every one's advice in the care of the little ones but think for them yourself. Watch them closely, study their physical idiosyncracies, and then, in the words of a physician noted for his success in children's complaints "*Use your judgment.*"

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE DECAY OF DEFERENCE TOWARDS WOMEN.

BY MRS. M. P. HANDY.

Old-fashioned people who deplore the degeneracy of the present day, as compared with that of our grandfathers, find nothing in which it has so manifestly deteriorated as in the stately courtesy formerly paid to women.

Lord Chesterfield and Sir Charles Grandison are as much myths of a past age as is Don Quixote, and there are no visible heirs of their punctilious politeness.

To those who regret them the world answers, if it pauses long enough to answer at all, that life is too short and too busy for such formalities. The man who has to catch a train has no time to stand bowing and scraping, hat in hand; a hasty nod is all the recognition he can give to his dearest friend, lest he be just in time to see his train steaming out of the station.

Perhaps the world is right, and society may have caught the infection of the mad hurry which is one of the characteristics of the American people. For he who has one set of manners for everyday, and another for state occasions, can never be thoroughbred; the mask, however carefully worn, will slip aside now and then, and the true individual beneath be revealed. But does this account for the whole? Are not the women themselves to blame in greater or less degree for any lack of courtesy shown them on the part of the men with whom they associate? In the first place, the boy being father of the man, it is in the nursery, where women reign supreme, that the first lessons in behaviour are given. The boy who is permitted to be disrespectful to his mother, and rude to his sisters can scarcely be expected to treat other women with courtesy in after life; if allowed to be overbearing in babyhood the habit will in all likelihood grow with his growth and strengthen with his strength.

It may seem hard that the boy should always give up, and doubtless care must be taken that the girl is not permitted to be exacting; but unless the rights of the weak, as such, are respected, we must go back to the motto of Rob Roy: "He may take who hath the power, while he may keep who can."

No one who takes note of the free-and-easy manners of the girls of the day, misses still in short dresses, or in their first long ones, "hail fellow well met," with all the boys of their acquaintance, can wonder that the boys thus treated return the treatment in kind, and that it never occurs to them that the first attributes of a man in his dealings with women should be gentleness and courtesy. "Good manners," saith Emerson, "requires time," and it may be questioned whether in these days of steam and electricity, it were advisable to go back to the buckram time of "Sir" and "Madam." Still, it would improve matters greatly if our young people were taught to treat each other with more reserve and formality; if "Hello, Lou!" and "Hello, Charley!" were not so often heard as greetings in public places. They say they mean no harm, and only old fogies think they do; but courtesy is the oil of life's machinery, which after awhile grows harsh and rusty for lack of it.

Those who clamor unceasingly for woman suffrage as a panacea for all the wrongs and woes of women, are also not without blame in the matter. It is not within the scope of the present article even to touch on this mixed question, nor yet on the more important one of physical education; whether that rare creature, a perfectly healthy woman is, or is not, the equal of man in physical endurance. As the case stands he is bodily the stronger, and given "a fair field and no favor" the weaker must go to the wall. Human nature is selfish, and though most men, worthy the name, are willing to lend a protecting arm to weakness which turns to them for aid, they do not care to be always giving up when they get no thanks for so doing. In other words, when the sacrifice which he gallantly makes as a favor, is coolly accepted as a right, he is apt to neglect to make it next time.

If, for example, a woman fails to thank the man who gives her his seat in a horse car, he is likely to make such omission the excuse for keeping his place thereafter, and the rudeness may thus recoil on some one to whom the rest would be a charity, and by whom it would be gratefully appreciated. Yet a man may be tired or feeble in spite of his boasted strength, and it is not always easy to tell which women are able to stand, and which are not.

Self-respect always commands respect from others, and it may be laid down as an almost infallible rule that she who thoroughly respects herself will receive respectful treatment from others, whatever her station in life. Such self-respect is like the invisible and invulnerable armor of the fairy tale, which while it opposed no perceptible barrier, was always and everywhere an efficient protection to its wearers. The girl of the period is apt to undervalue this shield of quiet dignity, to be loud and rushing if not fast, thinking that the more notice she attracts the more admiration she excites. A girl may pass through such experience safely, as many like her have done, settle down into a sober, staid matron who shall do her duty as well as though she had never been hoydenish. Women who must make their own way in the world often loose much of the help and comfort which they might have from men, by reason of the aggressive self-assertion; the half-defiant manner in which they claim to be able to stand alone, and yet lean heavily all the time,—assuming the rights of a man, while holding fast to the privileges of a woman. Strange it is that so many women fail to perceive that merely from a business point of view it *pays* to be womanly. The women whom the world honors, who have attained not only notoriety but distinction, have always remembered their womanhood. Unfortunately, brass passes current in some circles in place of better coin, and so women with more or less ability, who must earn a living or starve, strive to push themselves into succes where otherwise they fear certain failure.

The civil war, also, must be reckoned among the causes of the decay of fine manners. After four years of service the soldiers came home "rude of speech and little versed in the soft phrase of peace." Their women welcomed them gladly and proudly, and, with the hero-worship inherent in the feminine heart, bowed before them, careless what traditions of the parlor were set aside, that trowsers were tucked into boots, and cigars and pipes smoked at all hours, in any and all company. The men whom the nation delighted to honor were not to be fettered by merely conventional rules. Example is all-powerful, and its effect is plainly to be seen upon the present generation. As already indicated, the remedy lies in the hands of the women themselves, and the reform must begin in the nursery.

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(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

WHAT SHE TOLD ME.

BY KATHERINE PAXON.

"I can only think it done to annoy me! It is indifference, not forgetfulness! It grows worse and worse! and every day he is more abstracted, and so peculiar, that I almost hate him! *Don't* you think Dave very selfish?" I asked, turning to my companion, Mrs. Thornhill, who was spending a few weeks with us in our lovely country home, "Clifton," situated just beyond the Georgetown Heights.

It was a perfect day; the atmosphere laden with all the swects of Spring—sweets exhaled from the throats of apple and cherry blossoms with which the trees were freighted, and from the delicious notes of the blue-bird and oriole, and twitter of the swallows as they flitted hither and thither wild with the joy of Spring.

Not receiving answer, I turned from the basket of freshly-cut flowers Mike had just brought in from the conservatory, and repeated my question.

"*Don't* you think him awfully mean, Mrs. Thornhill?"

"No, Kate, I can't say that Mr. Faxon strikes me as being either selfish or mean. He is evidently much engrossed by business cares, and I must say that it has surprised me that, loving him as you do, you annoy him with so many trite commissions."

"What a champion he has in you! Shall I congratulate him on his return? It will encourage him to know *one* of us sympathize with him?" I answered in a fretted tone.

My sarcastic retort brought no response and turning to place a-top the cabinet, a bunch of roses, I glanced toward Mrs. Thornhill.

Her work had fallen from her hands and they were folded over the dainty embroidery; her eyes were fixed on the peaceful scene without, but were looking far beyond what met their gaze; in its repose her face was very sad and here and there one could trace lines made by some terrible experience in suffering, which must have been violent to leave such imprint.

She was scarcely ten years my senior, but great dignity and gravity gave impression that she was much older. We were friends of five years standing, and every spring exacted from her a long visit which in autumn we returned at their elegant home in New York, or their beautiful cottage at Garrisons-on-the-Hudson.

I was always better for association with her, and recognizing her influence, she had never been slow to exert it. Always gentle, always patient with her children, tender in every way with Mr. Thornhill, kind to the old nurse, who had taken care of her in her girlhood days, I longed to be like her! And as I watched her, day by day, I grew more and more convinced that something held in check the impulses, springing from a heart I felt had not always been as docile, and a will that was once intractable.

How did I know it? By her eyes which I had seen flash; by the mouth I had seen firmly set; by the lips I had seen curl; by the color I had seen come and go. All these are as lightning telling the storm is near though it may never break.

There was a history, I felt certain; if I could only hear it.

Chafing under her silence, I called her name intending to again put the question, but she said:

"Pardon me, Kate. I heard you, dear. I've been wondering are you nearing the crisis."

"Crisis! Of what?" I asked.

"Your married happiness."

"What do you mean, Mrs. Thornhill?"

"What I say—the crisis of your wedded happiness. A period inevitable in the life of every married woman. A time during which unless tended by skilled hands, and watched by experienced eyes, and ministered to by a brave heart, the happiness must die; but with such aid, will after bitter suffering recover, and never—never—never know relapse."

"I can't understand you. I'm stupid. Don't talk in figures; give me plain speech. What is it?"

"I will, dear; but let us first understand each other. When a doctor is sent for to a sick patient, he asks all the symptoms; they are frankly told; then he prescribes intelligently. Now you must tell me just the cause of the trouble. What has Mr. Faxon done to so irritate you? Hearing all this I will give you a page from my life's history. I never thought to show it, but it may help two I love to better understanding, and thus avert a consequence that otherwise will as surely result from all these differences as the night follows the day."

"Done? Good gracious! If you were not the dearest woman in all the world, I'd be raving with you. Done? Why, he is always doing now-a-days, and when he isn't *doing* he is leaving undone all I ask him to attend to. Last Monday I gave him letters to mail in time for Wednesday's steamer; a birthday card for mama; I wanted it to get to Nice on her birthday, and a note to Carvier the florist there, to send her a basket of flowers that morning with my card, and here, Friday, he pulls them out and says:

'By George! Kate, I'm awfully sorry; here are your letters.'

"I want him to go to-morrow with us to the Little Falls: tis our wedding anniversary, and he says:

'No, dear, you go; I can't; but I will come at noon.' "Of course he won't, for he says, though I don't believe him, that he has an important patent case:—everything is important but me. I asked him to leave the order at Joyces about the lining of my landau; they've been a week waiting for orders, and he says I mustn't give 'em and he won't, and the victoria's shabby, and the phaeton's out of style, and here all this perfect weather, and—but it's no use; it is dreadful; then he comes home and won't talk, (even you must notice that) he reads those horrid rustling old papers, and tells off on his fingers something about carbon and telepone, and pumps; and I declare I am on the verge of idiocy! I believe he does it all to aggravate me! I don't believe he cares a penny for me! I believe he is tired of me, and don't like to tell me; and really when you are not here, and only Mabel and John, I think some days I can't stand it, and almost make up my mind to go away from him!"

"Is that all, Kate?"

"All? All! I think it is quite enough, Mrs. Thornhill! What did you expect? to hear he dragged me by my hair? beat me? tried to kill me?"

"No dearie, not that. I only wished to know if you had told me all."

"Yes; that is all I can remember; and it is very wearing; a saint couldn't stand it."

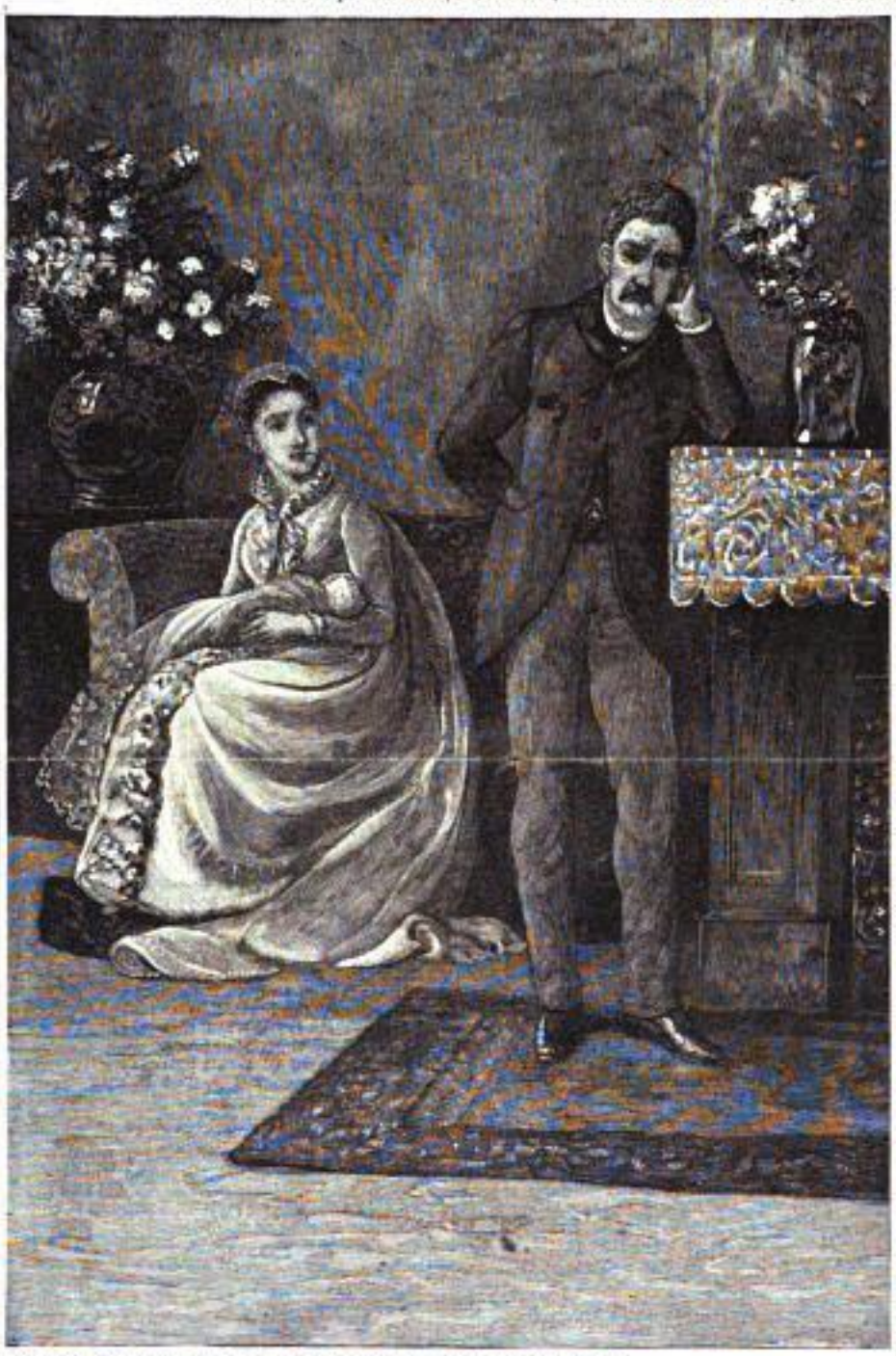
"It is enough, my dear Kate, to try your patience, and tax your affection, but not enough to have exhausted one or the other or both; not enough to blind you to your husband's generous love for you and your children; not enough to make you even think of forgetting what you owe him as wife, them as mother. *Have* you told me all, Kate, you think I ought to know? If you have I will tell you my story."

"No, no, not all! You see when Dave comes in, I ask him right away for the books, or worsted, or silk, or canvas, or whatever else I've commissioned him to get; he confesses having forgotten, I get angry, then he get provoked, then I say ugly things, and he makes a hateful speech, and then we won't speak for a day, maybe two; then we make up and everything is smooth until the next time; and oh, Mrs. Thornhill, it makes me so wretched! I love Dave, with all my heart, and were anything to happen to him I'd die! but then he *is* so trying, and if things go on so it will end in separation."

"*Never*, Kate; let come what will, but that never. Wait here a moment," and she stepped through the low French window on to the verandah, ostensibly to ask Margaret to take her children with mine to the old apple-tree by the brook, but in reality to gain time for the steadying of nerve, and strengthening of purpose, needed to carry her through the strain of the ordeal she had imposed on mind and heart.

Returning and seating herself in the low Turkish chair, busying herself with the embroidery growing to such tropical beauty under her needle, she commenced:

When I was nineteen and Philip Thornhill



twenty-four, we were married at Grace church—the wedding of the season. Our wedding journey ran through six months, and was spent on the Continent, with the exception of a few weeks at lovely Grassmere. Our return was hastened by my mother's death. I tenderly loved her and she deserved far more than I gave, for day and night I was her one thought, as after my father's death I had been her only comfort. Long and deeply I mourned her, and even *now* I miss her.

After our return we lived with Philip's father for a year, and then bought and furnished the home on West 23d street, where as you know, we still live. Everything an ample purse, refined taste and generous heart could reach was put in the house, and then after six months came the stray sunbeam from God's glory, Harry, the big fellow you now know. Except for dear faithful Margaret and the baby, I was, in those first sweet months of motherhood, alone. The war grew in magnitude. My husband rushed into the wildest speculations. Gold, stocks, flour, pork, army supplies and God knows what; I saw less and less of him. Our social circle grew with his business. Our house became the centre for the reckless gaiety of those extravagant days. We dined men whom I felt were dangerous, and saw were inferior to him; but he ever calmed my fears by saying:

"Business acquaintances, Edyth; treat them well, darling, for my sake."

My receptions were the most popular; my dinners the most elegant; my balls the most successful; my toilets the most faultless; my jewels the most brilliant; my carriages the most superb; my horses the handsomest; and my purse never empty; ought I not to have been the happiest as I was the most envied woman in all New York? Gladly, Kate, would I have given *all* for the simple quiet enjoyment my heart longed for, and could only find in having my husband's time and his attention. I did not care for society; such as I was drawn into I did not want; the fine appointments he considered needful to stamp him as a successful broker.

What could I do? Of myself I had nothing but my wedding gifts. My mother only had a life estate in her property, but Philip never allowed me to feel the want of money; indeed, he gave me everything but his confidence. Our expenses were frightful; he asked no questions, made no remonstrance, paid all bills without question, but became more and more silent, gloomy, irregular in his hours, distrait when with me, and when I asked for reason, would force a smile and answer:

"'Nothing Edyth. Money's tight," or "I lost in the gold room yesterday," or "My speculation in oil turned out badly."

That was all I EVER knew. I *felt* things were going wrong. He gave me little money; bills were pressed for payment; he grew more fretful with me; nothing pleased him; his manner was almost brutal. O, Kate, if then some skilful loving heart had intervened; if some tender willing hands had taken our case and shown our love how to get well, we might have been saved weary heart-breaking hours. But we were not so favored, and so our happiness got lost by the way, and our love came near to perish.

A dreary afternoon I was sitting by my bright fire nursing my three-weeks-old daughter; my thoughts were sad and kept mournful rhythm with the snow and sleet clicking on my window panes.

The hall door closed heavily, and in a few moments Philip entered; he did not kiss me, as was his habit, continued even during the past dreadful months, but stood near the mantle, and threw at me these words:

"The struggle is over. I can swim no longer. My notes went to protest this morning, and to-morrow Wall street will halt for a moment to hear of my ruin."

I was paralyed by fear; and the shock made my brain reel. I gasped

"Your father, Philip; surely he will not let you sink; never allow your name to be dishonored."

"You are mistaken, Edyth; of all my creditors my father is the hardest, and his firm the most unrelenting; this morning they refused to extend my note for three thousand dollars; *that's* how they help me. He says we disregarded his counsel; we lived extravagantly, spent recklessly, and must take the consequences."

Nothing you could imagine, my dear Kate, would approach in horror the night following this news. Baby lay in my arms; in the nursery my two other little ones scarcely more than babies. Philip remained in the library.

Early in the morning he brought me the draft of a letter he wished me to write to his father.

"Perhaps," he said, "it will make him relent."

"No, no," I urged; "don't ask me, Philip; he has given you nothing; what you have lost, you made, why then write begging him for help and and promising in exchange for such to live by rules of his framing? No, no; tis *not* just to you, not generous to me."

For the first time, he cursed me; and muttered:

"Beggars; homeless;—and you—damn you."

"Oh, my God! how I suffered! I went to my desk, and as well as my trembling fingers would allow, I copied the letter.

I nerved myself to go about my room as usual, and after breakfast, which I forced myself to take, I took counsel with my faithful Margaret so far as to tell her Mr. Thornhill had met with heavy loss and I wished her to dismiss the butler and two of the servants.

The dear old creature saw there was more, but without question set herself diligently to economizing.

Days came and went; Philip spoke rarely, and then to tell what he had heard of my being the cause of his failure; my extravagance, my mismanagement; *always me*; until I in turn grew silent, and my heart more bitter. Only baby saved my life.

Our old friends for whom we most cared, contrary to the world's ways gathered around us; but I had grown suspicious; I was chafing under injustice, and my silence repelled their sympathy.

Three weeks after Mr. Thornhill's failure there came a letter; I opened it; the words few and to the point, I have never forgotten; and even now, with sunny happiness over all my life, when I recall them there is a shadow of the old pain.

"If you will accept an allowance and go away with your children, I will put your husband on his feet, not otherwise. JOHN THORNHILL."

Did I read aright? Was I in my senses, or were the words the creation of a disordered brain? Over and over and over again I saw them; until they revolved without volition on my part; they were the only sounds I heard; all other were noises outside of them. Baby's cry: children's voices: everything secondary.

On my husband's return I eagerly watched to see how far he was party to the offer; he gave no sign, and evidently intended to leave me to myself in the decision.

The next night he came to my room, and after touching on the well-worn chord of my extravagance—never his speculations, management, habits or associates—said:

"Had I only myself I could soon be on my feet."

"So, thought I, you fear from my silence your father's hint has been lost; you fear I will not go."

Foolish heart, could it not have seen he dreaded the struggle for me? For *me* hated poverty to come? Why did I not convince myself, that, crazed by misfortune, he had said words *himself* could not have imagined, still less spoken?

Why not tell him; I was stronger than he; beg him to trust me; lean on me? we were young; he was honest; he only wanted time; he would come out all right and better for the purifying by fire of suffering. But I did not. We both erred; he in not giving, I in not seeking his confidence.

His words fixed my resolve. I would go.

As soon as possible, that morning, forgetting I had been housed for weeks, I went to Hartley & Graham's, and sold them off my wedding gifts; a necklace of pearls and diamonds, bought of them, with two rings; they giving five thousand dollars; not their worth Mr. Graham frankly said but all they could afford.

For two days I busied myself in the trunk room packing, as we were "going for good." I took what of clothes belonged to both seasons; of my own I selected my plainest garments; for the children had claim on theirs, *I*, none.

On the afternoon of the second day I told Margaret what I could; she begged; she entreated:

"Oh, Miss Edie! in God's name don't be after runnin' away, lavin' the master like a thafe in the night. Go tell him, and tell him what ye'es are a doin' of, and walk out, quite bould, like an honesht woman.'

Finding I would not listen, she desisted, and in earnest set to work to help me. I knew I could trust her; and my faith was not misplaced.

The following day was intensely cold, but clear: breakfast over, I walked to the parlor with Philip, where he stood a moment to fasten his coat and light a cigar; as he turned to go, *I* put my hands on his shoulders and kissed him; this had been ever my custom, but omitted since the trouble.

"Why Edyth, you are generous this morning; what's up?"

"Nothing."

"Nothing. Always nothing. Couldn't you vary that expression just a little? I don't care if the change is in your voice, or your words, but for heaven's sake, change!"

"You are more talkative than usual."

"Yes; there's a break in the clouds. I'll try and tell you to-night if I'm home in time. By Jove! I believe I'll come out of this infernal tangle, and be better off than ever. I sold my Erie; paid several notes; among them the governor's; a tremendous relief, for of all people on the face of the earth to be in debt to, God keep me from relations. I've been pretty cross, darling, but I've been half crazy. Good-bye, here's the bus." And he was off before I could gasp:

"Save me, Philip! Save me!"

The mail brought me another note from his father, with only this:

"When do you give up that house?

"JOHN THORNHILL."

Again my resolve, weakened by Philip's kindly manner, strengthened, and I wrote him, enclosing one of the $1000 bills I had received from the sale of my jewels, and his father's two letters. As nearly as I can remember, my words were these:

"When you receive this I shall be far away. I take with me nothing I have not a right to claim. I hope you will be successful; and I have no doubt you will be, for since, the terms complied with, your father will 'set on you on your feet.' Do not search for me; you would not find me; or finding me, it would not be the wife you have lost. We will not starve; I have $4000, which with the note I leave you, I received from Hartley & Graham, as the price of my necklace and rings; two wedding gifts, and therefore my *very own*. I can work, for my hands are willing, and my head shall direct them.

"EDYTH THORNHILL."

To his father I wrote:

"Your terms are complied with; therefore 'set your son on his feet.' The allowance is not needed; so you will not be called on to pay the price for breaking my heart.

"EDYTH THORNHILL."

(To be continued.)

ROMAN HEADS.

These pins are always popular. They are **oxydized** and are warranted not to tarnish. The cut shows the style. The quality is of the best. The LADIES' HOME JOURNAL would not offer you cheap jewelry; you can depend upon satisfaction from us. We buy direct from manufacturers of first-class jewelry.

These pins are first-class goods only, and are given as free presents to subscribers who will help introduce the JOURNAL into families that are as yet unacquainted with us. They are easy to secure. Why not have one? Given for only 2 subscribers at 50c. each per year.

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APRIL 22, 1887.

ED. L. H. J.:—I was sorry to see in the May number, "Sleepless Mother" sent back to the physicians without any advice, and feel much interest in her case—having endured the same trouble she speaks of. Let her try giving up tea, coffee and medicines, and be out of doors as much as possible, riding, walking, or sitting, if well wrapped. If she does not soon improve, leave all the children at home, and go away for a week, not worrying about them. They will do well enough, and she will return refreshed.

COLORADO MOTHER.

ED. L. H. J.:—I will undertake to write a few lines for your "Mother's Column." Having had experience in cases of croup, I have found it gave great relief to the afflicted child, when suffering for breath, to tightly hug the child under its arms, meanwhile rubbing the back and shoulders quite hard. I could always feel the rattle in the chest move downward, and the child immediately breathed easier. I think this treatment should be known, as it might save the life of some, but I also gave croup medicine; a little alum water is good, not more than a teaspoonful once every half hour.

AN OLD NURSE.

ED. L. H. J.:—Please tell "Mrs. M. P. C." of the "Mothers' Corner" for March, that I dressed my "wee baby" only in thin flannel band, diaper and thin cambric slip, except at night when it became damp. I moved his crib into the sitting-room, through which there was a constant current of air, taking care to keep him out of the draught. He never took cold, and is as healthy a baby to-day, at nine months, as I ever saw. I also desire to thank "Mrs. F. W. J." for her timely and sensible letter. It was just what I needed exactly. Yours very truly,

MRS. WM. E. ROGERS.

TROPIC, INDIAN RIVER, FLORIDA.

(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

MY BABY'S NURSES.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

[*Confession.*]

Maria was between thirty and forty years old, quiet and demure looking and showed at once, by the manner in which she handled the baby that she knew what she was about. She undoubtedly took excellent care of the child, keeping it clean with so few dresses that to me, fresh from Arethusa's reign of dirt, it seemed nothing short of marvelous. Baby's meals were given regularly and her sleeping habits improved. But Maria had one trait which I often thought would force me to part with her. She was of a confirmedly gloomy turn of mind. Nothing ever pleased her, and many things displeased her. The least approach to a rebuke cast her into a deeper depth of gumness. The bright spots in her daily experience were few and far between and served only to make the intervening darkness blacker. If the baby were a little indisposed, Maria instantly predicted serious, if not fatal illness. A cold in the head meant congestion of the lungs and a colic gastric fever or peritonitis. All baby's frocks were either too large or too small, too plain or too fussy. The weather was always too hot or too cold, too wet or too dry. In the recapitulation this may sound ludicrous, but it was nothing of the sort in the experience. It is not pleasant to have an animated thunder cloud a resident of one's home in any capacity, least of all in that of a nurse with whom one is forced into constant contact. My own spirits were sensibly affected by Maria's constant depression and I could perceive that the baby, too, felt the influence. Maria never talked to her or frolicked with her and the poor little one, whose delicate health had retarded seriously her mental as well as her physical development, received little aid in brightness from the person with whom she spent most of her waking moments. Still, something would have to be condoned in any one, and Maria was so excellent in other respects that had it not been that the physicians declared baby's health required an alteration of diet, and thus obliged us to secure a nurse who could furnish this, we would probably have made no change.

We were back in the city by this and the new nurse was procured with little difficulty. She was a trim, brisk young woman of unattractive face, having an expression that was at once bold and servile. I was not at all prepossessed by her countenance, but as time wore on and she proved good-natured, neat, and quick about her work, I learned to like her, even although she did not seem very fond of the baby. She was kind to her, but performed all her duties in a perfunctory way and never petted her, as even the glum Maria had done. We had only one serious difference and that was when she took baby out in the carriage one morning at half past ten and failed to put in an appearance again until three o'clock that afternoon. I dispatched Matthew and the maid in different directions in search and paced the floor in a state bordering on distraction, tortured by recollections of all the stories I had ever read of kidnapped children and unfaithful nurses. When at last, the sound of baby's carriage-wheels was heard, I rushed to the door, snatched out the child before Anne could touch her and carried my darling off to my own room where I could cry over her undisturbed. Anne made out such a glib story, in excuse, of the long walk she had taken and of how she had lost her way, that convinced as I was that the whole narrative was a falsehood, there seemed nothing to do but to charge her never to go out of sight of the house again. I gradually regained confidence in her, and when Christmas time came made her a handsome present in addition to her wages.

Matthew took me to the theatre that night and it was twelve o'clock before we returned. The cook opened the door for us with the baby on her arm. "Why, where is Anne?" I said.

"Gone, mem!" was the startling answer. "Shure, it's three hours since she walked herself out of the house wid her husband an' her bundle o' clothes."

I do not care to dwell upon that night, or upon the days that followed. As we afterwards learned, that wretched woman had been giving the child brandy, and, deprived of the stimulant and of her accustomed nourishment, the little one failed rapidly. Fever and delirium set in, and for a while we had no hope of her recovery. It seemed almost a miracle to us when the fever abated and the child smiled up into our faces once more—a languid gleam that was more to us than her merriest laugh had been in health.

The woman whom we secured in Anne's place was a stupid, well-meaning creature. Martha, by name, who was kind to the baby, but had hardly wit enough to keep her own face clean. Her stay was a short one. She came to me in great distress one day, saying that she must go to New York at once. After close examination, I ascertained that she differed from her predecessor in so much that whereas Anne had run away with her husband, Martha was running after hers. He had deserted her and decamped some time before. She had just heard of his return and was about to have him arrested and institute proceedings for a divorce. Of course I could not keep as my child's nurse a woman who might bring small-pox and scarlet fever from a justice's court in the city, so I dismissed her, with despair in my heart, and set about the quest again.

This last time I was more fortunate. The woman who came to take care of my tempest-tossed baby was a childless widow, who attached herself at once to my little one and to whom baby soon became devoted. The poor child, not yet ten months old, had been through changes that would have converted to cynicism the sweetest-tempered person of mature years. For myself, although the puny, sickly child is transformed into a plump, laughing baby, I even yet rejoice with trembling. In the words of the old hymn—

"I still suspect some danger near
When I possess delight."

The only atom of consolation furnished by my bitter experience lies in the reflection, dear to a mother's heart, that my baby, who is, it goes without saying, the most remarkable child that ever lived, would never have survived her early trials, were she not destined for a brilliant future that will more than compensate for all our tribulations.

(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

BASHFUL CHILDREN.

BY MARY E. CARDWELL.

Probably since the beginning of time, the bashful have been the recipients of much sage counsel, as well as the victims of much careless mirth. Time and again they have been told by writers on etiquette, how they can best overcome their weakness and meet their peculiar trials. Time and again their awkward acts and dilemmas have furnished material which humorists have utilized upon with the greatest avidity. Yet in spite of the universal and varied interest which has been so often manifested in it, in spite even of its commonness, there is perhaps no trait of human character so little understood as bashfulness. Among well-bred people there is, not without reason, a tendency to regard it as underbred, or it may be as an evidence of hopelessly plebeian instincts. Among the ruder classes, and in practical life, especially in America, there seems to be something very like contempt felt for any and every exhibition of self-distrust or timidity. It is perhaps the effect of our American sovereignty, that an assertive self-possession should be mistaken for a proof of the high spirit, courage and general superiority supposed to characterize men born to rule. When such ideas and feelings prevail, it is not strange that bashful children are often treated with unfairness and sometimes with unintentional unkindness by their elders, and through a mistaken idea of their weakness are frequently trained in a way hurtful to their characters.

Inherent bashfulness does not imply servility, nor meanness of spirit; it is rather a direct result of inherent over-refinement, super-sensitiveness, morbid self-consciousness and pride. Self-distrust is sometimes a form of self-conceit, a fear in its possessor that he cannot do justice to himself.

And it is because of the peculiar elements in their nature, which though common are best considered as abnormal, that bashful children require the most watchful care, as well as especial training, if their characters are to be developed to any degree of perfection. It is the greatest honor of the present, practical age, that the interests of children are for the first time positively pre-eminent; never before were such great and wise efforts made for improvement in educational affairs; never before was so much good advice given in regard to the health and home training of children; never before was the subject of inherited tendencies as well understood, nor so wisely and practically considered, and it therefore seems specially appropriate to direct attention to the hitherto neglected claims of the bashful.

Perhaps the most important point in the training of bashful children is touched by the following negation—they should not be overlooked. It is the common practice of parents, teacher and older people in general, in their relations to children, at home, at school, in church and social entertainments, etc., to give prominence to bold, aggressive children, and to ignore the timid. Yet while a forward child would be the better for a little repression and obscurity, a bashful child will probably be hurt by them. It will be argued with some truth that shy children rescue efforts to make them conspicuous and are happier if left to themselves. This is simply one of those half truths which do so much harm yet are so difficult to controvert. Shy children do not like to be made conspicuous, and that is one of the reasons why they should not be overlooked. And they do like to feel that they are as important as other children, in the work and pleasure of the world. They simply need to be treated by their elders with kindly tact, to be drawn out unconsciously, or in a matter-of-course way be led to take part in the different things with which children are concerned. They must in short be made to feel that they are appreciated; that their abilities and good qualities are recognized. And this recognition must come from their equals or superiors if they are to be saved from one of their special dangers—that of drifting into association unit for them. Their inferiors are usually ready to yield them at least a tacit acknowledgment of their superiority, and in so doing to feed their vanity and self-esteem often to the detriment of their higher aspirations, and nobler characteristics. A self-confident, daring and ambitious child will, as a rule, find in his own nature, the greatest impetus for his ambition. But one who is timid by nature needs for his highest development, constant approval and encouragement. Moreover, a craving for approbation is one of the strongest instincts of mankind. It is not strange then, if shy and sensitive children, overlooked by their equals, seek consolation in the friendliness of inferiors. This social point of view in connection with the treatment needed by the bashful demands special attention, because it is essential, and also because the tendencies of the times, in republican America at least, seem to be either to leave to children themselves the choice of their friends, or, if the choice is made by parents or elders, to base it upon superficial distinctions alike repugnant to true refinement and Christian principles. And many a child is handicapped in the race for life by the formation of unsuitable, or harmful social connections in early youth.

The stern school of experience is believed by many to be of the utmost value in the proper development of character. And it is probably the tenacity with which this belief clings to the minds of men, which makes older people blind to the absolute cruelty of certain things in connection with bashful children. Ridicule is supposed to be a most potent weapon for the correction of faults in manners and morals. But its application to the weaknesses of bashful children is, if not always in vain, a cruelty which would be deemed barbarous if properly understood. Bashful children are awkward in speech and action, often in the presence of friends only, because they are painfully self-conscious, a feeling naturally increased by ridicule. They cannot be wholly protected in this respect from the thoughtlessness of other children, but never for a moment should she be the subject of older people's mirth. And this is not a matter of little moment, as a tendency to constant and morbid thoughts of self, leads, almost inevitably, to some degree of moral cowardice, and it is a defect in character much more easy to foster than to uproot. To overcome this and kindred faults, the bashful need to be helped by sympathy and encouragement. Sympathetic treatment, so helpful to all children, is indeed absolutely essential not only to the proper training of the diffident, but also to the comfort and happiness of their daily lives. Usually sensitive to a fault, their sensibilities are apt to be easily and frequently wounded. At such times their stricken hearts pant for the healing touch of loving sympathy. And parents can make no greater mistake than to close their ears to even the most trivial confidences of their children, or to make light of the lightest of their troubles. This is insisted upon here because parents are no doubt often actuated by a deliberate purpose, and by conscientious motives, when they meet the petty trials of their children with rebuke instead of sympathy. Over-sensitiveness like too great self-consciousness, is a vexatious and hurtful characteristic in a child, and one which should be eradicated as quickly as possible. But reproof merely makes the complaining, and really suffering child, feel that he is someway in the wrong, though he cannot tell in what way, while at the same time his grievance seems as great as before. The result is apt to be a certain unconscious loss of self-esteem accompanied by a sense of injustice, and a fierce resentment towards the person who has wounded him. It is the beginning of the process, which if unimpeded, will turn the gentle, sensitive child into a hard, bitter and suspicious man. In nine cases out of ten or perhaps more truly in all cases, a few wise words, a kindly sympathy, will dispel a child's trouble and no hurtful impression remain.

The greatest danger which lies in the pathway of bashful children, and one which is a direct result of their mistaken treatment in one or all of the directions mentioned, is that of being transformed into bombastic, self-assertive and unpleasantly aggressive grown people. Overlooked, ridiculed, unduly censured, in childhood, feeling more and more as they grow older the painful burden of their bashfulness, they become in a manner desperate and force themselves to a worse extreme. They seek to a boldness and conspicuousness of action for a seemingly necessary means to prevent the utter annihilation of their individuality. And such a transformation, bringing with it only a spurious or unworthy importance and preminence, must lead also to moral degradation.

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This watch is a heavy, solid gold case, made by one of the largest and best manufacturers in the country—a concern who make only the very best grade of goods—and is warranted by them for 20 years. The movement is of the celebrated Elgin National Watch Co., is a stem-winder, beautifully engraved, and is as good a time-keeper as is possible to have. The regular price of this watch is $35. It is warranted by us, strictly first-class in every respect, and can be returned if not entirely satisfactory. We would not offer the JOURNAL sisters a watch that we could not warrant in every particular. This is a watch worth having, and worth working for.

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THIS MONTH ONLY, we offer this watch for $25. It would pay you to buy now, to sell at a profit; or, it would pay you to buy now, for a holiday present. Send $25 by Money Order, Registered Letter or Bank Draft, and the watch will be sent you, safely packed.

(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

GRANDMA'S QUEER QUESTION.

"Dickie's sick," the baby murmured
As in Papa's arms he lay,
Hot and restless from the fever
That had troubled him all day.

"Where is Dickie sick?" asked Grandma,
Coming with his cup of "mick,"
Warmed and sweetened for his supper,
"Darling, where is Baby sick?"

Baby turned, and opening wide his
Brown eyes drowsy from his nap,
Looked at her half smiling as he
Faintly said, "In Papa's lap."

—ELSIE LOCKE.

TRAIN UP A CHILD
To wear the perfect-fitting
GOOD SENSE
CORDED
CORSET WAIST
and when she becomes
A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN
enjoying good health, she will then be sure to wear them.
FITS ALL AGES—Infants to Adults.
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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

MARY F. KNAPP, EDITOR,
No. 20 Linden St., S. Boston, Mass.

Terms Used in Knitting.

K—Knit plain. P—Purl, or as it is sometimes called, Seam. N or K 2 tog—Narrow, by knitting 2 together. Over—Throw the thread over the needle before inserting in the next stitch. This makes a loop which is always to be considered a stitch, in the succeeding rows or rounds. Tw—Twist stitch. Insert the needle in the back of the stitch to be knitted, and knit as usual. Sl—Slip a stitch from the left hand to the right hand needle without knitting it. Sl and B—Slip and bind—slip one stitch, knit the next; pass the slipped one over it, exactly as in binding off a piece of work at the end. * indicates a repetition, and is used merely to save words. "Sl 1, k 1, p 1, repeat from * 3 times"—would be equivalent to saying sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1. Tog means together.

Terms in Crochet.

Ch—Chain; a straight series of loops, each drawn with the hook through the preceding one. Sl st—Slip stitch; put hook through the work, thread over the hook, draw it through the stitch on the hook. S c—Single Crochet; having a stitch on the needle (or hook) put the needle through the work, draw the thread through the work, and the stitch on the needle. D c—double crochet; having the stitch on the needle, put the needle through the work, and draw a stitch through, making two on the needle. Take up the thread again, and draw it through both these stitches. T c or Tr—Treble Crochet; having a stitch on the needle, take up the thread as if for a stitch, put the needle through the work, and draw the thread through, making three on the needle. Take up the thread and draw through two, then take up the thread and draw it through the two remaining. S t c—Short Treble Crochet; like treble, except that when the three stitches are on the needle, instead of drawing the thread through two stitches twice, it is drawn through all three at once. L t c—Long Treble Crochet; like treble, except that the thread is thrown twice over the needle before inserting the latter in the work. The stitches are worked off two at a time, as in treble. Extra Long Stitch—Twine the cotton three times round the needle, work as the treble stitch, bringing the cotton through two loops four times. P—or picot; made by working three chain, and one single crochet in first stitch of the chain.

Can any of our readers send directions for knitted lace called Princess Feather?

MRS. D. B. G.

I have seen a very pretty hood, the crown and a narrow strip across the head piece, was crocheted in cups. Will some one please explain how they are crocheted? and oblige ANNA.

For the benefit of those who cannot work from the directions for Ring Lace, I will send a sample of three rings on receipt of 4 two-cent stamps. Any one sending, address Box 128, New Wilmington, Lawrence Co., Pa.

Corrections of Broad Lace in May number:—The 7th row should read thus: Slip 1, knit 1, over, seam 2 tog, over, seam 2 tog, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 9, narrow, over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 6, over, narrow, over twice, slip by 4, knit 4, over, narrow, over twice, slip by 4, knit 4, over, narrow, knit 11.

8th row—Slip 1, knit 11, over, narrow, knit 4, (seam 1, knit 1, seam 1 in the loop) knit 1, over, narrow, knit 4, (seam 1, knit 1, seam 1, in loop) knit 1, over, narrow, knit 4, narrow, over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 7, narrow, over, knit 4, over, seam 2 tog, over, seam 2 tog, knit 2.

11th row—Slip 1, knit 1, over, seam 2 tog, over, seam 2 tog, knit 7, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 11, over, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 4, (seam 1, knit 1, seam 1, in loop) knit 1, over, narrow, knit 4, (seam 1, knit 1, seam 1, in loop) knit 1, over, narrow, knit 13.

Oak Leaf Pattern.

(for Sofa Pillow.)

Use large steel knitting needles, and Germantown yarn. Knit 5 stripes, each 15 oak leaves long. Run a ribbon between the stripes. Cast on 27 stitches.

1st row—Knit 4, purl 2, thread over, knit 1, thread over twice, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 5, knit 2 together, purl 2, thread over, knit 1, thread over twice, purl 2, knit 4.

2d row—Knit 6, purl 3, knit 2, purl 7, knit 2, purl 3, knit 6.

3d row—Knit 4, purl 2, knit 1, thread over, knit 1, thread over, knit 1, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 3, knit 2 together, purl 2, knit 1, thread over, knit 1, purl 2, knit 4.

4th row—Knit 6, purl 5, knit 2, purl 5, knit 2, purl 5, knit 6.

5th row—Knit 4, purl 2, knit 2, thread over, knit 1, thread over, knit 2, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 1, knit 2 together, purl 2, knit 2, thread over, knit 1, thread over, knit 2, purl 2, knit 4.

6th row—Knit 6, purl 7, knit 2, purl 3, knit 2, purl 7, knit 6.

7th row—Knit 4, purl 2, knit 3, thread over, knit 1, thread over, knit 3, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 1, purl 2, knit 3, thread over, knit 1, thread over, knit 3, purl 2, knit 4.

8th row—Knit 6, purl 9, knit 2, purl 2 together, knit 2, purl 9, knit 6.

9th row—Knit 4, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 5, knit 2 together, purl 2, thread over, knit 1, thread over twice, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 5, knit 2 together, purl 2, knit 4.

10th row—Knit 6, purl 7, knit 2, purl 3, knit 2, purl 7, knit 6.

11th row—Knit 4, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 3, knit 2 together, purl 2, knit 1, thread over, knit 1, thread over, knit 1, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 3, knit 2 together, purl 2, knit 4.

12th row—Knit 6, purl 5, knit 2, purl 5, knit 2, purl 5, knit 6.

13th row—Knit 4, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 1, knit 2 together, purl 2, knit 2, thread over, knit 1, thread over, knit 2, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 1, knit 2 together, purl 2, knit 4.

14th row—Knit 6, purl 3, knit 2, purl 7, knit 2, purl 3, knit 6.

15th row—Knit 4, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 1, purl 2, knit 3, thread over, knit 1, thread over, knit 3, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 1, purl 2, knit 4.

16th row—Knit 6, purl 2 together, knit 2, purl 9, knit 2, purl 2 together, knit 6. Repeat from beginning.

To join the stripes together, begin at end of stripe, make a chain of 9, fasten with s c three-quarters of an inch apart down one side; when you get to the other end, make a chain of 9, and fasten it in end of 2d stripe, then ch 5, and put 1 s c in middle st of ch 9 on 1st stripe, chain 4, 1 s c in 2d stripe opposite the s c in 1st stripe, so continuing, carry ch 9 across the end; this is to run a ribbon through.

Border: 1st row—1 d c and 1 ch, all round the edge.

2d row—1 d c under ch 1, ch 1, 1 d c under ch 1, so on all round; widen at corners with 1 d c, ch 1, and 1 d c.

3d row—2 d c, ch 1 and 2 d c all in one hole, that makes a shell, skip 2 holes, make a shell in next, so on; have a shell come in the corner, skip 1 hole each side of corner.

4th row—1 s c, 4 d c, 1 s c, all in shell, ch 6, catch with s c in the edge of stripe, that it may come in a line between the shells, ch 6, make the scallop in next shell, so on.

MRS. C. M. O.

Crochet Pin Wheel Lace.

Make a foundation chain of 15 stitches.

1st row—3 d c in 4th st of chain, ch 1, 3 d c in same, (this makes a shell) ch 6, 3 d c in last st of chain, ch 1, 3 d c in same; turn.

2d row—Shell in shell, ch 3, fasten with slip st in middle of the 2 rows of chain, ch 3, shell in

[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

shell; turn.

3d row—Ch 3, shell in shell, ch 6, shell in shell; turn.

4th row—Shell in shell, ch 6, shell in shell; turn.

5th row—Ch 3, shell in shell, ch 3, fasten in middle of 2 rows of chain, ch 3, shell in shell, take the hook out of the work, put it through the last st of shell in 4th row, through the st that you took your hook from, and draw it through them, ch 10, turn and put 1 s c in 6th st of ch 10; this makes a loop, ch 8, fasten in top of the last st of shell in first row; turn, 16 d c in the chain 8, 1 s c in loop, turn, *ch 8, make 1 d c in 11th d c of the 16 in last row, ch 2, 1 d c in 13th, ch 2, 1 d c in 15th, ch 2, 1 d c in last; turn, ch 5, 1 d c in d c of last row, ch 2, 1 d c in next d c of last row, ch 2, 1 d c in next d c, 16 d c in ch 8, 1 s c in loop; repeat from the star until there are 8 spokes in the wheel, then put 7 d c in ch 4.

6th row—Shell in shell, chain 6, shell in shell; turn.

7th row—Ch 3, shell in shell, ch 6, shell in shell, take the hook out, put it through the 12th d c in last spoke, through the st you took the hook from, and draw through them; turn.

8th row—Shell in shell, ch 3, fasten in middle of 2 rows of ch, ch 3, shell in shell; turn

9th row—Ch 3, shell in shell, ch 6, shell in shell, fasten the same as before, in the last d c of the 16 in spoke. Proceed with the shells until there are 14 rows, then repeat from the 5th row, which commences the second wheel. Fasten the wheels together with a single crochet at the points of the

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]
OAK LEAF PATTERN.

knit 1, thread over, knit 1, purl 2, knit 4.

4th row—Knit 6, purl 5, knit 2, purl 5, knit 2, purl 5, knit 6.

5th row—Knit 4, purl 2, knit 2, thread over, knit 1, thread over, knit 2, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 1, knit 2 together, purl 2, knit 2, thread over, knit 1, thread over, knit 2, purl 2, knit 4.

6th row—Knit 6, purl 7, knit 2, purl 3, knit 2, purl 7, knit 6.

7th row—Knit 4, purl 2, knit 3, thread over, knit 1, thread over, knit 3, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 1, purl 2, knit 3, thread over, knit 1, thread over, knit 3, purl 2, knit 4.

8th row—Knit 6, purl 9, knit 2, purl 2 together, knit 2, purl 9, knit 6.

9th row—Knit 4, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 5, knit 2 together, purl 2, thread over, knit 1, thread over twice, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 5, knit 2 together, purl 2, knit 4.

10th row—Knit 6, purl 7, knit 2, purl 3, knit 2, purl 7, knit 6.

11th row—Knit 4, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 3, knit 2 together, purl 2, knit 1, thread over, knit 1, thread over, knit 1, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 3, knit 2 together, purl 2, knit 4.

12th row—Knit 6, purl 5, knit 2, purl 5, knit 2, purl 5, knit 6.

13th row—Knit 4, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 1, knit 2 together, purl 2, knit 2, thread over, knit 1, thread over, knit 2, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 1, knit 2 together, purl 2, knit 4.

14th row—Knit 6, purl 3, knit 2, purl 7, knit 2, purl 3, knit 6.

15th row—Knit 4, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 1, purl 2, knit 3, thread over, knit 1, thread over, knit 3, purl 2, slip and bind, knit 1, purl 2, knit 4.

16th row—Knit 6, purl 2 together, knit 2, purl 9, knit 2, purl 2 together, knit 6.

If "A. F. M." will send me her address with a 2 cent stamp enclosed, I will advise with her about netting. M. F. KNAPP.

20 LINDEN ST., S. BOSTON, MASS.

I think Crazy lace in June number matches Horn of Plenty tidy; you can make it wider by making a foundation chain of 28 stitches. M. B.

Infant's Jersey.

4 laps white single zephyr, 2 laps of colored. This is for a baby just born. Set up 60 stitches, knit 32 purls; (64 rows) this is the lower half of the back of sacque. Then add 27 stitches at both ends of needle for the sleeves, which make on the needle 114 stitches; now knit 18 purls, (36 rows.) When this is accomplished, the last half of the back of sacque is complete, and also the back half of both sleeves. Then from these 114 stitches, knit 47 stitches, which for the present, put on a thread, to be attended to afterwards. Now bind off 20 stitches, which you will find forms the back of the neck of sacque, then there remains the other 47 stitches, making 114 stitches with the 20 stitches you have bound off. Now with the last 47 stitches (as your thread or worsted is on the side of them) knit 4 purls; (8 rows) this forms the shoulders; then cast on 5 stitches for front of

neck; now knit 18 purls (36 rows) as you did in knitting the back of the sleeve, on the last half of the back of sacque; now as you originally cast on, on both ends of needle, 27 stitches for the sleeves, you must now bind off 27 stitches for sleeve, leaving 20 stitches for the lower front of sacque, and you will find sleeve complete, and also the upper half of front of sacque: now for the lower front of sacque, knit 32 purls, (64 rows) same as you did for the lower half of back of sacque. Sew up the sleeve and under arm. Take up the other 47 stitches and proceed as above. Pick up all the stitches on both fronts, and knit 9 purls, (18 rows) making 1 stitch at commencement of every row, at bottom of sacque only. Then pick up all the stitches at bottom of sacque, and knit 9 purls, (18 rows) making at commencement of each row, a stitch; when complete, sew up the mitred corners, catching the lower stitch only, thus making two rows of holes. Pick up stitches around neck, knit 3 purls, (6 rows) bind off 3 stitches at each end, for band of collar. Knit a row of holes for the ribbon to tie, by knitting 2 stitches, worsted over, narrow, worsted over and narrow, so on, knit the 2 end stitches. Knit 9 purls, (18 rows) bind off, your sacque is finished. Use medium sized wooden or bone needles.

MRS. H. L. B.

Darned Lace Tidy.

[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

Three stripes, 18 inches long, from point to point. Trim with Valenciennes lace about 1 inch wide. You can make the tidy all on one piece of lace, allowing a space between the work, wide enough for the lace. M. F.

DEAR EDITOR:—A lady requested directions for crocheting an infant's sacque. The following directions are very simple, and the sacque very pretty.

Infant's Sacque.

Terms: Single shell—1 shell in one shell of previous row. Double shell—2 shells in one shell of previous row.

Chain 76.

1st row—Crochet 19 crazy shells.

2d row—4 shells, 1 double shell, 9 shells, 1 double shell, 4 shells.

3d row—10 shells, 1 double shell, 10 shells.

4th row—4 shells, 1 double shell, 1 shell, 1 double shell, 8 shells, 1 double shell, 1 shell, 1 double shell, 4 shells.

5th row—12 shells, 1 double shell, 13 shells.

6th row—3 shells, 1 double shell, 4 shells, 1 double shell, 9 shells, 1 double shell, 4 shells, 1 double shell, 3 shells.

7th row—15 shells, 1 double shell, 15 shells.

8th row—4 shells, 1 double shell, 5 shells, 1 double shell, 10 shells, 1 double shell, 5 shells, 1 double shell, 4 shells.

9th row—17 shells, 1 double shell, 18 shells.

10th row—5 shells, 1 double shell, 6 shells, 1 double shell, 11 shells, 1 double shell, 6 shells, 1 double shell, 5 shells.

11th row—20 shells, 1 double shell, 20 shells.

12th row—7 shells, skip 7 of previous row, and connect 8th with 1 single crochet, 14 shells, skip next 7 as before, and connect 8th with 1 single crochet, 7 shells.

13th and 14th rows—1 single shell in each of previous row.

15th row—13 shells, 1 double shell, 14 shells.

16th and 17th rows—1 single shell in each of previous row.

18th row—6 shells, 1 double shell, 7 shells, 1 double shell, 7 shells, 1 double shell, 6 shells.

19th and 20th rows—1 single shell in each of previous row.

21st row—7 shells, 1 double shell, 7 shells, 1 double shell, 8 shells, 1 double shell, 7 shells.

22d, 23d, 24th, 25th and 26th rows—1 single shell in each of previous row.

Sleeve—9 shells in each row, and 9 rows.

Last stitch of each row, fastened in first stitch, with slip stitch. Turn at the beginning of each row instead of knitting around.

Border—Either large plain shells, or large crazy shells. S. B.

Handkerchief Case.

Take 2 pieces of pasteboard (not too stiff) 5 inches square, cover with satin, with a layer of cotton sprinkled with sachet powder. Sew them neatly together. This is for the bottom of case. Take one-half ounce ball of knitting silk, and crochet a chain long enough to sew round the four sides with a little fullness at the corners.

1st row—1 d c in 4th st of ch, ch 2, skip 2 stitches, 2 d c in 7th st of ch, *ch 2, skip 2, 2 d c in next st; repeat from star, and join at end of row.

2d row—Ch 2, 2 d c under ch 2, *ch 2, 2 d c under ch 2; repeat from star, and join at end of row.

3d row—*1 s c between the 2 d c, 7 d c between the next ch 2; repeat from star, join at end of row.

4th row—*1 s c in top of 4th d c in group of 7 d c, ch 6; repeat from star, and join at end of row.

5th row—*Ch 2, 1 d c in 3d and 4th st of ch 6, ch 2, 2 d c in the s c; repeat from star, join at end of row.

Repeat the 3d, 4th and 5th rows twice; this gives you 3 rows of shells, or groups of 7 d c; each shell must be in a line, over each other.

The next 11 rows same as the 2d.

Next row same as 3d.

Last row—1 s c, ch 2, and 1 single crochet in top of each st.

Run a narrow ribbon in the row below the scallops, to draw the bag up with.

JENNIE VOSE.

Rose Lamp Mat.

Materials: One oz. of rose colored Dorcas Saxony for the roses, and two shades of green for leaves; one oz. of olive for the centre of mat. With the olive make a ch of 6 sts and fasten in a circle; in circle work 10 long crochet sts. Continue to make long crochet sts round and round, taking care to widen sufficiently to make the mat lie perfectly flat, until it is the required dimension. Fasten. Cut a circle out of cardboard, the size of mat, cover it with silk, and sew the mat securely to the cardboard. The roses and leaves for border are made as follows: Fold a slip of writing paper three-quarters of an inch wide. Take the rose colored wool and crochet one ch; wind the Saxony 3 times around the paper, and hook and draw through with short crochet st. Continue until you have a piece 10 or 12 inches long. Fasten. Slip it off the paper and wind it round in shape of rose, sewing it with needle and thread. Now take the darkest shade of green and crochet 12 chains, and in each chain make a treble point crochet. At the point of leaf, crochet 12 treble crochets in the same st to make the point lie flat. Make 3 of these leaves. Work 1 row of Afghan st round the edge with light green, and work stem stitch down the centre, and vein with same. Attach the ends of leaves together and put rose where leaves are joined, and fasten to edge of the mat. ANNA.

Crochet Edge with Novelty Braid.

(By request.)

No 24 spool cotton, fine steel hook.

1st row—*3 d c in first loop of braid, ch 2, 3 d c in 3d loop of braid, ch 2, 3 d c in 4th loop of braid, ch 2, 3 d c in 6th loop of braid; repeat from star the length of braid.

2d row—*3 d c under ch of 2, ch 6, catch with s c in top of 3d d c, 3 d c under next ch of 2, ch 6, catch with s c in top of 3d d c, 3 d c under same ch of 2, ch 6, catch with s c in top of 3d d c, 3 d c under same ch of 2, catch with s c in top of 3d d c, 3 d c under next ch of 2; repeat from star the length of braid. Take the other edge of braid, and repeat the first row.

3d row of upper edge—*1 d c under ch of 2 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in top of the 2d d c in group of 3, ch 2, 1 d c under ch of 2 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in top of the 2d d c in group of 3, ch 2, 1 d c under ch of 2, ch 2; repeat from star, length of braid.

3d row—*2 d c under chain of 2, ch 1, 2 d c under chain of 2, ch 1; repeat from star, length of braid. O. A. M.

SALEM, O.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

INTERIOR DECORATION.

II.

BY A. N. RAMSEY.

Summer Work.

The hot summer weather of America has given birth to a style of decoration distinctively national, and while the most patriotic of our householders cannot claim any beauty for our denuded walls, our pictures and chandeliers in shrouds of white, our curtainless windows, and our linen-covered floors and furniture, no one can deny to this state of decorative blankness one of the first qualities of artistic excellence—a conformity to the useful and appropriate. For quite independent of the ravages of fly and moth, what we wish and seek to express by our summer decorations, is coolness and grateful shade in comparison with the glare and heat of the July street or road. And, the more fully we succeed in this, the greater is the beauty and satisfaction. To produce the best results, however, we must not only fold away the heavy woolen curtains, draperies and *portieres*, whose dark rich colors delighted us in December, but we must replace them by loose lacey fabrics, or those whose delicate colors and cool tones charm us by their hint of coolness and cleanliness.

In the modern country house the decorator is helped, immensely, by the fact that so much deference is now paid by architects to this peculiar phrase of American life, and so much has been done by them to develop the artistic possibilities of our native woods, which, left in their natural colors and treated skillfully with oils and varnishes, suggest in themselves a cool and dainty interior. But in the old-fashioned farm house, the old homestead with small windows and low ceilings; in the narrow, contracted city house, the matter is more difficult; however, much may be done under these most unpromising conditions.

In choosing linen for furniture covers, the best authorities decree that the parlor shall be in all very greys, (light and dark shades) and a touch of olive green, or, two pale shades of buff with a hint of brown. Red and blue mixtures are to be avoided, the colors recommended having been found to wear well, and are free from any imputation of gaudiness. For bedrooms, white dimity is the daintiest material imaginable, and has the great advantage of being pretty in curtains and for a bed-spread, but it is so soon soiled that the chintzes and cretonnes, with their bright flowers, make a more useful material for the purpose, and in these, too, the curtains may be made to correspond to the furniture coverings.

Cheese cloth—the friend of the needy—comes strongly to the front in our summer homes; it drapes so prettily, comes in such lovely, delicate colors, and is so lace-like, yet so substantial, that it can be used for almost every sort of drapery; it does not however do well as unlined curtains, being soft and clinging it is apt to become "stringy." But curtains made of cheese cloth, lined with a bright silesia, are very pretty indeed, and a light, summer bed-spread made in the same way, adds to the beauty of the plainest room.

An admirable material for thin curtains is known as canvas. Wakamaker's, and such stores, furnish it by the yard, and also in curtains ready-made, at very reasonable price. It is shown in plain white, grey, and ecru, and also in these colors with stripes and borders of bright colors.

The crinkled goods called seersucker makes very pretty bed-room curtains, and as it comes in almost any and every combination of color, one can find something to carry out the chosen scheme of color, however odd it may be.

These curtains are of course meant to be inside curtains, looped back and not intended to hang straight. For curtains against the glass or straight curtains, there are many materials; Nottingham lace being one of the best. It never looks fine, but is often woven into lovely and artistic designs, and curtains made of it are exceedingly lace-like and airy; moreover, as they may sometimes be found, as bargains, at a lower price than that of the plain Swiss curtain, there is the further recommendation of cheapness.

All windows certainly look prettier with double curtains, (in fact it is only necessity which makes the single curtain acceptable—artistic it can never be) and with so many cheap stuffs in the market, there is really little excuse for the lack of the inside curtain—especially in summer, where all cotton fabrics, from the chintz at ten cents to the French cretonne at $3.00 a yard, are allowable. If, however, double curtains are unattainable, then, at least, a lambrequin can be devised to finish the top of the single curtain, for nothing can be urged in favor of the thin, single curtain hanging straight from the rod; it always gives the room a particularly bare, bald look. The lambrequin may be of some contrasting color and material, either plain or embroidered, but should in all cases, be finished at the lower edge with some sort of appropriate trimming; or, they may be of the same material as the curtain itself.

A very dainty, fresh style for a bed-room, or small parlor, is to make the curtains of plain or figured Swiss muslin, trimmed with a goffered ruffle of the same. Concealing the top of the curtain is a lambrequin, made of the muslin, consisting of a rather full ruffle half a yard deep, with a narrow goffered ruffle on its lower edge, and a broad hem at the top. Through the hem a bright ribbon some three inches wide is run, and when this ribbon is measured to the exact width of the window frame, it is cut off and fastened at each end by a bow, or rosette. The lambrequin is lined to the depth of this hem with stiff, white buckram, and then secured to the curtain rod so as to entirely conceal it while the curtain hangs from beneath. This arrangement is so simple and so pretty and can be made so easily that if once used will never be given up. Swiss muslin curtains may be trimmed with a fringe of cotton balls, or with heavy lace, and the lambrequin, trimmed to match, may be further improved by being lined throughout with a bright silesia or cambric.

For colored inside curtains the French cretonnes stand at the head of the list in point of artistic value. Cheaper than these are the lovely French sateens, the English cretonnes and chintzes, and after these come the plain stuffs. All inside curtains are improved by being lined, they hang better, and fade less; and for this purpose cream colored cheese cloth is, again, a good material. Where the curtains are of figured stuff a pale background with flowers in bunches or running vines will look "more like summer" than any other sort of design. Where the curtain is of plain stuff a border, either of figured material, or, of an applied pattern in some contrasting color is a great improvement, for few colors can be safely used in such unbroken masses as the plain curtains would produce.

Thin materials may replace the worsted table cover, and the heavy mantel lambrequin. Scrim is a favorite summer substitute for either of these, and may be trimmed with the heavy *guipure d'art* or with the Russian laces with their pretty mixtures of red and blue. These scrim covers and draperies are often stamped with patterns of vines and flowers and then outlined with silk, crewel, or French working cotton. Some new materials for outlining have just been shown: one is linen floss, in all shades and colors; it is as fine as silk, and with careful washing wears well; it is more glossy than cotton and therefore richer looking. Another new material is cotton tinsel, which has one objection—it will not wash, but it is very bright and showy.

Very dainty lambrequins are made of fine "butcher's linen," or fine crash, on which morning glories are outlined; the flowers in pale pink and blue, the leaves in green. Below this border, the linen is fringed out to the depth of three inches, as a finish, and the lambrequin is held in place by small brass headed nails driven through a narrow band of pale green ribbon.

Another summer lambrequin, less stiff than the above, can be made from light material of any sort, taking one made by Wanamaker as a guide. The one seen, was of pongee in its natural buff shade, on which had been printed sprays of flowers, in flat tints of pale blue and pink with leaves of olive, and stems of brown. The mantel is first fitted with a board, covered to match the lambrequin, and to this is sewed the selvedge edge of a breadth of silk, extending the entire length of the board and round one end, in rather a full ruffle, the sewing being done in such a manner that when the lambrequin is in place, this curtain falls over the seam and thus conceals it. The lower edge is trimmed by a fringe of silk balls, of the shade of the flower stems, and at the bare end of the board the silk is gathered up in a bunch under a bow of pale blue, pink and olive ribbons; at this same end of the board, a separate breadth of the silk is sewed on in full plaits, and falls in straight folds; on its front and lower edges is the same ball fringe. Of course any drapery that is graceful, and appropriate to the material used, is allowable, but the mistake often is to have too many bows and too much draping. This same lambrequin is pretty in almost any lacey material and especially in the so-called "crazy cloth," and may be ornamented with cotton, silk or tinsel balls.

A pretty summer scarf for a chair back is made from bolting cloth and ribbon. The threads of the bolting cloth are drawn for the depth of half an inch across the end, and some distance above the edge; through the threads then left, a bright ribbon is woven. Leaving a space of half an inch, the threads are drawn as before, and a ribbon of some contrasting color used. This is repeated eight or nine times, the ribbons being fastened in place by a bow at each end or else allowed to extend several inches at each end and lightly tacked in place by a stitch on the under side. The scarf is finished by a frill of fine, delicate lace on its lower edge.

The heavy draperies of a room, its *portieres*, etc., may be replaced by linen curtains, hand-embroidered, or by many of the same materials already suggested for window curtains. The latest craze in the New York studios is to make a wall drapery or *portiere* of a fisherman's net; not an imitation but a *bona fide* seine net, grey with age, and with its floats, sinkers and corks attached. It certainly makes an original *portiere* to say the least.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

WISE TALK ON EVERYDAY SUBJECTS.

BY MARTHA BARTHOLDI FULLER.

"There is always a best way of doing everything if it be to boil an egg."

I like that terse sentence of Emersons. So it is our duty to search after and *embody the best*.

I believe there is always demand for the best in every work-shop and salesroom of the world.

Most of us must do a great many commonplace things ere we find that best method. I say method, because I believe that every harmonious production, if it be but a good beef broth, is so by reason of method in its making.

Well is it said that "necessity is the mother of invention," but never is it the mother till it has brought the forces to well-ordered regularity.

Great works or good books are not made by spasmodic effort. Neither are *happy homes* or *well-behaved children*.

Tennyson breathes the tired mother's evening prayer: "O, yet we trust that somehow good will be the final goal of ill."

Tired mother, through the wonderful strengthening of prayer, the weakness and despair are taken away and new strength is given with the new day.

Dear mothers, you feel the *sacredness* of your work, that with each day, you shall not only mould good bread for your table, but you shall mould for the tables of the world—of eternity,—in the fresh young lives that "live in your light."

Yes, in the life of your husband, for I believe, "that no man ever lived a right life who has not been chastened by a woman's love, strengthened by her courage, and guided by her discretion." That it is impossible for a man to rightly love any one "whose gentle counsel he cannot trust, or whose prayerful command he can hesitate to obey."

The buckling on the knight's armor by his lady was not merely a romantic custom. "It is the type of an eternal truth that the soul's armor is never well set to the heart unless a woman's hand has braced it, and *it is only when she braces it loosely that the honor of manhood falls*."

You have well thumbed the maxim that "you must *do your part*," trusting that your back will be fitted to the burden.

And did it never occur to you that it is as much your part to economically reserve your strength, as to impetuously pour it out, nay, *squeeze it all* out, on the altars you have built up to sacrifice yourselves upon—good dinners, *early morn* wash-day, spring cleaning, pretty dresses and decorations, or babies' *troublesome habits*.

The ancients only offered sacrifice to their high gods, but do we not, less wisely, offer up our lives at whatever altar custom or fancy may have raised.

An exalted god gives holiness to the thing sacrificed, but an ignominious scoma blasphemous to noble things.

If you have been given strength, is it not your duty to treasure it till the Giver calls for it, instead of burning your candle to the socket at noon-day?

I once heard an old father remarking the difference in the way his sons and daughters worked. The sons did each day the same amount of work, neither beginning earlier or hurrying unduly, but working calmly till *time to stop*.

They neither set a *stint* of a certain amount that *must* be done *this week*, or worked to exhaustion in the forenoon that they might finish one kind of work, to put on a better suit and begin some other kind in the afternoon. In fact, they never worked as hurriedly or nervously.

In this wise the good old father accounted for the difference in endurance and quietness of nerve of his once equally healthy and rosey little boys and girls.

Doubtless he had lost sight of the unequalness in vigor of outdoor and indoor work; of the fetters of womanhood and of woman's circumstances.

But is there not a good deal of reason in the old farmer's philosophy, after all?

Do you not every week make out a mental program of work which you keep constantly before your mind's eye—washing, Monday; ironing, baking and cleaning *done up early*, and then you must sew—you must complete a long list of articles, mending in the intervals, company to tea, etc. All this, regardless of being awake every night with the baby.

And do you not sit up late Saturday night, after all the household are fast asleep, to sew on the last button on the last garment of the list, or, if one is *crumpled out*, go to bed, but not to sleep, with that garment resting heavily on your mind?

Now, I realize that "the work *has to be done*," and that you, many of you, must do it alone, or with little help.

But I beg of you to set no stints, to carry no undone work about on your mind, to work without hurry or worry, not to crowd the heavy work into one day or one half day, spending the rest of the week in suffering, getting over the overwork. Simplify your work and your sewing, *know* and methodically *follow* the *best*, and therefore the easiest, way of doing everything. Go to bed regularly and arise regularly, and these not at unusual hours.

Scrupulously reserve some part of each day, if it be but five minutes, for recreation, it matters not so much of what kind, if it be relaxation and forgetfulness of care. "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," and it is just as true of his sister Jill.

When work is over throw off the thought of tucks to stitch and buttons to sew as completely as does your husband lay aside pencil and figures when office hours are over and he comes home to babies and you.

I know that your office hours are never over, but you may build up a door betwixt care and you, that you may sometimes close, and lock with your *will*.

I *beseech* you to think of these things.

Can the making of yourself too careworn and exhausted, to enter with zest into any enjoyment, to read the happenings of the day, to talk with your husband and friends interestingly, to help your children think the fresh young thoughts, which coming to them are as new and wonderful as though new to the world, *can this*, I say, be the *best* way to live? The best way to make "a happy home and well-behaved children?"

If we would enter with sympathy into their eager young lives we must not allow the warmth of ours to be chilled by the long cold drizzle of life.

It is only when there is vitality in us, and sap at the roots, that we can enter with understanding sympathy into the lives of our children.

They will not unfold their budding spring to us if we have not spring in our hearts.

It is only when we can see and feel as our children do that we can help them to see and feel aright. Then looking through our calmer eyes and feeling with our cooler feeling, we may help them to leave the smoky mists and *feel* that years will bring surer guide than the reckless impatience of the heart untried.

If we do not enter into their pleasures they will not understand us.

Lady, the fields of earth are wide,
And tempt an infant's foot to stray.
Oh! lead thy loved one's steps aside,
Where the white altar lights his way.
Around his path shall glance and glide
A thousand shadows false and wild;
Oh! lead him to that surer Guide,
Than sire, serene, or mother mild,
So when thy breast of love untold,
That warmed his sleep of infancy,
Shall only make the marble cold,
Beneath his aged knee;
From its steep throne of Heavenly gold,
Thy soul shall stoop to see
His grief that cannot be controlled,
Turning to God from thee—
Cleaving with prayer the cloudy fold,
That veils the sanctuary.

"That perfect loveliness of a woman's countenance can only consist in that majestic peace, which is founded in the memory of happy and useful years,—full of sweet records; and from the joining of this with that yet more majestic childishness, which is still full of change and promise:—opening always—modest at once, and bright, with hope of better things to be won or to be bestowed. There is no old age where there is still that promise—it is eternal youth."

There is nothing in the world which will so tend to ruin the disposition, temper, and indirectly, the character of either child or adult, as that of being subjected to unjust accusation. Once having been wrongly accused, even in a little thing, it rankles and rankles, till to a sullen or morbid disposition, the offence of the accuser, no matter how strong the circumstantial evidence is against the accused, assumes enormous proportions, proportions as widely far of justice as was the accusation in the first place.

An unjust accusation, if in connection with grave matters will often cause a recklessness, a desperation, that fills the ungoverned mind with but one desire—revenge for the smart inflicted, combined with a settled determination to have the "game as well as the name"—a combination leading surely to ruin.

It behooves parents and employers to think twice before they accuse either their children or their servants of some act which they themselves have not witnessed, lest by so doing they do an irreparable injury or make a life-long enemy.

It was Chesterfield who said: "I am more upon my guard as to my behavior to my servants and to others who are called my inferiors, than I am towards my equals, for fear of being suspected of that mean and ungenerous sentiment of desiring to make others feel that difference which fortune has, perhaps too undeservedly, made between us."

When giving the final polish to stoves before putting them away for the summer, mix the blacking with a little oil, (sperm or kerosene) instead of water. This will prevent the summer rust, so discouraging to the careful housekeeper.

"Stitch, stitch, stitch,
Band and gusset and seam."

sang Hood. He forgot to mention "buttonholes;" however, perhaps it did not rhyme conveniently. But whether Hood mentioned buttonholes or not, they have remained a fixed fact and have heretofore formed a rather disagreeable part of the problem of spring sewing. Many women who are fairly neat sewers in other respects, the sewing machine doing all the "nice" parts of the work, have been very much exercised when it came to "buttonhole time."

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Our New York Office is for the transaction of business with New York advertisers.

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Philadelphia, August, 1887.

Subscriptions must begin with the number current when subscription was received. We do not date back, even upon the most urgent request.

A portrait and sketch of Christine Terhune Herrick will appear in the September number.

Did you send us a club of three months trial subscribers? Why not get them all to renew now for a year, and thus secure another premium?

Miss Louisa M. Alcott has written for the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL a paper on "Early Marriages." It will appear in the September number.

A photograph of Miss Marietta Holley—"Josiah Allen's Wife"—is now in the hands of our engravers. The portrait, with a biographical sketch of this famous writer, will appear in one of the autumn issues.

When frauds in journalism are subject to the same penalty as other frauds, it will be a wholesome thing for newspapers and society both. The editor who does not edit advertising as well as reading columns and protect subscribers from the numerous frauds and swindlers who more than half fill most of the best known newspapers in the country, is, in our opinion, an accessory before the fact and should be subject to the same penalty.

We present this month, as promised, a second "Talk With Mothers," by Dr. Edward W. Watson—a talk which no mother can afford to lose.

Following this, in our September issue, will be a "Talk" by Frank Fisher, M. D., in regard to the ears of children, and the care necessary on the mother's part—setting forth the gravity of troubles with the ear (many of which arise from the most trifling causes or negligences) with the means of prevention and the simplest remedies.

If your subscription expires with this number you can at least secure *one* new name which with your own renewal, will entitle you to one of the numerous premiums given for only two subscribers, such as our special Stamping Outfit, Sugar Spoon, Linen Splasher, Silver-plated Butter Knife, "How to Knit and What to Knit," "Cookery for Beginners," by Marion Harland, several varieties of Lace Pins, Tidies stamped ready to be worked, Bracket Lambrequins, Child's Bib, Tissue Paper Outfit, etc.

It is considered a bad thing to be a square post in a round hole. Well, it is a bad thing; to feel conscious of capabilities far outreaching our surroundings; to be filled with constant desire to enlarge our world; to be constantly hitting something or somebody with our far-reaching corners;—all this is pretty bad, to be sure. But how immeasureably worse to be a *round* post in a *square* hole! In the first case, if we work away with sufficient persistence, the hole is sure to give way, and by degrees, we find our circle enlarged, ourselves better understood, rough contact and sudden jars much less frequent, and circumstances and surroundings finally settle themselves until we find ourselves much more congenially situated.

But imagine the *round* post in the *square* hole! The awful sense of unfitness; the feeling of lack and inability to fill properly the position in which one is placed; the surety that in oneself there is nothing which will make it possible for one ever to fill out and fit the position squarely,—this surely is worse.

POSTAGE TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

A discrimination in the rates of postage to city subscribers is made between weekly and monthly periodicals, to the great disadvantage of the latter; for, while the weeklies can be mailed to city subscribers for one cent per pound, monthlies can not be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent for each two ounces, except where the subscribers go to the post-office for their mail. And, as the JOURNAL in its present form weighs over two ounces, we are, therefore, obliged to ask Philadelphia subscribers twenty-four cents extra or postage, unless the paper is addressed at the post-office to be called for, or to any P. O. box.

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We furnish "The Handy Binder," to JOURNAL subscribers at 25 cents each, postpaid. Made specially for the JOURNAL; very neat and handy. Makes a strong book. The operation of binding is exceedingly simple and readily understood.

POOR RELATIONS.

In whatever else it may disagree, the world unanimously considers it a settled fact, that woman must eat and be clothed, though as to her legitimate path in the pursuit of food and raiment, there be various opinions.

Without desiring to discuss the desirability or legitimacy, of the devious paths now open to women; without at all wishing to open up the subject of "woman's rights," we would urge upon parents a closer thought in regard to the future of their daughters, which, indeed, in these days of fluctuating fortune, is no light matter.

Let them be educated for good housekeepers, by all means, if they have any taste for it, (and led to it, if possible, if they have not;) let them be taught to sew, to knit, to weave, to bake, to brew, to scrub; anything and everything, in short, calculated to make their own home or that of the "coming man," pleasanter and more comfortable. Let them further be educated so as to be able to fill with ease any position in society; let them become brilliant women, if they have the ability for that. But there is something yet beyond this—let them be educated to be self-supporting, if necessity should offer.

Each girl should have a trade or a profession. When a man of fortune fails, who is to take care of his five daughters, or what use has the world for five "good housekeepers" who have no houses to keep?

Since it is a melancholy fact that "ladies" are at times unexpectedly obliged to support themselves, (and even those around them) every woman should have at her command, some trade or profession, in order that when necessity occurs, if ever it does, she may have wares to offer for which the public is likely to be a ready purchaser; for, believe it, the world has but little to say to the woman who can urge only her "good housekeeping" as a plea for a position whereby she may earn her daily bread.

Let each daughter be taught some trade or profession outside of her own home: one, millinery; another, dressmaking; and so on; if only the so-called *womanly* employments are preferred. If, however, popular prejudice, or private opinion, does not interfere, the branches in which a woman may perfect herself with a view to future self-support, are legion: book-keeping, short-hand, type-writing, any of the thousand-and-one new avenues opening for women, or the time-honored old ones. But, parents, do not, as you love your daughters, do not allow them, in case of reverses, to find themselves stranded on a barren shore, incapable of anything but "eating the bitter bread of charity" as "poor relations."

IS NOT THE AMERICAN MODE OF LIVING RUINING THE AMERICAN BRAIN?

We, as a nation, are reproached by others, principally the English, for our typical want of constitution. They who cast these reproaches are wont to lay the foundation of this evil to *pie*. Now, when one can hardly pick up an English fiction where the family of the heroine don't produce a cold pigeon—or rabbit—pie on the slightest occasion, and as "beef and mutton pies" are a time-honored institution in the mother county, it is hardly fair to America to cast *pie* in her teeth as a subject of reproach.

Plenty of people do, without doubt, eat too much of everything, pie included; but the main trouble, if one will reflect soberly, lies neither in the quantity nor the quality, but in the method and time. It has been customary for an American city man to go to dinner in the middle of the day, spare as little time for that process as is consistent with bolting it at all, and rush back to the office, to finish a hard day's work—eating a light supper, if they have time, and perhaps finishing the day altogether in the office.

There is an axiom in the beginning of all philosophy books, that no two objects can occupy the same space at the same time, the reverse of that proposition being equally true. As no one thing can be in two places at once, it stands to reason that, while the blood is needed to supply the head for its mental work, it cannot be in the stomach helping the food digest. The stomach needs blood for its work just as surely as the heart, and unless we can supply each part of the frame with the thing required for its best work, that part becomes weakened by the strain. To expect one supply of blood to do the work of two, is to enfeeble both the brain and the stomach. To eat, or rather swallow (for it can hardly be called eating) a hearty dinner in the middle of the day and let it lie in the stomach, an undigested mass, till night when you can afford to take the blood from the brain, is to lay up misery for one's self and nursing for one's friends; the poor digestion impoverishes the over-taxed blood, the over-taxed blood makes poor digestion, and thus one operates on the other to an unlimited extent.

It is an English custom for adults to eat dinner after the work of the day is over, giving plenty of time to it. This is, doubtless, one great secret of English health and English constitution, and when we, too, more universally adopt the habit that is now coming in vogue; when we can learn that even Americans, with all their push and brain, will give out if overwrought as any *other* piece of mechanism; when we can learn to take as a maxim the Italian proverb *Festina lente* (make haste slowly); when we can learn that "there is a time to eat" as well as "a time to work," we will be a healthier and happier nation.

AN EXPLANATION BY JOSIAH ALLEN'S WIFE.

In order to avoid any misunderstanding I wish to state that I wrote a few sketches growing out of my sojourn at Saratoga and published them in the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, when finding them so cordially received, and the subject growing so greatly in interest, I concluded to go on and write a book, which I have done, and have sold the copyright to Messrs. Hubbard Bros., who are the exclusive owners of the entire work, and are bringing it out in elegant style by subscription. The brief sketches I published in the HOME JOURNAL were but a fraction of the full book, and it is but justice to the public and Messrs. Hubbard Bros. that I make this explanation.

MARIETTA HOLLEY.

NEW YORK, June 23d, 1887.

Miss Holley is engaged as a regular contributor to the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, and will continue to furnish original matter written expressly for the JOURNAL, and used exclusively in these columns. Her sketches in the JOURNAL, hereafter, will not be found in any other publication.

CYRUS H. K. CURTIS, Pub. and Proprietor,
LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

A SPECIAL OCCASION.

THIS MONTH ONLY we offer such premiums as we have large stocks of, at prices so low, as to insure their sale quick enough to make room for our new autumn premiums. *This is a special bargain month.* You can buy such goods as we offer this month cheaper than you ever bought them before, and cheaper than you ever can buy them again. Less than *one-half* the prices in any large store in the country. We do not generally sell merchandise, our object being to gain new subscribers by giving premiums to club-raisers. We sell now simply to make room for new pre-premiums, and *will not again* offer such inducements as are to be found in these columns this month. What you can buy "dirt cheap" *usually* is dirt—but not in this case. Advertised "great bargains" are *usually* "great sells," but not *always*. This is a *genuine* mark down; a *special* occasion. The goods are perfect, no fault in them,—we simply want the room they occupy for our new fall premiums which are expected every day, and we have no place to stow them away, unless we get rid of those now on hand. The quickest way to do that, is to offer them so cheap that our subscribers will be glad of such an opportunity and take them at once.

CORRESPONDENCE.

O. A., CHEYENNE, WYOMING T.—March 5, 1885, fell on Monday.

MYRAH:—Address Sisters of St. John the Baptist, 17th St. and Rutherford Place, N. Y. City.

"One of Your Subscribers:"—You can obtain a book on drawn work at this office. Price 25c. postpaid.

IF "A Subscriber," New York, desiring information in regard to spinning-wheel, will kindly send *name* and *address* with two two-cent postage stamps, we will forward a number of letters.

We would like to make this occasion the subject of a few remarks. Hereafter, we will consider no communication *unless accompanied by full name and address*, in addition to the *nom de plume* the writer may have chosen to assume.

To search our files (as we did in the case mentioned) for the original letter, only to find that there is no clue to the writer, is a useless expenditure of valuable time. If at any future time, a subscriber should send us a communication, unaccompanied by full name and address, she or he need not inquire later "why" the question has not been answered. The reply to the "why" is obvious.

DEAR SISTERS OF THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—How I wish I knew you all personally, and that we, just we ourselves, could have a picnic, and talk over all the helpful hints and suggestions we receive and put into practical use each month!

And what funny surprises there would be!

Do you think "Clarissa Potter," "Thorny Poppy" or "Prudence Parsons," and scores of others, look at all as we have them pictured in our minds?

Another surprise might be, to find embodied in one person, two or three *nom de plumes*; or possibly, we discover that wise remarks and sage advice have emanated from a John or Peter, while we thought *herself* was speaking; and then we'd clap him out, for sailing under false colors, wouldn't we?

But as the picnic idea cannot be successfully carried out, the old way of giving and receiving, through the printed page, thoughts, helps and suggestions, is the next best.

Late one evening, distressed by wind pressing against the wind-pipe, I wanted some very hot water. There was none in the teakettle, and the hot water boiler having been emptied, cleaned and refilled, contained only luke-warm water. Whatever should I do? hot water I must have, yet did not wish to disturb the family with whom I board, so set my wits to work to contrive a way. I cut a six-inch square of brown paper,—a nice smooth kind such as a new garment had been sent home in,—pinned a tiny plait in each of the four sides, making it cup-shape; filled it with cold water, about two tablespoonfuls; then held it over the bright blaze of a kerosene lamp, an inch above the chimney. The paper did not burn, nor the water soak through, and in a minute or minute and half, was bubbling hot. I drank from the improvised cup, removed the difficulty, and sat down to tell you the story.

RIVERSIDE.

DEAR EDITOR:—I, too, feel called on to say a few words in regard to "cards."

The subject of gambling is one of deepest interest to the whole human race, regardless of sex. But to the women who inveigh against "cards" as an invention of the devil, calculated to destroy the soul of all who handle; to the men who think that a game of whist is the gate to perdition, a word might be said that would perhaps give some food for reflection.

"I think cards are dreadful," says some anxious mother, "but do you think there is any harm in checkers?"

There is the whole situation in a nut-shell.

Any harm in checkers!

Quite as much harm in "checkers" as in "whist" or "euchre," or any other one of the much-abused games of cards.

Mothers, what is gambling?

It does *not* consist, as many of the unenlightened suppose, in *card* playing—it consists in playing *any* game for *money*.

Two boys may be playing the most innocent game in the world,—battledore and shuttlecock, say—and having an honestly good time, but just the moment Tom agrees to give Joe his knife in case his victory, and Joe agrees to hand over his ship under like circumstances, just at that moment, Tom and Joe begin to gamble, and never a card near them. Should battledore and shuttlecock, therefore, be denounced as wicked?

Bad boys match *pennies* and the winner takes the pile. Must we have no pennies? Gamblers bet on racing horses. Must we keep no horses in consequence? What are commonly denounced as "cards" are those bearing upon their face the king, queen, jack, spots of hearts, diamonds, clubs and spades. With these cards, however, the most innocent games can be played, and with *other* cards of like number, precisely the same games can be played.

I remember an incident which occurred under my own eye, which showed me most clearly the fallacy of the ground taken by those who inveigh against playing with ordinary "cards."

Once upon a time, in a family where "cards" were regarded with horror, the parents had given the children a game called "The Game of the Nations." Europe, Asia, Africa and America were represented. The king, the queen, the prince, etc. I forgot in what way America was represented, but at any rate, the full fifty-two cards were there, and with the father and mother looking on, the children played the very interesting and innocent game of "The Nations;" at least, that is what it was *called*, but to the *initiated*, it was "whist."

Had these parents been told that their children were playing "whist" or "euchre," they would have been chilled with horror, although they themselves sat by and saw how entirely innocent, in *itself*, was the game. So much is there in a name!

Gambling is the *spirit* which actuates the playing of games with a view to winning money, be the amount large or small; therefore, chess, checkers, a teetotum, or even a race between two boys, *may* be as sinful as "poker;" and "cards" *may* be as innocent as "battledore-and-shuttlecock," or even "tag."

PRUDENCE PARSONS.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—An article in the editorial department of the Springfield *Republican* on "The Army of Independent Women," in which are given Mayor Hewitt's views on the subject says, that more of these women should go into domestic service, and states the chief difficulty as the question of caste, and urges the making attractive our homes for the employment of such women; urges it as a Christian duty, and says our reward shall be an improved quality of service. All of which I heartily endorse, and what is written below is my actual experience in doing this, hoping that some may be benefitted thereby, and may come to realize the blessedness of the proverb that "A contented mind is a continual feast." In my sixteen years of housekeeping experience, some of the time with one servant, at other times with two, or worse still, to wish I was alone, I have thoughtfully arrived at this conclusion, viz.: that housework is an art, and to be done in its highest and best conception, must be given over to brains as well as muscles; in fact, brains will counterbalance a very small amount of muscle. How much encouragement and help I have received from Mrs. Whitney's books in the careful study and summing up of this matter; it suffices to say that some of the happiest moments of my life from girlhood have been spent in the society of "Sin Saxson," "We Girls," etc., and it always seemed to me even then that the vexed problem would at last be solved if one could find such help as Sin found in her housekeeping. I mean women, noble-minded sensible women, who took up the work they could do and do well without fear or hesitation of that work pulling them down, but secure in their own strength and purpose, glorified their position, bringing comfort and happiness to the home through their having lived in it. So much for what I had belived in, and wanted to do myself; and now to what we have done: The long-looked-for opportunity came at last to me early in the spring. Having been without a servant for a month, and being so contented and happy alone, I resolved not to seek one but, like Micawber, to wait for "something to turn up." For once fortune smiled upon me and brought to me a friend just then wanting a home. Here was my chance, and I confess it was trembingly I ventured upon this new departure. My husband (manlike) foretold the pitiful story of long doctor's bills for my overtaxing my strength; of aching back, and limbs too tired to enjoy anything after my work was done; and all in good faith the blessed man believed it, and I think has always thought that one of the promises he made at the marriage altar was to keep me supplied with a servant, whether good, bad, or indifferent, but a servant, as he fondly hoped to lift the burden from me. I argued on my part, a mind at rest, because I should know exactly how everything was, less cost to live, better cooking, a neater kitchen, and happiness on all sides. Drawn up against me in battle array stood also my mother and sister, both of whom declared *I could not* fulfill my part of the contract; "I never had been able to," "I was not strong enough," etc., etc. But "when a woman will she will," and in spite of all argument I ventured forth, and now, after a six months trial, I can say from my heart it has been a perfect success. In the first place, all washing and ironing was taken from the house. Then when there was a day of heavy work, like sweeping and cleaning, a woman was hired by the hour. Our plan has been to work together until the work was done. Our afternoons have never been spent in housework, nor was it necessary, even when our family consisted of twelve, as it has a good part of the summer. Our usual family numbers nine. Time has been plentiful for all outside demands, and strength with which to enjoy all that offered. Not one day of sickness since this new departure, (a thing unknown for years) and instead of doctor's bills, a physician is unknown except as a family friend. No more sleepless nervous nights such as had been my lot in the past, when only in the early morning could I woo the gentle goddess, but now long restful nights, to wake in the morning refreshed and ready for a new day's duties. And so our summer has passed, and now, as we are settling down to a winter of work and play intermingled, we can but look back over the past months conscious of a work well done, and with stronger bodies and clearer minds we can but be thankful that we ventured the experiment. And then to think, sister workers; of being able to look into your husband's eyes after going over the summer campaign, and to exclaim triumphantly, "I told you so!" and to watch the love-light steal into them as his hand closes over yours in the pressure that has grown so dear to you in all these years of love and labor together, and to hear him jokingly say, (when he finds himself at last fairly cornered) "My dear, you would never have been able to have done it unless I had first told you that you couldn't." Well, never mind, you know he has in his mind all the time the good dinners he has eaten, and the pleasure he himself has taken in your co-operative housekeeping. Six months of harmony in all parts of the house. No fault-finding, no trouble of any kind. Would that each vexed and tried housekeeper would try my remedy and find such a friend and helper as has fallen to my lot. And as a sure and safe remedy for nervousness I can heartily recommend to my sister sufferers more housework and less Kensington embroidery, painting, etc., and the world will seem brighter and life better worth the living.

HARRIET TREMAINE TERRY.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL]

COTTAGE DINNERS.

AUGUST.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

"Keep cool," is an excellent motto in theory and practice for August weather. The most fervid and trying heats of the summer may be expected during this month, and the endeavor should be to make them as tolerable as possible. Especial care in this direction is required in the larder and dining-room. At no other time of year are the flies as troublesome. They swarm about eatables and seem constantly on the alert for mischief. It is not safe to have meat exposed for even a moment. When on the table it should be kept covered with a napkin except while it is being carved, and a thick cloth should be laid over it before it is carried from the dining-room. Neglect of this precaution is liable to produce the most disagreeable results.

Great watchfulness is also demanded with uncooked meats, not only to protect them from flies, but also to prevent their spoiling. If they are put upon the ice at all, they must be kept there altogether and only taken from the refrigerator or ice-house to be put into the oven. There is nothing more sickening than to have a piece of meat served that has the least suspicion of taint in taste or odor. Vegetables and fruit should be kept in a cold place until needed, not left in a sultry kitchen to wither into insipidity. As a rule, peoples appetites require a little coaxing during the dog-days and anything that tends to disgust should be avoided with even more than usual effort.

All diligence should be used to keep the dining-room cool and pleasant. Blinds, windows and doors should be opened as soon as possible after daybreak to admit whatever dewy freshness there may be about the morning. Before breakfast the flies should all be beaten out, the blinds closed and the nets put in the windows. There should be a fly door between the kitchen and dining-room, and this should be kept shut.

Breakfast over, all the dishes that have had food upon them should be carried out immediately, the crumbs brushed up, the table set for dinner, a light cloth or mosquito net thrown over it and the room kept dark and cool. The same course should be followed after each meal. Sprinkling the room plentifully with insect powder the last thing at night and then shutting all the doors and windows will so asphyxiate the flies that they can be swept up in the morning by handfuls and consigned to the stove.

Cooling effects should also be sought in eatables. Meat should not be eaten in large quantities. Poultry is generally abundant and cheap at this time of year, and it and fish should be, when possible, substitutes for beef, mutton and veal. Nor are hot soups especially tempting when the mercury runs up into the nineties. The numerous varieties of fresh vegetables should receive due attention, and fruit should be on the table at least twice a day. There are many delicious ways of preparing it for dessert, and nothing but good can be derived from making it the principal part of one's diet. The heated body demands cooling and relaxing juices rather than the caloric furnished by animal food. Americans eat too much meat at all seasons of the year and its consumption is especially undesirable at a time when the heat renders it almost impossible to take regular and vigorous exercise. Once a day is often enough to have meat and at the other meals its place may be taken by fish, eggs, salads and fruit.

SUNDAY.

Stewed Ducks.
Boiled Corn. Baked Potatoes.
Fried Egg Plants.
Whole Peach Pie.

STEWED DUCKS:—Stuff a pair of ducks as for roasting. Make a gravy of the giblets, by cutting them in pieces, covering them with two cupfuls of water and stewing a couple of hours. Lay the ducks, stuffed and trussed, in a dripping pan, dilute the gravy from the giblets until there is enough to half immerse the ducks when it is poured over them, cover them with a pan of the same size as the other, and let them simmer in this for from two to three hours. Take them out and keep them hot while you thicken the gravy in the pan with browned flour, boil it up once and stir in the juice of a lemon,—or better still, two teaspoonfuls of currant jelly. Pass currant jelly with the ducks. This is an excellent way of disposing of old, tough ducks who would be uneatable if roasted in the ordinary manner.

BAKED POTATOES:—See previous directions.

BOILED CORN and FRIED EGG PLANT:—See "Cottage Dinners" for July.

WHOLE PEACH PIE:—Fill pie dishes lined with pastry with whole peaches, peeled, but not stoned. Sprinkle them thickly with sugar and lay a good crust over them. Bake in a steady oven. Sprinkle the crust with powdered sugar before the pie is served, and pass sugar and cream with each piece.

MONDAY.

Salmi of Duck with Green Peas.
Corn Fritters. Boiled New Potatoes.
Tomato Salad.
Croutons.

SALMI OF DUCK WITH GREEN PEAS:—Cut the meat from the bones of yesterday's ducks, and break the carcass into pieces. Put the bones and stuffing over the fire with about three cups of cold water and boil this down to a little over a cupful. Skim and strain this and put into a saucepan with the pieces of duck. Let them get very hot together, but do not bring them to a boil. Cook about a quart of shelled green peas, as directed in June "Cottage Dinners." Take the duck from the gravy and pile it on squares of fried bread laid on a hot platter and arrange the peas in a border about it. Thicken the gravy left in the saucepan with a little browned flour and pour this over the meat.

CORN FRITTERS:—Grate two cupfuls of corn from the cob. The ears that are a little too old for eating in the ordinary method will serve admirably for this. Mix with the corn one egg, beaten light, a cup of sweet milk into which has been stirred a bit of soda the size of a pea, two teaspoonfuls of melted butter, a pinch of salt and enough flour to make a thin batter. Beat well together and fry on a griddle as you would cakes for breakfast.

BOILED NEW POTATOES:—See directions for "Cottage Dinners" for July.

TOMATO SALAD:—Peel tomatoes carefully and cut them in half, laying each piece upon a leaf of lettuce. Pour over them a mayonnaise dressing made by beating the yolks of four eggs smooth and thick with four tablespoonfuls of salad oil, putting the oil in a drop at a time for five minutes and then adding it more rapidly. Thin with vinegar from time to time. When ready it should be quite as smooth as cream and much thicker. Add salt and pepper to taste. Put only a little on the tomatoes and pass the remainder to the guests that they may help themselves. The dressing must be mixed in a bowl set in a pan of cracked ice, and kept on the ice after it is made until it is served.

CROUTONS:—See "Cottage Dinners" for April.

TUESDAY.

Baked Halibut.
Succotash. Browned Potatoes.
Peaches and Cream.

BAKED HALIBUT:—Order a piece of halibut weighing about four pounds. Lay it in salt and water for an hour before cooking. Wipe dry, score it across the top with a sharp knife and lay it in a dripping pan. Bake about an hour in a steady oven and baste several times with hot water and melted butter. When it is done, lay it on a hot dish, strain the gravy left in the pan and boil up after adding two teaspoonfuls of butter rubbed smooth with two tablespoonfuls of browned flour. Just before taking from the fire add a tablespoonful of Harvey's or Worcestershire sauce and the juice of a lemon. Pour part of the gravy over the fish and pass the rest in a gravy boat.

SUCCOTASH:—Cut the corn from about a dozen cobs, and put it in a saucepan with half the quantity of shelled lima beans. Simmer in enough water to cover them for an hour, or until tender. Drain off the water and pour over them a cup of hot milk into which has been stirred a lump of butter rolled in flour. Let the beans and corn boil gently in this about fifteen minutes, add pepper and salt to taste and serve in a hot dish.

BROWNED POTATOES:—Boil and mash potatoes as usual, stir in a beaten egg in addition to the regular butter, milk and seasoning, mound on a pie plate or in a pudding dish and brown in the oven. Send to table in the dish in which they were browned.

PEACHES AND CREAM:—Peel and slice peaches as late as possible before serving them as exposure to the air discolors them. Never sweeten in the dish, but pass sugar and cream with each saucerful.

WEDNESDAY.

Larded Shoulder of Mutton.
Chopped Potatoes. String Beans, saute.
Sliced Cucumbers.
Blackberry Pudding.

LARDED SHOULDER OF MUTTON:—Make deep, narrow cuts in the shoulder of mutton with a sharp knife and in these incisions insert narrow strips of fat salt pork. They should be long enough to project a little way on each side. Lay the mutton in a dripping pan, dash two cupfuls of boiling water over, cover with another pan and bake two hours, basting from time to time with its own gravy. When it is tender, uncover and brown, basting twice with butter and currant jelly. Keep the meat hot, while straining and thickening the gravy left in the pan, as before directed. Send to table separately.

STRING BEANS, SAUTE:—String tender beans and cut them into inch lengths. Cook in slightly salted boiling water for half an hour, drain them and put them in a deep frying pan with a large tablespoonful of butter, a teaspoonful of vinegar and salt and pepper. Toss and shake five minutes over a hot fire, and serve.

CHOPPED POTATOES:—Chop cold boiled potatoes into dice. Put them into a saucepan with a tablespoonful of nice dripping. Pepper and salt, stirring them constantly until they are hot through, but not browned.

SLICED CUCUMBERS:—See "Cottage Dinners" for July.

BLACKBERRY PUDDING:—Two cups milk, four quarts flour, two eggs, one gill yeast, one teaspoonful soda, saltspoonful salt, four quarts blackberries. Beat the eggs, add the milk, yeast, soda dissolved in hot water and the salted flour. Set it to rise in a warm place for between three and four hours. When it is light, stir in quickly the berries, well dredged with flour, and bake in a buttered pudding dish. It will take an hour to bake. If the top crust forms too quickly lay paper over it. Eat with hard sauce.

THURSDAY.

Summer Soup.
Mutton Pudding.
Baked Tomatoes and Corn.
Water Melon.

SUMMER SOUP:—Two quarts soup stock, made by boiling your mutton bone, from which you have cut all the meat, with a pound of lean beef, chopped, in four quarts of water. Reduce the liquid by boiling to one-half the original quantity. Four cups shelled green peas, two cups shelled Lima beans, one onion chopped fine, six large tomatoes, two tablespoonfuls butter rolled in flour. Lay the peas and beans in cold water for an hour. Strain and heat your soup, put in all the vegetables and season to taste. Simmer a full hour covered, add the butter and flour and cook half an hour longer.

MUTTON PUDDING:—Chop your cold mutton into small bits, season it well, put it into a buttered pudding dish and pour over it what remains of the gravy. Prepare two cupfuls of mashed potato, beat into it an egg, a cupful of milk, a tablespoonful of prepared flour, pepper and salt. Spread on top of the mutton. Bake an hour in a steady oven.

BAKED TOMATOES and CORN:—Cut the top of fine large tomatoes and scoop out the seeds. Set the hollowed tomatoes in a buttered baking dish and fill them with corn grated from the cob, and seasoned with pepper, salt and butter. Put on the tops, pour a little gravy or some of your soup stock over and around them, and bake, covered, an hour. Brown, and send to table in the pudding dish in which they were cooked.

WATERMELON:—Lay the melon on ice for several hours before it is to be eaten.

FRIDAY.

Salmon Scallops.
Beet Salad. Fried Cucumbers.
Glazed Potatoes.
Green Apple Pie.

SALMON SCALLOPS:—One can salmon, one egg, beaten light, one cup bread crumbs, half cup good drawn butter, minced parsley, pepper and salt. Open the can some hours before the salmon is to be used. Pick the fish fine, removing all bits of bone or skin. Stir in the egg and seasoning, and beat the fish into the hot drawn butter. Remove from the fire and fill buttered scallop shells or small pans with the salmon, sprinkle thickly with crumbs, dot with bits of butter and brown lightly in the oven. Eat from the shells.

BEET SALAD:—Boil young beets as directed in "Cottage Dinners" for June, and after they are sliced and cold, pour over them a dressing of vinegar, salt, sugar, pepper and salad oil. Let them stand in this, on the ice for an hour before they are to be eaten.

FRIED CUCUMBERS:—Peel, slice lengthwise and lay in cold water, a little salt, for an hour. Take out, wipe dry, sprinkle with pepper and salt, and flour well. Fry in nice dripping to a light brown and drain well in a hot colander.

GLAZED POTATOES:—See "Cottage Dinners" for May.

GREEN APPLE PIE:—Peel and slice juicy, tart apples and fill a shell of paste with them. Strew thickly with sugar and scatter thin slices of lemon here and there. Cover with a top crust. Eat warm, with sweet cream and plenty of sugar.

SATURDAY.

Chicken Pot-Pie.
Boiled Cauliflower. Pea Pancakes.
Mashed Potatoes.
Blackberries and Cream.

CHICKEN POT-PIE:—Joint a chicken as for a fricassee, and put it into a wide saucepan with a quarter of a pound of salt pork, cut into narrow strips and a minced onion. Pepper to taste. The pork will salt it sufficiently. Pour in enough cold water to cover the contents of the pot well. Make a good biscuit dough or plain pie paste, cut a round crust to fit the size of the pot and lay it over the chicken, etc. Stew two hours. Heat a stove shovel red hot and brown the crust by holding the shovel over it. Take off the crust carefully, that you may not break it, and put it aside where it will keep hot. Remove the chicken to a warm dish, bring the gravy left in the saucepan to a hard boil and drop into it squares of your pie paste. Let them cook ten minutes, take them out and arrange about the chicken. Thicken the gravy with a tablespoonful of butter rolled in flour, pour over the chicken and lay the baked crust on top of all.

BOILED CAULIFLOWER:—Tie the cauliflower up in a piece of cheese cloth or mosquito net, plunge it into a pot of boiling water and cook fast for from twenty minutes to half an hour. Remove the netting, lay in a deep dish with the stems down and pour over it a good drawn butter into which has been squeezed the juice of a lemon.

PEA PANCAKES:—Boil the peas soft and mash them with a potato beetle. Whip into them a teaspoonful of butter, pepper and salt to taste, one egg, whipped light, a cupful of milk and half a cup of flour into which has been thoroughly mixed a teaspoonful of baking powder. Bake on a griddle and eat very hot.

MASHED POTATOES:—See previous directions.

BLACKBERRIES and CREAM:—Pick the blackberries over carefully, and let them get very cold before serving them. Light cakes of any sort make an agreeable accompaniment to berries and cream.

QUERIES FOR RECIPES.

21.

"Which is the best for pickling cucumbers, Whisky, Brandy or Alcohol?" M. E. B.

Cucumbers are never *pickled* in spirits. They may be brandied, however, and converted into sweetmeats, by the following recipe:—

Gather young cucumbers, not more than three inches long, and proceed with them as though they were to be pickled. After they have been salted, greened and laid in ice water for several hours, weigh them and prepare a syrup by allowing a pound of sugar to every pound of fruit, adding to each pound a pint of water. Bring the syrup to a boil, skim it and put in the cucumbers. Cook half an hour, take out the cucumbers with a skimmer and put them in air-tight glass jars. Boil the syrup down thick, add a pint of brandy for every four pounds of fruit, pour, boiling hot, over the cucumbers in the jars and seal.

HOME COOKING.

ORIGINAL RECIPES CONTRIBUTED BY THE JOURNAL SISTERS.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—You will find the following a good recipe for "Potato Salad" as the Germans make it:—

Boil one or one and half dozen, small size white potatoes until they are soft enough to stick a fork in, (that is not quite soft enough to put on the table.) Pour off the water, uncover so they will not steam, stand aside for fifteen minutes to cool. Cut an onion in very fine slices, a small piece of bacon, smoked flitch, as we call it, cut it in small dice and fry a crisp brown. When your potatoes are cool, peel and cut in thin slices, pepper and salt to taste; mix in your onion, add your fried bacon and the fat that is left in the pan; then finally add about two tablespoonfuls of vinegar. Garnish with green salad.

N. B.—Salad Oil may be used instead of bacon. If some of the ladies of L. H. J. try this, I should like to hear of their success. If satisfactory, will give recipes for some more German dishes.

Very truly, "MISS LINCOLN."

CHILI SAUCE (and good):—6 dozen ripe tomatoes, 2 dozen green peppers, 2 dozen white onions, 22 cups vinegar (small cups), 2 cups water, 24 tablespoons brown sugar, 12 tablespoons salt, 12 teaspoons ginger, 16 teaspoon cloves, 12 teaspoons cinnamon.

Chop tomatoes, peppers and onions fine, mix all together, and boil two hours. May be canned in glass, but will keep just as well in stone jars. I have kept it in jars for two years. Once try and you will repeat.

CHOCOLATE CAKE:—1 cup butter, 2 cups sugar, 1 cup milk, 3½ to 4 cups flour, 5 eggs, 1½ scant teaspoons baking powder. Bake in layers.

Chocolate Paste:—¼ pound Baker's Chocolate, ½ cup cream or milk, 2 cups sugar, butter size of egg. Boil 10 to 15 minutes. Put between layers and then cover outside entire. Fill with jelly, if preferred.

VANILLA CARAMELS:—2 cups granulated sugar, ½ cup sweet milk, filled up with butter—not melted. 1 teaspoonful vanilla. Stir till begins to boil and not again. Cook about 25 minutes, or until it turns a light brown. Pour out on buttered tins, and when partly cooled mark off in squares with sharp knife. These are equal to confectioners' caramels.

Can any one tell how to make "Boston Cocoanut Cakes"? They can be bought in all Eastern cities, but we cannot get them here. L. P. M.

CLUB ORDERS

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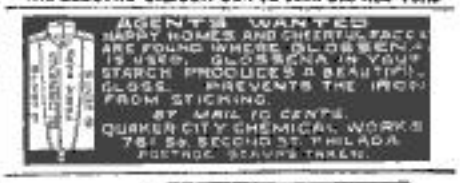

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

Lovely Toilettes for Evening Entertainments. Gowns for Garden Fetes and Fruit Festivals. Costumes and Habits for Hunting, Boating, and Lawn Tennis. Jaunty Bathing Suits for Ladies and Misses. Choice Gems in Millinery. The Novelties in Materials.

BY MRS. JAS. H. LAMBERT.

The toilettes specially created for mid-summer service, are wonderfully beautiful and stylish. Many are of fabrics delicate enough to pass through a ring, while others in silk, in wool, or in mixtures are light, pretty and comfortable, while still other goods, now suitable for cool days, can be most conveniently applied for early fall wear.

For evening purposes, plushes, velvets, brocades and silks, are co-mingled with crepes, tulles and laces, in the loveliest gowns imaginable, and stylish costumes in light-weight woolen goods, silk and wool fabrics, and soft Sarah, China and India silks are finished with plain, striped and checked velvets, with plushes, or with the more practical, and durable velveteens, when the dresses are intended to be serviceable as well as attractive.

Dainty dancing dresses are made of crepes, tulles and other transparent tissues; some beauties have skirts over skirts; the upper one usually being of flowered, embroidered, or jetted beaded and spangled tulle. Now and then may be seen a peculiar fringe of colored ribbon arranged over such dresses, which at first appears like an extra skirt made of some striped material, but when the wearer dances, this ornamentation flies about in all directions, and surrounds the figure like a cloud of rainbows. Ribbons to match hang from one shoulder.

Exceedingly lovely is a dress of white lace, with narrow flounces. The draped bodice is formed of Pompadour crepe, and the *jabots*, waistcoat and sleeves represent quantities of lace.

For a fair young lady a most becoming evening gown is of heliotrope velvet, and plain and embroidered crepe lisse. The underskirt is in a rich shade of velvet, as is also the pointed Spanish waist. Plain lisse in shirred clusters covers the entire front, while the draperies and full upper parts of corsage, are of the embroidered crepe lisse. Sprays of pink flowers, with buds and green leaves, trim skirt and corsage.

An entirely new evening dress, shows skirt front of pale blue, fancy gauze ribbon, and cream blonde lace, put on in alternating rows; this arrangement is gracefully drawn back over blue *faille Francaise*, and trimmed across the front with full bows of the gauze ribbon. The perfect fitting bodice is beautifully trimmed with lace and ribbon; cream and pink roses may be added if they can be procured.

GARDEN PARTY COSTUMMES.

While certain attractive toilettes are created specially for coming festivals, they are just as suitable for afternoon wear at fashionable seaside resorts.

Some of these costumes are simple and inexpensive, others are handsome and costly; for example, there is a dress of white China crepe, embroidered in white silk, with waistcoat and collar in old gold; it is accompanied by a large straw hat trimmed with feathers in white and old gold.

For a young girl a fruit *fete* dress is in China silk, with red berries on cream ground. Straw hat trimmed with berries, blossoms, leaves, and loops of plain China silk the color of the berries.

In soft albatross is a charming costume in high art blue, with full draperies on plain corsage, full sleeves, tunics of looped folds, with great fulness at the back, overskirt in alternating stripes in cream or *ecru* velveteen, and blue *moire*. Velvet collar and armlets in *ecru*, and full bow of blue ribbon on right side tunic, falling over the skirt. The hat has brim faced with blue velvet, is upturned on right side, and trimmed with blue and cream feathers. *Ecru gants de Suede*, and gold bracelets complete this toilette.

Another example is in cream feather cloth, front of skirt flounced at lower edge and in rounding, graduated puffs, in front, with full back drapery. Full waist and sleeves. Yoke, belt, cuffs and sash of ruby velvet. Hat of the feather cloth, with curved band on brim of velvet, same color as on dress. Parasol in pink and gold.

A dark-eyed miss, will, later on, be attired most becomingly in a dress of biscuit canvas, beautifully embroidered in red chenille. Yoke, cuffs, sash and ends of red velvet. The fancy straw hat, with low crown, and flat round brim, is trimmed with loops of red velvet, made to stand above the crown.

Her fair friend will wear a charming toilette of lace and Surah—skirt, drapery, full waist and puffed sleeves of lace, with collar and folds of Surah, with sash to match. The hat has its irregular brim lined with a fulness of Surah, and is trimmed with feathers and a lace butterfly bow.

A number of very pretty Pompadour costumes are made in the new flowered fabrics, and dressy little Watteau gowns are in the China and India silks, which come with grounds in all colors and shades, enriched with blossoms in their natural hues. Such dresses are fancifully finished with plain silks, velvets, ribbons and laces, the hats to wear with them generally being of fancy straw trimmed to match the gown.

While the more expensive silk laces are in great demand for summer dresses, ladies who can have a number of suits, or want something for "accidental" wear, form most serviceable costumes of the lovely cream or white woolen laces, over cream or colored cashmere, or Henrietta, or the lighter weight veiling or albatross. A most effective dress of this description has cardinal cashmere foundation, with overdress of cream all-wool lace, finished with velvet in the bright red of the cashmere.

SPORTING SUITS.

It is true that any one of the more simple costumes intended for out-of-doors wear, can be appropriately adopted for the entire list of athletic diversions, still, there are toilettes which are rendered distinctive, by the decorations and finishings, and such suits should only be worn upon the occasions for which they were specially designed.

One such toilette, for yachting, in cream serge, is embroidered with anchors, and ships, or small boats, with oars, in blue and gold, while another in grass green cloth has emblems of tennis battledores and balls embroidered on various portions of corsage, or tucked blouse, while over the skirt falls a drapery of netting, in blue and gold, gracefully looped under bamboo battledores with centre of blue and gold cords, to match the embroidery on corsage. The straw hat is formed in battledore braiding, is lined with red, and trimmed with daisies, cowslips, dandelions, and clover leaves, and blossoms in white, pink and purple.

Most elegantly appointed summer recreation costumes are shown by Redfern. A hunting habit of tweed, has comfortable, shapely trousers, to wear under the rather short skirt, which is supplemented with the fish-wife over-drapery, secured by leather straps, which correspond with the binding of lower skirt and draperies. The habit basque and covert coat for outside wear in cool days during mountain excursions, are leather bound on edges, the pockets, collars, and sleeve finishings being *en suite*. The hunting hat is of the tweed finely silk stitched on crown and brim.

One of Redfern's boating dresses, very pretty and delicate, is in cream and blue woolen canvas. The skirt is arranged in alternating box-plaited stripes of cream with cluster side plaits of blue. Corsage of cream with full trimming of blue. Hat, small sailor shaped frame, covered with flat folds of canvas in cream, corded with blue.

The latest fancy in forming suits for seaside and mountain wear, is to combine plaided and checked stuffs, in place of using plain goods with striped, checked or plaided materials.

Rather a noticeable toilette carrying out this idea, has plain underskirt of an all-wool cloth in which are plaids, checks and blocks, in three shades of gobelin and white, while the overskirt draperies are of cloth simply checked, in two blue shades with lines of white. The waist has upper portion, collar, and a kind of yoke of the plaided cloth, and the plain lower part of corsage, and folds over bust from shoulders, with sleeves are of the checked cloth. English walking hat of the plaided and checked cloth, finely stitched.

For a miss a neat and most becoming suit is in Ardennes, with white and bois checks like a tennis net, combined with plain bois fabric. The plaited underskirt of plain goods is bordered with checked Ardennes, the over-drapery is also of checked material with open jacket to match, showing vest of plain bois, closed with ornamental buttons. Straw hat trimmed with loops of checked ribbon in white and bois combined with plain bois.

NEAT BATHING SUITS.

To the list of materials long used in forming bathing suits, jersey cloth has this season been added. The jersey suits cling more closely to the form than do those in serge or flannel, hence it is that they are largely patronized by ladies of fine form, or those who can be well made up, for there are dress improvers which can be worn without dresses, and will stand water if not fire.

Corsets are now generally worn with bathing suits, not only to improve the figure, but also by ladies with good form as supports. The best corset for such use is Dr. Warner's health corset, which is boned with coraline, and has high, flat-lying bust edge, the outlines of which will not show through the wet dress. When ordinary straight corsets are worn, the top edge over bust always makes a line in the waist.

About the most attractive bathing suit made this season, is one of terra-cotta serge, with black trimmings. The full trousers, the full short skirt, are edged with shell finish formed of black serge, and the full short sleeves have band trimming to match. The terra-cotta waist is laid in plaits, the collar and corselet are of black serge, while the feet are to be encased in a pair of Wanamaker's novelties in black jersey bathing stockings with canvas covered cork soles, which sell at $1.25 a pair. Red and black bound cap of oil silk completes this pretty suit.

For misses and young girls the jersey suits are exceedingly popular, for they appear neat and pretty on the perfect youthful forms. They are often completed with sash in the same material, and jersey cap lined with oil silk.

In red and blue striped flannel is a suit with box-plaited skirt, trimmed like trousers with rows of braid in same colors. Sash with braid trimmed ends. V shaped yoke outlined with braid above full, belted waist. Still another suit has plain waist in blue, with tunic and trousers to match, all being trimmed with vandykes of revere braid. A *fichu* of white cashmere, is edged with woolen lace, and knotted at the throat.

In white serge with blue braid trimmings is a bathing suit with full skirt, full waist and yoke, short sleeves, collar, sash, skirt and trousers all being finished with double rows of pale blue braid.

NEW MILLINERY NOTIONS.

There are some decided novelties in hats and bonnets for full dress and special occasions. One of Redfern's creations is a cap made of the bark of an Australian tree; it is beautifully shaded in bois brown, and is as soft and elegant as fine fur. Such a cap is most useful and becoming for sporting wear.

Lately introduced is a hat trimming like that used on the cap worn by the inmates of the military school of Saint Cyr. It is a tuft of cocks feathers in bluish-green tints, bright and shining, which combines beautifully with ribbon and lace, forming stylish decoration for odd shaped hats.

The old Neapolitan bonnets are brought to mind by those made of fine horse hair, or of horse hair, mixed with gold, and very stylish hats and bonnets are formed of round, flat mats of rice or other straw. In one instance the mat is folded into a *capote*, and the trimming is carried from the crown to end between the plaits which form the border.

One of the new transparent bonnets, has folded plaits of rice straw carried from the brim right over the crown, while a bouquet of moss roses is inserted in the centre. A bonnet of wood colored straw, with lining of moss velvet, is trimmed with lime blossoms and roses, and an empire style bonnet of black straw has its brim lined with shot velvet, while the trimming consists of rich white lace, fastened down with a Rhine stone buckle, from which springs a tuft of black cocks feathers.

In silver grey rice straw is a most stylish hat, with brim folded over from the back with ostrich plumes that fall over the front. Pretty after the gipsey style is a hat with crown of gathered black lace, with brim of ruby crepe edged with black lace. Such hats are very light and can be made in any color to suit costume or personal taste, and trimmed with either white or black lace.

LOVELY MATERIALS.

For bordering trains which are lined with rose-colored silk, for stomachers, and for the draping of bodices, is a curious and beautiful creation with surface of white lace insertion and narrow gauze ribbon, on which are thrown shaded crepe roses and rose-buds in high relief, and showing white beaded centres.

A new fabric for elegant toilettes, a mixture of silk and wool, light and soft, something between poplin and Surah, but more delicate than the one and stronger than the other, is called "Eolienne" and comes in pale Havana, *café au lait*, copper, flesh pink and pearl gray.

[*Continued on Opposite Page.*]

Wanamaker's

In all the world no store so big as WANAMAKER'S; in all America no Dry Goods business so great. Having the best thing at the least price is what has done it.

SCOTCH GINGHAMS.

Wicks, in Stripes and Plaids, were 40 now 30c.
Cords, a quieter pretty, 35c.
Twilled Zephyr, looks like worsted, 50 inch, 40c.
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Sangler, (Foule Canvas) cream and black, 38 inch, 25c.
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Pongee Mohair, for traveling dresses, 50c.
Cloth for Riding Habits, 54 inch, 85c. to $2.00.
Camel's Hair, 42 inch, with side bands of contrasting colors, was 75, 62, then 50, now 37½c.

Check Canvas Tennis Shoes, high cut, $1.25; low cut, $1.
Straw Slippers, cool, dainty, $1.50.
Black Sorsey Bathing Stockings, canvas covered cork soles, $1.25.
Bathing Hats and Caps, 25 to 35c.

Send a letter for what you want, you'll likely do as well as if you came yourself.

JOHN WANAMAKER,
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S. T. Taylor's Illustrated Monthly Fashion Report appears about the Twentieth of every month, in advance. It contains a large number of wood-cuts, representing the Leading Styles in Ladies' Toilettes, Hats, Bonnets etc., that are to be worn in Paris during the following months; besides this, an article on Fashions prepared for us with the greatest care by our agents in Paris; and many hints and information invaluable to the professional dress-maker, as well as to the private lady who appreciates elegance and correct style of dress.

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THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

[*Continued from opposite page.*]

Among other novelties for mid-summer are a few specimens of India silk beautifully embroidered in floral, or Oriental designs in natural colors and Moorish tints.

The Madras materials are so-called because they come in large handkerchief plaids; they have the advantage over other stuffs by being simple or dressy according to their hues, and the size of the designs; for some come in neutral tints, blending one into the other, with mixed stripes in brown, blue and russet, while others are in bright gay colors, in defined plaid patterns.

Ascot suitings are new and odd; they are in cotton, and show a prominent diagonal twill over surface. The ground is in rich cream, or the unbleached tone, with blocks, checks or plaids in red, blue, brown and other colors. These Ascot cloths make very stylish tennis costumes, and cost only 15c. a yard. They laundry beautifully.

One of this seasons creations is a plaided batiste, with open-work patterns over it; and still more delicate is a lace-work tissue in grey, blue, havannah, buff, and also in black; skirts and corsages of these fabrics are made over silk.

For valuable information thanks are due John Wanamaker and Sharpless Brothers, Philadelphia, and Redfern and Le Boutillier Brothers, New York.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

One of the most notable events of last month was the grand exhibition at John Wanamaker's, of all goods and articles designed and suitable for warm weather wear, and general service. Tents with modern conveniences, hammocks, folding and rustic chairs, all out-of-door games, with appropriate costumes, dress fabrics, household and labor-saving articles, and best of all, hundreds of old and new books, splendid for summer reading.

It is hoped and expected that Wanamaker's hotel for working women, will be ready by fall.

In lieu of the concerts and other entertainments given tarough the winter, a number of excursions and picnics are now under consideration by the members of the firm of Strawbridge & Clothier, who make it a point of conscience to provide seasonable pleasures and recreations for their numerous employes.

The growth of the house of E. Ridley & Sons, borders on to the magical. The mammoth store has recently been supplemented by a large church across the way, which building is devoted to the daily bargain sales of summer goods. When these sales are over the building will be remodeled and used for other purposes.

The high-class ladies tailor, Redfern, has already announced his intention of favoring Philadelphia with a visit in the very early fall. He will bring extreme novelties from abroad, with elegant specimen garments, in coats, costumes and habits from the New York establishments.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We are always glad to serve our readers. To do a favor for any one of our good friends, we would gladly devote hours, but sometimes we are sorely perplexed when a letter comes, which must pass through at least half-a-dozen departments, before all the questions asked can be answered.

Kindly think how, many letters come to us every day; sometimes thousands must be opened, sorted and answered. Now, our object in writing this is, to ask our correspondents to divide their queries. For instance, if they order papers, do so on a slip of paper by itself; if they ask a question to be answered in the fashion column, let it be distinct; if facts about flowers are wanted, use another slip.

In a letter before me, in which the writer orders articles which can only be procured in New York, a club for JOURNAL's is included, and questions are asked, which appertain to subjects treated on almost every page of the L. H. J.

"E. S.":—You can get double width cloth, tricot, and bege suitings for excursion suit at 50c. a yard. Trim your dress like sample sent with gray or black surah. If you get hat of white straw trim it with black; if gray, use gray ribbon with black lace. The LADIES' HOME JOURNAL sent to Vineland, New Jersey, will cost you 50c. a year. Strawbridge and Clothier's Quarterly, sent to your home, will also cost 50c. a year. Heliotrope shades are all fashionable, but two shades of gray will be better for service.

"Nurse":—No doubt you can make satisfactory arrangements whereby you can procure the nurses' packages of Sanitary Towels, in quantities, by writing direct to Canfield Rubber Co., No. 7 Mercer Street, New York; wish all our friends would send there for single package; it will save time and double trouble. You will find full information in the May number LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

"Youthful Bride":—You can make a pretty and becoming dress of white Clairette and embroidered gauze. For a young bride make the waist full, with belt of the Clairette, have skirt drapery of the embroidered gauze. The veil should be of tulle.

"Miss Dora L.":—A stylish stringless bonnet has soft crown in chocolate-brown gauze, striped with tan chenille and bordered with a fulling of gold tissue net; a fullness of ecru Segoria lace is arranged over the Olive point. Aigrette in pink, and gold Osprey.

"Anxious Mother":—There are numbers of pretty bonnets for young girls, but hats are more generally selected for children of from six to twelve years of age; however we give you descriptions of both. A hat of rough vandyked straw in tapestry tints, is trimmed with striped crape and a bunch of roses. One of white chip has turned up brim faced with deep blue velvet; it is ornamented with cluster of loops and ends in mastic and blue velvet and corded silk. A soft crown bonnet in lace, is bordered with flutings of lisse and finished with bows and strings gold-tasselled corned ribbon.

"Goldie Blue":—You can wear cream, blue, pale pink, brown and green.

"Great Reader:"—The list would fill one of our pages. You can gain the desired information by subscribing for John Wanamaker's "Book News," published monthly, at 50c. a year, or 5c. a copy.

"Mrs. Fannie Hoffman, No. San Juan, Cal.:"—You can get the chain dish-cloth from E. Ridley & Sons, Grand and Allen streets, New York. The glove chain dish cloth for scouring burnt pots and pans, will cost 30c. by mail; the plain chain cloth will also be sent by mail for 30c.

"Mrs. J. L. L. R.:"—Two years is quite long enough to wear mourning for a parent. Black Clairette or white convent cloth will make handsome second mourning dresses for day and evening wear.

"Isolta:"—Ball's corsets have the elastic sections of coiled spring wire. Those you want in *ecru* sateen cost $1.35 by mail. Yes, we can get them for you, but much prefer that you should send, order and money direct to Chicago Corset Co., 204 Broadway, New York.

"Mrs. L. C. T.:"—For your little girl aged one year, you can get very pretty white dresses, neatly made, from Lewis S. Cox, which will cost you $1.25, $1.50, $1.75 or $2.00 each. These dresses are of splendid material, neatly made, and really cost, ready-made, just about as much as you would have to pay for the material in a retail store.

"Mother:"—Suits consisting of pants and cutting jackets for boys of six, cost $5.00, $6.00 and $7.00. Yes, at five a boy is plenty old to wear knee pants, with tucked shirt waists, and blouse jackets.

"J. K.," N. 10th St.:"—Go to Sharpless Brothers, and ask to see the remnants of reduced upholstering goods. You will find just what you want to cover your handsome sofa and chairs, at about $2.50 a yard.

"Mrs. Van Ex-Howard." Eustis, Florida:—You will be pleased with a dress of Louisine silk, with collar and cuffs of velvet. The silk will cost you at Wanamaker's 75c. a yard, the velvet $1.00. Cream Gypsy cloth will make a lovely suit for a miss of eleven.

"Prospective Mother:"—Please don't put baby in long dresses. Let the darling wear the little plain slips through the warm season, and in September, before it grows cool, put on short clothes. Yes, make the bands of gauze flannel; do not hem them. Make the petticoats of the lightest cotton-and-wool flannel you can get, and let baby wear the one flannel skirt with little over slip, gauze shirt and band.

"Weary Wife:"—Make your husband a birthday present of a pair of adjustable, durable suspenders. The cost only 75c. a set, and have no sewing or riveting to give out, so you can save yourself a good deal of trouble.

"Gem:"—Your dress is evidently stained. It will not dye well, if the material is part cotton.

"Mrs. J. Campbell," Pa.:—Two or three manufacturers of silver-plated ware, are entitled to the name of Rogers. You can procure an illustrated price-list of reliable plated goods, by writing to E. Ridley & Sons, Grand and Allen streets, New York. I use Electro-Silicon to clean jewelry and silverware. A good quality black silk will cost you about $1.50 a yard; very often the more reasonable black silks wear longer than the heavier grades. Experience teaches that American silks wear better than imported goods.

"Adah May:"—Your silk is already too dark to be dyed to a light shade. You can make it a splendid rich green, navy blue or garnet.

"Josie Barnes:"—Girls of 15 wear their hair simply arranged in one braid hanging down the back.

"A New Subscriber:"—Curled bangs are still fashionable; they are cut pointed over the forehead.

"Mrs. J. E. H.:"—No, we do not furnish patterns. Our designs are taken from original costumes.

"Daphne:"—A white blouse, under a black low-cut waist, worn with red cashmere skirt, will make you a neat Irish costume.

"Boston Graduate:"—White embroidered muslin is used for such dresses, but really more useful and fashionable are the white, silk-warp materials, the gypsey and feather cloths, or the lustrous Chairettes. Wear black stockings and black shoes or slippers, with your white dress.

"Mrs. A. E. S.:"—You can get very neat and pretty chenille curtains for $7, $8, and $10 a pair. Lace curtains are also very handsome, and will cost you anywhere from $10 to $15 a pair, for good quality laces, or from $5 to $8 for cheaper grades. Unless you have cake or fruit, the finger bowls are not necessary.

"M. O.," "Mrs. D. Butler." Pa.:—Yes, we can procure them for you. The nurses' package of sanitary towels and sheets will cost you 80 cents. Smaller size napkins for ordinary purposes are now 40c. a dozen. Send stamps or postal note to Editor Dress and Material Department, L. H. J., office 441 Chestnut St., Phila., Pa.

"Mrs. J. E. B.," Mt. Vernon, Indiana:—White dresses for little girls of one, two and three years of age, are made with tucked or embroidered yokes, full skirts finished with tucking or ruffle of embroidery. If you like better, you can have yoke, full waist with belt, and full gathered skirt, for the older children. Simple lace or muslin caps, or large straw hats, are suitable for small children.

"B. K.," Florence, Ala.:—Why not use your old black silk as foundation, and cover it over with draperies and folds of black Chantilly lace? The best bustle for a short lady is the misses lace covered Lady Washington, price 50c. by mail.

"Miss Grace Headen," Ala.:—After your bath rub a little dry powdered borax under your arms, it will remove all unpleasant odors. Do not favor strong perfumery except in very small quantities. A particularly agreeable and refined toilette water, is the Multiflora Lavender, and another equally refreshing is Colgate's Cashmere Bouquet. The Rinse-Bouche, or mouth wash will answer your purpose, as it is composed of tonic, astringent and aromatic extracts from plants. Use a few drops in a wine glass of water daily, with soft brush, or in rinsing the mouth.

"Lottie Beach:"—If your form is anyway good, you need not wear a corset under your bathing suit, for unless you have a corset with high made bust, with the bust edge or top resting on the form of the wearer, as in Dr. Warner's health corsets, they will show through a wet bathing suit, that is the straight outstanding edges of bust portion will cause a line to appear across waist above bust.

"Bob's Mother:"—Little boys of four and five years of age wear straw hats in the summer time.

EARLY EDUCATION.

America opens to her people on all sides, avenues of learning such as are enjoyed by few other countries. Her colleges, schools, (public and private) seminaries and academies are unnumbered, and that thing which makes the man or woman, more surely than anything else, save natural disposition, is to be had almost for the asking, if he has but time to ask.

Among us, however, there be many who, by reason of necessity, have lacked the time in early years, to obtain the "early education" so desirable. Later in life, when "easy circumstances" have made education possible, the work has been taken up, with perhaps fair results. But unfortunately, so constituted is the human mind, that with all the "book learning" one may acquire, the habits of early training or want of training will display itself in one's speech, unless one's particular faults are pointed out, and one strives specially against them. And nothing so immediately classifies the speaker as the manner in which he expresses what he has to say. A man is none the less a *good* man, a woman none the less a lovable, pleasant woman, because the grammar of each is faulty; because the sentences are ill-expressed. But why not add one more element of attractiveness?

Many of the bad habits of conversation, are *merely* bad habits—the result of a *carelessness* of speech more than anything else. There are many people, however, who really do not know how hair-like is the line between correct and incorrect speech. Nor is either class aware how the *little* faults affect the hearer; nor how the really refined, intelligent hearer at once classifies those around by their methods of speech.

Last winter, a gentleman was quite attracted by the appearance of a lady in a railway station. A bright, pretty-looking, pleasant-faced woman; an uncommonly attractive woman, bearing that in her manner and surroundings which betrayed wealth and refinement. Nothing flashy in the elegant sealskin coat; nothing gaudy in the expensive bonnet. Nothing about her but what a refined and intelligent gentlewoman should be and have. But alas!

A friend came up, and her first replies betrayed her, hopelessly:

"Did he, what did he do it *for*? "O my! Ain't that *terrible*! Naow ain't that awful!" she answered to some remark, in that nasal tone that makes the hearer shudder.

It was enough! The gentleman left; for there is nothing that will dispel an enchantment as some such thing as this.

It was with a view to correcting just such errors as these, and many others equally unsuspected by the speaker, that "Mildred's Conversation Class" was written; and it was to meet the demand for the back numbers of these very popular papers, that they were reprinted in book form. In their present shape they form a manual that should be in the hands of every woman who desires "Ease in Conversation," or "Hints on Grammar."

SEE HERE, GIRLS.

Girls, don't marry a man for money, position, or anything but love. Don't do it, if you want to live to a good old age and be happy. You may think that money can bring you all you desire, but it can't. That is where you are mistaken. It can buy a good many things, but it can never purchase contentment for your heart or happiness for your soul. It may bring temporary smiles to your face, but it will leave great shadows in your heart. Don't think that I would advise you to marry a worthless fellow, just because you imagine you love him. A refined, good, intelligent woman should never marry a vulgar, ill-bred man. No, no, never unite yourself to any one who is not a man in the truest meaning of the word. Neither could I advise a woman to marry a man who had no visible means of supporting her, but for heaven's sake don't marry a millionaire or a king, if you don't love him. It will not do. People have tried it time and again, only to find it a miserable failure. It may do for a while. You may revel in gilded halls, and be lost in the giddy rounds of pleasure, but a time will come when these things will be a hollow mockery to you. There will be "aching void" the world can never fill. Sometimes mothers are to blame for the unhappiness of their daughters. They teach them that respect for their husband and lots of "boodle" are infinitely to be preferred to that foolishness called love. That would do very well if life had no waves of trouble, but it takes something more than simple respect to make two hearts cling together in the hour of adversity. A woman that turns her back upon wealth, and takes the man of her choice may miss some of the luxuries of life, but she will be happy. Don't marry a dude. Better get you a monkey. It is cheaper and a great deal nicer. Don't fool with that class of animals. They generally wear a $10 hat on a ten cent brain, and the woman who takes one of these chaps will get left about as bad as the southern confederacy did at Appomattox.

D you want to improve your grammar, to avoid hundreds of common expressions, that unconsciously tell the tale of your lack of breeding or education? do you want to know how to talk well and sensibly in society, how to acquire ease in conversation, what to say and how to say it? Then send us fifty cents for a copy of Mrs. Hewitt's new book—"Ease in Conversation, or Hints to the Ungrammatical." It will teach you what you want to know. It is a most invaluable work, and should be in the hands of every woman who has any desire for self-improvement.

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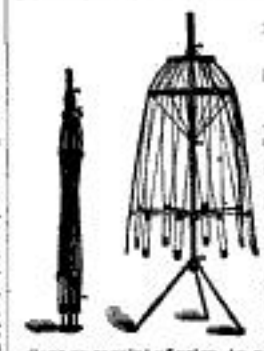

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TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

The Amarylis.

TO CORRESPONDENTS:—All inquiries about flowers and their culture will be cheerfully answered to the best of my ability in the columns of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, when they are of general interest. Those of a personal character, and not of general interest, will be answered by mail,—provided a stamped envelope is sent for reply; and not otherwise. If an immediate reply is desired, it can only be obtained by mail, as the matter for the paper is made up several weeks in advance of date, and any reply which comes through the paper will necessarily be delayed. In asking questions about plants which you have failed to grow successfully, tell what kind of culture you have given them, and this will often enable the editor to get at the difficulty, and give you the information you require.

Send all letters directly to the address given below, and not to the office of publication.

SHIOCTON WIS. EBEN E. REXFORD.

The Amarylis is one of the most admired plants we have, but there seems to be a general misunderstanding about how to grow it successfully, and in consequence there is more or less failure with them. If the habits of the plant are studied carefully,—and in order to grow any plant well it is necessary to understand its habits,—there need be no failure in blooming these magnificent plants. The fact is, the Amarylis is a plant which requires an alternate period of rest

AMARYLLIS.

and growth. Given these, and you will have but little trouble with it. When growth begins, give more water than the plant has been having while standing still. Continue to give a liberal supply until the plant shows signs of having completed growth by ripening its leaves. When they turn yellow, withhold the water-supply, and give but little until another period of growth is indicated by an appearance of flower-buds or of new leaves. As a general thing the buds appear before the plant begins to grow. If leaves appear before there are any signs of buds, you can be tolerable sure that you are to have no flowers this season. Some persons keep the plant growing all the year round, and these are generally the persons who complain about the difficulty of managing it satisfactorily. Unless it can have a rest of several months, and this rest should be rest in all senses of the word, it will not bloom with regularity, and quite likely it will not bloom at all. But treat it in such a manner as to give it this needed rest by witholding water, and keeping it away from the light, and in a moderately cool place, until it gets ready to grow again, and you can be reasonably sure of having flowers from it every year. I put plants under the stage of the greenhouse while they are resting. If you have a cellar, and no greenhouse, you can put them there to rest. Some persons advocate lifting the bulbs after they have completed growth, the same as one would take up a Gladiolus in fall, and keeping them dry until about the time you think they ought to grow again. Then they pot them, give plenty of water, light and warmth, and sometimes the plants bloom, sometimes not. I do not think one can have as good success with them when he practices lifting them as he can have by letting them remain in the pots. At least I have not had, and I have tried both ways.

There are a great many fine varieties, all well worth growing. A Johnsonii, an old variety, with large crimson flowers striped with white, is a good kind. The flowers are shaped very much like some kinds of Lilies, and are of about the same size, and there will generally be from two to five in each cluster. As they remain in bloom for several days, the effect of a large plant in full bloom can readily be imagined by those who have never seen one. Aulica, or the Lily of the Palace, is crimson, tipped with green. Defiance is a brilliant carmine, with white throat and markings.

A good soil for this plant is made up of leaf-mold, sand, and well-rotted manure from the cow-yard, in equal parts. If they are so managed as to be kept dormant during the latter part of summer and along till the middle of fall, they can be brought into bloom in mid-winter when their magnificent flowers will be most enjoyed.

ABOUT GREENHOUSES.

I have received a score or more of letters asking for some information about greenhouse building, the expense, method of heating, etc. In reply to these questions, I will tell what I know about greenhouses from my own experience. I have one about twenty feet square, which can be made to accommodate nearly a thousand plants, without crowding. It has walls five feet high on the sides. These walls are made by boarding on each side of posts set on sills which have a stone wall under them. There are two thicknesses of boards both out and inside, and between each thickness there are two thicknesses of sheathing paper. The boards are matched, and this gives a warm wall with an air space in it which keeps out the cold very effectually. It is much better than a brick or stone wall, unless they are so built as to be hollow. The house is built on the south side of the dwelling, and therefore has only its south end exposed. This is filled with glass to within three feet of the ground. The roof is wholly of glass; it is what is termed a "span roof," like the ordinary roofs of dwelling houses. This is the best roof a greenhouse can have, in my opinion, because the light is admitted from both sides, which would not be the case with a lean-to. There are sections of sash in the roof which can be lifted for ventilation. In the center there is a square bed in which large plants are grown in the open ground, the old soil having been excavated to the depth of two feet and rich earth filled in. About the sides and one end of the house there are stages for pot plants. The building is heated by one of the Hitchings & Co.'s Base Burning Water Heaters. Before selecting any heating apparatus I made inquiries of practical men as to what was the best thing for the purpose, and most of them assured me that this was just what I wanted, and I have none but good words to speak of it. It does all that is claimed for it. From the heater, pipes run all around the greenhouse, and these are filled with hot water, which keeps up a constant circulation, and gives off a steady heat. No other heat is as healthy for plants as that obtained in this way. The heater is built on the same principle as the ordinary base-burning heating stove, is self-feeding, and does not require any attention during the night,—a feature which every amateur florist should take into consideration when building and fitting up a greenhouse. No one not making a business of plant-growing wants to put in such an apparatus for heating it as will oblige him to get up during the night to see to the fires.

The expense of building such a house will vary in different localities, as the cost of material is not alike in all sections of the country, and on this account it is impossible to say what it could be built for, at the different places from which persons have written, but a carpenter could give a pretty close estimate of the cost by knowing the size of the building wanted. Knowing that, he could tell how much lumber be needed, the amount of sash required, and the cost of this and the glass could be ascertained by him very readily from dealers in the article. The cost of the heating apparatus could be ascertained by writing to Hitchings & Co., should one like the kind I have in use be decided on, giving the square feet of sash in the entire building. From this they can estimate what size of heater and how many feet of hot-water pipe will be required to give the amount of heat needed.

Such a house can be constructed very cheaply, and the amount of pleasure to be obtained from it is incalculable to any one loves plants. In it many kinds can be grown which you cannot succeed with in the sitting-room windows. You can grow them to a large size, and the temperature can be regulated at pleasure, and the place will become a sort of winter garden in which the lover of flowers will be inclined to spend a great many pleasant hours. By all means, if you build, have the greenhouse connected with the dwelling, and, if possible, have it connected in such a way as to have the two open into each other by large glass doors; especially if the greenhouse can be added to the dwelling where it will allow an opening into the sitting-room. If you can have your plants where you can see them at all times it will be quite as pleasant as if you had them in the room with you, and very much better for the plants. If you can afford a greenhouse, and really love plants and want to grow them well, have such a building as I have described built for their accommodation, and you will never regret it. Of course, if you have the money to spare, you can build it in such a way as to be very ornamental, outside and in, but the kind I have described is very plain, use rather than ornament having been the idea governing its construction. If one considerably smaller is wanted you can have a "lean-to"—which is florists' vernacular for a roof like that of a shed, with but one slope to it. If this slope is toward the south, you will get a great deal of sunshine, and plants will do almost as well as in a house having a span-roof, but it will be necessary to turn the plants about often in order to give them the same amount of light on all sides, and secure a symmetrical development.

It will be understood from the above description that there is no glass on the sides. The roof furnishes all the light that is required. If the appearance from outside is objected to, the walls can be covered by American Ivy, Bittersweet, or any other hardy vine, and the effect will be pleasing. All the glass there is, except that in the roof, is in the south end, and this is all glass to within three feet of the ground.

ABOUT CACTI.

I receive a great many inquiries about growing the various kinds of Cacti, but I am not able to give any information from my own experience, as I have never liked these strange plants well enough to grow them. The flowers of many varieties are really superb, but the habit of the plant is not at all to my taste. I am told by an old gardener to whom I have referred some of the inquiries sent to me, that the Epiphyllums are the most satisfactory on account of their free blooming qualities. They send out a great many branches, and therefore have a larger blossoming surface than most varieties.

This gardener tells me that they like a soil made up of clay and sand; they should be kept quite dry while not growing; when growth begins increase the supply of water, and when flower-buds appear, give manure-water every other day until the flowers are developed. Those who are fond of plants of odd, strange shape and habits of growth can find much to please them among the representatives of this large family.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Josie:"—Repot your Chrysanthemums as the roots fill the old pot, until you have them in eight inch pots. Then let them alone.

I think the trouble with your Calla is that you give too much water, and have not provided for drainage. This plant is very fond of water, but its roots often rot because of stagnant water in the bottom of the pot. My plan is to put in three or four inches of coarse matter to keep the soil from working down into the bottom and stopping up the vent-hole. If this is done you can give water every day without being afraid of its souring, as stagnant water will.

"E. M. T.:"—Keep your young Geraniums from blooming. Cut the tops off to make them bushy, and cut back every side shoot when it has made a few inches of growth. In this way you can get compact plants, and in no other. If you want to winter over those you have brought from last year, cut them back well, repot, and keep in a shady place giving just enough water to induce a steady, healthy growth. Do not let them bloom. I prefer such plants to young ones for winter bloom.

A correspondent sends this "Plea for the Primrose:" "Lovers of this beautiful flower, do not throw them away when through their first year's blossoming, but repot them in good rich soil, and keep them through the summer in the shade. Mine always do best the second year. I have had more than one-hundred blossoms the second year where there would not be more than twenty-five the first year."

"Mrs. Mendenhall:"—Start cuttings of Clematis when the branches are at that intermediate stage between softness and hardness. You can layer them with great certainty of success.

"Miss Pickens:"—For the white earth-worm use lime-water, as advised in former numbers of this paper. It is best of anything I have ever tried.

"Mrs. L. N. P.:"—It is customary to shade greenhouse roofs with some preparation of lime or lead, putting it on with a sprinkler until the glass is obscured enough to temper the fierce sunshine, but I have used cotton cloth of late with much satisfaction. It is not a difficult matter to stretch it smoothly along the rafters, and it looks better than the lime, and answers its purpose better because it gives a more even shade. It can be taken down and put away in fall, and used year after year. If your greenhouse is a span-roof, with east and west exposures of glass, use a thicker quality of cloth on the west side than you do on the east side, for the greatest heat will be in the afternoon. I would not advise you to put your plants out of doors during the summer if your house is arranged so that you can ventilate it well, for you can control them much better inside than outside. By shading, sprinkling, and keeping the windows open for a free admission of air, you can keep them cooler than it would be possible to out of doors.

"S. S. E.:"—The Anthurium is a very peculiar plant, having a spathe something like that of the Calla, but reflexed, and of a brilliant scarlet. It is grown in a mixture of moss, peat and broken crockery or brick, and must be kept wet and warm while making growth. It is very pleasing. From the peculiar shape of the flower it takes the popular name of Flamingo plant.

"Mrs. F. E. C.:"—This correspondent asks what kind of free-blooming Roses to get for her city yard, also what to get as a fertilizer. I am unable to tell her anything about such fertilizers as she can buy at the agricultural stores, as applied to Roses, for I have never tried any of them. Living in the country, I am able to get cow-manure, which is the best fertilizer ever applied to a Rose, so far as my experience goes. I think she had better experiment a little with whatever fertilizer she buys, giving it carefully at first. If she sees that the Roses are starting under its influence, give more of it, but be careful to not apply too much until she sees what the effect is likely to be. Soapsuds is a good fertilizer.

As to kinds to select, she can get nothing better than those in the following list:

Hermosa, bright pink, very profuse, double and sweet. Always in bloom.

Perle des Jardins, rich yellow, quite as fine in color as the popular Marchael Neil, but not so large. A great bloomer.

Safrano, flesh color tinged with yellow. Very sweet. Fine for its buds.

Letty Coles, soft, satiny pink, deepening to crimson in center of flower.

Queen of bedders, rich scarlet; a great bloomer,—one of the very best of dark Roses.

Niphetos, white with beautiful buds.

Souvenir d'un Ami, deep, vivid rose, very large, full, profuse and fragrant.

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Agrippina, rich crimson. A sort always in bloom, and very desirable though not as fine as some of the above because of its loose habit when fully open.

Catherine Mermet, one of the most popular of all Roses during the winter season. Creamy pink, perfect in shape, and a great bloomer.

Marie Guillot, pure white shaded with lemon yellow in the center. Very free-flowering, and deliciously tea-scented.

Sunset, intense apricot yellow, of a most peculiar coppery shade. A fine Rose, and a free bloomer.

This gives you a dozen of the most desirable varieties for summer blooming, and with a plant of each you can be reasonable sure of flowers for every day during the season.

"Miss L. D. M.:"—The Othonna is for sale by most florists. Would prefer to buy a plant of it to attempting to grow it from seed. It will not cost you more than ten or fifteen cents, and can be sent by mail.

"Beginner:"—The plant of which you send a sketch is not a Cactus, but belongs to the Aloe family, and is the variety usually called "partridge-breasted."

If the Oxalis is growing well it will probably blossom by-and-by. It is most likely filling the soil with roots; when this is done it will flower.

"Mrs. I. M. S.:"—Take away the small offsets from your large Calla, and put them in small pots. They will not be likely to bloom much before they get to be two years old.

"M. D. L.:"—I presume that your Lily of the Valley plants failed to perfect their flowers because they were not fully established. They ought to have been planted in the fall. Often they fail to bloom the first season, but after that they give good crops of flowers if planted in a good, well-drained soil and covered with leaves or litter in the fall.

"Mrs. Reddie:"—The Balsam impatiens begins to bloom when a very little plant, and blooms continually if given a rich soil, plenty of water, and not too much strong sunshine. It is easily propagated by cuttings inserted in clear sand, which should be kept moist all the time, and in a warm place. Your old plant can be potted for winter use, using a pot of a size in proportion to its roots, and should be cut back well, to cause new branches to start freely. It is a charming plant for the window-garden in winter. It is very tender, and must be kept in a warm place. Use plenty of water on its leaves, or the red spider will injure it.

"G. L. P.:"—Write to James Vick, Rochester, N. Y., and I think he can tell you where you can obtain the desired work on Ferns.

I cannot understand what you mean by your question: "Would a fernery be profitable at a distance of six miles from a railway station, and an hour's ride on the cars from said station to a small city?" Do you mean to grow plants for sale, or fronds for cutting? I do not think either would be profitable if you depended simply on local trade, as I infer you do. If you grow young plants for the trade, and understand the methods of their successful propagation, and have proper facilities for their management,—and plenty of money to advertise them with,—you might work up a profitable trade, but it would have to be something more than a local one. I would not advise you to invest much money in such an undertaking.

"Estella Chancellor:"—Smilax, to do well in winter, must have rest during summer. Dry of the tubers until the vines turn yellow and die. Give but little water until September or October. Then repot, and start into growth by giving more water and warmth.

The Calla should be kept very dry during summer. I prefer to tip the pots on their side and give no water during the entire season. In September I repot, and the roots soon send up new leaves. *Always* provide for drainage by putting broken crockery or brick in the bottom of the pot. Water daily, with warm water. Do not use too large pots; if you do the soil may sour. An eight-inch pot is large enough for a large plant. The soil should be made rich with rotten manure from the barnyard, and light by a liberal use of sand.

Lilium auratum should be treated precisely as other varieties of Japan Lilies are.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS WITH MOTHERS, BY EMINENT PHYSICIANS.

BY E. W. WATSON, M. D.

Babies' Summer Hygiene.

After all our care suppose the baby sickens! Sometimes this sickness and the period of its appearance is a measure of the baby's strength, or of the value of the method of feeding employed. If it falls with the first warm days of early summer, or, worse still, in the first summer-like days of the spring, it is either a weak baby constitutionally, or a baby overweighted and overtaxed with a food it can with difficulty digest; and this is a very serious matter, and nature seems almost to have given us danger signals in a baby's early sickness, warned by which, we may often change our ways, and be wise in time; for this early illness is generally recovered from, more or less perfectly, and a study of the attack, will lead us to change, in many cases, either the child's food, or its locality; taking it to the country or seashore, if no better diet seems obtainable.

How a baby is taken sick, is another important matter. The public class all a baby's bowel troubles as Cholera Infantum or Summer Complaint, indiscriminately; but acute cholera infantum is quite a definite and appalling disorder. At times it comes also as the final ending of a protracted summer diarrhœa. Cholera infantum itself can be separated into at least two forms or varieties, due to different causes and requiring different management; and summer complaint may be very varied in symptoms and causation. Summer diarrhœa is a much better name, and we will begin with that.

Summer Diarrhœa is generally caused by the failure of an infant to properly digest its food; the food being generally not that designed for it by nature; hence, the great proportion of sickness of this sort in babies, is found in the bottle-fed, rather than in those at the breast. Other causes, also, may exist, as cold, indiscretion on the mothers part, eating improper food, fatigue, overheating, overwork, anxiety and passion. Bad water, and limestone or saline waters given to babies, will often set up diarrhœa; while sometimes the occurrence of the catamenia in the mother, will be followed by a monthly attack of diarrhœa in the infant at her breast.

But generally, where no definite error has been made, where nothing can be positively known to have produced it, look well to the baby's food. If a very young baby,—under eight months,—stop all farinaceous food if it has been getting any; if on cow's milk, look up the cow if you can; if in the city, look up the milk itself. See that it is scalded, barely, as soon as it arrives. Try and find out something about the dairy, and talk to the milk-man, though it will do no good. Do the passages contain curd, see that lime-water is added to each bottleful, one or two tablespoonfuls; and if the baby be over six months of age, try for a few days, the addition of ¼ barley water, prepared daily for the purpose. Keep the baby if the days are at all warm, in the best air you can get for it. Keep it on cold and wet days out of the draughts and damps, and remember that even if neighbors and relatives suggest that it is "only a teething diarrhœa," you are not to be lulled to security by that; rather the reverse, for if teething be the cause, we cannot stop the "teething," and that makes the removal of the cause more hopeless than in other cases. Children who are cutting teeth, notably those who are getting stomach and eye teeth and the first four double teeth, are prone to diarrhœa. Their bowels are more easily upset by food at all difficult of digestion than at other times. If teeth are nearly through, and gums red and swollen, let a doctor lance them, and don't be frightened by the first one who tells you that the operation is dangerous and often fatal, for the same person would have no hesitation in rasping them through with a thimble. Above all look on the first appearance of diarrhœa with suspicion, and if possible, get good medical advice before it becomes firmly established. The first indigestion with loose passages may be easily stopped, but let it go on a while, and a condition of intestinal catarrh results, which regulation of diet will often fail to stop.

Are there any domestic remedies which can be used for infants' diarrhœa? some one will ask. Now the object of this paper is not to give people prescriptions, to use to their own injury, and without proper knowledge, but rather to show them if possible, how to avoid sickness, and when it comes, if come it does, how to recognize it, and its serious import. There are many remedies, freely recommended on emergency in every household, but they need to be used with a wise and careful hand. A good doctor is much safer. If none be accessible, let usses what can be done. Some mothers place great reliance on a dose of castor oil. This will sometimes clear out the offending matters and enable the baby to start anew, but it is only at the early onset of diarrhœa that it is safe. After the passages become mucous and slimy, it often does more harm than good. In recent cases when making up the mind what to do, it sometimes pays to give the baby broth for a change, it satisfies its craving hunger and enables the bowels to free themselves from curd and undigested matter. When the passages have become thin and watery, a few drops of paregoric carefully graduated to the age of the child, or a little good brandy in water can be given, and a return may be made either to the previous food, or a change of food may be given. Sometimes the dilution of the milk will make it more digestible. Sometimes the baby has been really overfed, and the quantity may be much reduced for a few days to see; but after, all it will be well not to take the early responsibility, if advice can be had.

Babies sometimes go through the summer very well, and yet have loose passages almost every day; in these cases however the passages seldom number more than 3 in 24 hours and are not watery, but while thin have some substance and may vary in color from yellow to greenish and often a mixture of both; there is but little mucous generally in such cases, and the child continues to take its food with relish, does not cry or fret much, seldom vomits, has no fever and seems pretty well.

The general termination of summer diarrhœa if left to itself, is something much more serious. The baby gets thinner, its features sharper, it frets and cries incessantly, and finally there comes a hot, close day, and it takes what is called cholera infantum, has many passages, get hotter, rolls its head, has a sunken face and pinched features, and a depressed opening of the head, vomits everything given it, and finally, nothing interfering, dies. These cases of cholera infantum are even more serious and fatal than the ones soon to be described, because the aggravation of the disease, comes to an already used-up child, and is only the natural termination of long, exhausting diarrhœa and a hopeless struggle with heat, improper food and bad air.

Real cholera infantum is a sudden disease. The baby may be well one day, and perhaps dying the next. It is of two varieties, one attended with great heat and fever, flushed face and neck, injected eyes, highly bilious passages and incessant vomiting of mucous and water tinged with bile; these cases are either malarial or true cases of heat-fever. The others, while presenting the same symptoms of vomiting, diarrhœa of a watery character and great prostration, have a cool skin, pallor, and even, as they progress, a grey or bluish complexion. Cases of the second variety are caused by improper food, the exhausting heat of cities, and their vitiated air. Real cholera infantum is so sudden in its onset, and so terrifying, that it demands and generally receives, medical assistance at once. Should long delay occur, and the doctor be distant or slow in coming, as must often happen, we will try to advise what had better be done in the interval. For the first variety, if the child be externally hot put it in a cool bath, not cold, but cool, 70 degrees to 75 degrees, and sponge its head while in the bath; let it remain five minutes, then take it out and wrap it in a light sheet to absorb the moisture, and then transfer it to another, leaving it undressed for a while; put over the region of the stomach a mustard plaster of ¼ strength, and give cold lime-water, a teaspoonful every ½ hour, till the doctor arrives; give no food; sometimes cold water by the teaspoonful with a little brandy will settle the vomiting. The other variety needs food, and brandy and water with a more liberal hand. The bath should be warm with mustard in it; beef tea should be prepared as soon as possible,—a pound of chopped beef to a pint of water, and boil for forty minutes—of this a tablespoonful should be given in small quantity at a time, hourly, and an occasional teaspoonful of ice water in the intervals. To the region of the stomach, a mixture of alcohol or whiskey and ground spice may be applied—a square bit of flannel being saturated with the mixture. This may be freshly moistened from time to time. Perfect quiet should be maintained in the room. Coolness as much as possible. Not too much light. The baby should lie on a bed rather than in the arms. If the weather has been very hot for some days and nights, and the sick child an inhabitant of a large city, instant removal should be prepared for; no matter how sick the baby may seem to be, get it fresh air; take it upon the river, bay or lake that is most accessible. If this cannot be done, get a carriage and drive briskly with it out into the country; if this is impossible take it in a baby carriage, or in the arms, to where there is open space, shade trees and grassy fields. Immediate transfer to the seacoast is the most powerful means of restoration. Children apparently dying, revive rapidly after their arrival and often recover in a day or two. At every turn, however, the physician urging such a course, is met with obstacles; the general desire is "to wait until the child is better," before undertaking the journey. Fear of its dying on the road, dread of the many inconveniences of traveling with a sick infant requiring constant care and attention. But it is in these extreme cases truely that one can say "nothing venture, nothing have." In fact, a wise foresight in dealing with a child of tender age on the approach of the dangerous season, will look out for some place of refuge should change be necessary, to which instant resort may be made; and it is by no means a bad plan to have a small trunk or valise ready packed with such articles as would be needed for a hurried journey. If all unprepared, precious, too precious time is lost, in deciding where to go and what to take. In large cities away from the seaboard, those entrusted with the rearing of an infant by hand, should look fully in the face the risks they run and be in every possible way fully prepared. It is better to begin the summer fully alive to the dangers that threaten, than to let things go in the careless way of too many, thinking that somehow their baby will get through, for the lottery in which they have invested who have such a charge, though it may be fairly conducted for aught we know, has its chances desperately against any individual ticket-holder; the prizes are few and the blanks many, and each blank means the loss of some little hopeful and beloved life, over which, when too late, tears enough will be shed, but alas! "idle tears."

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

SOME HINTS ON MONEY MAKING.

BY ELLA HOOMAN CHURCH.

VII.

When it is remembered that women who live in the country in a sort of genteel poverty find it extremely difficult to make money in any way that will not compromise them, and that these unpretending papers do not profess to show any royal road to wealth, an interest may be created in various small industries that might otherwise appear too insignificant to notice.

Even an inferior village house without its plot of ground is unusual; but this plot is too often so forlorn and neglected, for lack of labor, that the house would look better without it. Two sisters, a mother and daughter, frequently inhabit such a house, and content themselves with a fruit tree or two and some currant bushes, with a few old-fashioned plants, as all that can be expected of such a *demesne* in the absence of "men-folks." But a great deal more can be expected of it; and the first thing to do is to get out of the old groove in ways of thinking.

When that half-yearly interest money comes in —and there is so *small* a pittance on which to keep up the house and dress decently!—does it not seem as if a very little more would make a vast difference in the year's comfort? What if fifty dollars were added every six months! This sum alone would represent a pleasure trip and a new dress apiece, and is certainly worth the making, even at some sacrifice; but there is no reason why it should not be made in the pleasantest of ways, among the flowers.

Here again summer boarders are valuable visitors; for many sweet, old-fashioned flowers are great favorites with city people, and a large plot in Sweet Peas alone would be found profitable. The pure white Garden Lily, with its long, slender buds, is also very popular; and the White Rose of June is always in demand. The Cypress vine and Maurandia, and other delicate creepers, are very graceful in bouquets; and almost any desirable flowers if tastefully arranged, would find a ready sale in country hotels and boarding-houses.

Especially is this the case in Southern sojourning places, where the visitors are usually half, or whole invalids, to whom the sight of flowers a month or six weeks earlier than the customary time is a perfect delight; and as they usually bring money enough for luxuries of this kind, bouquets of various sizes sent around daily would meet with a warm welcome. The young daughter of a southern judge, desirous of raising money to aid the struggling little church in her native village, happened to cast a speculative eye, one morning, on the pretty flower-garden that was the admiration of the place,—and having obtained permission of the authorities at home and abroad, with the use of a likely colored boy, she lost no time in arranging such charming combinations of flowers and foliage on a huge waiter, which found its way to the one hotel and always came back empty, that by autumn, the shabby church was painted without and within.

Others, who really need most of the money thus earned for their own support, or comfort, will find it profitable to send cut flowers, if not too far distant, to the nearest city to be disposed of by the florists, who cannot always raise enough of certain kinds to supply their customers. And here the writer would speak of a letter received a few weeks since from an unknown correspondent in Virginia who asked if cut flowers of choice varieties would be saleable in the large cities—and whose touching communication would have been answered, had it not come at a time of sickness and general confusion, and been mislaid and apparently lost. Should it ever come to light it will receive prompt attention; and if the writer of it happens to see this article, she is requested to try again.

Those who wish to send flowers to a city florist, will do well to write directly to him, if they can get his name and address,—asking what particular kinds of flowers he would find saleable, and what he could afford to pay for them. A small specimen box, to show in what condition they would arrive, had best accompany the letter. The proposal might prove a welcome one, in which case every flower would be clothed with fresh beauty and interest in the eyes of the cultivator.

For a few general directions, Callas, Violets and Roses, are always in demand. The latter, however, require constant care, and are apt, in spite of the utmost vigilance, to become infested with insects; but, when they do well, no flower gives greater satisfaction,—for a rose is a rose, and has no rival. It will pay to buy the best varieties, and especially those which yield an abundance of bloom. This latter quality is greatly increased when the blossoms are constantly cut before they reach full maturity. Sweet-scented southern Violets, blooming in the open air in March, would be worth packing for transportation to the wintry North; and I have received them, in a paper box, by mail, as fresh and dewy as if just gathered.

But the greatest stand-by for the raiser of flowers for cutting is the old-time Calla, or Ethiopean Lily. This African river-plant is a fair, stately aristocrat of the most democratic proclivities; and while seeming in its pure creamy whiteness, to harmonize only with the most luxuriant surroundings, it will bear, if generously watered at the blooming season, a considerable amount of rough treatment. Wholesome neglect during the summer—even to the extent of turning the pot over on its side and seldom looking at it—agrees best with its constitution; and this careless policy is rewarded in winter with the more abundant bloom.

The Calla, although a tropical plant, does not require a high temperature,—it stipulates only for as much sunshine as can be obtained from northern skies and a constant supply of water. It is a steady-going, business-like plant indulging in no caprices, and yielding on the whole the best returns of any flower that blooms in-doors. A small greenhouse devoted to Callas alone would prove a profitable investment; the building could be put up very cheaply by an ordinary carpenter, and the expense of heating need not be great. With a full southern exposure, a small oil stove at each end would probably be sufficient; and if there were a door opening into the dining, or sitting-room, there would be the advantage of more heat when needed, besides the cheerful view of glossy foliage and creamy blossoms.

As an article of merchandise, the Calla is particularly desirable. It has staying qualities that are equalled by very few other flowers, as it will keep for a full week in water, and it reaches the end of a long journey in admirable condition. Its lack of fragrance makes it inferior to other lilies; but it will bloom and flourish where its more delicate sisters can scarcely drag out a wretched existence, and it is in demand for so many occasions, that the supply is not likely to become excessive. The Calla is pre eminently a *church* flower—there is something ecclesiastical in its very bearing; and whether filling the font, where it is so beautifully suggestive, or banked behind the altar, or growing in pots around the lectern and pulpit, it is in full harmony with its surroundings. It suggests, too, the bridal and the grave; and while especially suited to some seasons, it can scarcely be unwelcome wherever flowers are admitted.

In view of these facts, a small greenhouse devoted entirely to Callas would prove far more profitable than if stocked, as is usually the case, with a variety of plants requiring different climates and conditions. Violets and Bouvardias will thrive in the same temperature, and as they are very desirable flowers for cutting, it might be well to admit a fair proportion of them. Callas, however, are less trouble than anything else, and more to be depended on for bloom.

A country town would be an excellent location for an enterprise of this sort; and once known that Mrs. ——— or Miss ———, can supply Callas, or other flowers, in such quantity as occasion demands, a steady stream of custom would flow to the little greenhouse, and a steady income to the purse of the florist. Or, if more agreeable to the feelings of the cultivator to find a market at a distance, a visit to the city will furnish opportunities to make arrangements for the sale of such flowers as can be sent.

The floriculturist herself may live in the city; for there is nothing to prevent her from building her greenhouse in the back yard, except the lack of a southern exposure, and this would prevent it from being built anywhere. These city yards are not half utilized as they might be; most of them are at least twenty feet wide by fifty feet deep, and sometimes more,—yet how rarely is any attempt made at cultivation, beyond a grape-vine and a few flowers! Who ever sees a modest greenhouse, a strawberry patch, or a vegetable bed, in an ordinary yard?

Yet any of these unwonted luxuries may be had with a very small plot of ground; and the experiment of vegetables and small fruits has been successfully tried. Tomato vines could cover the three sides of the fence, and flourish and bear luxuriantly; cucumbers would make themselves supremely comfortable, and ornamental at the same time, in an odd barrel or two; and lettuce, spinach and celery, could be raised to perfection. A city strawberry bed of very moderate dimensions, but cared for on the little-farm-well-tilled principle, yielded many quarts of delicious fruit, which had a very different flavor from that supplied by the corner grocery or the wagon of the huckster.

One square foot of ground will nourish an exquisite rose-bush, or a beautiful vine; and the most neglected and unpromising yards can be brought by cultivation into a state of profitable beauty. Dwellers in cities need not leave *all* the money-making of this nature to their country sisters; for if they have little ground to work with, they have the less expense, and can also make more of what they do have. For the mere matter of looks alone, a neatly kept vegetable-garden is a much more agreeable and cooler sight than a yard full of weeds and rubbish; and beans and peas, when nicely trained, are really ornamental.

A southern ne'er-do-well, of whom nothing is the way of success was ever expected, had, once, a happy inspiration which made him plant two or three acres in "gubers," or peanuts, much to the merriment of his neighbors. But the crop was prolific, and gubers, that year, were in demand; so, our peanut-farmer cleared a large sum by his investment. As these nuts are always in demand, both for the refreshment of small boys on public occasions, and for the manufacture of confectionery, their culture would be found profitable in many localities to which they are comparative strangers. A sheltered piece of ground, with plenty of sunshine and some sand in the soil, easily put there if not indigenous, warrant the experiment; and with a reasonable amount of back yard, it need not interfere with a small greenhouse.

For the cost of the greenhouse, $25 or $30 would build a very respectable lean-to, with second-hand sashes; and in many cases, half of the money could be paid out of the returns. As success warranted it, the flower accommodations might be increased,—until a flourishing business became established on the site of a very modest foundation.

Another and more original style of flower business would be to raise nothing at all,—but instead of this, to buy the fruits of others' industry; giving them a fair price for their labor, and then arranging their wares in so attractive a style as to insure a handsome profit. This could be done with far less trouble and expense than building and caring for a greenhouse; and there are women all over the country who would be glad to find a steady market for what they already have on hand at very moderate prices. The raising of commodities is only half the battle; and many can do this who have not the faintest idea how to dispose of them after they are raised. Let some woman, who can arrange things tastefully, try this flower-dealing and see if it does not prove successful. As a general thing, she can live where she likes in order to carry it on, if she sends her flowers away for sale; but it is always an advantage to live near a good market.

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HINTS UPON ETIQUETTE AND GOOD MANNERS.

NO. XVII.

BY MRS. S. O. JOHNSON.

Etiquette After Marriage. How to Avoid Matrimonial Misery.

The word "honeymoon" comes to us from Scotch, the Teutonic term for the first month after marriage, and it is said to be derived from a beverage made of honey, which was the special drink used at marriage festivities in ancient times. For the space of a lunar month, it is supposed that a young couple will indulge in no bickerings and will be perfectly happy, but afterwards their misery begins, and:

"Some grief shows much of love,
But much of grief shows still some want of wit."

And sensible people will take the last line of the couplet to their hearts, and bear it in mind, in all matrimonial disputes, that a want of good sense makes the trouble. Time is of great value, and nerves are precious, and the former should therefore not be expended in wearing out the latter. If young people will declare that they will be the exception to the general rule of married folk, and will not permit any discontent or dissatisfactions to creep into their hearts, they can so live that they will be the happiest couple in the United States, and *courtesy* is the needed grace that will kill all dissensions, and banish all ill feelings; while the want of it is the great misfortune of matrimony.

Before marriage, there is a restraint upon young people, and they do not exhibit to each other the rough points of their character, but are always studious to conceal them, and to preserve a kindly disposition towards each other. Why not continue it through life?

If you are able to keep your temper for a few months, why not do so all your life? Cupid is represented as blind, because Love can never discern the faults of the loved one. But marriage opens the eyes to behold them, and great is the consternation it often produces.

Would it not be better if one party would state to the other, wherein troubles may arise, and calmly discuss their chances of happiness in marriage? If the man is of a jealous temperament, why not disclose the fault when not under its influence, and allow his *fiancee* to understand the seamy side of his character? And *vice versa*, the young woman who knows a little of her shortcomings, should be candid enough to disclose them, and not allow her lover to think she is all loveliness, when she possesses decided faults which if not overcome will surely produce matrimonial infelicities for them and ruin the happiness of their children.

Is this an Utopian idea, my young friends, which could not be carried out?

Try it for yourselves, and prove its trustworthiness.

"Yen you're a married man, Samivel," said Mr. Weller, "you'll understand a good many things as you don't understand now; but vether its worth while going through so much to learn so little, as the charity boy said ven he got to the end of the alphabet, is a matter o' taste. I rayther think it isn't."

But Mr. Weller had passed through the needed experience which taught him that the discipline of marriage was not to his inclination, before he could give this advice to his son, Samivel. Every man should remember that the tender, loving kindness which he showed his wife before marriage, is as needful to her happiness after marriage, and he should strive to maintain the same level, and not become her master, because he is her husband.

The surest way to retain a wife's love is to be always her lover, for there are few women who are not ready to return measure for measure, and often they are willing to give a little more than they receive of kindly attentions. Do not demand of your wife more than you are willing to give, in any sphere of the household. If you desire to be received with smiles and cheerfulness, when you return home, enter the house with a smiling face, and a cheerful mien, and you will engender the same attributes in her. For a wife will usually shine by reflection, and her happiness will always reflect yours.

Do not allow yourself to fail in showing respect to her, and she will always award it to you. This is a rarely abused precept, and as long as a man is worthy of respect, he will receive it. And when he falls so low that he loses his wife's respect, he has also lost his self-respect. If you discover that your wife possesses an obstinate temper, and likes to sulk, take no notice of her infirmity, and soon she will be mortified at her childishness, and cure herself of the folly.

If she possesses a violent temper, and talks in an insane, passionate style, let your silence, by its contrast to her violence, prove an unfailing remedy. "Speech is silver, but silence is golden," is never so apt a maxim as in matrimonial disputes. That fatal last word has been more productive of divorces than anything else. Be sure to keep silent, after you have said the few words that may seem to you indispensable to the occasion. Shakspeare tells us that:

"Silence is only commendable
In a neat's tongue dried and a maid not vendible."

But in matrimonial disputes it is the chief remedy, and for once that wondrous expounder of the human heart is in error. If a husband possesses true nobility of character, and is master of himself, he can in a perfectly gentle manner, control his wife, so that she will become as gentle a woman as he is a man. But if he exhibits a domineering spirit, a fault-finding petulance, and is impatient with little things, and at the slightest provocation displays unworthy passions, he cannot expect to revel in a charming, delightful home, because, he is the breeder of discord, and cannot command the respect of wife, children or servants. It is one thing to be a man, but quite another to be a gentleman. And he who cannot govern himself, is ill qualified to control a household.

One fruitful source of wretchedness between husband and wife proceeds from their foolish jealousy of each others' liberty. They will not permit much show of independence, without reproof, but strive to draw the lines so closely that they gall the flesh, and human forbearance is then greatly tried. The husband cannot allow even the housekeeping to be carried on without his interference, and he must meddle with the daily routine of the kitchen, and declare that "its waste is not to be endured" even when he knows nothing about it. And the wife will make the husband's occupation a topic of dispute, and a source of bickering and misery.

All this is wrong, and worse than useless. To the wife belongs the keeping of the house, and upon her devolves its burdens and its cares. If the husband can lighten them by his kindly advice and foresight, he will be of decided assistance to her, but when he only intrudes his opinions to find fault with the workings of the household, he will prove a very disagreeable partner. And, when the wife thinks that she could arrange her husband's business affairs more prudently than he does, she will not often find that she increases her happiness.

Mutual affection, and mutual suggestions upon all things connected with married life are highly conducive to happiness; and if men would consult their wives more frequently concerning their business operations, they would be surprised to find how quickly their intuitions will dissolve knotty questions which their reasoning powers could not comprehend.

In marriage there should be the closest tie of heart and soul, and mutual interests should never be separated. The man who will think of his wife as he thinks of himself, and make her comfort, her pleasure, her interests one with his own, will be an apt scholar in the good breeding of marriage, and the grave cannot break asunder the tie that bound them together.

From the moment of his marriage, a man has began a double life. He cannot stand alone any longer, but his conduct at home, his attentions to his wife, his training of his children, are the tests by which his character will be estimated, in a great degree, while he lives, and they will influence his memory after death.

So the etiquette of marriage is of the greatest importance to every man, and if he builds up a stately edifice of private worth upon its foundations, he will find it of everlasting benefit to him and to his posterity.

"O! we do all offend—
There's not a day of wedded life, if we
Count at its close the little bitter sum
Of thoughts, and words, and looks unkind, and froward,
Silence that chides and woundings of the eye—
But prostrate at each other's feet, we should
Each night forgiveness ask."

And relying upon God's tender mercy we can strive to live together in peace, and harmony and love, while on earth, and to fit ourselves to enter the Eternal City, whose builder and maker is God.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

"L.:"—1st. When a gentleman is introduced to a lady, he should not offer to shake hands, unless the lady offers her hand, and this is not usual in ceremonious introductions. He should bow and smile, and if he pleases, say: "I am pleased to make your acquaintance," or any set phrase of society parlance. The lady should bow and smile, and say: "Thank you," or "I am happy to meet you."

2d. When a gentleman meets several ladies of his acquaintance, he should say, raising his hat at the same time: "Good-morning," or "Good-evening, ladies," and then address some remark to each lady, calling her by name. An innate idea of politeness, or its synonym—kindheartedness, will prompt a gentleman to say and do the correct thing.

But it is the lady's place to speak first, always, whether meeting gentlemen friends on the promenade, or in the parlor.

"Mrs. J. I. Glist:"—At a tin wedding a supper table is usually prepared in the dining-room, with sandwiches, creams, ices, and cakes. Coffee is served, if one prefers it. Lemonade can be substituted in the summer, or raspberry shrub, if one desires a temperance beverage. If wine is offered, claret punch is always liked. A separate table for meats and sweets is not required. In the season of oysters, they are served either raw, scalloped, or pickled, or in all these styles of dressing. Chicken salad is prepared when celery can be obtained. If not, lobster salad is made, and a salmon mayonnaise is an appetizing dish for a supper table. Various kinds of fancy cakes and ices, can be substituted for meats and salads.

"G. R. B.:"—1st. The fork should not be taken in the left hand, after the knife has done its work of cutting up the food, but in the right hand. The knife should never be put into the mouth at any time.

2d. When making a formal call upon a new neighbor, the wraps are not to be removed unless the atmosphere is oppressively warm, and the caller should not be asked to take them off, unless she shows signs of being overcome with the heat. A formal call should not exceed ten minutes.

"Pearl G. E.:"—The statement in "The Usages of The Best Society," that a lady should not take a gentleman's hat and coat, when he calls, is correct. The lady should say: "Will not you lay aside your coat?" but a gentleman usually prefers to hold his hat in his hand, while making a ceremonious call. If it is an evening visit he will leave both hat and coat in the hall, before entering the parlor, unless he is elderly, or some one whom she especially desires to honor. These rules, however, are for ceremonious visits in a city, and do not strictly apply to dwellers in the country, where a more free-and-easy style is adopted. Yet a lady should not ask a gentleman if she shall take his hat, anymore than he shall ask her if he should take her fan, or parasol. If he chooses to lay it aside, he will do so without being asked.

"L. C. S.:"—Yes, it is "especially cultured" to say: "Yes, Mrs. So-and-So," "No, Mrs. So-and-So," rather than "Yes-ma'am," "No-ma'am," in replying to a question. The custom of saying, (or teaching children to say) "ma'am" and "sir" is obsolete, excepting for servants, who should always give the title "ma'am" and "sir," if they wish to be well-bred to their employers and their visitors. It is very old-fashioned for ladies and gentlemen to use these terms.

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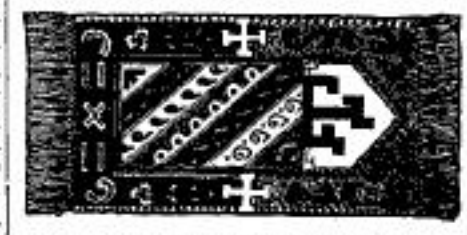

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

"INASMUCH."

BY CLYDE WAYNE.

Mrs. Gray sat about the annoyingly delightful task of making out the yearly memoranda of winter supplies, with rather more than ordinary pleasure, for she had positively promised herself a new bonnet, which she felt quite justified in doing, since she had worn the old one for three successive seasons with uncomplaining martyrdom.

If there was one article of dress which she especially longed for at this time it was a bonnet.

The old alapaca dress *might* be remodeled; the bunting brushed up to look passably genteel, and the zephyr shawl dyed to look new, but the bonnet! As she turned the rusty black straw full in the light, narrowly surveyed the dingy, faded ribbon and looked it over carefully and seriously, she decided once for all that the *bonnet must go.*

Having so emphatically decided the vexed question, she headed her list with that longed-for bonnet, and then scarce believing she was really and truly going to have "*a new bonnet,*" she gave a satisfactory glance at the unmistakable and unobtrusive-looking line on which she had written in very plain letters "Bonnet for self $3.00," and being assured that she had *certainly* written it down, continued to fill the memorandum. With mathematical precision and forethought, and much *curtailing*, each item was at last given its place, and with a sigh of intense relief the little woman read and re-read her list till thoroughly assured that she had *curtailed* to the last extreme. Had there been no need of such "close pinching" doubtless my story would never have been told, and the fate of that much-worn bonnet would have remained unknown. As it was, Mrs. Gray felt the need of all her powers of ingenuity and management in conducting the affairs of her household, and especially so during this particular winter when a debt of some hundreds was to be met. Having hurriedly addressed the letter, which was to go by the afternoon mail, and suddenly remembering that she had neglected to enclose a certain sample, she turned to the bureau to get it. While searching for it, a weak, trembling voice fell on her ear, and pausing for a moment to listen, she caught, through the half-closed door of an adjoining room, the familiar words of an old-time hymn:

"I would not live alway, I ask not to stay,
Where storm after storm, rises dark o'er the way."

Perhaps it was the knowledge that "Aunt Mary" was singing it, that gave to the words a new pathos. "Aunt Mary," aged and bent with a long life of care and trials. "Aunt Mary," whom in her old days was going about from house to house wherever she could find a welcome, and who brought into many a home the very spirit of patient trust and uncomplaining cross-bearing.

So absorbed had Mrs. Grey become in the matter in hand that she reproached herself for neglecting the old soul so long, and rising, hastily, to see if she still had a comfortable fire in her room, and to apologize for her inattention, she came suddenly upon her with a heaped-up basket of work which she was trying to patch into a wearable shape.

The sharp November winds were whistling outside, and Mrs. Gray noticed that "Aunt Mary" quickly drew together the bundle of red flannel over which she was stooping and for the first time she caught a glistening tear on the furrowed cheek.

With a sudden thought she turned to the old lady, and taking the patched garment from her hands, held it up. It was an undervest, worn thin and threadbare, till the very patches seemed to loosen the worn-out threads.

"Oh Aunt Mary! *these* are not all you have to wear this cold weather!" she asked incredulously, while a strange huskiness stirred her voice.

"Yes, child," was the meek reply, while in spite of all she could do, a few tears would force through themselves down the sunken cheeks, as "Aunt Mary" thought of those other days when she too was surrounded with the comforts of a happy home. "But," she added cheerfully, "I think I can make them do me. You see," she went on hastily, "I have kept them for the very *coldest* weather, and I will patch them nicely with that flannel you gave me, and with the comfortable winter quarters you have so kindly given me, I shall scarce feel the cold."

Mrs Gray did not reply, she simply handed the garment back to "Aunt Mary," and returned to her room. She found the sample, put it with the memorandum, and that evening it was speeding on its way to the city.

It was a sharp, blustering morning a week later, when the expected box arrived, and Mrs. Grey had just finished remodeling her three winters bonnet to *her* entire satisfaction and to "Aunt Mary's" unbounded surprise and admiration. With a little extra care and trouble, it was turned completely inside out, the bright black straw glistening in a way that quite repaid her, while with the help of an almost forgotten plume and some velvet which had been stored away ever so long, she succeeded in putting together quite a genteel looking bonnet.

As she laid it aside and prepared to open the aforesaid box "Aunt Mary" drew her chair closer to the cheerful open fire, for spite of the thin patched patched flannel her old frame was keenly alive to the biting morning air. And if she looked on with a sighat the pile of heavy woolen stuff bought for the children's wear or felt a covetous thrill at the snug garments, the desire was instantly crushed, and she praised and enjoyed the purchases quite as much as did Mrs. Gray herself.

Directly, from the very bottom of the box was brought forth two heavy all-wool vests, the very sight of which made the dim old eyes grow bright.

"These are yours, Aunt Mary," began the little woman, but she stooped short, for the poor old soul reached out a trembling hand and feeling of the soft warm garment, asked in incredulous surprise and pleasure, "For *me*, child?"

"Yes, for you, "Aunt Mary," is the smiling reply, but in a moment Mrs. Gray turns aside to hastily brush a tear from her eye.

Almost reverently "Aunt Mary" takes the unexpected gift in her hands, and with eyes full of grateful tears says very gently and softly, "God bless you, my child! These will keep my old bones from many and many an ache, and He who feedeth the sparrows will not forget *you*."

What made the wrinkled face grow suddenly hallowed, and lent to the once shabby bonnet lying on the bed a new beauty and grace? Only this: the consciousness of a single good deed; the still whisper "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these ye have done it unto Me."

JOHN ANDERSON, MY JO.

John Anderson, my jo John,
When first I was your wife,
On every washing day, John,
I wearied of my life.
It made you cross to see, John,
Your shirts not white as snow,
I washed them with our home-made soap,
John Anderson, my jo.

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Had you and I thegither,
But now all that is changed, John,
We'll never have anither;
For washed with IVORY SOAP, John,
Your shirts ARE white as snow,
And now I smile on washing day,
John Anderson, my jo.

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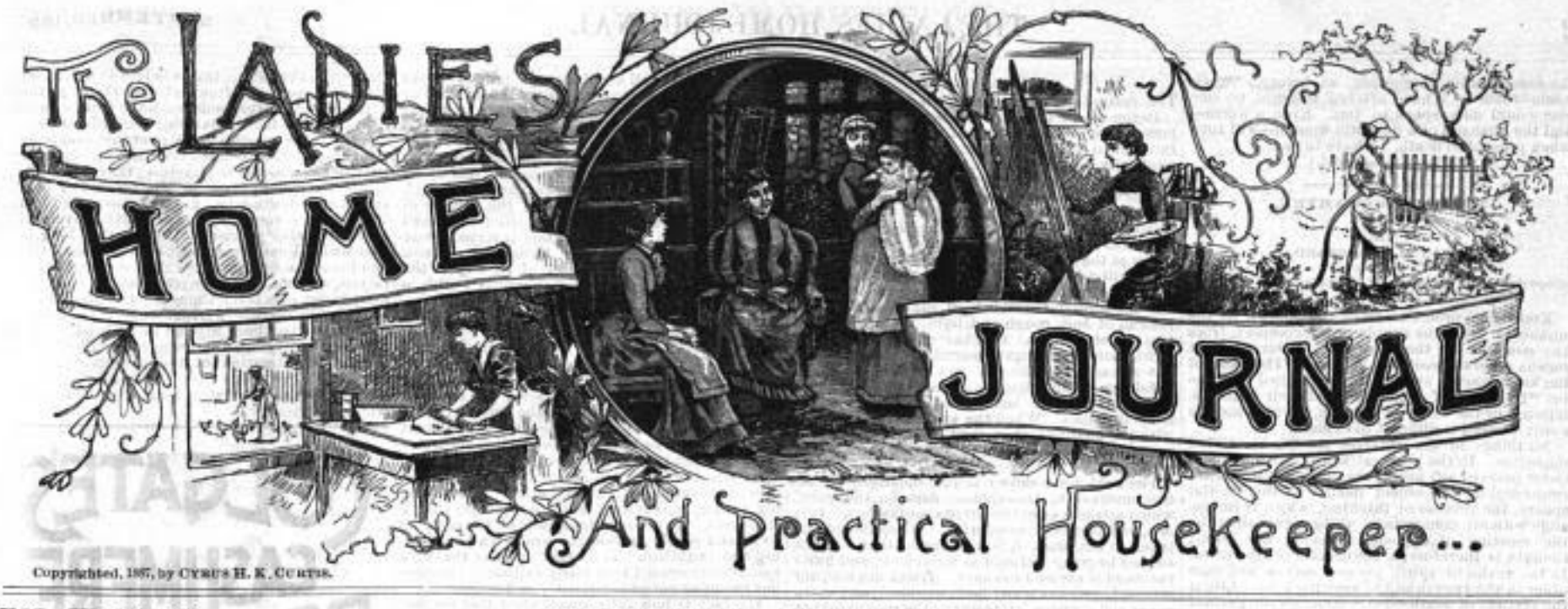

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(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

HOW ONE MAN LOST HIS WIFE.

BY MARION HARLAND.

You find me alone, you see, old friend. My boys and girls were persistent in their petitions that one of them should stay with me for a few days. "Until I should be somewhat used to the change," they said.

We seldom put such things in frank, bald phrase even to our nearest and dearest. They meant until the idea of their mother's death grew to be a familiar one with me. Until I should begin to learn to live without her. That is, I take it, the process of wringing out the dregs of the cup of bereavement. It is like the inflammation and fever that follow amputation. Children don't quite understand their parents, always, even affectionate and clear-sighted children like mine. There are two girls and three boys, all well-married, with homes of their own. The youngest of the flock—I named her for her mother before she was an hour old—she is twenty-five now—cried over me when I would not let her pass this evening with me.

"I cannot bear to leave you while our great loss is so new!" said the poor girl, sobbing out her heart in my arms.

How was she to guess that the loss and the despair were twenty years old? I never told her and her mother would have died sooner than hint it. For our children's sake we smoothed the grave to a level and planted flowers upon it.

You "understood that the funeral took place yesterday and have taken the liberty of an old friend in calling to express your sympathy." I thank you for the brotherly thought and deed. The sight of a face one has known since boyhood, the touch of a true man's hand are welcome on a night like this, when the wind cries shrilly through the silent house and the sleet is glazing the clods piled yesterday on the grave of the woman I married for love forty years ago.

You are looking at my open book. You "think I might have found more consolatory reading than 'Jane Welsh Carlyle's Life and Letters.'" Were I in your place, I should say the same. Carlyle was a selfish, coarse-fibred peasant, and his Jean, though better born and bred, had a touch of the tiger-cat in her. My wife was a genuine *lady*—a thoroughbred, who would bleed to death and make no complaint.

You "recollect her as a blithe, vivacious girl when you acted as my best-man; as a handsome, gracious matron when you visited us in '63! Her devotion to her husband and children was very beautiful."

She was all you say, Jack. If I were to talk until daylight I could not overpraise her. Nor yet describe to you the blank heaviness of my life for the past score of years—rather more, for it was in June '66, that I lost her.

I came home a little tired that night, and more than a little cross. The day had been warm, and business unsatisfactory. The general impression is that women have little knowledge of the burdens bound on the backs of their husbands, of how often the black cur, Care, sits on their shoulders snarling in their ears while they eat and talk, and seem to live the home-life so few of us get a chance to enjoy aright. My Naomi (I never knew another woman who had the name, and it appeared to be made for her)—my Naomi knew at the first glimpse of my face how matters had gone with me since I left her—and never asked a question.

On this evening, she came down to supper in a white gown of soft woollen stuff that fell in classic folds when she sat or stood. It was trimmed with creamy lace, and a bunch of Bon Silene roses was pinned on the breast. She always dressed for my home-coming as for a favored guest. Here eyes were as clear, her complexion was as fresh as at twenty-five and she was forty, I five years her senior—quite old enough, one might think, not to behave like a cross school-boy. Without any allusion to my moodiness, she chatted gayly with the children, skillfully choosing topics that might beguile me from gloomy musings. She kept down the tone of talk, too, by example, not precept, that I might not be offended by shrill or boisterous voices. I saw it all, while affecting abstraction, and her very tact and address angered me. No man likes to be *visibly* humored. The implication of the need of so doing, asserts his weakness. With senses sharpened by suspicion, I should have divined why the younger children were sent early to bed, even if I had not overheard her say softly in the hall:

"Go and kiss Papa 'good-night' quietly, my dears. He is not feeling well this evening."

I had said nothing of feeling badly; had eaten a good supper with a good appetite. If I did not choose to chatter and grin like a chimpanzee, it was none of her business to note and comment on my demeanor. I was hurt and provoked when the boy and girl stole out on tiptoe to the piazza where I was smoking the cigar that would have restored my equanimity but for her officiousness. All I wanted was to be let alone to settle upon my lees, as it were.

"I hope your head will be better in the morning, dear Papa," twittered little Naomi, putting up her red lips to mine.

"There is nothing the matter with Papa, child," I retorted stiffly. "He needs nobody's pity!"

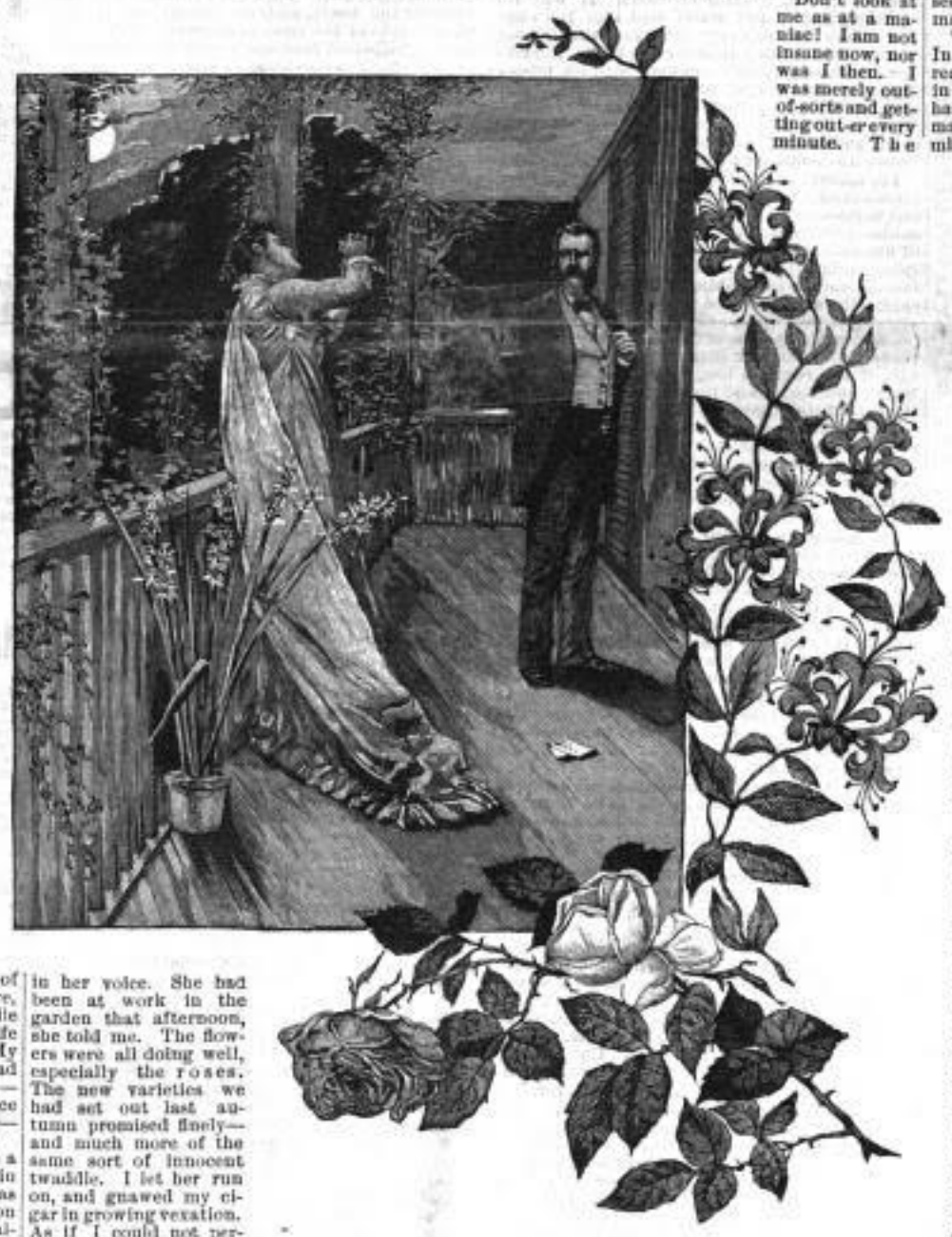
Her mother stood by and heard it, but she gave no sign that she felt the thrust. When she returned to the piazza after hearing the little ones' prayers in their rooms, she drew her chair close to mine, as was her habit in our after-supper talks, and laid her hand on my knee. There was not a shadow on her face, nor a dissonant chord in her voice. She had been at work in the garden that afternoon, she told me. The flowers were all doing well, especially the roses. The new varieties we had set out last autumn promised finely—and much more of the same sort of innocent twaddle. I let her run on, and gnawed my cigar in growing vexation. As if I could not perceive the drift of every sentence! Roses were my hobby; the modest collection in our pretty grounds was my pride. She sought to draw off the moral electricity gradually and harmlessly; treated me like a peevish baby with her sugared bits and shaking rattles. I returned no answer to her chit-chat. There was no need while she did not put direct queries.

By-and-by, she got up to pick a spray of honeysuckle from the vine curtaining the porch.

"It may be my fancy, but no other honeysuckle ever smells as sweet to me as this," she said, laughing a little. "We set it out when Phil was a month old—fifteen years ago! It grows as fast and as healthfully as he does."

The remark called for no rejoinder in my judgment, and I smoked on mutely. Coming back to her seat, with the flowers in her fingers, she did not return her hand to my knee. I understood that, too. She feared that she was boring me,—felt her way now, inch by inch. Did she give me credit for a modicum of common sense? I asked myself in rising choler. Couldn't she see that she was blundering on further and further in the wrong path? that I was getting dangerous under her assuasives and tentatives? I was not a hypochondriac, or a weak fool. If a man who made a handsome living for her and her children by the sweat of his face and the waste of his brain-force had not the right to be moodily taciturn at his will—who had? If my humor displeased her, let her say so. A square fight with blows well-delivered from the shoulder would have brought me to terms sooner than this sort of wheedling diplomacy.

How was she, sweet, honest soul! to know of the seethings and surgings within me? Only we comprehend the terrible truth hidden in the aphorism—"There is a savage in every man." Mine was awake and on the war-path, ravening for heart's blood, and, coward-like, in true savage fashion, conscious that it could not be drawn with such safety to myself from any other creature as from those who loved me best.



Don't look at me as at a maniac! I am not insane now, nor was I then. I was merely out-of-sorts and getting out-of-every minute. The one prudent course for a husband in such circumstances is flight and solitude. Knowing this, I sat obstinately still in my lounging-chair, and, blowing smoke-rings between me and the moon, feigned to watch their rising and dispersion.

Naomi had been silent for perhaps, two minutes, when she recollected a note that had been left for me that afternoon and with an exclamation at her negligence, fetched it, herself from the library, with a taper by which I might read it.

"I wish"—I said in taking it—"that my letters could be given to me promptly. This may have required immediate attention. It is not the first time I have made the request. If your servants"—(we always say "your" when underlings and children are in fault) "cannot obey orders, discharge them!"

"It was my fault, Philip," she answered bravely." A juster woman never endured reproach. "The note was brought to me, and I forgot it."

Without reply I let her stand by and hold the taper while I read the epistle. One can hardly play the savage and gentleman at the same time.

The letter was from Rob Stewart, a man she disliked exceedingly. As a rule, my friends were hers. It contained an excuse for not keeping his promise to meet a note I had endorsed for him. He was a shifty, plausible fellow, as my wife had seen all along and I was beginning to suspect. I may observe, parenthetically, that I eventually lost heavily by him, and Naomi never said—"I told you so!" At present she knew nothing of this and other transactions with him. She had a capital head for business, and I consulted her in most things. It made me furious, to reflect that she must have known from whom this communication came, his business-address being on one corner of the envelope.

"Your memory would have served you better," said I,—resulting emphasis on each slow word—"had this letter been from anybody but Mr. Stewart. Your prejudice against your husband's friend may do credit to your judgment, but it does not to your heart and loyalty to him. It seems sometimes, that it is only necessary for a man to be fond of me to earn your dislike."

"I did not know from whom the letter was." In saying it, she extinguished the taper and reached through the window to set it on a stand in the library. "It was brought to me while I had company, and I told Ellen to lay it on the mantel. Then, as I have said, it slipped from my mind altogether."

If there be one thing more exasperating than another to the rampant savage aforesaid, it is to have all warrant for his cruelty snatched from him. Even in sport, the boxer gets angry with buffeting the air. I felt myself glare upon her, as she resumed her chair. She was looking straight forward down the central alley of the rose-garden. The white moonlight flooded her face and the hands lying still and lax in her lap, the honeysuckles between them.

"You will hardly affect to deny your aversion to my old friend, I presume," I went on, ignoring her defence. "Please confine yourself to the matter in hand. This dodging and sidling may be feminine tactics. It is not fair or honest. I simply assert that you take pains to be rude to one who, at least, deserves such common courtesy as a true lady should show to her husband's chosen associates."

"I have never meant to be rude or unkind to any friend of yours, Philip. If I have done it, I am sorry."

Her voice was less firm, but the pitch was low and pleasant. She never whined or sobbed wheezingly as most women do when excited. But I saw that she was putting forth strength, calling in reserves, to hold her position.

"More evasions!" I sneered. "Why not come out frankly, and confess that you are meanly jealous of Stewart's influence over me? His crime, in your eyes, is that he has the bad taste to like your husband more than he does you,—a sin your inordinate thirst for admiration makes it difficult to forgive."

That *stung* her! I saw her wince; heard her breath go and come hurriedly. So brilliant was the moonlight that I imagined I could see the pink roses on her breast tremble. She said not one word. She would supply me with no more texts if she could avoid it.

This was intolerable. She, who knew me so well, should have been aware that strained forbearance, a show of martyr-like meekness was fire to powder. I tossed my cigar over the railing into the garden. As it whirled, it touched a hanging streamer of honeysuckle and the breeze brought back the fiery tip to break in hot ashes on her skirt. She stooped and shook them off with no show of annoyance. She probably brushed aside my petulant speeches as dispassionately as she dislodged sparks from her gown. At the thought, I grew suddenly steady, confronted her in the cold fury a rational animal seldom knows twice in a life-time,—and never forgets. One always chooses chilled steel for deadly thrusts.

"I mean what I say," I said. "You *will* be queen at any cost to others. If I do not speak oftener of this, your distinguishing trait, it is because I made up my mind, nineteen years ago, that the price of peace was feigned submission. Your servants, your children, your *husband*—must yield to your imperious will or take the consequences. Your selfish domination in your petty sphere is notorious. People defer to, and flatter you through fear, not admiration. You have fair executive ability, are liberal with your money; your carriage and address are good. Hence your appointment to places of influence in benevolent and social associations. But the secret of your apparent success is your overbearing *will*. Robert Stewart is but one victim to your resentment with insubordination.. I have not a friend who does not appreciate the bondage in which I live."

I paused—my breath spent.

She stood up, pale as her gown, her fingers locked hard.

"I surely do not understand you, Philip! What have I done—or failed to do—that you should say such cruel, *cruel* things to me—your wife!"

"Truth often sounds cruel," I returned with

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the same deadly composure, as before. "Such home-truths as I have uttered to-night no one else would dare speak to you. Even a worm—and the husband of a despotic woman—will turn when pressed to death. *I* have turned!"

(*To be continued.*)

THE KINDERGARTEN.

III.

BY ANNA W. BARNARD.

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Knowledge proceeds from the known to the unknown, from the simple to the complex, from the concrete to the abstract. "Development means *progress according to law.*" The basis of the kindergarten system is a law called by Froebel "The Law of Opposites, and their reconciliation," or the "Law of Balance," which though easily obeyed is difficult to explain.

All things in the universe consist of related opposites. In the physical world the inner and outer parts of any object are opposites which are connected by the object itself. In the mental sphere, the process of thinking, which is impossible without comparison, is brought about by the meeting of opposite ideas in the mind; thought is therefore, a connection of opposites. In the realm of spirit joy and sorrow wed each other in the growth of the aspiring soul. Life is the prelude of death—death conceals the germ of Life. "At the bottom of this all-pervading law there must, of necessity, lie an all-working unity, conscious of its existence, and therefore existing eternally."

There can be no comparison of objects whose qualities are exactly alike. The qualities of form, size, color, material, etc., are common to all objects. Variations in these universal qualities constitute the difference in objects which makes comparison possible. Black and white are opposites which are connected by all the intermediate shades and tints of color. These shades and tints are the means of "reconciliation of the opposites," which is effected by the affinity of qualities, the darkest red being in affinity with black, as the lightest red is with white, and the opposites black and white are linked together by all the different gradations of red.

The right proportion or balance of the opposites height and breadth produces beauty of form. The curve is the line of beauty, and all the opposite parts have a perfect balance in the circle. The opposites light and shade blended together by the scale of color create the harmony of color. The key-note and the fifth in music are opposites reconciled by the third, in the simple chord which is the basis of musical harmony.

Heat and cold, light and darkness, etc., are opposites which the child gradually learns to distinguish, and in the words of that most devoted friend and true disciple of Froebel, the Baroness von Marenholtz-Bulow, "To be able to distinguish is the first step toward understanding. Is it not, therefore, self-evident that this process will be facilitated if the objects with which the child is to occupy itself are presented to it in the form of opposites? If, for instance, it is to learn to distinguish between the size of things, let two objects, relatively great and little, be given to it, or for distinction of color, two contrasting colors. * * * By means of the sense of sight, the child receives impressions, nothing more. But out of these impressions *feeling* and *willing* arise, and later on understanding and thinking, and it is because all later development depends on them that early impressions are so important.

As God the Creator has everywhere in creation placed opposites side by side in order to work out harmony, so must man proceed * * * in all *his* works, if he is to produce harmony. All art is based on the principle of contrasts. * * * Whilst the child is applying this simple law in a thousand different ways, * * * it is being led on to creativeness, which means, so far as mankind is concerned, out of given materials to form new combinations. Without law or rule, *i. e.*, method, this is not possible. The mode of procedure in all work, whether industrial or artistic, must be at bottom systematic.

If the child * * * has persistently applied this principle of its own mental development, although at the time conscious of nothing more than that by this simple means it could produce the most manifold shapes, figures, etc., far more will have been done for its general development, than if it had been at once prepared for all the various branches of school instruction. Arrangement, distribution, classification, without which no instruction can be carried on, and clear thought is impossible, will have become habits of his life, and will bring to him clearness of feeling, will and thought, the only certain foundations of culture."

And again, "This long-recognized law which, whether in the centrifugal and centripetal forces that rule throughout the cosmic universe, or in the inspiration and expiration of the lungs, or the expansion and contraction of the sap of plants, etc., has established itself as the law of all life, growth and being—this law Froebel applies to education. For, he argues, if this law guides the process of spiritual development in early childhood, that is, in the period of non-deliberate action, educators must regard it as the law of nature, for the human mind if they are to proceed according to nature, and they must apply this law in their method, and above all lead children to apply it themselves in whatever they do; and this from the beginning of the child's development, in the stage of unconscious existence, which is the germ of all others. In this way the human mind will be trained to render to itself an ever clearer and clearer account of the laws of its thinking and acting, while an opposite method of education would more or less hinder the mind from attaining the power of clear thought."

Whoever has compared an unknown object with one that is known, is in a position to pass judgment on it, and to draw conclusions upon it. "Thus the natural process of thought is as follows: perception, observation, comparison, judgment and conclusion. Without this series of preliminary steps no thought can be worked out, and the ruling principle is the law of the reconciliation of opposites, or the finding out the like and unlike quantities of things.

It matters not how far the thinker be conscious or unconscious of the process going on in his mind. The child is entirely unconscious of it, and therefore takes longer to reach from one stage to another. At first it receives only general impressions, then perception comes in; gradually ideas begin to shape themselves in its mind, and it then learns to compare and distinguish; but judging and concluding do not begin till the third or fourth year, and then only vaguely and dimly. Nevertheless, the same systematic process is at work as in the conscious thought of the adult."

SOLIDS.

The Second Gift: Sphere, Cylinder and Cube.

In the use of the gifts and occupations a principle to be observed is that every new object brought to the child's notice shall have a certain similarity to and connection with those which have preceded it. The First Gift is a number of worsted balls, the Second Gift is a wooden sphere, cylinder and cube. The first form shown is the sphere, which attracts attention by its resemblance to the familiar balls, one of which may be given at the same time; using both together, the child will notice many similarities and contrasts. He learns that the latter is round and will roll like the former, that it is hard, smooth and heavy, instead of soft, rough and light, that in size the two are similar, but that the sphere is white or light, instead of bright-colored, that it rebounds, but not so far as the ball, yet makes more noise in falling. The balls gave pleasure by their bright colors, the sphere has an added charm in the noise it makes. When the children are familiar with its qualities they may be taught to pronounce with accuracy the new name for the ball—sphere.

The next form shown is an "opposite," or direct contrast to the sphere, namely, the cube, which attracts attention by its sollkeness. It is *new*, and therefore wonderful. When the cube is taken in the hand, it is soon found that it is not so easy to grasp and hold as the sphere, and hurts the hand if pressed too hard. It will not roll, nor rebound, and has many faces or sides, and sharp edges and corners. It is unlike the sphere except in material, color, hardness and smoothness. The sphere in motion always looks like a sphere; the cube in motion *seems* to change its shape. The children examine the cube, and count and name its six sides, always being careful to touch and count by the "law of opposites," as top, bottom, front, back, right and left sides. Their attention is next directed to the *shape* of the sides, which they find to be square and of equal size. By the help of suggestion they discover and count the twelve, straight, sharp edges, and eight sharp points or corners. Finally, they learn to pronounce the name, cube.

The last form of the gift shown is the cylinder, the intermediate form of sphere and cube, both of which it resembles, and from both of which it differs. Its round side resembles the sphere. It is white, smooth, hard, wooden, and has two flat sides and two edges like the cube. But the flat sides are unlike those of the cube in being circular instead of square; and instead of straight edges, its edges are circles. Unlike the cube, and like the sphere, it has no corners. It will roll like the sphere, and stand still like the cube. The sphere rolls in every direction, the cylinder can only roll in two directions. When the children become perfectly familiar with its properties, they are taught to pronounce the name, cylinder. Sphere, cylinder and cube are all made of wood, are hard, smooth, heavy, of the same color, and make a loud noise in falling. All these forms are compared with many other objects.

The sphere has three axes of equal length, which intersect each other at right angles; one vertical, one horizontal from front to back, and one horizontal from right to left. The cube has three axes of unequal length; viz., the axis of the faces or sides, an imaginary line from the middle of any face or side, to the middle of the opposite face or side;—the axis of the edges, from the middle of any edge to the middle of the edge diagonally opposite; and the axis of the corners, from any corner to the corner diagonally opposite. The axis of the edges is longer than the axis of the faces; and the axis of the corners is longer than the axis of the edges.

The cylinder has also three axes; viz., the axis of the flat sides, the axis of the round side, and the axis of the edges. The axis of the flat sides is longer than the axis of the round side, and the axis of the edges is longer than the axis of the flat sides.

The sphere suspended by a twisted cord from any one of its three axes, and made to revolve, shows always the form of a sphere; the cube suspended in the same manner from the axis of any one of its sides, and made to revolve, shows the form of the cylinder, from the axis of the edges, the hub of a wheel, and from the axis of the corners, the double cone. The cylinder revolved upon the axis of the flat sides shows its own form, the cylinder; upon the axis of the round side, the sphere; and upon the axis of the edges the double cone. By these experiments it is seen that the sphere contains and is contained in both cube and cylinder.

The first and second gifts may be compared with each other as whole: the balls of the former are soft, rough, light and almost soundless; the sphere, cylinder and cube of the latter are hard, smooth, heavy and resonant. The balls gave the first impression of the spherical form to the child; sphere, cylinder and cube which succeed furnish material for comparison with the balls.

In the sphere he at once recognizes the spherical form, and in its direct opposite, the cube, gains a correct impression of the square, while in the cylinder, or connecting link, he finds a union of round and square. Differences and resemblances are alike noticed. The sphere, like the balls, is round and easily moved. Cube and cylinder differ from balls in form. Sphere and cube are opposites. The cylinder or intermediate form combines the curve of the sphere, and the planes of the cube. Like the ball, the sphere has but one surface, and no corners nor edges; the cube has six surfaces, twelve corners, and eight edges. The sphere is the symbol of motion; the cube in repose, is the symbol of rest. The sphere in motion shows always the form of the sphere; the cube when revolving, shows no longer the form of the cube. The sphere is easily moved, the cube stands firm. Sphere and cube seem to unite in the cylinder. Sphere and cylinder have roundness and a capacity for easy motion; cube and cylinder have flat faces and edges, and a tendency to repose. The cylinder resembles both sphere and cube in firmness, heaviness and resonance, and in its flat, smooth and rounded surfaces.

Only one part of the gift is to be used at a time, and first, the sphere, of which the children are to be shown, that in whatever position it is placed, and whether it is still or in motion, like the colored balls, it always appears the same in shape, round like a globe; we may roll it, or suspend it by a twisted cord, move it up and down, backward and forward, right and left, round in a circle, throw it through the air, or drop it on the floor, yet it will always look round, like a sphere.

But if we suspend the cube from the middle of any one of its sides, by a twisted cord, and allow the cord to untwist, as the cube whirls round, we shall witness much delight and wonder on the part of the little ones, as their eager eyes seek to discern new shapes of beauty. One child may see a resemblance to two wheels, one above the other; what we should call a cylinder, he may say looks like a silk hat, stove-pipe, box or barrel. The cube suspended from the middle of any one of its edges, shows to his delighted eyes a star, a wheel, a top, two barrels, or what to older eyes looks like a cylinder placed slantwise across another cylinder. The cube suspended from any one of its corners, shows the top, the star, and the wheel.

The cylinder suspended from the middle of either of its flat sides, shows two cylinders crossed slantwise, a top, two bowls, one inverted above the other, and again two cylinders crossed. When suspended from either of its edges, the form of a wheel enclosing a sphere is visible, a top with inverted bowl above it, and a cube. Suspended from its round side, the form of a cylinder or barrel enclosing a perfect sphere is shown. Two of the forms above referred to have given me such pure delight that I cannot refrain from again alluding to them. One is that in which two bowls or cones are seen, one inverted above the other, and which as the cord untwists, gradually approach each other till they almost touch; for one brief instant only a line separates them, at that instant a perfect sphere is formed, the next, the bowls or cones recede from each other with rapid and regular motion. The changing figures, the exciting moment when the sphere is formed, the gradual recession of the parts in swift and steady motion are wonderfully charming and beautiful. The other form is that of a sphere surrounded by a misty cylinder; this also has the most perfect symmetry and beauty.

The fact is now fully established that no motion changes the apparent shape of the sphere, but that motion *seems* to change the shape of both cylinder and cube, and so the children early learn that "things are not always what they seem."

By these simple experiments we are led to realize how the laws of a divine harmony underlie all created things, and that the pebble on the shore is governed by the same Power that guides the worlds through the infinite spaces, and never one fails to be in its place, at the appointed time, and we cease to wonder that in the beginning the "morning stars sang together!"

Froebel, in his life-time, because he played with children, was called a "natural fool." Of him, the Baroness Bulow, after her first meeting with him, said, "Perhaps he is one of those rare beings, who in their lifetime are ridiculed and stoned by contemporaries, but to whom future generations build monuments!"

A prophecy long since fulfilled!

His monument is composed of the three forms of his second gift. The cube forms the base, the cylinder the shaft, and the sphere the capital. On one side of the cube is engraved his favorite motto, "*Kommt, lasst uns unsern Kindern leben!*"

[For the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

ACROSS THE WAY; or, LOVE'S LESSON.

BY H. N. S.

Mine is a home of luxury
Rich fabrics I may wear,
Costly my plate and jewels,
I dine on daintiest fare.
Pictures superb adorn my walls,
My table, Sevres rare.
With choicest flowers to perfume all,
Yet near me, hovers care.

I ride in style of Royal dame,
Am welcomed everywhere,
But oft I feel—alas the shame—
These smiles are false, as fair.
My wealth, and power, not *me* they love.
They bow at hollow shrine.
And why? I never asked their love,
Nor ever offered mine.

I sit and gaze, (and oft have wept,)
At children three—ah me!
Mine in their graves long years have slept,
These—bloom across the way.
Their mother dwells in humble home,
Her dress—though neat, is poor.
Their house is small, they scarce have room
To grow, inside the door.

And so they play, each summer day,
Outside, beneath a tree,
From thence, they all unconsciously,
Send arrows sharp, through me.
Odd times, the mother at her task,
Beside her window low,
Looks up to mine—I fain would ask,
Does she her riches know?

Perchance she envies me at ease,
With all that wealth can give,
As if a life could be of ease,
When quite bereft of love.
At eve she goes with cheerful mood,
With her own hands to dress,
Plain wholesome food, for hungry brood,
And toiling husband's rest.

She comes to meet him at the door,
(No servant stands between,)
He loves! Can you call her poor?
Nay, this is wealth unseen.
My lover long ago was lost,
—And yet he is not dead—
But lost to me, 'mid clam'rous host,
To Mammon, he is wed.

Ah woe is me! that I must see,
All this from day to day,
Yet feel debarred—my golden key
Fits not, across the way.
Their pride, not mine the barrier makes.
They fill a better place,
Higher in Honor's ranks they take
Their stand—I yield with grace.

Yet I would win a smile, a look
Or kindly word to bless—
I have it now! A picture-book
And flowers in baby-hands I'll place,
And humbly beg one sweet caress.
One loving glance from childish eyes
Would soothe.—Good-bye to loneliness,
Wow by *her* knocks, she welcomes me.

Avoid False Guides.

Nothing could be more misleading than the theory that every man or woman can be his or her own doctor. Books are published which contain long catalogues of symptoms, and lay down inflexible rules for treatment. Many lives are sacrificed annually to such amateur medical treatment. The danger of taking any remedy without having a proper diagnosis of one's case, needs only to be intimated to be admitted. Drs. Starkey & Palen, 1529 Arch street, Philadelphia, Pa., found, when they introduced their Compound Oxygen to the public, that wisdom as well as honesty, demanded the frankest statements to their patients. A correspondence soon brings out all the important facts regarding the sufferer's condition. If the physicians discover that Compound Oxygen and its associated remedies will not reach the disease under consideration, they make it an unvarying rule to say so. This precept of frank and manly dealing has not been departed from throughout seventeen years of active and remarkably successful practice. During that long period their Home Treatment by Compound Oxygen for consumption, bronchitis, rheumatism, paralysis, asthma, and associated diseases has been introduced into forty thousand families, and its remarkable success warrants every recommendation that has been uttered in its behalf. It is not a cure-all remedy, but where prescribed, after careful investigation of the patient's case, it rarely fails to effect a cure. Drs. Starkey & Palen send a very interesting book, free, to anybody who will write for it.

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MRS. CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK

(Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.)

It happened to me, one afternoon late in June, 1885, to be sitting with Marion Harland in a cozy corner of her library. Our talk had ranged over many subjects, when my friend said, a happy light shining in her eyes: "Pardon me, but I must tell you what a pleasure I have had to-day. My daughter and myself appear together in print, and I cannot help thinking that, for a novice, she is writing wonderfully well. She has not chosen a very ambitious subject, but she has treated it quite exhaustively, and she knows when to stop, which, as you and I are aware, is not known by everybody."

The mother's delightful and characteristic article in the periodical which, clad in its garb of Quaker brown, lay invitingly on the table, was on the "Literary Life of the Household." The daughter, with a facility and precision which an older worker could but envy, discoursed on "The Philosophy of Closets," paying her respects to the several closets of an ordinary house, "upstairs, down-stairs and in my lady's chamber." Forgetting neither the chiaro-oscuro of the cellar, nor the bristling abatis of the lumber-room in the attic, she told her readers how to clean and arrange these repositories, and, the secret of successful authorship, made the telling an entertainment.

But this was not her first entrance upon the literary stage. A month earlier, in May, 1885, when *Good Housekeeping* made its bow to the public, the table of contents in the initial number announced "Waste of the Household," by Christine Terhune Herrick. Turning to the page, this modest article was found to bear the sub-title, "Watching and Saving the Left-Overs," and was a practical paper on the "dainty utilization of scraps." "Anyone," said the writer sensibly, "can go to the butcher and order a round of beef or a leg of mutton, but it takes judgment, taste and skill to prepare a *ragout*, a *salmis* or a really good scallop." That for the average housewife it is easier to save than to earn a dollar was the lesson of the article.

The maternal judgment, unabiased by maternal partiality, was confirmed by the popular verdict. Never had youthful writer a more cordial reception, nor more immediate recognition than she whose modest hints about the disposition of "left-overs" were speedily copied by papers throughout the country, even finding their way into a far-away journal in New Mexico. A host of approving housekeepers put the suggestions to the practical test of trying them in their own kitchens, and, in truth, there was nothing of the novice either in the matter or the manner of the new writer. Mrs. Herrick wrote not only with grace, but with great clearness and force, and thorough comprehension of her theme.

Trained to practical housekeeping in the best possible school, her girlhood's beautiful home, when she came to preside over a house of her own she resolved that everything should be conducted in the best and most intelligent way. Nothing was to be left to hap-hazard. Some of her housekeeping difficulties, veiled under a transparent drapery of fiction, have amused the readers of *Table Talk*, for the little lady found herself, in common with all beginners, confronted by individual perplexities, and beset by unexpected annoyances. Her first article grew very naturally directly out of her personal experience. It is comparatively easy to cater for a large household, and she who does it has plain sailing before her. It is to the manager of a small family that household economy presents its reefs and breakers. Mrs. Herrick did not propose, in arranging her menus for two, to serve her table with remainder biscuits, nor feast her husband, in monotonous iteration, with the cold relics of roast and boiled. So it came to pass, that before writing her paper on "Left-overs," she had worked it entirely out in a very practical manner.

It must be conceded that, at least in the department of writing for the household, it is difficult to improve upon the method of the immortal Squeers: "C-l-e-a-n, clean, verb active, to scour; w-i-n, win, d-e-r, der, winder, a casement. When a boy knows this he goes and does it."

Mrs. Herrick's first article is an illustration in point here; for, having the gist of it, as the children say, by heart, she wrote it in something less than a half-hour.

Beginning thus modestly, there has seldom been a week in the last two years in which words from Mrs. Herrick's pen have not made their confident challenge to the popular ear. The allied interests of the household, from such practical affairs as cooking and cleaning to the care and training of children, children's reading, nursery management, the relations of mistress and maid, etc., to the equally important matters of behavior, temper and daily courtesy and kindness, have enlisted her attention.

A glance at the bright face of Christine Terhune Herrick, reveals a cheerful, capable woman, several years on the sunny side of thirty, the second child and first daughter of the Rev. Dr. Edward P. and Mary Virginia Terhune. The baby-girl found a warm welcome in the world to which she came with the birds and flowers of June. The blue eyes opened in a home-nest from which the tenderest love excluded every blast of the earth's rough weather.

As her mind unfolded, the bright little creature, quaint of speech, positive of nature, and sunny as the morning, gave promise of rare endowments. Until her fifteenth year her education was wholly conducted at home by her parents, her mother, a marvel of executive ability, finding time amid the multiplied cares of a pastor's wife, and the never-intermitted task of an author, to supervise not only, but personally to teach her children. Mrs. Herrick's actual school-life extended over but two years—the two between fifteen and seventeen.

Her love of reading was a passion, and in her father's house there was every opportunity for the child's omnivorous appetite for books to be gratified.

Familiar with Scott and Shakespeare, and able to pass an examination in Dickens, there was reason for her mother's often-repeated remark, that "Chrissie might be trusted with untold gold, but never with a scrap of printed paper." There is a family tradition of the little golden-haired girl, absorbed hour after hour in "John of Barneveld," finding in Motley's brilliant pages the charm which less fortunate children too often discover in the tinsel of some second-rate novel. She well remembers a childish disappointment, the loss of a coveted drink through her own fault in lingering when sent on an errand, to read every ballad, strung by a vender of such wares, upon the railing of the market-place.

When Christine was seventeen, Dr. and Mrs. Terhune went abroad with their children and remained during a somewhat prolonged period. The privileges opened to such a mind as hers, in the environments of England and the Continent, cannot be overestimated. Having a natural bent toward the acquisition of language, she entered with enthusiasm on the study of French, German and Italian, not merely for colloquial purposes, but making bold incursions into their several literatures. Returning to America, she prosecuted diligently the study of Anglo-Saxon and early English, fitting herself, in accordance with her mother's wish, to take the chair of a professor in English literature. Marion Harland holds that girls, as well as boys, should be trained as bread-winners, and has carried out her theory successfully in her family. In the illness of the teacher, Miss Terhune accepted and retained for a year the charge of a class in English literature in a widely-known school for girls in Springfield, entirely satisfying all concerned. Afterwards undertaking private classes in her own name, she proved her manifest fitness for this vocation.

Exceptionally as she became the tutor's cap and gown, however, it was not written in the book of fate that this should be her life's vocation. Attractive in person and manner, brilliant in conversation, gifted beyond most talkers in the happy use of repartee, and the apt and flashing illustration, the girl in society had a little court of her own. Not for her was the sequestered path of scholarly spinsterhood. In April, 1884, she bestowed her hand upon Mr. J. F. Herrick, at that time on the staff of the Springfield *Republican*. A beloved and ideally satisfied wife and mother, she is a proof that marriage, whoever may urge the contrary, opposes no barrier to a woman's highest development.

"I have found," she says, "in my husband's appreciation and unfailing interest, my greatest stimulus, and my most pressing incentive to exertion. His belief in my powers is unbounded. His sympathy in my work is my constant encouragement."

In justice to Mrs. Herrick, perhaps also to correct a mistaken impression, it should be said that she owes nothing of her literary success, which has been unique, to the efforts or assistance of her gifted mother. She has made her own engagements, fulfilled her own obligations.

During the whole of last year she contributed weekly a strong, practical article to a literary syndicate, besides doing regular work in several largely-circulated journals. From the beginning she has exacted and received the highest rates of remuneration, deeming that in this field the laborer is worthy of her hire.

In September last, Mr. and Mrs. Herrick removed to Brooklyn, N. Y., in which city is now their home, and where they have already made a host of friends. Mrs. Herrick's literary occupations do not keep her from the social life which she adorns, nor prevent her being an assiduous worker in the church of which her father is the pastor.

Her superb physique, due in part to inheritance, but more to the wise parental oversight which provided that her childhood should be spent much in the open air, is a guarantee that she is only at the beginning of her career. Spending long, beautiful summers at that earthly paradise, Sunnybank, the rural residence of her parents, she learned to ride, to row, to drive, to fish, and excelled in all these accomplishments. She could take long walks without fatigue, climbed the lovely hills for flowers or ferns, and swinging for hours in a hammock on the lawn, pored over her beloved books, and laid up stores of vitality which will stand her in stead for years to come. Her strong health, her blithe spirits, her complete equipment, and her habit of thoroughness, justify us in anticipating brilliant and worthy work in the hereafter from one who has made so creditable a beginning.—*Margaret E. Sangster, in Table Talk.*

(For the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

EARLY MARRIAGES.

BY LOUISA M. ALCOTT.

"Unhappy marriages are the tragedies of our day," said a wise man. If he had added that *too early* marriages caused a very large proportion of the unhappiness he would have shown us how a part of the tragedy might be spared.

The fact that a youth and maiden love another is not a sufficient reason for them to marry unless they are fitted to be and to do all that this sacred relation requires. Principle not passion should preside over the affair. Temperaments should harmonize, tastes and aims be not too different, and above all both parties should clearly understand the religious significance of the tie, and not lightly bind themselves while under the rosy glamour and romance of a first fancy.

Few girls of eighteen are ready, either physically or mentally, to become wives and mothers. Twenty-five is a better age, since then she is mature and should be in her prime. Young men do not attain their full growth before twenty-eight, and few before that age have seriously taken up the work of life and are fit to become the heads of families.

Far too many rush into matrimony just when they are least prepared to undertake its duties, accept its responsibilities, or wisely use its rights and pleasures. Then when the young wife fades and takes to her sofa an invalid, when the children are puny, the husband disappointed, indifferent or tyrannical, and the home a sad failure—people console themselves by talking of the deterioration of the race, and the mysterious dispensations of Providence. Now it is too late to give back her bloom to the over-taxed girl, to put vigor into the babies born of immature parents, or to teach the young man the sacred duties of husband and father. So the costly experiment goes on, and too often the union which should give mutual happiness and strength is a burden and a fetter.

Better begin in time and train up the boy or girl for the great relation of life. Fathers and mothers are far too ignorant, careless or timid to do their parts faithfully in the years when children are as clay in the hands of the potter, easily molded into any shape before time casts the statue for good or ill. A mother especially cannot begin too soon to win the confidence of the little creatures who instinctively turn to her with their small doubts and fears, sorrows and joys; sure that she can explain, heal and share them all. She should be wise as well as tender, and lay a sure foundation for the work which comes later when the children enter girl and boyhood, full of new hopes, perplexities and temptations. Who so well as she can guard the eager boy against his own passions and appetites, teaching him the hard lesson of self-control before the world, the flesh, and the devil begin to tempt him as a man? Who so delicately as a mother can help the budding girl to understand herself, to feel the sacredness of her mission, to prepare for it intelligently, to be worthy of it, and so be armed against the trial that beset the sex which is born to suffer and be strong for love's sake.

Fathers should do their part as faithfully, first by trying to set an example of true manhood for their sons to follow, that these keen-eyed, young critics may see few faults to pardon, many virtues to imitate, and add honor to love and confidence. He can warn them against the many temptations women never feel, the false ambitions that belittle life, and the too-easy forgetfulness of the wants of the soul in the pleasures of the the body. He can best help them to find their places in the world, to work patiently and honestly at their chosen task, and to render themselves worthy in due time to ask some innocent woman to share heart and home with them.

No easy task, but one which is terribly neglected and deeply regretted when sad experience shows parents their mistake too late. Intent on getting money, place or power, men let their children grow up with very little knowledge of them, except as toys or torments, and when the lads go wrong, blame everyone but themselves, or when the girls bloom suddenly into womanhood asking for their right to love, care and guidance, they are strangers to their own daughters and too often regard them as burdens to be gladly got rid of by marriage, not comforts and props to the old age yet to come.

Mothers keep silence from a false sense of delicacy and let their sons blunder into knowledge as they may, at the most critical period of their lives, and when trouble comes they lament over these neglected boys, hide their faults, and nurse them with a devotion which, rightly used, would have spared them all the shame and sorrow, the irradicable wrong done soul and body by the loss of innocence and health. Daughters are allowed to grow up with no aim but an early marriage, and too often hurry into a bad one, quite unconscious of the misery such precipitation inevitably brings.

This want of care and principle in parents is a fruitful source of these unwise, unhappy marriages. How can it be otherwise when little school-girls discuss their sweethearts as they eat bread and butter at recess, and boys boast of being "mashers" at sixteen? Foolish novels, bad plays, too much liberty, and lack of proper training, both at home and in school fit these children for the fatal step that so often wrecks their lives, or leaves them bound together with ever-increasing rebellion, indifference or the sad resignation which so often takes the place of the love, honor, and mutual help which alone makes wedlock holy and happy.

Public opinion is to blame as well as parents, and needs reforming since its influence is great. It is thought so "pretty and romantic" to see these youths and maidens pair off like birds in spring-time, with all the pleasant excitement of bridal veils, wedding bells, and honeymoon trips that it is small wonder the ignorant and innocent creatures take the plunge with smiling faces, and are wakened from their dream by finding the water cold, the tide strong, and the rocks sharp under the sunny, blue waves that seemed ready to float them to the Islands of the Blest.

Many of us know the sad ending of such seemingly happy matches, and the thoughtful observer can but wonder why they are permitted by those who should be the first to guard the sons and daughters whom they love, against such a rash step, no matter what the temptation may be. This fact was deeply impressed upon me some years ago by two weddings which I witnessed one bright May morning. Both were fashionable, gay and splendid, the brides young and lovely, the grooms handsome men, one just of age, the other evidently still sowing his wild oats, and this wedding was but another handful gaily planted to bring in a bitter harvest. Troops of friends surrounded the happy pairs, and all that money, taste, sunshine and good-will could do gave grace and beauty to the scene.

I did not know either pair, and as we went along the street gay with the brilliant bustle of the departing crowd, I said to the friend who had invited me to enjoy the spectacle always attractive to a woman:

"'Happy the bride the sun shines on,' seems singularly appropriate to-day, for these young people appear to have all that is supposed to be needed for a prosperous start on the journey of life."

"I don't want to croak like a bird of evil omen, but I predict that neither of these marriages will turn out well," answered my friend with a sigh.

"Why not," I asked curiously, as I watched a carriage load of bridesmaids drive by looking like a nosegay of snowdrops in their dainty white costumes.

"In one case they are too young. Twenty-one and eighteen, and have known each other but six months. What can such children guess of the life before them, and how fit are they for the responsibilities they have blindly assumed? They are not suited to one another, and will find it out too late I fear. The older pair are in a still sadder strait, for that innocent girl is sacrificed to gratify the ambition of *her* parents and to calm the anxiety of *his*, by trying to save him from destruction. He has led a wild life since he was a boy, and must be settled before it is too late, so this pretty creature is given to him as a bribe to virtue, and goes to her doom like a lamb to the slaughter, while the world looks on without open protest, friend congratulate, and the priest blesses this wicked sacrilege. Ah, well, God's law cannot be broken without atonement, and the penalty will yet be paid! Only the heaviest suffering often falls upon the least guilty offender."

The wise old woman's prophecy proved true, for when I met her a few years later and naturally recalled the gay May morning, she told me that the younger pair were divorced after two years of wretchedness. The other case was sadder still, for the pretty bride was dead and the young man in an insane asylum. Both had found out all too late how easy it was to take this step, how bitter the retribution for breaking the divine law which makes marriage a sacrament, not a bargain, a sacrifice nor a spectacle.

I never forgot the episode, and have preached many a sermon to my young friends since with those weddings for my text and illustration.

Another and a happier pair whose story I love to tell, for years of beautiful wedded life points the moral and proves it true, waited two years to know one another thoroughly, and to be ready in all ways for the union which binds for better for worse, in this world and perhaps in the world to come. Then they married on an income of six hundred dollars, and, contenting themselves with two pleasant rooms, lived like a pair of turtle doves; or better still, a busy, loving man and wife, each doing his or her part toward increasing the income, glad to work up hand in hand, growing nearer and dearer as they bore their sorrows and earned their successes together. Through the week they could see but little of one another the husband being in his office, the wife absorbed in her babies, for she took entire care of them herself, and hired other work which could better bear neglect or delay. But Sunday was a family festival, and after going to church, in the good old-fashioned way, to thank God for his many mercies, chief among them the blessings of home and love, they read, studied or walked with the little ones, resting and refreshing weary souls and bodies with the sweet cordial of fresh air and domestic peace, so preparing to face the week's work with new courage and good cheer.

A rich, childless friend, who had married for money and found misery, asked this richer woman what kept her always so serene, contented and happy in spite of her poverty and many cares. With a smile and a glance about the humble room where the rosy babies played, she answered briefly:

"Plenty of love and work, sunshine and little children."

It was a whole sermon in a sentence, and told the secret of a happy home most eloquently.

There are many such homes, and there might be more if people could be brought to believe in the genuine article, and not try to content themselves with the shadow when the substance is so simple, so substantial, and so possible for all who really desire and deserve it.

Dear young men and maids, let one who in the capacity of teacher, nurse, friend or author, has been much behind the scenes for fifty years, assure you that the secret of success lies with yourselves as men and women now, and in God's good time as the fathers and mothers of the coming generation. Let it be a stronger, wiser, happier one than the present, and in fitting yourselves for the high duty of continuing the race, remember that self-knowledge, self-control, self-help are all important, and all possible if you begin early, learn patiently, and practice devoutly these lessons without which life is a failure, a burden and a remorse.

Boys, for such I love to call you, and such most of you are till five-twenty, set up a high standard of manhood and never tire of trying to reach it. Don't begin your day with a cigar and end it in a theatre, billiard-saloon or club-room. Learn to take pleasure temperately and so keep the power of enjoyment fresh and strong. Seek the society of wise men and good women, and be sure the taste for wisdom and virtue will grow by what it feeds on. All things influence the young for good or ill, choose the best and let it teach you the true conduct of life as naturally as sun and rain nourish a young tree. "Keep innocency, for at the end it shall profit thy soul much and open Heaven to thee." Never believe the pernicious saying that "young men *must* sow wild oats." All men may sow good seed if they will, and reap honor, happiness and peace instead of the bitter crop so many mourn over when the harvest comes. Keep a clean mind, a brave spirit, and a tender heart, then you will have the right to ask some sweet woman to cast in her lot with yours and make life rich and happy.

Girls, don't be in haste to wed. Build up healthy bodies by good food, plenty of exercise and sleep. Learn all the useful household arts before you attempt to make a home. Cultivate your minds with the best books that you may be able to teach your children much that school-training alone will never give you. Choose your amusements wisely, for youth must have pleasure, but need not waste itself in harmful frivolity. Above all, select your friends with care. Avoid girls who live only for fashion, flirtation and enjoyment, and use the privilege all women may claim to decline the acquaintance of young men whose lives will not bear inspection by the innocent eyes of women. Let no delusion of wealth, rank, comeliness or love tempt you to trust your happiness to such an one. Watch and wait till the true lover comes, even if it be all your life, for single blessedness is far better than double misery and wrong. Spinsters are a very useful, happy, independent race, never more so than now when all professions are open to them, and honor, fame and fortune are bravely won by many gifted members of the sisterhood. Set your standard high, and live up to it, sure that the reward will come, here or hereafter, and in the form best suited to your real needs.

Trust God to shape your life for you, and do not rashly thwart the wise Power who knows our wants and gives us the help we need if we will only accept it; who makes it possible for a human soul to bring gain out of seeming loss and strength from sacrifice when we learn that this life is but a page of the divine book, and remember that immortality waits for us when this lesson is rightly comprehended.

Birth, marriage and death are three solemn mysteries given us to study, and the second of these is the key which solves the problem of the other two, since well-born children and true wedded love will help us to bless and save this world and send us rejoicing to receive our reward in the next.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

WHAT SHE TOLD ME.

BY KATHERINE FAXON.

These I placed on the table in his library and sent the two upper servants on errands to get them from the house; the wagon came for the trunks, the carriage for the wondering children, the tiny baby, the poor old Margaret and me. We were driven to pier 41. There I dismissed the man, and when he was out of sight had the baggage put on an empty truck, just rid of some merchandise, and ordered the man to go to the Jersey City Ferry.

There took cars for Philadelphia.

'Tis useless to tell you how we flitted from place to place, hoping yet fearing discovery. We were forced to remain a week at Nicetown, near Germantown, for I was too ill to go on, thence to Wilmington to seek needed medical service.

Day by day I saw in the *Herald* "Personals" addressed to me, but other than these I had no sign that my husband lived. Each day I felt I loved him more tenderly, but as I afterwards knew most selfishly, since I had not been willing to trust to time and release from the crowding of his reverses, for justice and for generosity of reparation.

I think I must have been crazed by my sorrows, coming as they did, when my nerves were unstrung and my strength exhausted by my confinement. Yes, I must have been mad, else I never *could* have pursued so wild a course.

In April we left Wilmington for Washington, where I intended applying for writing. Already one of my four thousand dollars was nearly exhausted, and I was anxious to keep the others untouched.

Arriving in Washington I went to the Ebbett House for the night, and the next day, through the kindness of Mr. Willard, I was directed to rooms. He no doubt interesting himself in me because of the mourning garb I wore. A form of dress I adopted because I felt it the proper one for a woman who had buried every hope and lost every ambition.

The apartment was in the house of Mrs. Webb, on H street, near the beautiful Lafayette Square, on the second floor, a sitting-room, dining-room, and above two bed-rooms. As I furnished them the rent was moderate enough I thought. She agreed to give me breakfast, and our dinner was furnished by Wormley, on I street, at a very reasonable rate.

Mrs. Webb advised me as to the course I must pursue in my application for writing, which she said was sent from Land and Patent Office and the Adjutant General's Bureau. I determined to go direct to the President. I went alone and without letters, which fact, dear, will show how crude my ideas were of office seeking.

Again my mourning dress assured me prompt, quiet courtesy, and with scarcely half hours waiting I was ushered into the presence of the President, he received me kindly and in few hurried words I gasped rather than said:

"I want writing, Mr. President, (for so Mrs. Webb said I must call him). I have three children, one a baby, no one to take care of them but me; I must work, and oh, you will give me writing, won't you?"

He was evidently unaccustomed to my mode of pleading, and while it amused seemed to touch his kindly heart.

"My dear Madam, I never interfere in the appointments; they are the gifts of my cabinet officers; I cannot make an exception."

"Oh Mr. Lincoln! you cannot, you will not send me away; my hands are so empty; my heart so full of sorrow; you must help me to help my little ones; you have children; dear Mr. Lincoln, think of them, and be good to mine."

His eyes were full of tears brought by my words so evidently from a grieving heart, and drawing a card from a pile of papers on the table he rapidly wrote a few words and said gently:

"Take this over to Stanton, my child."

Oh, how gratefully my heart went to the kindly old man, who thus addressed me as his child!

"Where is he, Mr. Lincoln? I don't know one department from the other."

Touching a bell he said to a messenger who appeared:

"Take this lady to the War Office, and say to Mr. Potts the President wishes her to see the Secretary of War."

We crossed by a little well-worn path across where Executive Avenue is now cut, to a dingy, dirty building, up a flight of dirtier, well-worn steps, through a crowd of officers passing in and out, or waiting for audience with Mr. Stanton, calling to an old white haired negro standing near a door at the end of the corridor, he said:

"Madison, is the Secretary in?" and hearing he was, and engaged with General McClellan, we entered the door of the chief clerk's room, to whom the message was delivered. I was given a chair, told as soon as McClellan went out I could go in—and left alone. A bell sounded; Mr. Potts disappeared and in an instant reappeared, and beckoned to me.

I entered the small, hot, close room: a hickory log blazed and crackled on the hearth in front of which stood Mr. Stanton.

"Speak quickly Madam, my time is gold."

I handed the card.

"You are capable, Madam?"

"I think so, I ——"

"When was your husband killed, Madam?"

"Killed?" I screamed; and staggering, would but for his help have fallen. He seated me on a sofa, opened a ventilator in the window, brought water, and in an entirely different tone of voice asked:

"Where was he killed, Madam?"

"He is not—is not dead," I sobbed; "and God grant him life forever more."

The Secretary looked grave.

"You are not a widow! I fear then we cannot employ you; the Government must take care of those who are thrown on it by loss of the ones who gave life in its defence."

"I am not a widow, and yet widowed; mine, Mr. Stanton, is a story of private sorrow which would not interest you even should I tell it; do not ask me to tear away the bandages hiding the cruel sore; give me work, as to a widow, and let me support my children, who with father are yet fatherless."

For a full moment he gazed at me,—I felt I might die under the scrutiny but my eyes must not flinch—then with a look of perplexity he turned to his desk, wrote on a slip of paper, rang his bell, and gave the note to Madison, saying:

"Take Mrs. Johns to General Townsend," and then turning to me, added:

"Leave your address and full name, Madam; times are such that all not known to us must fall under the ban of suspicion. I try to trust you, but other than your word I have no proof that you are not a spy from the South, maybe a member of the 'Underground Railroad Company.'"

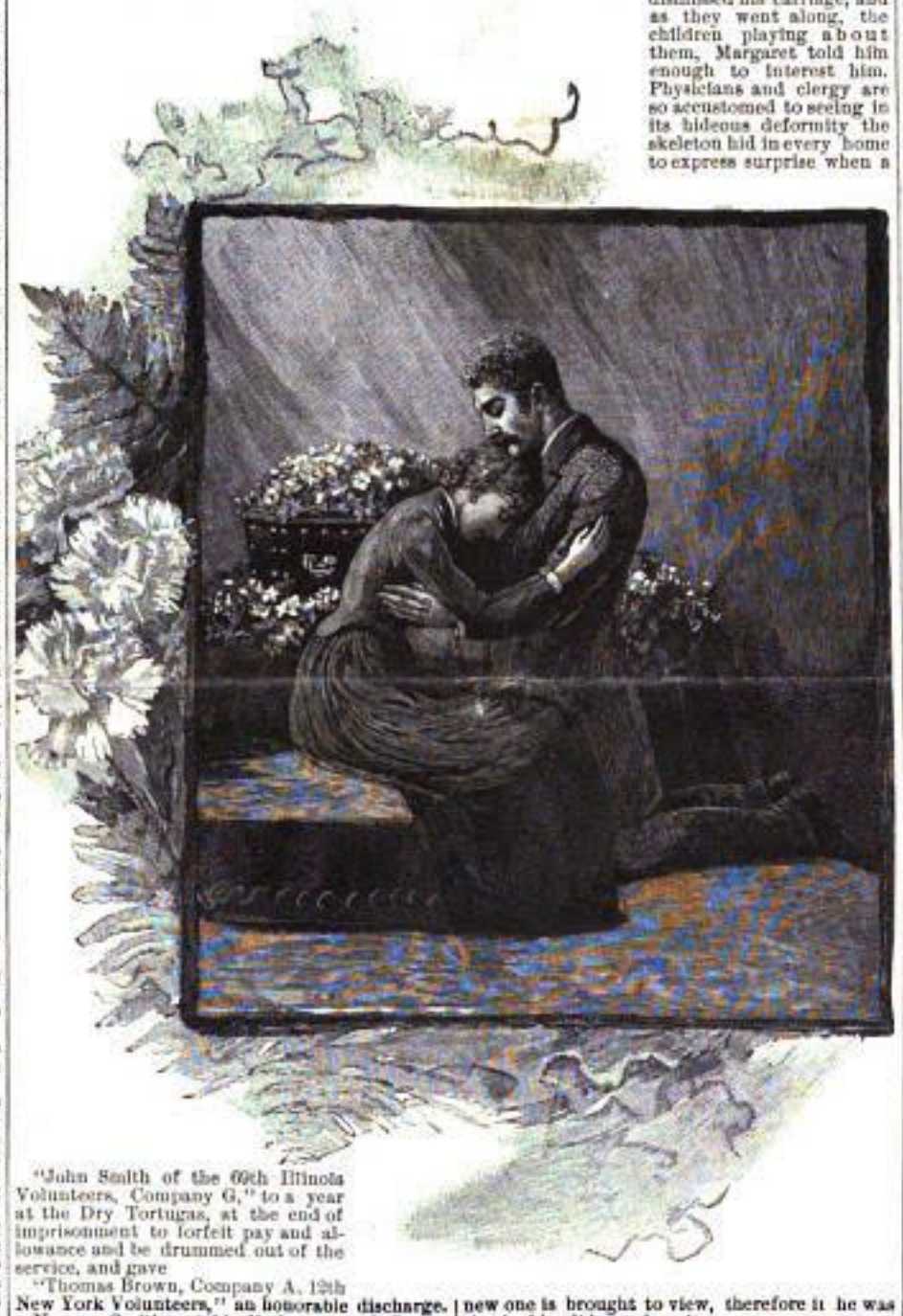
"Oh, Mr. Stanton! don't suspect me, I am a Northern woman, raised too far from a political atmosphere to know much of the principles of the struggle. When the South gains I am sorry for the North, when the North wins I pity and love the South; I would help both sides."

He smiled at my mongrel patriotism, and saying, "Well, I will trust you, General Townsend will give you writing, and if you need a friend come here to me."

Thanking him I left the presence of the man most hated during the rebellion; a man brought from comparative obscurity to be a shining mark for contempt, abuse, calumny; the man who of all was most equal to the exigencies of the times, and the man who served his country for that country's best interest, and without a thought of self-advancement.

General Townsend was as he only could be, kind, considerate, gentle. He took my address, and after going through with a slight formula, gave me an order on the stationary clerk and said the writing would be sent in the morning.

It came. Copying courts martial with occasionally a regimental roll and discharge papers. I was paid by the word, and being a swift writer it was no unusual thing for me to clear $120 in a month, alway $90. Were I telling a romance, I'd say I "toiled on during the hot days," that fell in June and July, but telling a simple, full-of-truth story, I must say I found my task easy. It was purely mechanical, my brain so busy with its care of sorrow that I was unmindful of the fatigue to my fingers; but busied though I was with my own sad thoughts, I never once sent



"John Smith of the 69th Illinois Volunteers, Company G," to a year at the Dry Tortugas, at the end of imprisonment to forfeit pay and allowance and be drummed out of the service, and gave

"Thomas Brown, Company A, 12th New York Volunteers," an honorable discharge.

No, no, Smith got his discharge, and Brown went to serve his sentence on that sandy prison land.

My work was good, and they counted me a most competent clerk, and there was nothing to take me from my writing, except when I nursed baby and put her to sleep. Had I been earning the money in the shadow of my husband's love I would have been happy in the simple life we led. The children were jolly, and with the blessed faculty given children, they had forgotten, or had at least ceased to ask about their father, so I was spared that torture.

Morning and evening they played in the lovely square, which from my window in the early morn of those stifling summer days was a glad spot whereon to rest my tired eyes. In my heart was appalling silence; it could only be broken by one voice! would he ever speak, or would the eternal stillness stay forever? Had he forgotten? Was his joy at being rid so great he did not care to see me? Was he well? ill? dying? dead?

My God! no, not dead; had he gone to the Eternal my heart would have known it, and must have died too. How dark the future! Would my life ever emerge from its depths of night into the light of morning?

Twenty times in a day I asked of myself these questions.

August came, hot, dry, dusty; the streets were thronged day and night by troops, baggage trains, droves of cattle, of mules, wagons of commissary stores, wagons almost toppling over with their ghastly freight of red pine coffins being sent to "the front" to receive the bones of those who had given life for their country's good; night and day only the eternal rumble of wheels, the shrill note of the bugle, clatter of hoofs, ringing click of heels was heard; the heat waxed fiercer, the dust became deeper, and not a drop of rain, not a breath of dew gave relief.

My constant anxiety—the never-ceasing wear of trouble on my heart I suppose poisoned my milk, for on the tenth day of the terrible heat baby was taken suddenly, violently ill. My darling! my comfort! Oh, Kate! as I look down these long, long years, I see the great shadow thrown by her death and it is just as dark, just as broad, just as long, now as then.

Mrs. Webb advised me to send for Dr. Miller; he answered the summons promptly; a tall, very large man, and with mild eyes and kindly face; his presence gave confidence, and I thought I might even dare Death to enter when he stood guarding.

He looked at baby, heard her symptoms, and said:

"This is a grave case, a serious case; I will do my best for the child, for 'tis a hard month for children; with June I consider it the worst"

He wrote a prescription, left directions, said he'd return, and went out, Margaret following him.

Returning in a few moments she said:

"I'm going for the medicine, Miss Edyth, let the bairns go wid me, Mrs. Webb says she'll be afther stayin' wid ye'es; I'll come as soon as iver I can; take heart, my bairn, take heart."

She was gone a long while; I little knew what kept her.

When she followed the doctor from the room she asked for the truth.

"That child has not four hours to live," he told her; "the most rapid case I ever saw; if the mother has any relatives she would find comfort in, send for them at once."

Margaret asked him to walk to Thompson's—the drug store—with her, she wanted to speak with him of the mistress; the good physician dismissed his carriage, and as they went along, the children playing about them, Margaret told him enough to interest him. Physicians and clergy are so accustomed to seeing in its hideous deformity the skeleton hid in every home to express surprise when a new one is brought to view, therefore it he was shocked he did not show it.

"Telegraph at once, in my name, for the child's father; he has equal right with the mother to see his child, whose death may reunite these two divided lives."

He returned with the children to me, and said he would pass the night by baby and help her if he could—'twas *thus* he gave the news that she must die.

I never saw him since those days, but I can never while I live cease to love his memory.

His arms held my dying darling. His hands stroked to straightness the clenched fingers and distorted limbs convulsed every few moments by spasms of pain. His voice spoke soothing words such as a mother might have uttered, as she lay exhausted on her little pillow. He moistened her lips. He fanned her.

Oh, how I longed for a voice I might never hear! how I craved to see one I might never behold!

The night wore on; the people filled the hot streets, for they could not stay in doors; the leaves, dust-laden, hung heavy on the trees; the moon looked a sullen red, and the relief guard went round.

At the hour between the death of night and birth of day, my mother heart felt the presence of "the King's Messenger;" I cried aloud at his coming; I could not keep him out, for He, and He alone, asks and receives audience in his own time, and of all alike.

Dr. Miller begged me to leave the room.

No, I said, I'll be calm; *she* is mine; let me see her die.

God was merciful, the agony was short; the dear old doctor laid her down, straightened her dainty limbs, folded her tiny hands, closed her little eyes, and leading me to the sofa bade me rest until he came.

Think of nothing but of baby, he said.

As soon as he left me, I sprang with jealous haste to make fast the door, that I might do all for my child, there was need to do—no profane hands should touch her. Oh, Kate! Kate! this sorrow has been spared you; thank God, dear, he has not yet sanctified your maternity! I dressed her, and when the undertaker came 'twas I put her in the case, and I laid the flowers about her, and then—I knew my grief.

The faithful doctor, before leaving, ordered them not to interfere with me, not to suggest anything to me, to let me do anything or nothing as I seemed disposed. In the night he has a dispatch announcing my husband was leaving, from Burlington another, but they said nothing to me of this, hoping everything from his unannounced arrival.

About seven o'clock I was sitting by baby, Margaret had taken the children to the square, the room, the house was quiet, the air full of sweet odors from flowers sent by kind neighbors; a carriage stopped, thinking it was Dr. Miller I did not move; steps drew near, there was a knock, the door opened, the doctor came toward me, and taking both my hands, said:

"My child, I have brought a friend, who comes for sympathy, *he* brings a heart as heavy as yours—comfort it."

Oh! I knew *he* was there! I was willing to confess my error! for with the great gulf between us bridged over by my baby's grave, I felt we'd forever walk the future in peace!

When I looked Philip knelt beside me; placing my arms about his neck, I cried:

"Philip! Philip! forgive me"

"Forgive you, Edyth! oh! 'tis you must forgive me! I was a brute! My sufferings, though, have been bitter and great; let them in part, atone for the past! God preserve you to me, darling, that I may prove my contrition!"

"I too was wrong, Philip, but my pride, strong enough to take me from you, the best beloved, has failed to keep back the torrent of my love, and I ask for pardon! pardon! pardon."

"Oh Edyth! when I came home that fearful evening, found you gone, and read your letter, my father's letter, of which I had never heard, the scales fell from my eyes—I saw all clearly! I knew all fully! and nothing saved me from suicide but my desire for your forgiveness! I went to my father! I cursed him, and all having part in embittering me against you! they—I could think of nothing but to find you—detectives searched—you were traced to Jersey City—but there the clue was lost—from other cities would come news of a clue—but it never led to you—I filled the papers with personals—but there was not a word until Dr. Miller's dispatch last night—and I thank God! and thank Him with grateful heart, for taking the little Edyth, since he has given me back my wife! Oh, my wife! my wife! you can never know what I have suffered! every cruel act, every harsh word, every neglect, injustice, came crowding through my brain, until I felt I had awakened in Hell itself."

There is no need, Kate, for me to linger—of course Margaret and the children were wild with joy when they saw Philip—who went back to New York that night—laid the little girl to rest in Greenwood and returned the following day to me. Together we went to Mr. Stanton, who was delighted at the unravelling of the domestic mystery: I resigned my place, we gave Mrs. Webb our effects, spent an hour with the dear old doctor, on whose acceptance we had to force our token of love, and then we went home.

Forgive me, dear, if you are tired by it all, but the suggestion of separation from all your misunderstanding with Mr. Faxon, appealed to me with irresistible power, to tell you how I had suffered, when patience and forbearance would have saved much and spared my baby's life.

I learned my lesson, do you profit by my knowledge.

Bear Mr. Faxon's peculiarities, which are not faults; don't fret him by giving commissions; he is pressed by business and should not have to attend to the trite purchases you *ought* to make; when he comes show him the right side of your day, hide the wrong side with its seams and patches and ugly lines; and ever as far as you can let him live on the sunny side of domestic life; men hate shadows. And now, my friend, think, when there is need of my sorrowful history, but never even remotely refer to it. So saying, she kissed me and left the room, I would have followed and thanked her but her manner forbade it, I saw she wished to be alone.

I was wrong! Dave *did* love me—else why all this luxury? why the unstinted supply of money? the endless gratification of my wishes? fool that I had been! thrice happy woman to be blessed with the friendship of one, who opened the wound in her own great heart, lest mine might suffer!

Now I heed the power by which Mrs. Thornhill kept her temper in check and shed sunshine and give love to those around her! God help me to use it well.

It was nearly time for Dave to come, I made my prettiest toilette, I wore his colors, I tuned up my neglected harp, and turned it in place, I got out his favorite songs, I had flowers put on the dinner-table, and then I waited.

There was a sound of wheels; I heard the children shout in surprise; I stepped on to the verandah and there was Dave in the loveliest village cart I ever saw.

"Is not she a daisy, Kate? You see why I didn't want you to go to Joyce's? I was so afraid some of the men might mention her to you! anniversary-wedding gift, old girl! like it?"

My temptations are not few, nor are they far between, but daily I grow stronger, and though I can never hope to be past reach of them, I trust that in the near future I will gain power to resist even disposition to yield to them. I give this story with the consent of Mrs. Thornhill; there are in Washington many who will recognize the doctor, so loved and so mourned, and not a few who can recall the group which in the summer of '64 attracted attention in Lafayette Square—the old nurse, by her unceasing care; two fair-to-see children by their beauty; and a lady in deep mourning who ever screened her face under the friendly shade of her parasol.

[THE END.]

Every man who succeeds, inclines to take all the credit to his own ability, shrewdness, industry; but when he fails, he lays the blame wholly upon others, upon circumstances, upon fate. How inconsistent we all are in this matter!

You can stir up the Adam in any man by insinuating that he has been slighted, underestimated or lightly esteemed, and many a wretch within the church has set the whole church in commotion by the shrewd manipulation of this weakness of men, not to mention the women

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(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

THE IRREGULAR BABY.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

The old fashion of bringing up children haphazard has been superseded in this enlightened day and generation. Matrons and physicians alike declaim against feeding a child at irregular intervals, permitting him to sleep when and how he will, taking him up because he cries, or any of the other highly improper, inconvenient and agreeable (to the baby) methods by which the youngsters of years gone by were brought to years of discretion.

Now the chief aim of mothers and nurses is to reduce a child's habits to something as nearly akin to clock-work as it is possible to bring a human being. The baby is fed at stated periods, put to bed and taken up at fixed hours, bathed and dressed by the clock, made to sleep without rocking and to amuse himself without fretting. If we have not yet reached the pitch of perfection attained by Susanna Wesley, the mother of nineteen children, who taught all of them who lived to be "turned a year old" to "fear the rod and to cry softly," we have at least greatly improved upon the ancient unruliness of the nursery.

There is no denying the fact that the baby and his mamma are both gainers by the new system. He is benefitted by methodical habits and she takes the better care of him for not being worn out by incessant demands upon her time and attention. The custom of going to bed one night at eight, another night at eleven, of taking a noontide *siesta* for a couple of days and then intermitting it, of eating how and when one wishes, would be highly detrimental to the health of a grown person. Why should it not be equally injurious to the well-being of a little baby?

But while it is to the advantage of the child to be trained into a routine of life, there must be exceptions to this rule, Mrs. Wesley to the contrary, notwithstanding. Permit another quotation from that very estimable and extremely lovable woman's own description of her "methods" as given in a letter to her son John.

"The children were always put into a regular method of living, in such things as they were capable of, from their birth. * * *. The first quarter commonly passes in sleep. After that, they were, if possible, laid into their cradle awake, and rocked to sleep, and so they were kept rocking till it was time for them to awake. This was done to bring them to a regular course of sleeping, which at first was three hours in the morning and three in the afternoon; afterwards two hours, till they needed none at all. * * * That most odious noise of the crying of children was rarely heard in the house, but the family usually lived in as much quietness as if there had not been a child among them. As soon as they were grown pretty strong, they were confined to three meals a day. At dinner their little table and chairs were set by ours, where they could be overlooked; and they were suffered to eat and drink, (small beer) as much as they would, but not to call for anything. If they wanted aught, they used to whisper to the maid who attended them, who came and spake to me. * * *. Whatever they had, they were never permitted at those meals to eat of more than one thing, and of that sparingly enough. Nor were they suffered to go into the kitchen to ask anything of the servants when they were at meat; if it was known that they did so they were *certainly beat*. * * * There was no such thing allowed of in our house as sitting by a child till it fell asleep." After reading these rules one does not wonder that of Mrs. Wesley's nineteen babies, but eight grew to man's and woman's estate. Some throve under her system, but unfortunately they were not all equally pliable.

The irregular baby is an unaccountable creature." Sometimes he makes his appearance in a family whose other juvenile members have submitted cheerfully to the precepts laid down for their government, but where he forthwith proceeds to set regulations at defiance. The time-honored method of letting him cry himself to sleep for a couple of nights, fails here. Instead of meekly yielding to the force of circumstances, dropping off at last into peaceful slumber and henceforth going to sleep obediently by himself, he screams himself into a state of nervousness which effectually banishes all drowsiness from his own eyes and from those of everyone else in the house. It is useless then to persist in the attempt at subjugation. There is nothing for it but to take up the excited little fellow and soothe him into quiet by any means in one's power. If the experiment continues to prove unsuccessful after several trials, it is better to abandon it for a time than run the risk of injuring the child by persisting in a *regime* which plainly does not suit his particular case. Rules and principles, no matter how admirable in themselves, should not be converted into a Procrustean bed upon which to stretch and rack his tender form. The child is an exception to the ordinary run of babies, and as much must be humored into strength and docility rather than forced into them.

The same rule of contrariety will often manifest itself throughout an infant's entire line of conduct. He utterly declines to take his two regular naps a day, as any well-disposed child should do, and imparts a not always pleasing variety to the life of the nursery by sleeping all of one morning, keeping awake all the next day and choosing the late afternoon of the third day for his sleep. In similar fashion, he will wake up ready for a frolic, when everyone else is going to bed, demand his meals when he should fast and refuse food when he ought to eat. His teeth come at unexpected times and places and set at nought all established traditions. He learns to stand before he can sit up, to walk before he can creep, to talk before he can use his hands. He refuses to lie in his cradle, but sleeps soundly in the bed. He will not nurse himself to sleep, but drops off to slumber sitting bolt upright upon his mother's knee. His spinal column is as stiff as a ramrod if he loses his temper, but his neck is so weak that his head drops to one side and the other like a blossom too heavy for its stem. He is never robust, but survives illnesses that would seem enough to kill a healthy child. Lovable and tractable in most respects, he is adamant in others, in short, a bundle of contradictions that drives his adoring but systematic mother well nigh to the verge of distraction.

A child of this kind, albeit dearly loved, is an affliction that must be borne with what patience one may. Sharpness is worse than useless, compulsion is a failure. Equally to be avoided is the natural and powerful temptation to induce sleep by drugs. In many cases they are absolutely without any effect except that of increasing the little sufferer's nervous excitability. Opium in any of its forms, paregoric, morphine, or worst of all, patent soothing syrups, are rank poisons under whose influence many a baby has slipped away into the eternal sleep. Chloral is nearly as bad, while such stimulants as gin, whiskey and brandy, produce an effect, that happy for a time, give place to utter prostration when the liquor is stopped. Even the comparatively harmless bromides and coffea dull the child's intelligence and should only be resorted to in extreme cases and under the advice of a physician. It is better even to fall into the reprehensible habit of walking the floor with a child half the night than to injure its brain and stomach with anodynes.

Irregular babies are not uncommon. One mother tells of a delicate child to whom it was impossible, strive as one might, to teach regular habits, but who would persist, with no apparent reason, in lying awake half the night, sitting up until eleven p. m. waking at five a m, and taking only half an hour's nap in the day, and who yet gained flesh and strength on this allowance. Another child never slept two hours consecutively until it was three years old, but withal was precocious and healthy. Still a third mother would pace the room with her wakeful baby until she would fall asleep on her feet and only wake herself by stumbling over the furniture or running against the wall.

Hopeless as such cases appear, time puts a period to even these discouragements. The best aids to overcoming a child's wakefulness are those furnished by nature,—regular exercise and plenty of fresh air. When the weather is such that a child can spend most of the daylight hours out of doors, the effect almost invariably makes itself known by an improvement in sleeping. If the child cannot be taken into the street or garden, let the windows of his nursery be opened, and the little fellow, thoroughly wrapped, be carried up and down there in the sunshine for ten minutes.

A nursing baby is more apt to be amenable to regularity in sleeping than is a baby fed with artificial food. Sometimes the latter course is unavoidable, but it is always to be deplored. A great deal has been said about the care and trouble that is spared a mother who brings her child up on the bottle. This may be true in cases where the mother is willing to confide the entire charge of the little one and its nourishment to a hireling. But the mother who prefers seeing for herself how her infant is fed, who superintends the preparation of his food, the condition of the vessel from which it is eaten, and the times of his meals, and who takes care of her baby at night will find her exertions and worry trebled. Such close attention is required to see that the nourishment, whatever it may be, is always perfectly fresh, especially in hot weather, and of the right consistency and temperature, the bottles and cups thoroughly cleaned and scalded,—that there are few employes to whom a conscientious mother can unhesitatingly give such a responsibility. Apart from all this, the probability that sooner or later the prepared food may disagree with the baby renders it in the highest degree desirable that the child should rely upon his natural diet whenever it is possible. There are rare instances where the infant refuses to nurse, but the cases are few where with patience and perseverance he may not be persuaded into it.

Do not give up the effort to induce regular habits. Make the child eat at equal intervals. Undress him and give him his bath at the same hour each night and go through the form of putting him to sleep then. Avoid exciting influences as bed-time approaches. As the little one gains in strength and intelligence, such a routine will not fail to have some effect and while it may be impossible to force him into systematic habits, he may be gently warped into them.

Above all, never lose patience with the baby. The poor little dear may not understand the words addressed to him, but he comprehends the tone in which they are spoken and the frown or shake that emphasizes them. The effect is the reverse of soothing and does more to arouse the child than caresses and coaxing can correct in half an hour. He is not disobedient, only uncomfortable and his sufferings are far beyond those of his attendant.

(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

THE MISERY IN KNIT SHIRTS

The increased prevalence during the last few years, among infants of the most careful mothers, of distressing restlessness at night, and but short naps daytime, sometimes of skin disease resembling eczema, or of serious disturbance, even in winter, like cholera infantum, has brought several physicians to the front with a reason which ought to be generally published to put a stop to the torture of the innocents.

It is not sufficient to attribute all to the fact of the process of teething, which naturally is not serious. Though of very nervous temperaments my mother says that she never knew any especial effect upon any of her children through this period, though we were dressed with the bare arms general in that day, I have often felt that the nice low necks fully counterbalanced the evil of the former, however. And the extremities will be less cold, even if exposed, if the body be not overheated and sweated.

But the fever and the rash and the bowel trouble, (starting in the brain) will be found in the majority of cases due to the suffocation or irritation of the skin by the popular knit wool shirts; however soft these may feel to the hand every fibre of wool is set with tiny hooks, which continually catch and let go of the exquisitely sensitive skin of the sides and back as the baby breathes. It reminds me of Edmond About's tale of the man who died under the hands of Italian brigands, merely by having hairs pulled from his head one by one, his hands being bound. That is just the helpless condition of a baby. A few have thick epidermis, cool blood and calm nerve-inheritance, and are happy in wool shirts. I doubt if one could be so if they were *seamed-knit*, unless they were *very* loose across the back, or *very tight*. The *creeping* movement and the unescapable contact just below the shoulder blades is *the* agony. I tried it upon myself, and would have risked death rather than endure two hours lying down undressed in what I bore all day snugly dressed with no greater discomfort than a feverish, suffocated feeling under the arms and across the chest. Wool-sweats are infallibly provocative of bronchitis, inflammation and congestion of the lungs, also tonsilitic and catarrh, if the heating dress is extended up in a muffler, or warm hood, in which to exercise. They will do for riding. The London *Medical Journal* remarked a year or two since, that while theoretically, wool was the best inner wear, practically it did not seem to have good results. Many of the leading physicians of Boston tell me that they at once order silk or cambric underneath the flannel of sick children. This seems to me to be the ideal plan—to line loosely-made shirts of dress-cashmere with Surah silk. When these are outgrown, say at 6 months, the poorest mother has at her command almost the best thing, the cheap woven undershirts, which contain but 3 or 4 per cent of wool. They usually need to be made lower in the front of the neck. Babies suffer great danger from their chests being racked with a thick bib. A baby will be surely liable to cold if allowed to get into perspirations. They ought not too have too many garments to remove before laying them down to sleep or at least unloosening them all. The longer nap will pay for the trouble. Few know how sensitive is the skin. Dr. Brown-Sequard has recently announced that cutting around the skin of the neck would produce entire paralysis of the body.

Many know that the painful skin-blotches called hives may be produced by a sudden nervous fear or distress.

When children finally fall asleep after hours of misery, it is because nervously exhausted, or that the nerves of the skin (which have as great effect upon the vital organs as does the great spinal nerve or the solar-plexus) are paralyzed to a greater or less degree. "Teething-paralysis" might be prevented always by a small rubber bag filled with ice-water at the base of the brain.

Indeed, some physicians declared last summer that they believed even Asiatic Cholera to be a nervous, or heat-fever and, as well as Cholera Infantum, to be manageable by ice-bags.

Children suffer much when outgrowing garments from snug bands or sleeves. I have had them give one deep sob and great shudder of relief when I have released them after crying for hours. A baby snugly dressed enough to be handled nicely by a novice, is uncomfortable, when laid down, at least. The oldest children's doctor in Boston says "it is an outrage to dress a baby under six weeks old." Says "they should be laid in cotton-batting." Canton-flannel or soft thick wool blankets are not unpleasant to lie in because they are not unescapable. I think the thin blankets which insist upon molding themselves to one's figure are not so well for the skin or nerves as wool-filled calico comforters.

The *experience* of a nervous person who has secured good health and comfort after 30 years of suffering from ignorance, is more trustworthy than the changing theories of doctors.

K. B. CONE.

(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

HEALTHFUL RESPIRATION.

BY FANNY FANSHAW.

Who is to blame when children grow up with bent bodies and round shoulders? Mothers should observe such tendencies in their children and "nip them in the bud," else an early death from pulmonary disease the probable result. The lack of what is so abundant, viz.: good *pure air*, is the one great cause of pulmonary consumption. Any unnatural manner of breath-taking should also be observed by the mother, since *this* is one of the most important functions of the body. Healthful respiration, consists of two acts, viz.: *inspiration*, taking in the air, and *expiration*, expelling it from the lungs. When we inspirate we draw in a deep, full breath, we straighten the spine, and throw back the shoulders in order that the muscles have full play. At the same time the diaphragm descends pressing the walls of the abdomen outward, both of which processes increase the breadth of the chest. The elastic lungs then *expand*, or increase in size, to occupy the extra space—for, you know, "Nature abhors a vacuum." The air now rushes in through the windpipe, pours along the bronchial tubes, crowding into every minute cell; hence, the greater the expansion, the greater the capacity, for taking in good, pure air. In expiration this operation is reversed; we draw in the walls of the abdomen, and press the diaphragm upward, while the ribs press downward, thus diminishing the size of chest, and forcing outword the respired air. Thus natural breath-taking should be performed by the diaphragm; one breath to every four heart beats, or eighteen a minute.

Mothers can readily see that snugly fitting corsets cannot fail to arrest the full play of the abdominal muscles, thereby causing shortened breath. They can also see that rounding shoulders cramp the lungs, thus preventing *full* expansion. The young, of both sexes, often form the *habit* of taking short catch breaths, with only an occasional *deep* inspiration. A very pernicious habit, likely to terminate in lung disease; since that organ is unduly exercised by such breath-taking. The great chest-development of professional singers is due to their breath-taking exercises, which they practice for this very purpose. Physicians often recommend vocal training as a preventive of pulmonary disease. It is the *lung expansion*, however, not the *voice* development, that proves the preventive. If the round shoulders have become in the child a *fixed* habit, strong braces should be applied from time to time. The *will* in some cases may perform a cure, apropos of this: Quite recently a little boy was hired by his uncle to keep his shoulders back for a single day. The thought of the bright silver dollar kept the little fellow erect *that* day. Mothers can take the hint and act accordingly. A few simple exercises might be required of them; such as walking with arms firmly clasped behind them; or, let them bend over backward and view the ceiling, remaining in that position till fatigued; or, walk with pail upon the head. The following exercise will be found most excellent for lung expansion: Step out into the fresh morning air, stand perfectly erect, with head, and shoulders back. Now fix the lips as for whistling, drawing the air slowly through them into the lungs. Gradually raise the arms, keeping them extended with palms of the hand down—as you still suck in the air. Bring them over the head just as the lungs are quite full. Then drop the thumbs inward and, after forcing the arms backward and the chest forward, reverse the process by which you inhale your breath, until the lungs are entirely empty. Such exercises immediately after bathing—hence untrammeled by tight clothing—is most salutary. Try it, mothers, with your children, and be convinced of its invigorating aid, and lung-expanding power.

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

MARY F. KNAPP, EDITOR,
No. 20 Linden St., S. Boston, Mass.

Terms Used in Knitting.

K—Knit plain. P—Purl, or as it is sometimes called, Seam. N or K 2 tog—Narrow, by knitting 2 together. Over—Throw the thread over the needle before inserting in the next stitch. This makes a loop which is always to be considered a stitch, in the succeeding rows or rounds. Tw—Twist stitch. Insert the needle in the back of the stitch to be knitted, and knit as usual. Sl—Slip a stitch from the left hand to the right hand needle without knitting it. S and B—Slip and bind—slip one stitch, knit the next; pass the slipped one over it, exactly as in binding off a piece of work at the end. * indicates a repetition, and is used merely to save words. "Sl 1, k 1, p 1, repeat from * 3 times"—would be equivalent to saying sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1. Tog means together.

Terms in Crochet.

Ch—Chain; a straight series of loops, each drawn with the hook through the preceding one. Sl st—Slip stitch; put hook through the work, thread over the hook, draw it through the stitch on the hook. S c—Single Crochet; having a stitch on the needle (or hook) put the needle through the work, draw the thread through the work, and the stitch on the needle. D c—double crochet; having the stitch on the needle, put the needle through the work, and draw a stitch through, making two on the needle. Take up the thread again, and draw it through both these stitches. T c or Tr—Treble Crochet; having a stitch on the needle, take up the thread as if for a stitch, put the needle through the work, and draw the thread through, making three on the needle. Take up the thread and draw through two, then take up the thread and draw it through the two remaining. S t c—Short Treble Crochet; like treble, except that when the three stitches are on the needle, instead of drawing the thread through two stitches twice, it is drawn through all three at once. L t c—Long Treble Crochet; like treble, except that the thread is thrown twice over the needle before inserting the latter in the work. The stitches are worked off two at a time, as in treble. Extra Long Stitch—Twine the cotton three times round the needle, work as the treble stitch, bringing the cotton through two loops four times. P—or picot; made by working three chain, and one single crochet in first stitch of the chain.

"L. H. S.:"—Slip st, in crochet, is to have a stitch on the needle, put the needle through the work, then draw the thread through the work, and the one stitch on the needle. K.

Correction in Infant's Hood given in Nov. number, 1886:—2 rows d c only one third round, should be 2 rows d c two thirds round.

MRS. J. M.

Will some of the sisters please tell me what kind of material is used for crochet ruchos; those that are finished with tinsel on the edge.

M. J. G.

If "Canada" will send her address with stamp enclosed to Mrs. D. B. Drorbaugh, Goshen, Elkhart Co., Ind., she will hear of a Lamb knitting machine the lady would like to sell. M. F. K.

"Prealto:"—Please send me word by postal card if Child's Leggings and Drawers combined, are correct; also send your address to

MARY F. KNAPP.
20 LINDEN ST., S. BOSTON, MASS.

Will some of the sisters give directions for a crocheted pointed scalloped lambrequin, with tassels?

SUBSCRIBER.

Answer:—If subscriber who inquired for directions for Pansy Mats, in March number, will send stamp and address to E. C., Box 30, Great Falls, Montana, they will be sent to her.

In November number of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, "M. H. J." asks for pattern of tea cosey. I have used one constantly for many years; one was of black satin, beautifully hand-painted in flowers, very thickly padded with cotton batting. The lining was of quilted cream silk, finished all round with heavy light blue silk cord. Velvet, fine cloth, crazy patchwork, may be used as materials for cosey; they can be braided with silk braid or tinsel. I will send pattern with full directions for making tea cosey, to any one sending 10 cents to pay postage, material, etc., and their full address.

MRS. WM. MCKINLEY.
PICKETT, WINNEBAGO, ME.

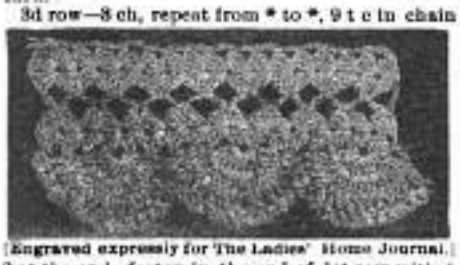
Crochet Edging.

Use No 50 thread or Saxony yarn. Make a chain of 13 stitches.

1st row—3 t c in the 4th stitch of chain, 1 ch, 3 t c in the same, 3 ch, 1 d c in the 8th stitch of chain, 3 t c in the 12th stitch of chain, 1 ch, 3 t c in the same; turn.

2d row—3 ch, *3 t c in ch 1, ch 1, 3 t c in the same 3 ch, 1 d c under upper end of ch 3, 3 t c in ch 1, ch 1, 3 t c in the same,* 1 t c in the end; turn.

3d row—3 ch, repeat from * to *, 9 t c in chain



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

3 at the end, fasten in the end of 1st row with 1 d c; turn.

4th row—2 ch, 2 t c between each t c, (16); repeat from * to *, 1 t c in the end; turn.

5th row—3 ch, repeat from * to *, 1 t c between each t c (16); turn.

6th row—4 ch, 1 s c under both meshes of chain (15); repeat to end of fan; then from * to *, 1 t c in the end; turn.

7th row—3 ch, repeat from * to *, 1 t c in the end; turn.

8th row—3 ch, repeat from * to *, 1 t c in the end; turn.

9th row—3 ch, repeat from * to *, 9 t c in ch 3 at the end, fasten in the end of 6th row with 1 d c; turn.

10th row—2 ch, 2 t c between each t c, repeat from * to *, 1 d c in the end; turn.

11th row—3 ch, repeat from * to *, 1 t c between each t c, fasten back of fan with 1 d c in the last s c of its last row; turn.

12th row—Same as 6th row.

RIVERTON, N. J. Y. ROSEBROW.

Infant's Crochet Sacque in Star Stitch.

(By request.)

I make a chain, if too long, cut it off, and fasten the end.

1st row—Make 8 stars, (widen 1, make 1, widen 1; this is for sleeve) make 10, (widen 1, make 1, widen 1 centre of back) make 10, (widen 1, make 1, widen 1, for sleeve) make 8 stars. I mean all to be stars; where I said widen, make 1 widen.

2d row—Make 8, widen 1, make 3, widen 1, make 23, widen 1, make 3, widen 1, make 8.

3d row—Make 8, widen 1, make 5, widen 1, make 23, widen 1, make 5, widen 1, make 8.

4th row—Make 8, widen 1, make 7, widen 1, make 11, widen 1, make 1, widen 1, make 11, widen 1, make 7, widen 1, make 8.

5th row—Make 8, widen 1, make 9, widen 1, make 25, widen 1, make 9, widen 1, make 8.

6th row—Make 8, widen 1, make 11, widen 1, make 25, widen 1, make 11, widen 1, make 8.

7th row—Make 8, widen 1, make 13, widen 1, make 12, widen 1, make 1, widen 1, make 12, widen 1, make 13, widen 1, make 8.

8th row—Make 8, widen 1, make 15, widen 1, make 27, widen 1, make 15, widen 1, make 8.

9th row—Make 8, widen 1, make 17, widen 1, make 27, widen 1, make 17, widen 1, make 8.

10th row—Make 8, widen 1, make 19, widen 1,

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]

make 13, widen 1, make 1, widen 1, make 13, widen 1, make 19, widen 1, make 8.

11th row—Make 8, join 9th star to the 20th, make 29, join 30th to 50th, make 8; all the rest of the rows are the same, only widening every 3d row in middle of the back, by widening 1, making 1, widening 1, then plain to the end, make 12 rows. Commence at the neck, make a row of stars down the front, round the bottom and up the other side of front, of any color you prefer; widen at the corners, then make one row of white stars, widen at corners, then one row of color, one of white, make 2 rows of shells (white) on bottom, putting 6 t c in one star, and 1 t c in next star, so on; put second row of shells in centre of shell, and 1 in top of shell. Then commence at neck, and make 1 row of shells all round, widen at corners. Make another row putting 8 t c in shell, 1 s c in top of the 1 t c which comes between the shells. Make an edge of color, commencing at the neck, make a ch of 2, 1 s c in top of every 2d st of shell, ch 2, catch it between shell and 1 d c in 2d row of border, ch 2, catch it in the last row of stars, ch 2, catch it between 1 d c and shell, ch 2, catch it between the s c and next shell, so on. Make the sleeve 5 rows white, one of color, one of white, one of color, one of white, and 2 rows of shells like down front. There will be 2 rows down front, and sleeves, 4 on the bottom. Put edge of color on sleeves to match, make a chain as long as the neck, make a row of shells, six d c in shell, fastened with s c to end them. Lay it on the neck, shell down, and make shells through that and neck, to stand up, make in same place as the first row, and fasten in same place. It makes a row of wheels. Put the edge of color all round it. Run a narrow ribbon through the neck, or cord and tassels. It takes 2 ounces of white split zephyr, and one of color. You can use Saxony yarn, if you like.

Star Stitch for Sacque.

Make a chain, take up 6 stitches as you would for afghan stitch, you have 6 loops on the needle, thread over, draw it through all 6 stitches, thread over, draw it through that loop; this makes first star, put the needle through the hole made by drawing through the loop, that makes 2 loops on the needle, take up the back part of loop, of last star, for third loop, then on the chain where the last stitch of last star was, for the fourth st, the fifth and sixth, take from the two next stitches of chain, draw the thread through the 6 loops, and again through the one, repeat from second star to end of row. Break wool at end of each row. For second and all other rows, fasten wool at corner of first row, make 3 chain, take loop for first and second chain, that will give 3 loops, take next from the back long loop laying straight on top of first star, then next in the little round hole, next by back long loop, laying on the top of second star. For widening, take the first the same as any stitch, for the fourth take the front of st, (you have taken back of) then back of same st, which will make 5 loops, for sixth take on chain, where last st of last star, finish same as rest of stars. The next star make as usual, but put 4th st in same place the last star was, on ch, then take the two last loops from chain as usual. You can make the sacque as large as you like by adding more rows before closing for sleeves, and adding one or two on each side of front and back, but make both sides alike in number.

MRS. T. H. B.

Crash Apron.

Take a piece of linen crash, necessary length for apron, pull out threads about half an inch from each selvedge, making an inch in width. Then with a needle and thread (as in drawn work) catch several threads together in the centre, passing the sewing thread from threads to threads the entire length. Then draw out threads across the bottom in same way, about four inches from the edge, in two rows, one and one-fourth inches in width, with an inch plain between. Run in ribbon or velvet of any color desired, weaving it under and over the threads, having bows at the ends. Fringe two inches at the bottom, hem the top, run a ribbon through to tie around the waist, you will have a pretty apron, with little work.

MRS. M.

Normandy Insertion.

INSERTION TO MATCH NORMANDY LACE IN FEB. NO.

Cast on 39 stitches.

1st row—Knit 3, over, narrow, knit 4, narrow, over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 6, over, narrow, knit 1.

2d row—Knit 3, over, narrow, knit 3, narrow, over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 1, over, slip 1, narrow, throw over the slipped stitch, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 1.

3d row—Knit 3, over, narrow, knit 2, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 3, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 4, over, narrow, knit 1.

4th row—Knit 3, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 1.

5th row—Knit 3, over, narrow, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 1, over, slip 1, narrow, throw over the slipped stitch, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 1.

6th row—Knit 3, over, narrow, knit 1, over, knit 1, narrow, over, narrow, knit 4, over, narrow, narrow, over, knit 1, over, knit 1, narrow, over, narrow, knit 4, over, narrow, narrow, over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 1.

7th row—Knit 3, over, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 4, over, narrow, knit 1.

8th row—Knit 3, over, narrow, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 1, over, slip 1, narrow, throw over the slipped stitch, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 1, over, slip 1, narrow, throw over the slipped stitch, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 1.

9th row—Knit 3, over, narrow, knit 4, over, narrow, knit 8, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 3, narrow, over, knit 6, over, narrow, knit 1.

10th row—Knit 3, over, narrow, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 7, over, narrow, knit 1.

11th row—Knit 3, over, narrow, knit 6, over, slip 1, narrow, throw over the slipped stitch, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 1, over, slip 1, narrow, throw over the slipped stitch, over, knit 8, over, narrow, knit 1.

12th row—Knit 3, over, narrow, knit 5, narrow, over, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 4, over, narrow, narrow, over, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 7, over, narrow, knit 1.

PEKIN, ILL. MRS. C. L. F.

Ladies Knitted Jacket.

Use four ounces of any fine yarn for the body, with one skein of a contrasting color for the edge, and No. 10 knitting needles. I write directions for sleeves, but they can be omitted if preferred.

THE BORDER BELOW THE WAIST.

With the wool for the edge cast on 192 stitches loosely and knit 3 rows plain, slipping the first stitch of each row.

4th row—Join on the other wool, make a stitch, by bringing the wool forward, knit 4 plain, knit 3 stitches together, knit 4, make 1 as before, knit 1; repeat to the end.

5th row—Plain.

Repeat the 4th and 5th rows 5 times more. Join on the wool for the edge, and knit 4 rows plain. Then join on the other wool, and repeat the 4th and 5th rows 6 times,—in all 31 rows—and again join on the wool for the edge.

32d row—Knit 2, knit 2 together; repeat to end. This will reduce the work to 144 stitches. Knit 3 rows plain.

THE BODY.

Join on the wool for the body, the shaping of which is now to begin.

1st row—Slip 1, knit 20, then increase 1 by putting the right needle under the horizontal loop between the stitches on the 2 needles, throwing the wool around and bringing it up as an extra stitch; or the increase may be made by knitting 2 loops into 1. After increasing, knit 41 plain, increase as before, knit 20, increase, knit 41, increase, knit 21.

2d row—Plain, slipping the first stitch every time.

3d row—Slip 1, knit 21, increase, knit 41, increase, *knit 22 plain*, increase, knit 41, increase, knit 22.

Repeat the last 2 rows 26 more times, but as the work increases 4 stitches each time, in working the third row always knit 1 more stitch at the beginning and end of the rows, and at the "22 plain" (marked in italics) knit 2 more each time. The beginning and end of the rows form the front of the jacket, the 41 plain at each side the arm pieces, and the increased part in the center of the row is for the back. When these rows are worked there will be 256 stitches on the needle. Knit 20 rows plain. Then:

70th row—Slip 1, knit 69; then for the armhole cast off 30 stitches; knit 76 stitches for the back, and cast off 30 stitches for the other armhole; knit the remaining 70 stitches plain.

THE FRONTS.

To finish one front, knit 32 rows plain on the last 70 stitches, leaving the stitches for the back and other front unworked.

33d row—Cast off 9 stitches at the beginning of the row for the neck, and knit the rest plain.

34th row—Plain.

35th row—Slip 1, knit 1, knit 2 together, the rest plain.

Repeat the last two rows 9 times more and cast off. This casting off forms the shoulders and should measure about 8 inches.

For the other front take the 70 stitches on the other side, and beginning at the side cast off for the armholes, knit 31 rows plain; then work as for the first front from the 33d row, and repeat to the casting off.

THE BACK.

On the 76 stitches left for the back, knit 20 rows plain, then decrease for the shoulders, thus:

21st row—Slip 1, knit 2 together, knit the rest plain. Work 3 more rows like the 21st, then knit 2 rows plain.

Repeat these 6 rows (21st to 26) 7 more times, and cast off. Sew the casting off of the fronts to the slanting sides of the back.

THE TRIMMING.

With the wool for the edge cast on 300 stitches and knit as the border to the end of the 5th row. Then repeat the 4th and 5th rows once more.

Join on the other wool, knit 2 rows plain and cast off tightly. Sew this trimming along the fronts and around the neck.

THE SLEEVES.

With the same wool as the jacket cast on 100 stitches and knit 40 rows plain.

41st and 42d rows—Slip 1, knit 1, knit 2 together; rest plain.

43d and 44th rows—Plain.

Repeat the last 4 rows 14 times more and cast off.

THE CUFF.

With the same wool as the edge cast on 84 stitches, and, beginning at the 1st row of the border, work to the end of the 31st row. Then work 3 rows plain and cast off. Sew this row to the casting off of the sleeve. Then sew the sides of the sleeve together, and the 1st row to the armhole of the jacket.

This is a simple pattern and one easily adapted to different sizes. Stouter wools may be used, and the same needles, or a size larger. In case the sleeves are omitted the trimming for the front and neck should be sewn also around the armholes, small pieces being, of course, knit for the purpose.

MRS. W. O. V.

Two Patterns for Shell Tidy.

These are in answer to "C. A. Mann," with the hope that one will suit. They are patterns that were knitted long ago.

First one:—Twenty-five stitches are required for each pattern, and one hundred twenty-five stitches makes one about the right size, to which three must be added on each edge, and knitted plain each time, slipping first one.

1st row—Knit two together four times, over and knit one eight times, narrow four times, purl one, and repeat this to the end of the row.

2d row—Purl.

3d row—Knit plain.

4th row—Purl.

Commence again at first row. Knit as long as desired.

Second pattern:—Cast on 44 stitches.

Knit 1st, 3d and 5th rows plain.

2d row—Knit 2 together, thread over, repeat this 21 times, then knit 2 together.

4th row—Knit 2 together, and thread over 21 times, knit one.

6th row—Slip 1, knit 2, narrow, knit rest plain.

7th row—Slip one, knit 2, narrow, purl all but 4, knit these plain.

The 8th, 9th, 11th, 12th, 14th, 15th, 17th, 18th, 20th, 21st, 23d, 24th, 26th, 27th, 29th, 30th, 32d, 33d, 35th, 36th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42d, are all knit like the sixth row.

The 10th, 13th, 16th, 19th, 22d, 25th, 28th, 31st, 34th and 37th rows are knit like the seventh.

43d row—Slip one, knit 2, narrow, knit 2.

44th row—Slip 1, knit 1, narrow, knit 1.

45th row—Slip one, narrow, knit 1.

46th row—Slip 1, narrow, slip first stitch over the last and draw the thread through.

In joining place each narrow point to the center of the first row of another shell, and let all the points run downward.

MRS. W. O. V.

Crocheted Cap.

Have not seen one like this in print. Chain 100, d c 8 rows, 1 row of star stitch, turn, and d c back; alternate these two rows until you have 14 or 15 rows of star stitch, narrowing at ends (or sides) occasionally. Now with your contrasting color for edge, d c 2 rows in the 100 chain, 2 rows of shells in that, making this to turn up on the cap, with three or four rows of the 8 d c first done. Work this so it will be right side out, in the top lay a box plait, and in the sides 2 plaits turning downward; catch the whole together, bringing it even, and then turn up your edge, and make a big pompon of the same color as edge, and put on fronts, or ribbon bows and loops may be used. This requires six ounces of zephyr.

IDYL DELL.

Daisy Spray Banner.

For those who neither paint, nor embroider, a pretty panel or banner may be inexpensively made, by grouping a spray of paper daisies on plush or felt goods. Daisies are easily made, or can be bought for 25 cents a dozen at art stores. I find unruled writing paper best for making them. I will answer queries on any subject I write of, to any sister enclosing postage, and will be grateful for same privilege.

G. R. P.
Box 1200, NEW BRUNSWICK N. J.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

INTERIOR DECORATION.

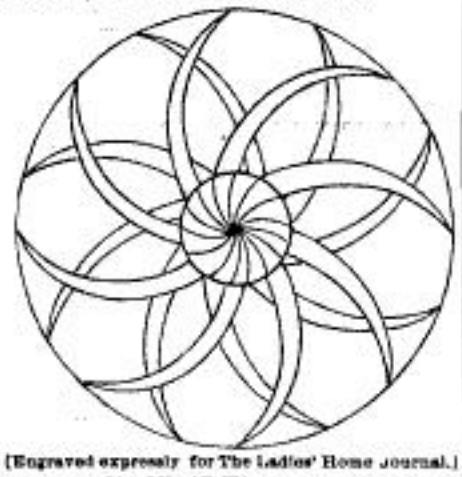
III.

BY A. R. RAMSEY.

In the sojourn away from our city homes it has been impossible to escape the flood of fancy work which has inundated every hotel porch, every boarding house piazza in the land. While some of it has been frightful enough, other pieces have been worth perpetuating and copying, and many novel ways of utilizing nature's outside decoration have been suggested.

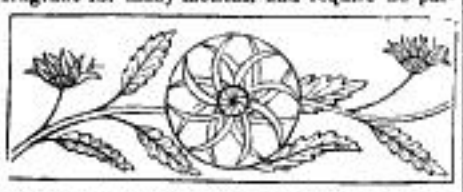
The baskets to hold "my lady's handiwork" have been so new in style and various in design that some of them deserve special mention—many of them being in themselves objects of art. Numbers of fancy shapes and pretty new straws have been seen, but in almost every case the basket has been ornamented with gay silk or satin linings, with a fall of fringe, or balls, or tinsel, or gilt cones from its upper edge. Some of the prettiest baskets of the season are of a straw similar to that in the Panama hats gentlemen prize so highly. On the fine, even surface a design is easily embroidered, either in silk floss, or crewels, and then both lid and basket are lined with bright silk to match the prevailing color of the embroidery. The accompanying designs are for such baskets. No. 1 to be worked in yellow; No. 2 in shaded reds; the lining silk being yellow in one case—pink in the other. In strong contrast with these dainty creations are the odd, grotesque baskets woven from the coarsest of flag or rushes. They are of every imaginable shape, pale green or brown in color, and fashion seems to decree that the odder, the rougher they are, the greater their worth. They are, however, delicately finished with soft, silken linings, and even frills of fine lace, the contrasts between inside and outside being thereby accentuated. Some are made to represent certain flowers, the edges being cut to resemble the petals of huge poppies, lilies, tulips, and lined with a silk of the color suited to the flower.

These rush baskets often imitate hats, being trimmed as hats are with bows of ribbon in many colors, artificial flowers, grasses, and pine cones—the effort being to produce something novel and picturesque, no matter how startling. Gilding is used *ad libitum* in all the shades of gold, bronze, copper and silver. The rush hats, called "Japanese hats," sold for five or ten cents a piece make pretty baskets to hang on the arm. The crown is lined by a piece of straight silk which is deep enough to have the outer edge hemmed and a casing made for a ribbon string to be passed through, thus making a straw bag with a silk top to it. The brim may be lined, if the owner chooses; and the hat trimmed with flowers and ribbons, while broad ribbons sewed to opposite points on the edge of the brim and tied in a bow, make the loop which passes over the arm. The hat part may be embroidered, if desired, in crewels or silk, in a showy pattern; or may be ornamented with a design cut from cretonne, and transferred to the straw.



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]
FOR LID OF WORK-BASKET.

Particularly suitable to this season of the year, is the making of pine pillows. The best Balsam for this purpose grows in the Maine woods; but a very sweet Balsam fir is found in nearly all of our Atlantic States—especially the more northern ones. It can readily be recognized by its tall, straight stem of a gray color, on which are little blisters which, when opened, yield a sticky, resinous liquid. The tree itself is generally rather a shabby, untidy, looking one, as to its foliage. The needles, however, keep sweet and fragrant for many months, and require no par-



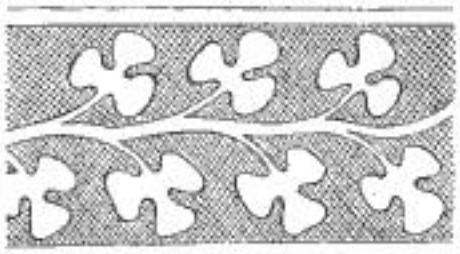
[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]
FOR SIDES OF WORK-BASKET.

ticular care in their preparation beyond the general rule as to quantity; you can never get too much into your bag, for it so soon dries and becomes powder that your cushion is almostsure to be flabby. After the needles are put into a muslin bag of the required size and and shape, any amount of time and ingenuity may be expended in beautifying the outside cover. This may be of plain silk entirely covered with a pattern in outline, or it may have a set design worked on it, such, for instance, as a pine branch with a motto running through its straggling needles and cones. These mottoes are of course in fancy letters, and as most of the old ones are repeated so often, a few newer ones are here suggested; "Old summers in its memory glow." (J. R. Lowell.) "Such stuff as dreams are made of." "Dreams of the summer night." These covers are pretty made of silk on which a rich design is printed, or in which it it is woven and left without any attempt at needlework. Some Pine pillows represent small sacks, tied near the mouth with a ribbon of contrasting color, and finished on the extreme edge by a lace ruffle. These bags, when small enough, are hung at the head of the bed near the pillow. A very pretty one made last summer was swung from the back of an easy chair; it consisted of nine strips of ribbon, each one and a half inches wide and eighteen inches long sewed together into a bag; the colors were chosen to harmonize and put together with a desire for artistic effect, and the seams were hidden by fancy stitches in filoselle of blending shades. The ends of the bag were drawn together in a bunch and finished by a rosette of many narrow ribbons; the top rosette having a loop long enough to slip over the knob on the frame of the chair back. Any woman can invent a dozen ways of making these pillows—not forgetting, however, the melon-shaped one for the hammock or lounging chair.

An open fire-place suggests a decorative use for pine cones during the months in which the

[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]
LID FOR BASKET.

"blazing hearth" does not burn. The chimney-place may be filled with branches of pine to which the cones still cling, either in their natural colors or interspersed with gilded ones in all the shades of the various washes. Other natural objects may be pressed into the service of decorating our homes. Any carpenter can make a picture frame of pine, and on this is spread a thick coat of mucilage, grains of rice and bits of broken glass strewn over this make a rough background on which is glued a trailing blackberry vine, shorn of its leaves, but chosen for its



[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]
SIDES FOR BASKET.

many brambles and irregular stem; arranged around it are heads of poppies, of stramonium (gypsum) rose hips and brambles; these having been glued in place, according to any design chosen, the whole frame—ornaments and all—is then gilded with the liquid gilding which comes for such purposes. The effect is further improved by having the background in dull gold, while the vines and other objects are in red, gold, copper, or bronze.

Visitors to the seashore may use natural objects in copying a beautiful transparency lately made by a New York artist of note. The materials used were a pane of window glass, a number of the semi-translucent, yellow shells found on all our coast, some bits of green bottle-glass, a small quantity of putty and a little water color paint. The shells were glued to the glass in a design which represented a branch of orange tree—the shells being the oranges, the bits of bottle the leaves, and the putty used as stems. After these were secured in place by a cement, used for mending glass, the pane was covered, wherever exposed, by a coat of rich, blue water color paint. When this dried, the whole surface was varnished with shellac, and the transparency was then put into a plain oaken frame and hung at the window. Another transparency, from the same studio, was made by glueing to glass the *bottoms* of small, colored bottles, which, broken out as *round* as possible, represented fairly, in their different colors, various flowers; the leaves being of dark bottle-glass and the background a rich golden yellow.

With ingenuity, patience and taste, these transparencies may produce the most brilliant and jewel-like effects.

During the summer the paper covered book abounds, generally in all stages of dilapidation. The better class of these cheap reprints are often worthy of a better fate than befalls them, as they travel from hand to hand in the hotel or boarding house, and a delicate hint to this effect may be conveyed to a borrower by the use of book cover. Those for the summer book are so made that they fit any of the volumes in ordinary use—the idea simply being of protection to the back and edges, rather than a desire to make a perfect fit. A piece of silk, sixteen inches long and eight inches broad, is lined with some contrasting color; each end is then turned over upon the lining, for a depth of two inches, precisely as though it was to be hemmed down; but instead of this the part turned over is overseamed neatly, on the upper and lower edges, to the edges which lie beneath them, and all across the upper and lower edges, and down each of the turned in edges, a gilt or silken cord is neatly sewed. This is to be slipped over the book, allowing the covers, back and front, to pass under the hems. The silken cover may be secured by a ribbon sewed on the middle of each front edge, to tie in a bow when the book is closed; or this may be replaced by a twisted cord and tassel of silk to match the colors in the cover. If these covers are embroidered, it should be done before the lining is put in. Any design, almost, is appropriate to the purpose; but too much elaboration suggests display. The initials of the owner, or a trailing flower worked in outline, or perhaps a motto, is all that is necessary for these very simple treasures. They are equally pretty if made of the printed Chinese silks, or of some of the richer fabrics with the designs woven in them, thus avoiding embroidery.

For book covers made on a stiff foundation there is so much to be said. It is an fine an art in itself that it deserves a large share in another article.

The very newest thing in needlework is that just brought over from the Royal Schools of South Kensington. It is done upon white linen and is intended for table, or bureau covers, mantel scarfs, tea cloths, chair backs, and any of the ordinary draperies. The linen being selected of the size and shape desired is stamped with a design of rather a flowing, showy character—what would in old days have been called a "good braiding pattern." The linen is next lined by a piece of coarse, white net which comes expressly for the purpose, and is obtainable at any of the schools for art needlework in our large cities. The design is then outlined by a cable of linen floss, many strands thick, sewed in place by what is known as double buttonhole stitch; *i. e.* when the simple button-holing is done the work is begun from the other end, and the buttonhole worked over again on the other edge, so as to produce a solid line on both edges of the floss cable. When the design is entirely outlined, all the linen around the design is cut away leaving the net underneath exposed, which produces the effect of the heaviest, richest embroidery on a lacey background. The buttonholing must be close and even. For many purposes the net is again lined with colored silk which, showing through the meshes, makes the work very pretty; but, after all, the pure white is richer and more artistic than anything else.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

JOSIAH AND SAMANTHA ON THE STREET CAR.

BY JOSIAH ALLEN'S WIFE.

"Perhaps it were as well to begin to be fashionable, while we are in fashionable circles."

I felt hurt. But didn't feel right to stop him, as he seemed bent. But pretty soon I whispered to him, and says I:

"For a man that has been so awful polite to us, the gentleman seems dretful sort o' cool and indifferent to us, he hain't spoke a word to us."

"Fashion!" whispered Josiah. "It is the ways of high life to not notice things. He is actin' distant and genteel."

And Josiah tried to put on a more indifferent and distant look onto his face as he looked at me. Why, he looked as indifferent at me as if I wuz a lyon, a strange lyon passin' by him accidental, and a fur off, as if I wuz in Loontown.

But knowin' what he wuz tryin' to do, I didn't feel like breakin' it up. But anon, or nearly at that time, he forgot himself, and whispered to me, as he looked up over the door:

"If I wuz a rich man, Samantha, I could have a clock in my carriages and cutters."

I looked up and see it wuz a clock, but I hadn't on my specks, and Josiah had, and says I, "What time is it, Josiah?"

"Well," says he, "it seems to be about half-past 10."

"Why, Josiah Allen," says I, "it can't be. There never wuz such a hour!"

Says he "Don't mortify me by actin' astonished. It is all right. It is fashionable to keep late hours, the later the better, they have probably set the pointers round."

I took my specks out of my pocket, and put 'em on, and sure enough, it wuz just as he said, if the clock wuz right—and such a gentleman as that wouldn't probable have a bad time-keeper, it wuz just half-past ninety—the pinters wouldn't lie.

But it wuz a great mystery, and I don't to this day know what to make of it.

It may be fashion. Sence goin' round the village, and seein' more, and seein' how hurried and anxious and restless the folks all seem, I thought that mebby they needed more hours here, to be restless in, and oneasy, and mebby time went faster, and they wuz a hurryin' to ketch it. But most probable Josiah wuz right—most probable the gentleman wuz very fashionable, and knowin' it wuz genteel to keep very late hours, he had set the pinters round.

Well, the driver come in pretty soon, and he said to me—said it right out to me in broad daylight, and settin' right by my pardner:

"You are fair."

He wuz a good-lookin' iron grey man, and didn't look as if he meant to be mean, and I answered him with dignity:

"So I have been told time and again."

But he spoke out again with more emphasis. "You are fair."

"Well," says I, "you needn't make such a fuss about it if I be"—and then not bein' one to hold out no false hopes, I says, "I am a married woman on a tower, and this is my lawful pardner by my side."

But Josiah nudged me, and says he, "Don't get excited, Samantha, it is the ways of fashionable life, they pass sights of compliments back and forth, sights of 'em—but they don't mean 'em," says he, lookin' critically in my face—"they don't mean 'em."

I believe Josiah Allen wuz jealous.

But before we had time to handy any more words back and forth, about my looks, the man spoke out, and says to Josiah:

"Ten cents if you please."

Josiah took it right out and handed it to him, and whispered to me with a shrewd wink, "He wants to get a drink, Samantha; that is one of the ways of high life, goin' out to get drinks, anon, and sometimes oftener."

Oh, how genteel Josiah's arent wuz, and distant!

And I says, "No doubt it will be high life before he gets through with it, but you wouldn't have gin him one cent, Josiah Allen, if I had mistrusted what he wanted it for."

Every little while the gentlemen who owned the carriage would have it stop and take in other ladies and gentlemen, he wuz just that liberal make to him—and there he sot not seemin' to notice what he wuz doin'—and there his wife sot just as quiet and genteel on the other side of the carriage, not noticin' anything apparently. Such open-handed creeters *I* never see. But most probable they wuz able. I dare persume to say, they had more money than they knew what to do with. And pretty soon we see another mark of their lavishness and awful polite ways.

A little boy came into the car, and called out: "Won't you have a *Telegram?* Won't you have a *Telegram?* and the *Neagle*—the *Neagle?*"

Josiah hunched me, and says, "More fashion, Samantha,—don't act surprised—but jest watch me, and see me appear."

And as the boy passed on to Josiah, (same as you would pass round apples at a social, the liberelest, genteelest creeter I ever saw that gentleman wuz) Josiah took it, and says, "Much obleeged, Bub, much obleeged."

The little feller looked surprised, I could see the surprise under the dirt on his face, and that shows that I have got a keen eye, and says he:

"2 cents for the *Telegram*."

Josiah handed it to him, and whispered to me, "I won't mortify the lady and gentleman by speakin' about it, after they have been so kind as to have the papers passed round—and the boy wants to get some candy, or sumthin' most probable—we won't mention it."

Poor little creeter, I wuz awful sorry for him, he had such a old face, on such a very young pair of shoulders, and as he went to go out, ketched his foot and fell flat down; Josiah jumped and picked him up—and then the coachman asked Josiah where he wanted to go."

And Josiah says "To Miss Asterses tavern." And the coachman says "I will let you off there."

And then Josiah says in a friendly way; "My wife and Miss Aster were old friends," and then happenin' to think on it, he says, kinder lookin' all round the carriage:

"I hain't introduced you to my wife, have I?"

And comin' back to me, he took holt of my hand, and says:

"Gentlemen and ladies, this is my wife; this is Josiah Allen's wife of Jonesville."

I riz up and bowed. But I felt like a fool. And I says to him afterwards that I didn't believe there wuz any need on't.

But he says to me every time, "That is because you don't understand fashion, Samantha. Don't you remember how tickled they all acted?"

And I couldn't deny it. They did act tickled to death to be introduced to me. Some on 'em snickered right out, they wuz so tickled. Well, a few minutes after this, the driver come to us and says:

"Here is your place, here is Asterses tavern."

And that driver wuz fairly laughin', he wuz so good-natured. And everybody in the carriage looked as good-natured at us, as if they fairly loved us. I had rather think on it in that way, bein' one that cares more for love than for admiration, but Josiah said "They looked so because he had made a great hit, and had acted awful genteel, and they all admired us so." He cares more for admiration than for love, as the ways of men mostly is.

As we went by the gentleman who owned the carriage, Josiah stopped, and says:

"I am very much obleeged to you, sir. Come and see us in Jonesville at any time, and the mair is at service, and me too."

The man looked up with that cold, distant look onto him, and didn't seem to notice Josiah at all. He is a perfect highflyer at fashion, I a'pose, for never did I see anybody act dignifieder, and more cooler.

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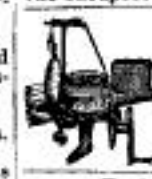
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THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL

AND

PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER,

A NATIONAL ILLUSTRATED FAMILY JOURNAL.

MRS. LOUISA KNAPP, EDITOR.

MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT, MRS. J. H. LAMBERT, } ASSOCIATE EDITORS.

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PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Renewals can be sent now, no matter when the subscription expires, and the time will be added to that to which the subscription is already entitled.

Notice is always sent of expiration of subscription. If not renewed it is immediately discontinued. No notice is required to stop the paper, and no bill will be sent for extra numbers.

Receipts.—The fact that you receive the paper is a proof that we have received your remittance correctly. If you do not receive the paper promptly, write us that we may see that your address is correct.

Errors.—We make them so does every one, and we will cheerfully correct them if you will write to us. Try to write us good-naturedly, but if you cannot, then write to us any way. Do not complain to any one else or let it pass. We want an early opportunity to make right any injustice that we may do.

NEW YORK OFFICE: Potter Building, 38 Park Row, Room No. 1.

W. S. NILES, MANAGER.

Our New York Office is for the transaction of business with New York advertisers.

Subscribers should not address any letters to that office.

Philadelphia, September, 1887.

Subscriptions must begin with the number current when subscription was received. We do not date back, even upon the most urgent request.

It is entertaining to see a great big man leaning comfortably back in a big chair, the ubiquitous boot-black diligently polishing his leathers, while the man's wife "stands round" first on one foot, then on the other, waiting for her liege lord to be polished. The probabilities are that she brushed her own shoes *herself*, before she left home.

In this issue we give, as promised, a "Talk With Mothers," by Frank Fisher, M. D., upon that very important subject—the ear.

From ignorance, many mothers neglect this most essential organ, and only after hopeless troubles have arisen, do they realize what a little care might have prevented. A timely warning may obviate that which soon becomes incurable.

Later on Dr. Fisher will give us a similar paper on the eye.

Subscribers should remember that the EDITORS of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, are employed to EDIT their various departments, and that they have nothing whatever to do with subscriptions or business matters. They do not even live in Philadelphia, so that letters personally addressed to any of our editors, if on business matters, subjects them to double risk of loss, and delay of a week or more in the mails.

Address all subscription and business letters to the Curtis Publishing Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

The JOURNAL might be brought to the attention of a million women by mailing them sample copies. But I do not believe in the free sample copy method of conducting the publishing business. I want every woman who reads the JOURNAL to PAY for it, then she will value it, look for it, and read it.

That which is free is seldom valued. Sample copies of publications particularly, seem to create an antagonism, and the recipient looks upon it with suspicion, as though expecting a bill for a year's subscription, if he or she takes it from the post-office.

No, we don't believe in forcing our JOURNAL on any one, although we *do* believe in forcing it on the *attention* of a million women, if the small sum of ten cents for a four months' trial will do it.

We cheerfully supply missing numbers of the JOURNAL, although it is an expense to us amounting to several thousand copies every month.

Every copy is promptly mailed from this office to all subscribers on our books, and if they are not regularly received, THE FAULT IS NOT OURS. We mail promptly, and supply missing numbers on receipt of complaint. That is all we can do. Every complaint received is carefully attended to, two or three clerks being kept busy on this work alone, and in nearly EVERY case, the fault is found to be with the mails.

Although we do our very best to give perfect satisfaction and *keep* our subscribers with us, yet it seems as though the majority of complainants think we are trying to swindle them out of a copy, or out of a part of their subscription—and if the JOURNAL fails to put in its appearance on time they *demand* an explanation.

A subscriber from Flint, Michigan, writes: "Two years ago a lady of our city asked me to subscribe to the JOURNAL. I did not want it, having, as I thought, more papers than I could read. But as the day was warm and the club raiser tired, I consented, simply to please and encourage her, and I HAVE NOT BEEN SORRY."

Literally, thousands, have written: "I joined a club to please a friend, or some child getting up a club, but after reading the JOURNAL, I fell in love with it, and now I wouldn't miss a copy for anything."

"Josiah Allen's Wife" gave to a carpenter making repairs on her house a number of copies sent her as samples when first solicited (without success) to write for the JOURNAL. Happening to look over a copy a few days later, she fell in love with it, devoured every line, and sent to that carpenter to return every copy he had.

400,000 subscribers in four years proves the fact that it is the best domestic journal ever published, and that a round million women in this country would have it if only properly presented **to their notice.**

A MILLION SUBSCRIBERS.

I am determined to push the circulation of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL to the highest possible point this year, and to the attainment of that end I have caused to be inserted in all the leading newspapers and periodicals of the United States and Canada a large advertisement offering the JOURNAL on trial for the balance of this year, FOUR months, September to December inclusive, for only ten cents. In addition to this I offer in other columns a great variety of premiums for clubs of trial subscribers. The inducements are as strong as I can devise to influence a special effort THIS MONTH on the part of our regular subscribers to introduce the JOURNAL into every family where it is not already a regular visitor. So small a sum of money as ten cents makes it a very easy matter to raise large clubs everywhere and to secure to the club raiser some very handsome presents for little effort.

Furthermore, I offer to the person who will send me the largest number of trial subscribers up to Saturday, October 15,

$200 IN CASH.

For the second largest list $150 in cash.
For the third largest list $100 in cash.
For the fourth largest list $75 in cash.
For the fifth largest list $50 in cash.
For the sixth largest list $25 in cash.

Names should be sent in as fast as received, and an account will be kept with each club raiser until they have finished canvassing. The names and addresses of the winners of these special prizes will be published in the columns of the JOURNAL.

If your neighbors can be induced to read the JOURNAL for four months, the majority will remain permanent subscribers. That has been proved by four years experience.

How to arrest attention and to MAKE the JOURNAL known has been my study for months. I have paid large sums for the best writers and artists, even as high as $100 per column for some special matter, and I shall add an extra expense of many thousands of dollars in newspaper advertising during the month of September, offering the JOURNAL 4 months on trial for only 10c., and furthermore, shall give away a great variety of presents to every JOURNAL sister who will take the trouble to send in a few trial subscribers. Ten cents is a very small sum of money, a mere trifle, hardly the cost of paper, printing and postage on four numbers, but, if it will influence every woman who reads this paper to introduce it into at least ONE new family, the million subscribers would be assured.

It will make it an easy matter for club raisers to secure large clubs everywhere, and if the circulation is pushed to its widest extent, I shall be satisfied to furnish the papers for so little money.

CYRUS H. K. CURTIS,
Publisher and Proprietor.

SHOW THIS TO YOUR NEIGHBOR.

At 50 cents per year the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL ought to have *one million* subscribers. No periodical ever yet published, gave so much valuable,—and to the publisher, expensive,—matter for so little money. For the coming season the best-known and most popular writers in America have been engaged to write expressly for the JOURNAL, original copyrighted matter, (to be found nowhere else.) The list includes such well-known names as Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, Josiah Allen's Wife, Mrs. Mary J. Holmes, Marion Harland, Louisa M. Alcott, Rose Terry Cooke, Will Carleton, Robert J. Burdette, Christine Terhune Herrick, and many others.

A special attraction will be a new story, running through several months papers, entitled

"SPRING FARM,"

by

MRS. MARY J. HOLMES,

the author of "Tempest and Sunshine," "Lena Rivers," etc., etc., whose works have reached a sale of *over a million copies*. A prominent critic says of Mrs. Holmes: "There is nothing inflated or sensational in any of her works, yet she touches the tenderest feelings and sympathies of the heart. She is in many respects without a rival in the world of fiction."

We have no *step*-mothers' "corner," but Hannah Steyn will give us an article on "Step-mothers" from a step-mother's standpoint. Something well worth reading, too.

Another all-important subject will be dealt with—a theme taken up by Will Carleton, and carried on by others. "Kidnapped in Mercy," by Will Carleton, will be a full-page illustrated poem in October issue, applicable to so-called "fashionable" parents—those who trust their little ones implicitly to hired nurses—the mothers suffering from a combination of brainlessness, vapidity and laziness, under the name of "fashion" and "style." May Kingston will likewise deal firmly and truthfully with the same subject under the head of "The Children of Fashionable Mamas."

Hope Harvey will tell us "How to Treat the Doctor."

The feast of information that Christine Terhune Herrick proposes to give us, will be something that housekeepers cannot afford to lose. In November, "Thanksgiving Times," "Family Parties," "Thanksgiving Cookery," etc. In December, "Christmas Gifts," "Festivities," "Preparing Presents," etc. All sorts of good things, you see. In January, "Winter Evenings," "Home Occupations," "Household Training for Girls," "Studying With the Children," "Reading Aloud," etc. Why, you see, her papers alone, will be a host in themselves.

But one of the best things we have to offer to the economical mother and wife, worn and weary with trying to make "auld claethes look as weel as new," is the solution which Mrs. Dr. Roe offers to the problem "How to Dress on a Small Allowance."

To those who are looking forward to a season of festivities, Mrs. Eliza Parker's "Suppers and Receptions," will be a boon, being practical hints on subjects that vex the housekeeper's soul.

"John's Wife," too long a favorite with the "sisters" to need any introduction, will give us some of her old-time letters on domestic subjects, and we have likewise on hand letters from quantities of other men's "wives," (all practical housekeepers) upon like subjects, dealt with in a like sensible manner.

We are going to add another feature to the paper. We have not *forgotten* the "little ones," as the well-worn "Mother's Corner" will testify. We have, however, worked only for their good. We are now going to add a page for their amusement, as well. As part of the "home" we feel that they should have a distinctive page, and we are hereafter going to give them rights. We believe in "children's rights" just as much as in "woman's rights."

"Homely Homilies," a series of semi-humorous talks with the daughters of Eve, by Robert J. Burdette, will brighten our pages. The genial Robert is a strong attraction.

"Scribbler's Letters," of which we commence a new series in this issue, will be continued throughout the year, and will be addressed not only to "Gustavus Adolphus," but to "Julia, his wife."

These letters are arrows directed at the common causes of domestic infelicity, and being sent with unerring aim, are driven home every time.

PERSONAL INFLUENCE.

There is perhaps no quality or attribute possessed by man, to which there is a more untrue value attached by the possessor, than that of personal influence. By reason of vanity many men over-rate their personal importance, but by reason of lack of self-appreciation, or timidity, myriads underestimate the power they possess for good or evil. "It is not worth while for *me* to say anything, nobody cares for my opinion," argues some timid man, or shrinking woman, and the good that might be done, is lost.

They are overwhelmed with a realizing sense that they are but a "drop in the bucket," but they should at the same time realize to their good, and to that of others, that to *each drop* is given the power of attracting and influencing every other drop in the bucket. The trite old story of the "straw which broke the camel's back" contains two morals instead of one. We are too apt to use this fable to illustrate what can be done by continued and persistent effort. But, we too seldom consider that *only in all the other straws having gone before*, lay the power which "broke the camel's back." Had any *one* of the first straws been missing, that particular last one of which tradition tells us, would have been powerless to accomplish the work ascribed to it.

The successful accomplishment of many projects, is not the result of the influence which is recognized, but of that unseen, unnoticed subtle power exerted by those often who least know it themselves.

Let no man or woman under or overestimate his or her influence on those around. It we may not have the honor of being the "last straw" we may at least be one of the straws which has gone before, and as such, our personal influence is not by any means to be despised.

PRIZES AWARDED.

According to our offer in the May number, for the three largest clubs of trial subscribers, sent in up to July 1st, we have awarded the prizes as follows: Annie R. Graham, of Rochester, Pa., 253 subscribers, the largest number received, selected the gold watch. Miss Flora Collier, of Susquehanna, Pa., sent in 66 subscribers, and selected the parlor organ. Mrs. J. H. Waldorf, of Hays City, Kansas, sent in 65 subscribers and secured the silk dress.

Although many small clubs were sent in, the above three were the largest. Miss Collier writes us, that having no idea so small a club would secure one of the larger prizes, she is very much surprised to receive a handsome parlor organ, for only 66 trial subscribers, at 10 cents each.

Now, who will secure the $200 cash prize, Oct. 15th? Isn't it worth working for? If you fail to get that, you may secure $150, or $100. Why not get some one to help you and canvass your neighborhood thoroughly? You will find it an easy matter to secure trial subscribers; ten cents is so small a sum of money that no woman would refuse it after seeing a copy of the JOURNAL.

POSTAGE TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

A discrimination in the rates of postage to city subscribers is made between weekly and monthly periodicals, to the great disadvantage of the latter; for, while the weeklies can be mailed to city subscribers for one cent per pound, monthlies can not be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent for each two ounces, except where the subscribers go to the post-office for their mail. And, as the JOURNAL in its present form weighs over two ounces, we are, therefore, obliged to ask Philadelphia subscribers twenty-four cents extra for postage, unless the paper is addressed at the post-office to be called for, or to any P. O. box.

Many subscribers say, "I neglected to notify you when I moved, but I told the postmaster where I lived, to forward all my mail here. All my letters have come, but no HOME JOURNALS, so you must have neglected to send them."

We beg to tell such subscribers that it is contrary to postal laws to *forward* a periodical of any description unless postage is sent for that purpose. So when postmasters promise to forward your papers, they promise what they have no right to perform, and having discovered this, they fail to perform what they have promised.

"A LACE WIFE"

is the title of a new story written expressly for the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps. It is now in the hands of our artists for illustrations, and will commence in the December number.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PENELOPE.—We publish nothing in the nature of exchanges.

MRS. M. H., ELM RAPIDS, MICH.—Wash your white silk shawl with soap bark.

ROLLA, MO., July 7, '87.

ED. HOME JOURNAL:—Will some one please tell me their experience in raising peanuts? and oblige,

MARY P. BUSKETT.

CAN any of the "sisters" tell us who wrote the "Curfew Heroine," a prose version of "Curfew Must Not Ring To-Night?" Also, where is it to be found?

WILL some Calafornia reader please send their address to Miss Clara Leslie, St. Lawrence, D. T. As she wishes some information concerning that state. Will pay all postage.

MRS. F. L. SPANGLER, YORK, PA.:—To remove mildew from muslin, rub the spot with soft soap and expose to the strong sunshine. Repeat until the mildew is entirely gone.

JULY, 8, '87.

WILL some of the readers of the L. H. J. please tell me through its columns if there is a Woman's Co-operative Exchange in Chicago, and give me its address? I would like receipt for pickling eggs.

G.

MORRISTOWN, N. J.

TO EDITOR OF LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Will you permit me to say a few words in your charming paper. I saw in the May number the statement that the saying "Cleanliness is next to godliness" was from John Wesley. Some years ago I took considerable pains to find the author of this familiar quotation, which has been attributed to so many sources, and after great trouble, learned these facts: According to Dr. A. S. Betteheim—a Jewish Rabbi—the Hebrew writer, Phineas ben Yan, gives these exact words, "Cleanliness is next to godliness." Wesley quoted them in his sermon on "Dress," and made them popular. Bacon said, "Cleanliness of body was ever esteemed to proceed from a due reverence to God."

MRS. J. J. BARTON.

DEAR JOURNAL SISTERS:—I'm growing older every day I find, and the more I read and hear and see and feel, the more am I convinced that many of my fellow-women have nothing to do, because they are not willing to do that which lies before them. And each day am I convinced of the truth of the little article called "Lampers" printed in a former number of the JOURNAL.

"I must earn some money," sighs someone, "but how? I have no trade and there seems nothing for me to do."

Nothing? Can you do *nothing* well? Can you do none of the homely *home* work *well?* If you can accomplish any one thing deftly, there is your trade at hand.

Are your preserves a success? Go round among your neighbors at *so much per day*. Plenty of them will be *glad* to have the bother of preserving off their hands. Can you mend and darn to your own satisfaction and that of others? Go darn your neighbors stockings at so much per pair. Can you (oh, dare I mention such a menial occupation!) but really, *can* you clean and polish children's shoes nicely and quickly? Then a fortune awaits you. For I can even now see the eye of the mother brighten with relief, as she sees you enter and attack the five little muddy pairs of shoes which she has been regarding with such despair, not knowing where the time was to come from for her to do it. For her who can do well something which the neighborhood needs, there is occupation and money, as when once the mothers' find that they can be relieved of many little duties which have taken them from more important things, they will gladly hand them over to some one who makes a profession of it, and will gladly pay for it, too.

A woman may not desire to set up a bake-shop in her own house, but if she truly understands the art of baking, there are many neighbors who will welcome her gladly to their homes to do the work.

The trouble with too many who cry for work, I am convinced, is that they are so anxious to be "genteel," (being full of that false pride which is far worse than none,) and are *not* willing to do that which they can do well. One woman whose forte is evidently baking, desires to give music lessons—another who wields a needle with neatness and effect, desires to paint placques. Surely good biscuit are better than bad music—due darning better than coarse painting.

PRUDENCE PARSONS.

DEAR HOME JOURNAL:—A neighbor and friend of mine, a kind-hearted old gentleman now gone to rest, used to say that he did not mind talking of his private affairs before me, for I was a "mighty still woman."

Be that as it may, after reading Mr. Burdette's homily in the July No., I feel an impulse so strong that it amounts to compulsion, to "speak in meeting" this one time, if forever after I have to hold my peace.

Surely he understands and appreciates women, whether St. Paul did or not, and it is as rare now to find a man who does as it was in Paul's time. I think myself, that, while Paul recognized woman as "the power behind the throne," he was somewhat sensitive on the subject of man's preeminence. At any rate he took care to caution the woman to ask her husband at home if she wanted to know anything, and nine times out of ten, I'll dare say she already knew more about it than he did.

Yes indeed, woman will have her say, and her way, too. It is no more use for a man to oppose a woman's determinate purpose than it would be for him to undertake to tie a bow-knot in a rainbow. And she will accomplish her aim so skillfully and ingeniously, that when the desired end is attained the man actually believes that it is exactly what he wanted from the beginning.

"Satisfied with being a woman!" Who wouldn't be? Not only satisfied, but glad of it, and proud of it. Even now a lady friend of mine laughs, and reminds how that years ago I told her that I thanked God every day of my life that he did not make me a man. And it is true, I do. Poor, dependent, helpless creatures! But then they can't help themselves for being what they are, and one ought to pity instead of blame. Perhaps they would do better if they could.

But as Mr. Burdette says, this present century is Tryphena's holiday. She is coming to the front, and the point to guard against is not to let her come too far, or to preserve proper restraint on her freedom. We are very apt to go from one extreme to another, and in the anxiety to give woman all she ought to have there is danger of pushing too much on her. In the continual agitation of the question of "woman's rights" there is a very fair chance for man's rights to be infringed upon, and in fact it is done in many instances, while the noble "lords of creation submit with indifference, not to say gratification. This is more noticeable in country life when the domestic services are all performed by the family, than in the city. For instance, when the spring happens to be a quarter of a mile from the house the wife and daughters are generally allowed to bring all the water without so much as a protest from the male portion of the family, especially if the females are in the majority as to numbers. Also in the matter of bringing in the wood they submit with heroic fortitude, while they permit the milking to be done, with a calmness and stoicism perfectly astonishing and indescribable.

Nevertheless, all these things will settle down presently and be just as they should be. Talk about angels! If an angel should come spring round it would soon discover that nothing but a woman could manage a man, and leave in disgust.

I did think that I would not contribute to the "Home for Unmarried Men," on the ground that they all ought to be married and living in "my wife's house," but then I remember that the poor things can't marry when nobody will have them, for in this free country it takes at least two to make that kind of a bargain, so, if the institution is to be conducted by women, I'll send the first quarter (plugged) that I get.

COTTAGE CONTENT, July, 1887.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

COTTAGE DINNERS.

SEPTEMBER.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

Some of the methods for adding to the comfort of meals and the excellence of food are so simple that the wonder arises that they are so seldom practiced. Chief among them may be mentioned hot food served upon hot plates.

The reader of the recipes furnished in this series may sometimes have thought that undue stress has been laid upon the necessity of having various viands sent to the table very hot. The truth is, however, that there are so few houses where good food is not injured by becoming nearly or absolutely cold before it is eaten that there seems little danger of insisting too strongly upon a contrary course.

Most modern stoves and ranges are supplied with an apparatus for keeping dishes hot, but apparently it is not often put into use. Soup comes to the table in a tepid condition that disgusts instead of stimulating the stomach. Vegetables are often luke-warm messes and meats surrounded by a pool of congealed gravy. Vegetables especially, should be smoking hot. Such esculents as squash, turnips and parsnips lose all excellence as they become cold and are nauseating rather than appetizing. A recent English story speaks of a dinner where the claret and fish were both cold and the salad the only thing that was warm. If a dish is meant to be cold, let it be as nearly freezing as it is possible for it to be without spoiling it, while if it is intended to have it hot, send it to the table in a scalding state. It will grow cool quite soon enough.

Nor is it sufficient to have the food come warm from the kitchen. The plates from which it is to be eaten should be well heated. A cold plate will speedily ruin even the hottest articles of diet. It is surprising how often this easy way of increasing the comfort of a repast is overlooked. Where there is no plate-warmer attached to a stove, a few minutes on a register, before a grate or in an open oven will do the work. It is not only in private houses that this practice is neglected, nor in cheap boarding houses. At one of the highest-priced hotels in New York city, noted for the excellence of its cookery, a lunch party given to a number of ladies was almost ruined by the use of cold plates. Creamed oysters, croquettes, sweetbread *pates* and other delicious *entrees* were served on painted plates that were as cold as the frosty air without, while by a contradiction common on such occasions, the dishes for salad and ices had evidently been drawn from a pan of boiling water just before receiving their contents.

In heating dishes in an oven or plate-warmer, care must be taken to avoid getting them so hot as to imperil the glazing of the china, or render them too hot to handle. It is not pleasant to get hold of a plate that threatens to blister the fingers. Some people urge this as an excuse for having all the dishes stone cold. But there is a readily acquired medium of comfort and it is a pity it should not always be attained.

SUNDAY.

Roast Lamb. Mint Sauce.
Fried Squash. Whipped Potatoes.
Sliced Cucumbers.
Cream Peach Pie.

ROAST LAMB:—Pour a cupful of boiling water over the piece of lamb as it lies in the dripping pan. Cook in a steady oven, allowing from ten to twelve minutes to the pound and basting frequently and plentifully. Cover it if it threatens to brown too quickly. By this time of year lamb ought to be very reasonable. A shoulder piece is quite as nice as the leg and less expensive. Pass the sauce with it, but none of the gravy.

MINT SAUCE:—Chop a bunch of mint very fine, put it into a china bowl and with the back of a silver spoon rub into it a saltspoonful of salt, half as much pepper and a tablespoonful of white sugar. When the mint is well bruised and all the ingredients are thoroughly mixed add by degrees three tablespoonfuls of vinegar. Stir up well before helping.

SQUASH *au gratin*:—Peel and cut a summer squash into slices about quarter of an inch thick. Lay these in salted water half an hour and then dry between two clean towels. Dip first into beaten egg and then into cracker crumbs. Salt and pepper and fry to a nice brown in lard or good dripping.

WHIPPED POTATOES:—See "Cottage Dinners" for March.

SLICED CUCUMBERS:—See "Cottage Dinners" for July.

CREAM PEACH PIE:—Line a pie plate with good pastry and fill with halved peaches, pared and stoned. Sprinkle thickly with sugar and lay over all an upper crust, buttering the edge where it will touch the lower layer of pastry. Bake quickly. While it is still hot lift the crust and pour a cream into it made of a cup of milk, the whipped whites of two eggs, a tablespoonful of sugar and a small teaspoonful of cornstarch. This should have been cooked three minutes, the milk being heated first in a double boiler, and the other ingredients added to this. The mixture should be perfectly cold before it is poured into the pie.

MONDAY.

Curried Lamb.
Boiled Rice. Bananas.
Roast Green Corn.
Peaches and Cream.

CURRIED LAMB:—Cut the remnants of yesterday's lamb into thin slices or small neat pieces. Make a gravy of the bones, skimming the fat from this after it has cooled. Warm it again and add to it two teaspoonfuls of curry powder. Drop into this the pieces of lamb and let all simmer about ten minutes before serving.

BOILED RICE:—Wash the rice carefully, picking out discolored kernels or specks. Put two cupfuls of the rice over the fire in three pints of boiling water and boil *hard* for fifteen minutes, setting the saucepan over the hottest of the fire and giving it an occasional shake. Test the softness of the rice by pinching a grain of it between the thumb and finger. When it is soft enough, drain off the water and set the saucepan to the side of the stove, where the rice will dry without scorching. At the table, serve the rice first and heap the curry upon it and around it in genuine East India fashion.

BANANAS:—Keep them on the ice until the last moment and pass them with the rice and curry. They will exert a cooling influence after the spicy heat of the curry.

ROAST GREEN CORN:—Select tender ears, turn back the husks and remove the silk, then recover the grains with the husks. Lay on the floor of the oven and roast, turning often. Wrap in a napkin laid in a dish. Send to table with the inner husk left on.

PEACHES AND CREAM:—See "Cottage Dinners" for August.

TUESDAY.

Steak and Mushrooms.
Succotash. Boiled Potatoes.
Nutmeg Melons.

STEAK AND MUSHROOMS:—Select a nice sirloin steak an inch thick and beat it well with the flat of a hatchet. Cut it into pieces about three inches square and broil these over a clear fire. Pepper, salt and butter. Lay on a flat dish and keep hot. Open a can of mushrooms, drain off the liquor, cut each mushroom in two and put half of them into a saucepan in which a tablespoonful of butter rubbed smooth in as much browned flour half a cup of boiling water and a little salt and pepper have been cooked together about ten minutes. Let the mushrooms become heated through, and pour these around the steak as it lies in the dish. A couple of tablespoonfuls of cooking sherry added just before the mushrooms are taken from the fire is a great improvement.

It may sound extravagant to recommend mushrooms. While they are rather expensive, their occasional use is not a heavy drain and they add greatly to the delicacy and flavor of any dish with which they are served. By purchasing the canned *champignons* or French mushrooms, all risks of poisoning may be avoided. The rest of the can will keep perfectly for a few days, if set in a cool place.

SUCCOTASH:—See "Cottage Dinners" for August.

BOILED POTATOES.—Directions previously given.

NUTMEG MELONS:—Lay the melons in the ice-house or on the cellar floor until just before they are needed. Then halve them carefully, scrape out the seeds and lay in each semi-sphere a lump of ice. Send to table on a large platter. Southerners eat them with pepper and salt, while some people prefer dipping each piece in sugar.

WEDNESDAY.

Stewed Shoulder of Veal.
Stripped Potatoes Stuffed Egg Plant.
Peach Batter Pudding.

STEWED SHOULDER OF VEAL:—Have the bone removed from the shoulder, and stuff the space left with a cup of bread crumbs seasoned with sweet marjoram, thyme, salt and pepper. A little finely chopped ham or lean salt pork is an improvement. Put the meat into a broad pot, pour over it a couple of quarts of boiling water, add a chopped onion and a couple of stalks of celery, cover and stew gently for two hours. Remove the meat and keep it hot while you strain a cupful of the liquor in which it was cooked, thicken it with browned flour and bring it to a brisk boil in a small saucepan. Pour a little over the meat and send the rest to table in a gravy boat. The rest of the stock may be set away for to-morrow's soup.

STRIPPED POTATOES:—Peel potatoes and cut them into neat strips. Put them on in boiling water and cook until tender. Drain dry and pour over them a cupful of hot milk, thickened with a tablespoonful of flour rubbed smooth with a teaspoonful of butter. Season with pepper, salt and chopped parsley and simmer three minutes.

STUFFED EGG PLANT:—Select a small or medium sized egg plant and put it on the stove in a saucepan of boiling water. Cook it steadily for half an hour. Take it out, cut it in half and scoop out the inside, taking care not to break the skin. The soft portion removed must be beaten smooth with a fork, well seasoned, and a lump of butter the size of an egg mixed with it. Fill the two shells made by the divided egg plant, sprinkle the top with bread crumbs, dot with bits of butter and brown in the oven for ten minutes.

PEACH BATTER PUDDING:—One pint prepared flour, three eggs, whipped light, four cups milk, one tablespoonful butter, pinch of salt, a dozen nice peaches, peeled, stoned and halved.

Rub the butter into the salted flour, beat the milk into the eggs and stir these into the flour. Arrange the peaches in a buttered pudding dish and pour the batter over and around them. Bake in a steady oven and eat with hard sauce.

THURSDAY.

Barley Soup.
Veal Ragout.
Baked Hominy. Roast Sweet Potatoes.
Stewed Pears with Rice.

BARLEY SOUP:—Crush the bones of the shoulder of veal cooked yesterday, first cutting off all the meat. Stew the bones for several hours, putting them on in three quarts of cold water, with an onion, a couple of carrots and a bunch of herbs. When the liquor is reduced about one-half, strain, cool and skim it, first adding to it whatever is left of yesterday's stock from the stewed veal after you have reserved a good cupful for your ragout. Wash a cupful of pearl barley and cook it half an hour in slightly salted water. Add this to the strained and skimmed soup, season to taste, add the barley and simmer half an hour before dishing.

VEAL RAGOUT:—Cut the remnants of veal from the stewed shoulder into small squares. Rub a tablespoonful of butter into one of browned flour, stir this into the cupful of stock you have saved, and stir until boiling hot, in a saucepan. Chop the mushrooms left over from Tuesday, add these and two tablespoonfuls of tomato catsup to the stock, salt and pepper to taste, put in the veal and stew gently ten minutes.

BAKED HOMINY:—See "Cottage Dinners" for February.

BAKED SWEET POTATOES:—See previous directions.

STEWED PEARS WITH RICE:—Peel a dozen small firm pears, lay them in a saucepan and cover them with half a cup of sugar and a cup of water. Stew gently until tender. Remove the pears carefully and boil down the syrup one-half. Cook a cupful of rice in the ordinary manner until it is nearly done, then drain off the water and add milk. Spread this on a flat dish, sprinkle it plentifully with powdered sugar and lay the pears on it, pouring the syrup over all. Set on the ice until *very* cold.

FRIDAY.

Boiled Blue Fish.
Mashed Potato. Cauliflower *au gratin*.
Apple Dumplings.

BOILED BLUE FISH:—Secure the fish neatly in a piece of cheese cloth. Have ready in a pot broad enough to hold the fish without breaking, three tablespoonfuls of vinegar, half a small onion, chopped, and a blade of mace. Lay the fish in this and add enough boiling water to cover it. Let this stand at the side of the stove half an hour, then bring to a boil and cook for half an hour longer. Take out the fish, remove the cloth and serve in a chafing dish with a cupful of drawn butter into which has been squeezed the juice of a lemon.

MASHED POTATO:—See previous directions.

CAULIFLOWER *au gratin*:—Boil the cauliflower as directed in "Cottage Dinners" for August. When it is done, cut the sprays apart and arrange them stem downward in a buttered pudding dish. Pour over them a cupful of drawn butter, pepper and salt, and sprinkle them thickly with grated cheese. Set in a quick oven until lightly browned.

APPLE DUMPLINGS:—Four cups prepared flour, two cups milk, two tablespoonfuls mixed butter and lard, pinch of salt, six or eight fine ripe apples, peeled and cored.

Sift and salt the flour and rub in the shortening. Make into a dough with the milk. Roll out about an inch thick and cut into pieces about three inches square. In the centre of each lay two quarters of an apple, and sprinkle them with sugar. Fold the edges together and lay the dumplings in a floured baking pan, the joined edges underneath. Bake a nice brown and eat hot with either hard or liquid sauce.

SATURDAY.

Calf's Head.
String Beans Garnished with Brains.
Mashed Potatoes.
Peaches and Cream.
English Pound Cake.

CALF'S HEAD:—Order a calf's head from your butcher, directing him to scald it and clean it thoroughly without removing the skin. Take out the tongue and brains, boil the former and parboil the latter. The tongue will make a nice relish for tea, served cold, or cut into dice and stewed in a little stock will make a savory breakfast stew. The brains must be put away to cool before serving them with the beans. To empty the head, it must have been split in two by your butcher. Tie the two sides together with a cord, put it into a pot and cover it with cold water. Salt slightly and stew slowly for two hours. Remove from the water, wipe off the head, rub it all over with beaten egg and coat with crushed cracker crumbs, seasoned with pepper and salt. Set in the oven and after ten minutes baste with a cupful of the liquor in which it was cooked. Bake twenty minutes longer, basting twice in that time. Thicken the gravy in the pan with browned flour, add a little chopped pickle and a couple of teaspoonfuls of good catsup or Worcestershire sauce. Pour around the calf's head as it lies in the dish.

It is an excellent plan to have the butcher remove the teeth from the calf's head or to do this yourself after it is boiled and before putting it in the oven. The effect of the molars and bicuspids rolling about the dish is not appetizing.

STRING BEANS GARNISHED WITH BRAINS:—Prepare the string beans as before directed. Heap in the middle of a dish and surround them with the brains. These must have been minced fine, seasoned with salt, pepper and chopped parsley, formed into small balls with the hands, rolled in beaten egg and cracker dust and fried to a light brown.

MASHED POTATOES:—See previous directions.

PEACHES AND CREAM:—See "Cottage Dinners" for August.

ENGLISH POUND CAKE:—Six eggs, one cup butter, one cup granulated sugar, two cups prepared flour.

Cream the butter and sugar, beat the yolks of the eggs light and stir into the butter and sugar, add the flour alternately with the whipped whites and beat all *hard* for ten minutes. Bake in a well greased tin in a quick oven.

QUERIES FOR RECIPES.

"Will Christine Terhune Herrick please tell a reader how and in what proportion Cerealine Flakes are used for bread, pastry and cake?"

An appreciative reader, A. N. S.

BREAD.

One quart flour.
One quart Cerealine flakes.
Half pint milk.
Half pint water.
One teaspoonful salt.
One teaspoonful sugar.
One tablespoonful butter.
One gill yeast or
Half cake compressed yeast dissolved in one gill warm water.

Melt the butter in half a cup of hot water, stir in the salt and sugar, then the milk, water, and the yeast. Work in the sifted flour and the Cerealine, adding more flour if the stated quantity is not enough to bring the dough to the consistency required for ordinary bread. Knead until the dough rebounds like rubber after a blow with the fist. Ten to fifteen minutes steady handling should suffice to produce this result.

All this should be done at night. Place the dough in a bread bowl, cover with a cloth and set in a sheltered corner, in a moderately warm room. In the morning, give the dough another thorough kneading, shape it into a loaf and put it in the pan. Let it rise three-quarters of an hour and bake in a steady oven an hour. Take care that the crust does not form too quickly. Bread made in this way, will be light, sweet and wholesome, in consistency more like Graham than like ordinary wheaten bread, and will keep fresh and soft longer than that made in the usual fashion.

PASTRY.

Three cupfuls flour.
One cupful Cerealine Flakes.
One cupful good butter.
One teaspoonful Royal baking powder sifted with the flour.
One cupful ice-water.
One egg—the yolk alone.
Saltspoonful salt.

Mix the Cerealine Flakes with the flour, baking powder and salt, stir the egg yolk into the ice-water, and work this, a little at a time, into the flour and Cerealine Flakes. The pastry that results should be firm and elastic, but not too stiff.

Place it in a plate on the ice for half an hour and then roll it out in a sheet about half an inch thick. Dot this closely with bits of butter, sprinkle with flour and roll up the paste as you would a sheet of music, the buttered surface inside. Lay on the ice for ten minutes, roll out again and repeat the buttering process. Do this three times, setting it on the ice between each rolling out. This will make most deliciously flaky pastry, more like puff paste than that made with twice as much shortening by the old method.

PLAIN CUP CAKE.

One pint Cerealine Flakes.
One pint prepared flour.
One cupful butter.
Two cupfuls sugar.
Four eggs.

Cream the butter and sugar, add the yolks of the eggs, beaten light, stir in the flour next, then the whites of the eggs and lastly, the Cerealine Flakes. Beat hard for a couple of minutes before pouring into pans.

LAYER CAKE.

Two cups and a half prepared flour.
One cupful Cerealine Flakes.
Five eggs.
Half cup butter.
One cup and a half sugar.
One cupful milk.

Rub butter and sugar together, add the yolks of the eggs, the flour, milk, whites and Cerealine Flakes. Should the batter appear too stiff, moisten with a little more milk. Bake in jelly-cake tins. This is an excellent cake for jelly, chocolate, cream or cocoanut.

Can any one give directions for making candy known as buttercups, also for marsh mallows?

K. S.

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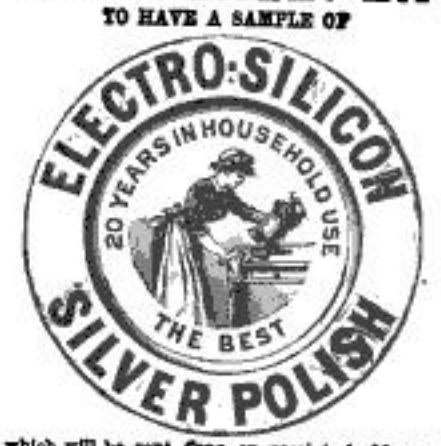

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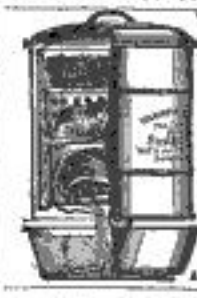

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FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

SEPTEMBER STYLES.

Novelties in All-Wool Dress Goods for Early Fall Service. Clan Plaids and Vassar Cloths. Cashmeres in Odd Colors. The Newest Fashions in Costumes and Dresses for Misses and Young Girls. Convenient Jerseys and Other Flexible Corsages. Pretty Hats for Youthful Heads.

BY MRS. JAS. H. LAMBERT.

Doubtless, every good mother in the land is conscious of the fact, that children not only wear out, or tear out their clothes, but they are apt most suddenly and unexpectedly to grow out of them as well.

In large families where the growing girls are like door-steps, the weary worker or home manager can gain relief by handing down the discarded garments, but too often the fastidious youngsters protest against what they consider imposition, and dresses which are plenty good enough for best, are unwillingly accepted for everyday service, and mother must tax her resources, her strength and her eyesight, to buy and prepare becoming toilettes suitable for each season in its turn.

Although we are just now passing through the heated term, in only a few short weeks our girls will need school costumes, and best dresses for fall wear, and even at this early date samples of new goods from foreign and domestic manufacturers are at hand, and the first styles in model garments are in the various workrooms in New York and Philadelphia.

FASHIONS AND FABRICS.

Entirely unique and most desirable for small girls, misses and young ladies, are the novel clan plaids, which are made in dozens of the color combinations of the old Scotch plaids, not only in the original tones, but in various new shades of the same hues, creating wonderfully pleasing and striking results.

All the plaids of the Highland and Lowland clans are reproduced, with original fancy conceits, such as the Malcolm Graeme plaid in blue with flaxen lines, and the Ellen plaid in subdued Moorish tones of a number of colors.

The Campbell plaid shows green and blue, marked off with red, yellow and white lines, while the Sutherland or 42d plaid is a neat combination of green and blue, and then there are many other styles which will hereafter be described as they come in. These clan plaids are carefully woven, of the best prepared wool, and cost respectively $1.00, $1.25, $1.50 and $1.75 a yard.

Vassar Cloth is another new dress stuff, which is eminently adapted to meet the requirements of misses and young ladies. Vassar cloth is in all-wool, the best grade, in natural *ecru*, and in fast dyes, woven in hundreds of refined styles, and colors, all the designs being very small, indeed some are so inwoven, of almost invisible threads, that at a short distance they look as if they were in solid colors or changeable tones, while in others the patterns are defined by diagonal lines forming bars or irregular blocks, creating entirely new and very stylish effects.

Vassar cloth in all its variations of surface conceits, will retail at $1.00 a yard.

Cashmeres are going to be largely used in forming neat and dressy gowns for misses and young ladies. The new cashmeres are very finely finished, and can be found in all the tints, the neutral shades, and in bright colors. They will be made up alone, or combined with Surah, or other soft silks in either another tone of the same hue as the cashmere, or in a contrasting color. These lovely cashmeres are marked at 75c. and $1.00 a yard, while Surahs in the new cashmere colors are $1.00 and $1.25 a yard.

A silk-warp novelty is Priestley's cream or white Henrietta, a fabric which has hitherto been brought out in black only. This fabric is very rich and will form elegant toilettes, which can be easily cleansed when soiled, or the dress may be ripped up and the material dyed in any desired color.

FROCKS FOR FAIRIES.

Most of the dresses for quite young girls are made on a Princess foundation, and are so fitted to the form that the weight of the garments is equally distributed, and no one portion of the body has to bear more than its share of the burden. On this plain lining, some most charming simple, and ornate little robes are constructed.

In creating dresses for girls, pleats, folds, gathers and tucks are all more or less used, and graceful draperies are arranged on skirt and bodice, while sleeves are either plain or full, with countless fanciful additions in puffs, epaulettes and vandykes—any quaint idea being accepted and adopted in forming skirt or corsage for our home darlings.

A pretty little dress for a tot of three has the foundation of garnet Surah, over this is a plaited skirt of lace, and a full bodice with cross folds of the same. Cuffs, collar and belt of garnet velvet, with sash bow of wide ribbon in the same color. This lace overdress can be made to appear entirely different if worn over a blue slip, and trimmed with pale blue Surah.

Another dainty little dress for a child has blouse bodice and skirt of pink Surah. The skirt is covered with two flounces of cream lace, and a third flounce simulates a pointed yoke on the bodice. The lace collar is puffed, and the full sleeves are finished with ruffles of lace. Ribbon bows are placed on the right shoulder, and the chest, and a sash of ribbon adds to the dressy effect of the pretty gown.

For an older girl there is a party dress with under bodice and sleeves of embroidered tissue silk, and flounces of the same added to a skirt tucked skirt of beige ottoman silk. The corselet of ottoman is open in front and bound with moss velvet. A band of velvet has its ends crossed at the back, above the plaits of ottoman which form the back of the skirt. The dress is finished with shoulder knots of velvet ribbon, and velvet collar and cuffs.

Slender misses look well in the long tunic, which falls low down on the right side, is draped high on the left, and has long and plaited back drapery. A shaped revers of embroidery or contrasting fabric often edges the draped *tablier* on the left, being wide at the waist and diminishing to a sharp point in the middle of the front. In evening dresses lace or bead embroidery may be used in the same manner.

Most corsages for evening wear are full and low-necked, finished with a *moire* belt or sash. Sleeves are often puffed, and are either very short or reaching above the elbow where they are plaited into a band or parement of embroidery or lace.

For fruit festivals and the garden parties which will continue until the harvest days are over, the prettiest dresses are made of challis, also of leather and gypsy cloth and fine cashmeres.

MISSES TOILETTES.

For evening entertainments at home, or concerts, there are no prettier dresses than those made of cream or white serge, or of any one of the gracefully draping silk-warp materials. A charming little gown of armure or feather cloth has plaited skirt, full looped drapery, with waist of the material made full on shoulders, and open in front showing tucks of Surah silk, collar, fold cuffs, and fold belt also of Surah. The neck and sleeves are finished with pearl embroidered Italian crepe ruching.

Misses of from fourteen to sixteen years of age very rarely attain their correct form, and hence require corsages that conceal, rather than fit the figure; for such growing girls bodices with full fronts, worn under open jackets are most desirable and becoming.

Stripes, checks and plaids are all made up in the jacket dresses, and in some instances the figured fabric is combined with plain goods, and again the suit is entirely in the one material.

In *ecru* and blue clan plaid, is a very stylish fall dress, made with kilted skirt, at sides and in front, with puffed drapery at the back. A waist lining has full front of the plaided stuff fastened on to it, which can be worn with either one of the two jackets, the one in *ecru* cloth, the other in blue, made specially to go with the skirt, so that the wearer appears to have two suits instead of one. Finer checked cloth forms a rather more elaborate suit. The skirt is in box-plaits except at the left side where a fan plaiting of red velveteen is let in. Tablier and back drapery of the checked goods, full corsage front of the same, with corselet of velveteen, open jacket of checked material with *revers*, collar and cuffs of velveteen.

The hats to wear with these suits are in fancy straw, showing the colors of the dress stuffs. They are in new shapes with eccentric crowns, and brims irregularly upturned, and are trimmed with loops of plaided ribbon, and clusters of ostrich tips.

JERSEYS AND ELASTIC SUITS.

Light-weight elastic cloth forms an exceedingly stylish dress for a miss of fifteen. It is in two shades of bois brown. The skirt is plain in front, and box-plaited at the back. The overdrapery consists of tablier in front, and looping behind. Coat sleeves, pointed corsage closed with dark wood buttons, and trimmed with smaller size buttons arranged in vandyke fashion on the front over shoulders and down bust.

For fully-developed misses and young lady daughters, mothers will find Lewis S. Cox's Elastic Box Suits great conveniences, the waists being already made, and perfect in fit, if the correct measures are sent. Enough material accompanies each made waist, to construct a simple, stylish skirt. These partly-made costumes are very handy for ladies, as they come in various styles and sizes, and cost from $8 to $20. Very neat suits are $12, $15 and $17, the actual value and price of the material alone. No extra charge being made for the perfected waist.

Skirts generally do not wear out or become defaced as soon as waists, and very often a lady will find two or three skirts among her own or her daughters garments, that are really too good to throw away. By procuring a suitable jersey or two, all such skirts can be utilized, with little or no trouble.

Jerseys now come in black, cream, and all colors, and even combinations, the ribbed jerseys in red and black, blue and red, navy and red, or navy and cream, pink and cream, with other colors, being particularly desirable. Another great advantage in buying jerseys, besides their perfect fit and elasticity, is their reasonable cost, for they come in all grades, at prices from 75c. to $5.00 for serviceable qualities, while the higher class fancy jerseys in beaded effects go up to $15, $20 and $25. Our society ladies who enjoy athletic sports nearly always wear jerseys, if their suits are not made of knitted or elastic cloth, because in games of all kinds free action of the arms, chest, and indeed all parts of the body is absolutely necessary, to ensure comfort, ease, and graceful motion

Among other novelties in elastic cloths are the caps and hats for ladies, misses and boys. These are made to order in the cloth like that composing the suits, and they are constructed in all the approved shapes of the boating and tennis hats of ther materials.

WHAT MERCHANTS ARE DOING.

Doll, is the suggestive name of John Wanamaker's toy buyer, who has been for the last three months, searching in all foreign toy marts for the most wonderful mechanical toys, and the very prettiest dolls in the world, including sensible German dolls, dainty French dolls, odd Swiss dolls, and all kinds of dolls, which are now on their way to this country, where with thousands of new toys, they will participate in Wanamaker's grand holiday display.

Wanamaker is now selling out what is left over of certain lines of the largest stock and most varied assortment of dress goods in the world, and on the warmest day in July his store was positively thronged with appreciative buyers. The mail order department for out-of-town customers is a special feature of Wanamaker's.

Mr. C. N. Fay, of the house of Lewis S. Cox, is now in Europe selecting elegant mantles and serviceable wraps of all kinds, for fall and winter, also high class specialties in costumes, tea gowns, and robes for morning and evening wear.

Sharpless Brothers will open their miniature House of the Patrons on the grounds at Williams' Grove, near Mechanicsburg, during the grand annual re-union of the granges. The Sharpless exhibit will be unusually large and comprehensive this year. Mr. McCoy and Mrs. Miller will preside as usual, and doubtless thousands of our readers will call there.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Most of the firms or houses advertised in the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL are well known to be entirely reliable, and the other newer enterprises are, so far as we know, perfectly responsible, hence it will save time, and also in other ways prove greatly to the interest of our readers and correspondents, if they will communicate direct with the houses they desire to patronize, always mentioning in letter of advice to the houses, that they were directed so to do, by the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, which will ensure prompt replies, and faithful execution of all orders.

"Hattie L. S.:"—Flesh colored or pale pink silk mitts should be worn with lace dress made over pink satin.

"Dame Durden:"—To refresh silk and take out such marks as can be removed, make the pieces very damp or wet with ammonia and water, and roll on something smooth, even, and round; a very long rolling-pin will do. Let the silk so remain until it is perfectly dry. The marks will not show through figured or striped lace. Finish lower edge of your velvet skirt with plaitings, if you like, but it is in good taste to have that portion perfectly plain. Satin merveilleux is what you want for overgarment. Yes, you can get as good lace at less price in Philadelphia. One of our young ladies bought beautifully fine black Chantilly lace for an overdress at $4.50 a yard at John Wanamaker's, and saw very pretty laces there for $2.50 and $3.50 a yard. Would not like to recommend the cheaper laces. The satin merveilleux can be bought in the same house. The address is simply John Wanamaker, Philadelphia, Pa. In your letter please mention LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. We will always be glad to serve you.

"Mrs. James Monroe," Idaho:—Thank you for kind words. You can get a woolen lace at less cost than a Spanish guipure but both styles are made in colors. Cream lace would be very pretty with peacock blue; send a sample of your silk to E. Ridley & Sons, Grand and Allen Sts., New York, and explain to them just what you want and about what price you are able to pay, and they can suit as they have very large and comprehensive assortments of reasonable priced laces of all kinds.

"Miss Lena McD.:"—Use rather heavy plain cloth or Melton, in any dark color, for your riding habit, make perfect fitted, easy basque with coat tails at the back and round front. Cut your skirt rather short on one side, and long enough in the other to allow for the taking up in the saddle. Such habits are made with or without trousers. Make sailor-shaped hat of the cloth, and get gloves of undressed leather colored kid. Have handed your letter to John Wanamaker's book buyer, who will find if possible, the manual of instruction for horseback riding, and will send you desired information.

"Mrs. A. Allen:"—Unless you rip your cloak apart, you cannot very well steam the plush, a process which will raise the pile on the surface, so your next best plan would be to hang out the garment when the wind is blowing, indeed you will find the plush pile will be all right after you have worn the cloak on damp and windy days. Another way to treat crushed plush, is to brush it the wrong way.

"Mrs. L. C. Milton," Utah:—To procure samples of goods used in making the elastic box suits, with waist ready to put on, and enough material for creating skirt, you must write direct to Lewis S. Cox, Philadelphia, Pa., 1220 Chestnut St. These convenient suits range in price from $8 to $30, and the suits at $10, $12 and $15 are very neat and sell wonderfully well.

"Maggie:"—We cannot promise to furnish back numbers of the L. H. J. You should file them as they come in. The Handy binder is most convenient for such purpose, and you can get one for 75c. at the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL office.

Sharpless Brothers

Offer Bargains in Cotton Goods.

Lovely Crapes with inwoven colors, 25c. a yard. These charming crapes make dainty evening dresses for all seasons, if finished with surah or velvet.
Lady's Muslin, 12½ cts. a yard. Light weight, with many ground colors and odd surface designs.
Ascot Suitings, heavier goods, 50c. a yard.

BLACK DRESS FABRICS:

Silk-warp Henriettas, $1.00, $1.25, 1.50, $1.75, $2.00, $2.50, $3.00, $3.50, and $4.00 a yard. Handsomer than silk.
B. Priestley's Varnished Board, silk-warp Mourning Cloth, $1.25, $1.50, and $1.75 a yard.

COURTAULD'S CRAPES:

4-4, $1.25 to $4.00 a yard. 1 6-4, $2.50 to $12.00 a yard.

All orders for Mourning Outfits promptly executed. Mourning Costumes at all prices.
Splendid value at small cost. Extra heavy, Henrietta finished Cashmere 38 inches wide, at 46c., 55c., 62c., 75c. 85c., $1.00, and $1.12½ a yard.

FALL NOVELTIES:

Stylish All-wool Clan Plaids, in dozens of designs, and as many color combinations, $1.00, $1.25, $1.50, and $1.75 a yard.
Vassar Suitings, odd, neat, and serviceable, with modest surface effects, in numbers of designs, made of best wool, and fast dyes, $1.00 a yard.

All articles purchased through the mail order department, sent to any part of the United States, Free of Cost for Transportation. For Samples and Estimates, write to

SHARPLESS BROTHERS,
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For further information about Clan Plaids and Vassar Suitings, read fashion article in this paper, and in letter of advice to Sharpless Brothers please mention LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

Wanamaker's

In all the world no store so big as WANAMAKER'S; in all America no Dry Goods business so great. Having the best thing at the least price is what has done it.

INDIA SILKS:

Cream ground, stripes of pansy and rose leaves, reduced from $1 to $1.
White ground, with miniature roses and sprays, reduced from $1.30 to 75c.
Navy blue ground, with blocks of cardinal and ecru, reduced from $2.50 to $1.

WHITE SUITS:

Reduced from $4.50 to $2.50.
Reduced from $8.00 to $4.00.
Reduced from $9.00 to $4.50.
Reduced from $13.00 to $6.50.

SATEEN SUITS:

Reduced from $4.50 to $2.50.
Reduced from $6.00 to $3.50.

JERSEYS REDUCED HALF.

Were $1.00; now 50c; were $1.50; now 75c; were $2.00; now $1.00; were $3.00; now $1.50; were $3.50; now $1.75; were $4.00; now $2.00; were $8.00; now $4.00.

Women's Black Stockings, fast colors, 25c. " " " " " 37½c.

American Satcens, 12½c. a yard.
Embroidered Piques, 50c. to $2.

Send a letter for what you want, you'll likely do as well as if you came yourself.

JOHN WANAMAKER,
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

When writing to John Wanamaker for samples, please mention the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

Silks in New York.

Black and Colored Surah Silks, 59c.
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It's our design to turn out a Waist that is perfect in fit, perfect in style, with enough material with it to make a Skirt, and for the price that a mere dress pattern would cost you. We have an $8 quality in these SUITS, and we have a $20 quality, and qualities all the way between. Write us for particulars.

LEWIS S. COX,
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Kindly mention the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL in letter of advice to Lewis S. Cox.

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(For the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

SOME PRETTY ROOMS.

By the Author of "How to Furnish A Home."

In a well-furnished house—the furniture of which may have cost twenty-five thousand dollars or five hundred—no one article stands out in violent contrast to its neighbors, either in color or in quality, but each helps to produce a harmonious whole. As the writer has said elsewhere, furnishing may be done artistically without following rigidly all the rules of high art. There is such a thing as carrying art to an extent that produces a cold, disagreeable effect. A few fundamental rules, however, cannot be disregarded with impunity; and these concern appropriateness, proportion, simplicity, harmony and stability. There should be no overcrowding on the one hand, nor bareness on the other; and there should be a central tone of color, to which all the tints must be subordinate.

Carpets are the very foundation of a good or ill effect in furnishing; and they are usually too the point of extravagance. Three or four dollars a yard will be paid for a parlor carpet,—while showy, machine-made furniture takes the place of substantial articles with lines of grace and beauty. The coloring of this carpet is frequently an offence to a cultivated eye, and utterly inharmonious with the other furnishings. Obtrusive, dominating colors should be avoided,—likewise a white ground, which always has a glaring effect. Scarlet is a very unmanageable color, and should never be seen in a floor covering.

Small, rug-gy figures are always desirable, and quite a necessity in small rooms; and carpets of this character, made up with a rich border, and supplemented with a margin of inlaid or stained floor, will often be as effective as an imported rug. A good, five-frame, body Brussels can be bought now at a very reasonable rate,—as well as the softer Moquette; and made up as a large rug, either carpet is both handsome and stylish for almost any room. There are also beautiful ingrains with borders; and many an ingrain at eighty cents is preferable to many a Wilton at treble the price,—the carpet not being intended for decoration, but for comfort, and to show to advantage the articles placed on it.

Besides, one wants a few etchings and engravings, at least; and if there is no special sum set apart for them, they had better be taken out of the carpet.

Wall papers are quite as great marplots as carpets: and a paper which is very pretty in the piece, may utterly ruin a room. Subdued coloring is very desirable here, and as few colors as possible; a paper at twenty-five cents a roll will sometimes make a room look better than one at $2.50. A dado should never be used with a low ceiling; and the coloring of the frieze should not be in violent contrast to that below it, but rather gather up and concentrate what is already there.

Both paper and carpet are intended to serve as backgrounds, and should therefore be in subdued styles. The ingrain, or cartridge, papers are admirably calculated for this purpose, and they are moderate enough in price to be within the reach of most purses.

Whatever else the young householder may do, let her avoid buying a "set" of furniture covered with silk plush. Sets of any kind are objectionable; but silk-plush that is sat upon and used wears badly, and entirely loses its original color. *Mohair*-plush is another matter; but much furnishing of any plain color becomes monotonous. Figured goods are preferable for ordinary wear, and one does not tire of them so easily.

White lace curtains have a very cold look, nowadays, even when "real lace" is used; cream-colored ones are much more agreeable, and there are few things prettier than cream Madras. The soft stained-glass colors, too, are very effective; and plain red in small figures, that casts a rosy glow on a pale gray, or olive, wall, is warm-looking and not heavy.

A good entrance hall of reasonable width is very necessary to create that favorable *first* impression, on entering a house, upon which so much depends. Yet a grand modern hall of fine proportions, with its broad, uncarpeted staircase of polished walnut, its open fireplace, and walnut settle beside it richly upholstered with crimson leather; its clock in handsome casing beside the fireplace mirror; the doorways leading into the principal rooms curtained with rich materials that fall in soft heavy folds from walnut rings and poles; the artistic walls, whether made so with paper, paint, or embossed leather, or a mingling of all; the floor with its beautiful hard-wood finish, and "soft islands of rugs,"—is an interior picture very pleasant to look upon, but which very few houses afford.

The best that can be done with the long, narrow hall of ordinary houses is to cover floor and walls to the best advantage, and put as little on them as possible. A little vivid coloring, in the shape of a Chinese lantern, for a hanging light, and a trailing vine, will redeem such a hall from positive ugliness; but things that take up room must be rigorously excluded. The walls should be light in color and unobtrusive in design; and anything like stripes in the floor covering will make the hall appear still longer and narrower.

The staircase covering should always harmonize with that of the hall; where the latter is covered with a rug, the carpet on the stairs may repeat the colors. A crimson stair-carpet has a warm, welcoming look, but it is rather staring,—while terra-cotta, bordering on red, is harmonious with oak, walnut, or ash. With *cherry* finish, the carpet should be dark-blue or olive.

A really handsome, tasteful parlor—not a grand apartment by any means, but one that might better, perhaps, be called a "living-room"—is a far rarer sight than a pretty bedroom; and when not much used, it is too often all piano and carpet. It is to be supposed that there are a few other things in the room; but the piano is large and the carpet loud, and attention is therefore riveted upon them. With dead-white walls for a background, a more unhappy combination could not well be inspired. And all this ugliness, when charming rooms can be had under the most adverse circumstances! The substance of the following illustration has appeared in various papers.

A young working girl in a New England town has, at small expense, made the appearance of her room handsome and attractive. The floor was stained by her own hands a dark walnut shade (after staining give one or two coats of shellac to secure a hard and glossy surface,) and is partly covered by a rug made of cheap ingrain carpet in a small pattern of cream and olive, bordered by a broad band of plain olive felt. The wall paper is pale olive green, lightly touched out with pink; a narrow frieze of the same color tones terminates at the corners in clusters of tiny pink fans.

One window faces a dingy brick wall; and she covered the panes with a pretty pattern of imitation stained glass, which gave a bright effect. The other window is gracefully draped with long full folds of patterned muslin.

A large clothes-horse covered with olive paper, on which are pasted colored pictures grouped in an artistic way, forms a screen and shuts off the bedstead and washstand from view. A second-hand wardrobe, draped with a *portiere* of olive canton flannel, contains the brooms, dust-pan, and other articles of domestic use. A pretty willow rocking-chair, ornamented with olive and pink ribbons, and a small hassock stand on the rug.

The room also contains a bookcase of pine, with shelves, closed with a curtain hung from a pole; a couple of second-hand easy chairs, and a small dry-goods box covered with pink and olive cretonne for shoes. The mantel is draped in olive felt with a border of autumn leaves (cretonne appliqued) running around it. On the mantel are a Nankin teapot, two tall brass candlesticks, and a large ginger jar in its original blue and white beauty.

Thus the simplest materials may be made to look well, if harmonious in color; and people who are not in slavery to the carpet idea can do great things with a little money. A room with a grand, new-looking carpet in it, and very little else, is a dreary place enough; while one with only straw-matting and home-made rugs, or stained floor with rug of cheap carpet, if furnished with suitable articles, and a few plants and flowers, if often very attractive.

Some one says that "the best chairs and sofas are those which you like best, and which best conform to the natural contour of the human figure in repose. A sofa, to be really serviceable, should not be covered with pale-blue satin or maize-colored tabouret, but with a good tapestry covering in a neutral hue, say sage-green or dark, rusty red, to wear well. The tapestry should not be too fine to lie down upon,—or even, in the privacy of family life, to lay one's feet upon. And the whole sofa should, if possible, turn toward the fire, so that the occupant may have his face toward the cheerful glow. At the same time, a little wicker-work-table—black and gold, if you will—may hold a lamp for reading."

A piano-lamp, four feet or so in height, is still better, as its support is more substantial than a little wicker-work table,—and the adjustable kind are heightened or lowered at pleasure. At least one handsome lamp, of some kind, is indispensable now to a well-furnished parlor; and when lighted, it gives a cosy, *home* look to a room which no amount of gas-burners can do." Around the evening lamp" is always suggestive of cheeriness; and a pretty shade, in harmonious coloring, makes the lamp a decorative object as well.

But nothing equals the decorative powers of an open fire,—which, according to the poet, makes even a rude, ill-furnished room burst, flower-like, into rosy bloom. Another person has very justly said that it is the handsomest piece of furniture that can be put in a room; and its glorifying powers are certainly marvellous. The next best thing to the grate, or fireplace is the open stove: which may often be had when the former is impossible. Its attainment is worth much trouble, and considerable sacrifice of other belongings; and once in place, it is a fact accomplished, and does not need renewing like articles of furniture.

Another very ornamental appendage, and one, too, that may be turned to good use, is a screen. It imparts a delightful air of mystery to a corner or a door, suggesting all sorts of impossibilities behind it,—while in reality covering only ugliness or shabbiness. Given a clothes-horse, a bowl of paste, and an enterprising woman,—with brass-headed nails, cheap cretonne, and a little outlining work—and the result will be a screen that astonishes with its prettiness. Duck, felt, and Bolton-sheeting, all make good foundations, and even unbleached muslin, has been used successfully; but genius is superior to details, as well as to obstacles, and never feels more in its element than when manufacturing things of beauty out of nothing.

Almost any kind of wall-hanging has a surprisingly good effect; and there is no better device for covering up a scarcity of pictures. A wall *portiere* in suitable coloring suspended over the sofa,—the lower edge just reaching the top, and the brass rod on which it is hung equalling in length the width of the sofa—has a sort of mediæval look, and can be made a very becoming background. The handsome quality of wide canton-flannel, that so closely resembles plush at a little distance, will be found very effective in wine-color or peacock-blue; and a well-selected border of velour, near the top and bottom, makes it all the richer.

General ideas, however, are all that can be given in a single chapter on furnishing; and we must pass on to the dining-room. This is too often, in ordinary houses, a cold, bare-looking looking place,—when it *should* be made one of the most cheery and attractive rooms in the house. It should be quiet and restful in tone, and as richly-appointed as the purse of the owner will allow. A handsome *buffet* well laden with silver and cut-glass that reflect the rays of the open fire, is the central piece of a grand modern dining-room, and represents in itself the entire income of many well-educated householders. With the other furniture in harmony, a sum can be spent on the dining-room alone that would leave the remainder of the house in the condition of a certain historical cupboard,—unless the amount in hand for furnishing should leave the respectable sum of $5000 far behind.

The dining-room of a house furnished by the writer, on an expenditure of about $8500, has given great satisfaction. The first sensation there is that of a soft, subdued, rose-colored light: a most excellent thing in dining-rooms, but something of a novelty,—as a certain masculine tone in form and coloring is deemed to accord best with the prosaic purpose of their being. The rose-colored light is evolved from a marvel of stained glass in the windows,—not marvellous because unattainable, but simply because it is in the right place, and casts just the right shade of reflection. The principal artificial light, too, a chandelier with candles, is over the table at just the proper height; and the candles are protected by glass shades of ruby tint, that continue the daytime illution of *couleur de rose*. The same color also prevails in the glassware used on the table.

The general tone of the room is light, without being in the least glaring; and what woodwork is visible in the furniture is of dark mahogany. Very little of the frames, however, is seen; and the straight, wide backs and seats of the chairs are covered with a soft embossed plush, in a rather light shade of olive green. This material is not showy, while it is far more satisfactory for use than slippery morocco, which always has a *cold* look. A little fine carving of the mahogany ends, and a narrow brass rod, finish the tops of these very handsome chairs. The two armchairs are beautifully finished in the same style; and there is a lounge to correspond on one side of the fireplace.

A liberal but judicious use of brass ornaments gives the room a very bright and rich appearance; and the mahogany *beaufet* is a glittering marvel of beauty with its burnished trimmings, and the glow and sparkle of its glass treasures. The windows are condensed into one immense bay that, with its rose light at top, and the charming view through the lower panes, is a highly ornamental feature of the dining-room. It is made still more attractive by a pile of Moorish cushions in pink, white, and green,—which add both to the decoration and to the comfort of the spacious recess.

The woodwork of this room is in pale ash, with dado of maroon and gold: above this, there are peach blossoms on a soft grey ground. Mouldings in place of frieze, in narrow, rose-color, olive, and dead gold: the ceiling in bars of light olive, inclosing the palest pink. The floor is tiled in maroon; and the square Smyrna rug in the centre shows olive, maroon, and cream-color. The only curtains at the large window are scant Turkish ones, drawn back on either side, in stripes of gold and rose-color. The rod is of brass, with a lion's head at each end. The ash mantel is warmed with maroon and rose-colored vases, and among them gleams just a suspicion of blue.

This scheme of color and decoration can be carried out quite inexpensively, and yet produce a very pretty effect. American art squares will be found economical and quite desirable carpets for small dining-rooms.

Very charming bedrooms can be arranged at a moderate outlay; and among these, a pink, or Rose, room, carried out by the writer in various styles, is a special favorite—the exquisite flower from which it takes its name being constantly repeated.

The woodwork for this room is of walnut, and the dado of deep olive. Above this, a pale pink paper with irregular tracings of gold here and there. Cornice-mouldings of walnut, olive, pink, and crimson with a touch of gold; ceiling of cream-color. For the floor, a Kensington rug in brown and olive.

The frame-work of the bed, lounge, chairs, and table, is all covered with *crepe* cretonne, in a pattern of pink roses, with buds and leaves on a pale-salmon ground; and the effect is really beautiful. The lace cover and pillow-slips of the bed are lined with rose-color; and the lace window-curtains also show the same soft hue. The two pieces of furniture that cannot be treated to an overdress of cretonne, the bureau and the washstand, are of natural cherry beautifully polished.

The walnut doors are paneled with roses painted on a cream-colored ground; and the mantel, which is a very simple, pretty one of walnut highly polished, has on it old-fashioned china jars filled with natural roses. The dressing-table is arranged with a small canopy of lace, rose-lined; and the favored ones who contemplate themselves in the mirror, pronounce it the most becoming glass they ever tried.

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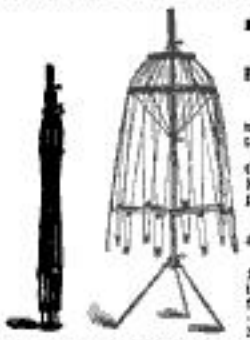

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

TO CORRESPONDENTS:—All inquiries about flowers and their culture will be cheerfully answered to the best of my ability in the columns of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, when they are of general interest. Those of a personal character, and not of general interest, will be answered by mail,—provided a stamped envelope is sent for reply; and not otherwise. If an immediate reply is desired, it can only be obtained by mail, as the matter for the paper is made up several weeks in advance of date, and any reply which comes through the paper will necessarily be delayed. In asking questions about plants which you have failed to grow successfully, tell what kind of culture you have given them, and this will often enable the editor to get at the difficulty, and give you the information you require.

Send all letters directly to the address given below, and not to the office of publication.

SHIOCTON, WIS. EBEN E. REXFORD.

The much-advertised "Moon Flower" is not a new plant, as many imagine, but rather an old one brought again to general notice by the skillful use of printers' ink and liberal advertising.

But, because it is not new, it does not follow that it is not well worth growing. Many of our old flowers are really superior in all ways to some of the recently introduced sorts.

The "Moon Flower" belongs to the Ipomea family, and therefore is closely related to the well-known morning glory. It should properly be called an Evening Glory, as it comes out at night, while the other prefers the morning to display its beauty in.

The white flowers of this climber show well at night, when the moon shines, and a charming effect can be produced by planting it about the veranda. If you have an evergreen in the yard, the most effective use that can be made of this plant is to plant it by the Spruce, Larch, or whatever the evergreen may happen to be, and let it clamber over the branches, whose dark colors will serve to throw out the brightness of the flowers with great distinctness.

THE MOON FLOWER.

TULIPS AND HYACINTHS FOR WINTER BLOOMING.

By the time this gets into print, it will be the season of the year when one begins to think of getting ready for winter, and a little advice about bulbs for winter-flowering is therefore in order.

One of the best bulbs for winter flowering is the Hyacinth. The single variety, a cut of which is given above, is better for this purpose than the double sorts are, though both are desirable. You can get them in white, blue, red, rose, purple and yellow, and you will want some of all colors. I prefer to use one bulb in a pot, and grow them in small pots. I would not advise trying to bloom them in water, if fine flowers are what you want.

The single tulips are better than the double ones for forcing.

Plant in small pots, like the Hyacinth. These flowers can be had in all shades of red, rose, scarlet, white, yellow and maroon, and many varieties combine these colors in a most gorgeous manner.

In order to have the best of success with these plants, it is necessary to get good, sound bulbs, and you can only be sure of this by buying your bulbs of a reliable dealer.

Order them quite early. Do not wait, as many do, until cold weather comes. If you want some to come into bloom early, pot them in September. Use a rich compost. Cover the bulbs to the depth of an inch or two and set the pots in a cool, dark place, but out of the reach of frost. Water well before putting them in the dark. The reason of this treatment does not seem to be generally understood, and many think it unnecessary, and plant their bulbs and put the pots in the window at once. The result is, a weak growth, and few if any flowers. If they had put the pots in the cellar away from the light, roots would have formed, and when they were brought to the light after a month or six weeks, there would have been something to support the growth of the top, which is not the case when they are put in the window as soon as potted. There are no roots then, and the roots and top both start into growth at the same time, under the stimulating influence of warmth and light, and the development of both is weak. Give the roots a chance to grow first if you want fine flowers.

By planting at intervals, and bringing up from time to time, the flowering of these bulbs can be prolonged for several weeks. They brighten up the window wonderfully, and whoever grows them and is successful with them one year will be sure to plant more next.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

"Mrs. J. W. M.:"—The reason why your Petunia has smaller blossoms than when it began to bloom, is, that it has somewhat exhausted itself by too profuse flowering. It should be cut back to induce a new growth of branches. Give manure water once a week, and you will find that its flowers will be as large and fine as at first.

HYACINTH.

"Subscriber"—I presume that the soil in which your Roses grow requires enriching. You will find nothing better for supplying the nutriment this plant needs—and must have in order to do well—than manure from the cow-yard. Dig it in well about the roots. If you are near a blacksmith shop, you can get iron scales which, if mixed with the soil, will effect the color of the flowers, giving them a rich, dark appearance.

"Henry Pickens:"—Williams' "Window Gardening" is probably as good a book as you can get of the sort you inquire about. You can order it through any bookseller, or from O. Judd & Co., 751 Broadway, N. Y. Peter Henderson's "Gardening for Pleasure" is not a satisfactory book for the amateur.

To get rid of the white worm in the soil in your pots, apply lime-water. Put a piece of fresh lime as large as a tea-cup in a pailful of rain water. It will crumble and settle in a white sediment at the bottom of the pail if the lime is good. Pour off the water, and apply to the plants, giving enough to thoroughly saturate the soil. You need not be afraid of injuring the plants. They will be benefitted by it, and nothing else that I have ever tried is as effective as an antidote for the white worm.

"Mrs. Julia M.:"—Clematis can be propagated by inserting cuttings in sand, but layering is preferable. Lay down a branch, covering a joint with earth. Roots will start there, after which result has taken place the branch can be severed from the parent plant.

"Josie:"—I presume that your lack of success with the Calla is owing to your giving a great deal of water without having good drainage. The soil sours, and this makes the plant unhealthy, and the buds blast, in consequence. I would repot the plant, using light, rich soil, with two or three inches of drainage in the bottom of the pot. Warm the water you apply in winter—let it be as warm as you can comfortably bear on your hand. You can keep your Chrysanthemums in pots, shifting from time to time as they fill the soil with roots, or you can put them in the open ground, and pot them in September without any injury to the plants, if you soak the ground about the roots well before taking them up. If kept in pots, you must see to it that they are never allowed to get dry, as nothing does them so much harm as lack of moisture at the roots. They require a very rich soil. They will stand a tri-weekly application of manure-water and ask for more.

"Mrs. S. A. S.:"—I have never tried to grow the Hyacinth from seed, therefore cannot give you the information you ask for. The Tuberose will not bloom a second time. The small bulbs will give flowers when two years old. A rich, light, sandy soil, with plenty of warmth, suits this flower.

"Mrs. E. S. R.:"—The leaf you send is from a variety of Aucuba. It blossoms occasionally, but is grown for its foliage, its flowers being inconspicuous. The Ivy should be given a rich soil, a shady place, and be kept clean. It does not require special treatment. If it seems to grow slowly, put a spoonful of pure bone meal into the soil about its roots.

TULIP.

The bunches of Lily of the Valley roots can be planted as they are, or be divided into small portions, each one of which will eventually make strong plants if properly cared for.

I presume your Cacti will bloom the present season. I really know very little about this family of plants as I never admired them.

I use Plant Food in pot plants in winter when barn-yard manure is not obtainable. If you send 50 cents to Bowker Fertilizer Co., Boston, Mass., you will get a sample package which will enable you to test its merits fully.

"Retta:"—Hedges are made of Arbor Vitae, Red Cedar and Osage Orange. The Red Cedar is preferable, because it forms a compact mass of branches with the least amount of attention. The Balsam is too large and strong a grower for hedge purposes. Consult the advertising columns of the *American Agriculturist* or *American Garden* and you will find the addresses of dealers in evergreens.

Fumigation with Tobacco stems will kill plant lice, but the operation has to be repeated frequently. Nothing will drive the aphis away and *keep* it away.

"Harriet Wilcox:"—I can not tell why the Narcissus should blast. It must be owing to local conditions. If Ivy-leaf Geranium blossoms well while in a small pot and has not done so since being removed to the large pot, though making a vigorous growth, it is evident that it has too much room for its roots, and is stimulated into a development of branches rather than of flowers. Most Geraniums blossom best when root-bound, and small pots are preferable to large ones. When your plant has filled the soil in the 8-inch pot with roots it will very likely blossom, but not before.

"M. R. S.:"—The spotted-leaved Calla is not worth growing for its flowers, but for its foliage. If that is good, you have reason to be satisfied with your plant. You winter treatment of it was a good one. Insert cuttings of Hydrangea branches in sand, as advised above. Select branches which have not become very hard, but not the youngest growth.

"Miss P.," Glenburn:—This correspondent asks how she shall rid her lawn of Burdocks. A neighbor of mine cuts off the tops of the plant and pours on a spoonful of kerosene, and the plant never starts again. Try this.

"Mrs. M. J. W." asks about the best way to root Azaleas. I would not advise her to bother with trying to grow them from cuttings, because the process is an unsatisfactory one, generally, and now-a-days good plants can be bought very cheaply of most florists. A blooming plant of choice sorts is sold by dealers for fifty cents, and when they can be bought for that price one would be foolish to try to grow plants from cuttings.

"Maggie E. B." asks about Passion flowers, and if they are hardy. Not at the north. In the latitude of Virginia the more robust sorts might be wintered successfully if they were covered well.

"Mrs. J. H. D," asks what to do for green lice on plants. This question is asked so frequently, and so frequently answered, that it seems as if every one must know that the sovereign remedy for the pest is Tobacco, either as an infusion, or a fumigator. The latter is the most satisfactory way in which to use it. Put your infested plants in a tight box, or a small room which can be closed snugly. Put live coals in an iron pot. On these coals put a handful of coarse stems such as you can get at any cigar factory; moisten them before using, to make them give off a dense smoke, and keep them from blazing up. Leave the plants in this smoke for half an hour. Then take them out, jar the pots to loosen the hold of any insects which may be stupefied but not dead, brush off those which have fallen on the surface of the soil, to make sure that they do not recover and get on the plants again, and then syringe well with clear water.

"Miss Harcourt" asks how to care for Azaleas. They require a soil composed of peat and sharp, fine sand. If the soil at hand has considerable lime in it, it will be necessary to obtain some which is free from that element, as the Azalea will not do well in any soil containing lime. Water should be given through the growing season, in sufficient quantities to prevent the roots from ever getting dry, and the plants should be syringed all over daily. The buds from which next season's flowers are formed this season, and remain in a dormant state state till February or March, when they begin to swell, and the plant comes into bloom in spring. Care is required through the winter to prevent the dropping of the buds, but about all this care consists in is seeing that the plant never gets dry at the roots. It must be kept moist, but not wet, for too much water is about as bad as too little. Keep in a shady place until the buds begin to grow. Then give a good light. Do not keep them in a high temperature if you want them to do their best. The Calceolaria may be grown from seed, or it can be bought of the florists. I prefer to buy my plants.

"Mary G" wants to know how old a Hoya carnosa must be before it will bloom. I do not know what to tell her. I have known very young plants to bloom, and I have known plants which were six or seven years old, healthy plants which had never shown signs of blooming. As they say, sometimes, "it all depends." If your plant is growing well, let it alone, and possess your soul in patience, and sometime it will conclude to reward you for waiting by giving you fine flowers.

"E. A. B." asks why her Roses don't blossom? How am I to tell? I know nothing about the treatment she has given them. I could give no opinion that would not be pure guess-work, for I know nothing at all about the conditions under which they have been grown. If correspondents want advice about the culture of flowers which have not given satisfaction, they must tell me something about the care they have given them. Then I can understand, in many cases, what the trouble is; but when such a question is asked me as this correspondent asks, I am wholly in the dark. There may be a dozen reasons why the Roses don't bloom, but I could hardly be expected to take up valuable space by giving reasons which would fit all possible cases. Be explicit in telling how you have treated your plants, and then I may be able to tell you what you want to know, but not otherwise.

"Mrs. Wynkoop" asks in what respect the Oleander is poisonous. If you cut off a branch, or make an incision in the stalks, a sap exudes. This is said to be a deadly poison. You need not be afraid of bad results from growing it in the sitting room, if you take care to keep it out of reach of small children, who might possibly put some of its leaves into their mouths.

Some of the inquiries answered above were received weeks ago, but lack of space has prevented their receiving attention until now.

Before asking questions to be answered through the columns of the paper or by mail, be sure the information wanted has not been given in recent issues of the paper. I am always willing to answer inquiries, when the information sought has not already been given, but I do not like to repeat this month, what was said a month or two ago. If your trouble is like A, B or C's, whose questions have been answered in the paper, apply that answer to your own case. It does not require a special answer. I sometimes receive a dozen letters a day about flowers and their culture, and the task of answering them is no light one, and I quite naturally do not care to write to half-a-dozen persons when an answer to one of them, through the paper, would apply to all. This will explain why several inquiries have not received special answers. The information sought can be obtained by reading the answers given above.

Will such flower-loving readers of the HOME JOURNAL as have not already done so please send me a postal card with their name and address written on the back!—*not* a postal addressed to themselves as some have done. Simply address the card to *me*, with *their* name and address on the blank side.

EBEN E. REXFORD,

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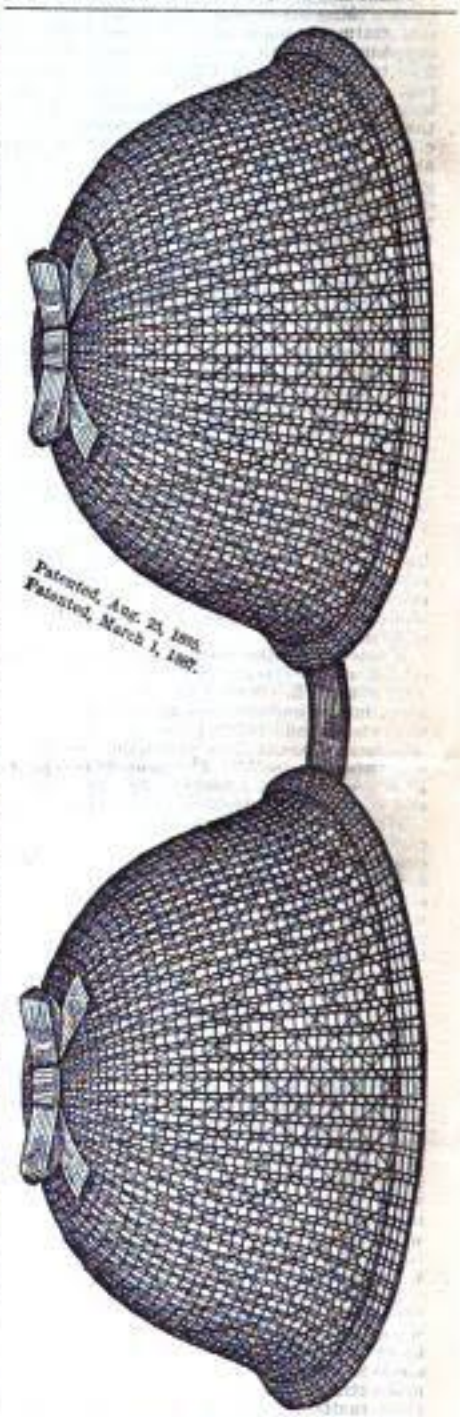

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(Written for the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

HINTS UPON ETIQUETTE AND GOOD MANNERS.

BY MRS. S. O. JOHNSON.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

"An Interested Reader:"—1st. No, you need not offer to take a young gentleman's hat, "who calls for you to go out with him."

2d. If you are ready to go when the gentleman comes you can say so.

3d. When it is time to go home from any party or place of entertainment, it is the lady's place to say to her escort, that she is desirous to return.

4th. When a gentlemen invites you to drive out, or to attend any "sociable" with him, if you desire to accept the invitation you should say: "Thank you, I should be pleased to go." If to decline, say: "Thank you, but a previous engagement obliges me to decline your invitation."

"Caprice:"—Perhaps if your surroundings were those of some of our numerous correspondents, you might not deem their questions so needless, and so unfitted for the work the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL desires to perform, viz.: the doing of the most good to the greatest number of readers throughout the length and breadth of the United States. "What is one man's meat may be another man's poison," is an old adage that holds good here. To many of our sisters the questions answered in this column may not seem so utterly "lacking in common-sense, tact and judgment," as "Caprice" imagines them to be, and doubtless give the information they require.

"Miss M.:"—1st. When a gentleman has been riding with a young lady, it is well-bred to invite him into the house, and to open the door for him to enter, upon their return.

2d. It is correct for you to say "I beg pardon" when you did not understand what was said. Do not say "What is it?" or "What?" and to say "How?" is very ill-bred.

"A Subscriber and Reader of L. H. J.:"—1st. When a gentleman calls "with a lady who does not remove her wraps," he will hold his hat in his hand, and you need not ask him to remove his top-coat. If he calls in the evening, you can say: "Won't you lay aside your coat and hat?"

2d. If a lady and gentleman come in to make a call in the evening, ask them to remove their wraps, and when they rise to leave, you can either bring them in from the hall, or take them where their wraps are placed, and assist the lady in putting on hers, but unless the gentleman is elderly, you need not help him.

3d. When introducing a lady to several ladies mention the eldest married lady's name first, and the others in rotation; or say: "Allow me to introduce my friend Miss ——." Then mention the eldest lady's name and the others. If more than one is to be introduced, say: "Mrs. ——," —selecting the eldest person present— "Allow me to introduce Mrs. ——, Miss ——, Miss ——." Then mention the other ladies names, without repeating the names of the ladies whom you are introducing, as they have already been mentioned. Age and station take priority in the introduction of ladies. In introducing gentlemen the lady's name is invariably mentioned first.

4th. Self-consciousness and diffidence can only be overcome by mingling continually in society, and exerting a studious forgetfulness of self. Do not allow your mind "to center entirely upon yourself." *Put yourself into your pocket* is the best advice that can be given you. Think of those with whom you are conversing, and select such topics as you know will be agreeable to them; not those which please you. Do not talk about yourself, your *aches* and *ills*, your wishes, desires, and aspirations; but let your visitors tell you their trials, troubles and tribulations, and sympathize with them with all your heart, and then they will go away thinking: "What a charming person is Miss Blank!" and in soothing others' woes, you will forget yourself, and thereby learn a lesson in subduing your shyness. If you weary of the constant topics your visitors introduce—of dress, illness, and the trials of servants—and desire a higher standard of conversation, when you have overcome your self-consciousness, in a degree, you will be able to introduce it, and to talk upon books and science and kindred topics. But you must guage your conversation somewhat to the level of your companions, and not talk above their heads. Time will conquer your troubles. Answers to questions can never be given in next issue of L. H. J., as it will have gone to press before they are received.

"A Perplexed One:"—1st. It is considered polite to keep the plate, passed to you by your host, and not to pass it to another.

2d. When a young gentleman escorts a young lady home from a place of entertainment, it is well-bred to say "Thank you, I shall be pleased to have you call some evening." As you are a stranger, boarding in the town, you can give the invitation to call yourself, but it should usually be given by the mother or father of the young lady.

3d. You should say "Thank you," when accepting an invitation to go to supper with a young man, at a festival or any gathering. If you desire to decline the civility, say: "Thank you, but I have a previous engagement." After taking supper you can say: "Thank you," or "I have had a very pleasant time." Young ladies should not be too chary of their thanks to gentlemen who show them little attentions, yet they should also take care not to be too "gushing" in their expressions. A happy medium is always desirable.

"M. L.:"—After making a new acquaintance, *i. e.* calling upon a lady to whom you have been introduced, and who has asked you to call, there is no exact rule to be given concerning who should give the first invitations to dinner or tea. But if you are a new resident in a town, it is not your place to invite those whom you meet socially, until they have called upon you, and invited you to their homes. The stranger never takes the initiative in paying such attentions, but should wait till she has received them, from those who desire her acquaintance. It is hardly possible to say which is the best book upon etiquette. *Harper's Bazar* "Book of Decorum" is very good, also, Mrs. J. H. Sherwood's work on "Social Usages."

"Mrs. K. Sawyer:"—Cards for the announcement of the birth of a baby, should be sent to intimate friends as soon as possible after the birth of a child. It is a pretty custom to procure some tiny cards—two inches by one-and-a-half in size—and to write the baby's name upon it, and enclose with the cards, to relatives and friends.

"Ignoramus:"—If you are the eldest sister, you have a right to the surname of the family, therefore, when introducing your younger sisters to a friend, you can say: "Miss Augusta, Miss Minerva," without mentioning the surname.

"Inexperience"—1st: At any festive gathering, when your escort offers you ice-cream, etc., you should say "Thank you," in reply to the offer, and after partaking of the refreshments you can say: "Thank you, I have enjoyed them highly," or simply "Thank you."

2d. It is allowable to accept fruits and flowers from a young man, but not more expensive or lasting objects, unless you desire to give encouragement to them. No man expects presents in return for an offering of fruits and flowers.

3d. If you are not engaged to a young man you are at liberty to receive general attentions from other young men.

4th. A suitable birthday gift for a young man would be something of your own handiwork—such as a broom-case, or a handkerchief-case and some handkerchiefs embroidered with his initials.

5th. You must search the books which contain suitable verses for autograph albums, as they are not in our line.

"Lena:"—The greeting "How's the day?" is not good English, but means the same as "How d'ye do?" and you can reply, "Thank you, quite well," or "Good-morning" will be sufficient answer.

"A New Subscriber:"—1st. "A very bashful and timid young lady, who does not attend society because she fears she shall do or say something wrong," can conquer her timidity by striving not to be too conscious of herself, and by observing what others do and say, and maintaining a cheerful and pleasing expression, and not looking sullen and gloomy. Self-consciousness arises from thinking too much of yourself. Think of others, and strive to do and say things that will add to their comfort and pleasure, and you will soon feel at ease in society, and make many friends.

2d. After being introduced to a stranger, if you feel diffident and shy, say something about the surroundings that will draw out conversation from the other party. The weather is a hackneyed subject, yet it always leads to others more interesting. Exact rules for conversation cannot be laid down for general or private use—but always bear in mind, that it is your duty to make yourself pleasing to others, and to let them talk upon what is agreeable to them, and to show an interest in what they say. An unselfish heart, and a warm interest in the trials, troubles and tribulations of others will make you popular in any society.

3d. It is difficult to give directions for "acquiring the art of conversation," because it is either an inherited gift which must be cultivated, or it comes from high culture and long exercise of one's talents, and it is decidedly one of the fine arts of society. To be a good talker—*i. e.*, one that can also listen—as well as converse well, is an accomplishment which will give its possessor an entrance into any society. Self-muse is a decided enemy to its acquisition, but unselfishness, and an innate desire to please, are very advantageous to it.

4th. Read the current literature of the day—biography, travels, light literature, and fill your mind with topics upon which you can converse readily. Also memorize anecdotes—both comic and serious—which you can relate for the amusement of others. Conundrums, epitaphs, etc., are all pleasing recitations in mixed society. Cultivate your intellect highly and you will then have an inexhaustible bank upon which to draw for subjects for conversation. Without this culture no one can converse well.

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Corsets, $1.00, $1.50, $2.00, $3.00. Belts $3.00. Nursing Corset Price, $1.50. Abdominal Corset, Price, $3.00.

Probably, never since the invention of Corsets, has so large a demand been created as now exists for Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets and Belts. Over three thousand families in the City of New York alone are now wearing them daily. Every Man and Woman, well or ill, should daily wear either the Corset or Belt.

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THE CELEBRATED DR. W. A. HAMMOND, of New York, formerly Surgeon-General of the U. S. Army, lately lectured upon this subject, and advised all medical men to make trial of these agencies, describing at the same time most remarkable cures he had made, even in cases which would seem hopeless.

The Corsets do not differ in appearance from those usually worn; we substitute our flat steel magnetoids in place of the ordinary corset steels. These Corsets are nearly all equally charged, differing chiefly in quality and design. They are elegant in shape and finish, made after the best French pattern, and warranted satisfactory in every respect. Our Belts for both gents and ladies are the genuine Dr. Scott's, and are reliable.

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Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets have entirely cured me of muscular rheumatism and female troubles of many years standing, and also of a severe case of headache. MRS. L. C. SPENCER.

MENTION THIS PAPER.

N. B.—Each article is stamped with the English coat-of-arms, and the names of the Proprietors, THE PALL MALL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION.

Trinity Springs, Ind., Jan. 31st, 1887.

Dr. Scott—My wife has suffered acutely from Dyspepsia for 20 years. She has worn one of your Electric Corsets for four weeks and is greatly benefited in her appetite and digestion, and has gained considerably in flesh. My wife desires an agency in our community. Please send terms. (Rev'd) ISAAC CARUTHERS, Baptist Minister.

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Memphis, Tennessee.

Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets have given me much relief. I suffered four years with breast trouble, without finding any benefit from other remedies. They are invaluable. MRS. JAS. CAMPBELL.

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South Abington, Mass.

Dr. Scott—My sister and I are very much pleased with your Electric Corsets. They have given us great satisfaction. For weak stomach and nervousness they are unexcelled. I have felt uncommonly well since wearing them, and can confidently recommend them. FLORA E. COLE.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

SOME HINTS ON MONEY MAKING.

BY ELLA RODMAN CHURCH.

VIII.

These papers on a subject which, judging from the numerous letters received by the writer, seems to be one of very general interest, must roam in a somewhat desultory way over topics now connected with the country, and now with the city,—in order to meet the desires of the anxious inquirers who are scattered in towns, cities, villages, and farm houses.

One of the latest communications of this nature, is from New York city and fairly bristles with interrogation points. The writer wishes to know what encouragement their is for *shopping on commission*, what commission is paid, how one should go to work to obtain customers etc.,—to all of which we would reply, as kindly as possible do, not undertake it, *unless* you have exceptional gifts and opportunities.

Did you ever read the list of shoppers in most of the popular papers? And did it not strike you that a great number of people were longer to buy things for every one else? Frequently in these advertisements there is the clause, "No charge, to purchasers,"—showing that strong competition in a promising field has produced the usual result of greater supply than demand. The field has been promising, and there are workers engaged in it now who make a fair living by it; but the large stores have roused up against the innovations of a middle party in buying and selling, and offer such advantages, with catalogues and ready samples to purchasers at a distance in shopping by mail, that many of the latter prefer to make their own selections in this way.

The origin of this unique employment is quite interesting; and may be traced to a certain story, called "Shopping by Proxy," which appeared, twelve or thirteen years ago, in a leading periodical. The story as a story was absurd: the heroine, a fashionable girl, leaving her family in consequence of reverses, and taking a room by herself to carry out a sudden inspiration that came to her. This inspiration was the idea of offering her services to the public as a general purchaser; and having all the force of originality, it was crowned with success.

Mademoiselle's first advertisement brought such a stack of answers that the letter-carrier was quite embarassed, and the young lady herself was not a little amazed. But this was just what she wanted, and promptly and efficiently she set about executing her commissions. They continued to pour in, and the empty coffers were getting filled. The story ended by leaving the hero and heroine in a state of felicity, with a large and prosperous millinery establishment on their hands; with the appendix of a regular bureau for shopping.

A great many facts grew out of this fiction: and one of the very first results was that a young lady, with a clear head for business and great natural taste to whom the routine of school-teaching had become irksome, speedily decided that here was a field for the exercise of her special talents which offered more congenial employment and better remuneration. She occupied the ground without delay; and having no rival, success was assured. Custom flowed in from the very first; and the miscellaneous contents of a country store were nothing in comparison with the large and varied assortment of articles which were at once demanded in all parts of the country.

Miss H—— continued the business, which she had inaugurated under every advantage, for a number of years,—retiring finally with a handsome independence. But she left several imitators following in the road where she had broken ground for them; while numerous establishments had added to their ordinary business "a supply department." Fashion mothlies, etc., especially took this up; and a lady, who supplied the latest fashions for one of these periodicals and attended to the shopping, was said to have made $100 a month by the latter employment alone. But these receipts fell off, as did that of other shoppers, with the increase of competition and the numerous advantages offered by merchants for shopping at a distance.

Sometimes this shopping on commission, especially when conducted by those who have merchandise to dispose of, is managed with a single eye to the advantage of those who are engaged in it, and to the disadvantage of the customer. An estimable lady who held a position of trust in such an establishment and whose business it was to answer the letters that were received, was so utterly shocked by the lack of conscientiousness displayed by the firm in sending flimsy, undesirable goods to persons at a distance for the price of first-class articles, that she left them in disgust to become a shopper on her own responsibility.

Mrs. D. achieved success in having plenty of orders,—but her extreme conscientiousness has prevented her from retiring, in late middle life, with even a competency. She charges customers exactly what she pays herself on all occasions, excepting the small commission that is allowed her; and yet she is frequently told by the salesmen of agents who coolly change the prices of goods before their very eyes, making from thirty to fifty per cent in this way. Some, too, on receiving an order for a handsome bonnet, will go to work and make it themselves, or have it made, in the family,—the first effort, perhaps, of a "prentice hand"—and the money thus saved passes into the pocket of the agent. If the same quality of work as that turned out by a first-class milliner could be achieved in this way, the transaction would have an entirely different aspect; but lamentable failure and dissatisfied customers are too often the result.

The letters of exasperated patrons who have parted with their substance for such poor returns are not usually of a soothing nature; and so reckless are angry people who feel defrauded, in the application of terms not generally supposed to be complimentary, that the condition of the offending party seems sufficiently unenviable to prevent any but the most careful dealings. There are those, however, who do not mind explosions on paper, and who entirely disregard angry remonstrance addressed to them from a distance. Then again there are customers so ignorant of the quality of articles, and so utterly unreasonable in their ideas of what may be accomplished with a small sum of money, that a letter filled with abuse often rewards the patient labor of a conscientious and pains-taking shopper.

Such a case as this was lately brought under the notice of the writer; and those who propose to enter the already crowded ranks, must be prepared to encounter many disagreeables, and not a few startling surprises. As to the questions asked by the correspondent quoted at the beginning of this article; there is little or no encouragement,—the commission paid by the stores is five or six per cent,—and obtaining customers may be done in various ways. Advertising seems the most direct method; but previously, an attractive circular, stating clearly just what the advertiser is capable of doing, and leaving no room for misunderstanding, should be prepared. The expense of this circular, with particularly nice paper, need not exceed $4.00 for five hundred and even less by the thousand.

Sometimes, a person retiring from a similar enterprise will sell a desirable list of names, and these are quite worth buying at any reasonable price,—if one can be sure of the seller. Many circulars mailed in this way are never heard of again; yet it would pay to send out a thousand if only a few were productive. Besides, one has to take risks in any kind of business; and there are as few, perhaps, in this as in any other. Large cities are not likely to yield many returns, as money in such places will obtain nearly everything that is needed; but country towns furnish valuable customers who, with abundant means, are often glad to secure the services of a city resident.

It is quite necessary, however, that in order to succeed among the most desirable class, the shopper on commission should be an educated lady, capable of sending out a well-written letter; and also that she should have some well-known names among her references. It will pay her better to purchase only at the best establishments; and in executing orders for dresses, bonnets, etc., the slightest chance of a misfit, or a carelessly finished piece of work, should be scrupulously avoided. Lessening the profits is not so serious a matter as losing customers; and where competition abounds, the only avenue to success is to do better than one's rivals.

A certain Miss G——, who entered the shopping field some years ago, and retired from it to be married, with a very comfortable sum of money in hand, had a method of her own that was highly appreciated. With comfortable headquarters in a large city, she visited various country towns at those seasons of the year when people's thoughts naturally turn to clothes; and on her arrival in a place, she established herself at the best hotel, and caused it to be announced in the papers that Miss G—— was prepared to receive the ladies of the town at her rooms. A constant stream of femininity availed itself of the privilege, and discussed patterns and materials from sunny morn until dewy eve,—while the neat order-book filled up rapidly. Certain costumes complete would cost so much; a bonnet like the charming one displayed but possibly of a different color, or with flowers instead of feathers, could be had for a moderate consideration. There were sample garments and samples of dress goods; also, boxes of dainty belongings not attainable except at the best city stores.

Blake Mills seemed, as it were, to run riot over Miss G——. The grandee of the place, an extensive specimen of womanhood, with a purse as ample as her person, took kindly to her at once—Miss G—— having presented her with a letter of introduction from a mutual friend—and from that time her popularity was established. Mrs. S—— spoke of her as "æsthetic in her ideas of dress,"—and forthwith, Blake's Mills was bent on æsthetic toilets. The shop-keepers and dressmakers groaned as the stream poured steadily onward to Miss G——'s receptions; but there was no redress; and the enterprising and really gifted lady reaped an abundant harvest. It was distinctly set forth that she was not a dressmaker but an "artist,"—and the idea took amazingly.

What visitors saw when, like so many eager flies, they entered the parlor that was literally "up a winding stair," was a rather handsome, stylish-looking lady, quietly but admirably dressed in a somewhat different way from what they had ever seen before; and her manner at once convinced them that she thoroughly understood herself and the subject in hand. Her artistic gift showed itself in the glamor she had cast over the bare hotel room by a skilful draping of inexpensive materials, the use of flowers, rubber-cushions easily collapsed and stowed in a trunk but covered now with odds and ends of beautiful goods, one or two cheap but pretty rugs, and the various etceterns that a woman of taste can so easily collect with small expenditure. Miss G—— was quite aware of the value of this background; and people who saw themselves for the first time in a mirror with the becoming glow from "old-pink" draperies, began to think that there were possibilities for them in dress which their philosophy had never dreamed of.

Numerous orders were taken for costumes that were to be "perfect poems;" and to do Miss G—— justice, she conscientiously fulfilled all that she promised, at rates which gave her a handsome profit and yet were not a drain on the purses of her customers. No one was defrauded, or led into an extravagance which had not been contemplated; and an assistant who did the fitting was so exact in her measurements, than an alteration was never needed. Miss G——, on her return to the city bought every article that was required, receiving, of course, her profit from the merchants—and then placed the costumes in the hands of competent dressmakers to be fashioned according to her directions. Search had discovered, what is not difficult to find in a large city, a young woman who had learned the millinery trade in a very stylish establishment, and who turned out in her modest home exquisite bonnets at about one-third the price of Madame's; and this deft worker put Miss G——'s pretty designs into practical shape, in a manner that was highly satisfactory to the patrons at Blake's Mills.

Miss G—— laughingly said that her strong point was *rucking*. She carried quantities of it with her, and bought it almost by the ton: rucking of all kinds and prices, and it sold so fast that womankind seemed to have gone daft upon the subject. Then she had beautiful handkerchiefs and exquisite stockings, magnificent lace, specimens of real and rolled-gold jewelry of very unique designs: everything, in fact, that could possibly be needed to complete a lady's toilet. To all these attractive articles were added a few others that added greatly to the list of profits, and that were the result of constant inquiry and solicitation.

These would come under the head of cosmetics: but they were entirely different from the articles usually vended under that name, being made from private recipes and perfectly harmless materials. Moreover, they really did all that was claimed for them,—as they did not profess to make people "perfectly beautiful," nor to restore the gray hair of age to its natural color; but the cleansing and freshening wash for the face acted on sanitary principles and really brought a tinge of color to pallid cheeks, while the preparation for the hair cleansed and beautified it very perceptibly. Miss G—— prepared these herself in the most careful manner, and they were so highly appreciated, that she was constantly called upon by correspondents to supply others. She could have done an excellent business in this line alone; and as the recipes were her own private property, she found them quite a valuable source of income.

Besides all these advantages, the great secret of Miss G——'s success was her conscientious care to fulfil all contracts to the very letter, and thus leave not the slightest occasion for complaint; in her entire career, which extended over a period of eight or ten years, she never received a letter that was otherwise than pleasant. One shopping agent, and a very successful one, too, whose ideas were decidedly of the extravagant order, frequently spent a sum of money sent for the purchase of two or three different articles on one,—volunteering no excuse but that the money did not hold out! The article would be handsome and selected with excellent taste, but the customer could ill afford the expense. Miss G—— never committed such breaches of trust,—doing the best she could with the money sent her. If the amount seemed totally inadequate to the expenditure involved, she would take the trouble to write and explain the state of the case,—representing the advantages of getting a good article in place of a poor one—and then await further orders.

This lady both achieved and deserved exceptional success; and those who pursue her methods, provided they have her natural gifts, will probably meet with a satisfactory measure of her good fortune. She has a successor, although not an imitator, as she has a distinct genius and method of her own, in one of our largest cities; and this lady even goes beyond Miss G—— in the higher branches of her profession. She dresses her customers thoroughly as only an artist can,—carefully studying their various points and capabilities first,—and the result is a pleasant surprise. Her name is little known to the general public, as she rarely advertises, preferring to carry on her profession of personal improvement through a *clientèle*; but with Miss G——'s valuable recipes in her hands, and her great natural taste, she should in the end achieve even greater success.

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(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

TALKS WITH MOTHERS, BY EMINENT PHYSICIANS.

EAR TROUBLES.

BY FRANK FISHER, M. D.

Of all the vast number of impressions that fill the store-house of the brain, a large portion is derived from the sense of sound. Impressions that remain indelibly fixed in the mind, recalled by the subtle faculty we know as memory to stir us with pain, happiness or pride, to touch the tender chords of sympathy, to respite the soul from the daily disappointments and annoyances of life by awakening the pleasures of the past, or painting bright pictures in the future, are registered by the hearing. Of the five senses, hearing is one of the most enjoyed, and its loss is contemplated with keenest dread by all who know its benefits. Every mother with acute sense of sound, has pitied the condition of the deaf, or bewailed her misfortune at giving birth to a deaf child, yet how few mothers will think earache as grave a symptom as loss of appetite in her child. The ear,—the special organ of the sense of sound, is deserving of some attentive consideration, particularly since it has been so much neglected.

Nature has most wisely provided protection for every delicate structure in the human frame. The ear is not excepted. Nature has placed it at the side of the head, and encased it in the firmest and hardest bone of the skull, and the one least subject to injury; and provided a long canal which must be traversed by whatever would inflict harm from without. But by providing these protections for the ear, nature did not mean to release us from all responsibility of its care, nor furnish it with immunity from accident and disease.

The construction of the ear seems to be divided into three parts which are appropriately termed the outer, middle, and inner ears. The auricle (which projects from the side of the head) and the auditory canal, which are external to the drum membrane, comprise the outer ear. The middle ear is contained in the temporal bone. It is an air chamber behind the drum, contains three small bones and has an outlet into the pharynx at the back part of the nose. This opening prevents bursting of the drum and preserves equal pressure and ventilation.

As troubles of the inner ear rarely manifest themselves externally, we will regard only those of the outer and middle ear. At birth the child's ears should be perfectly cleansed and carefully inspected for deformity, by physician and midwife. Thereafter washing with a fine towel over the finger will suffice. Conditions of lack of tone in the system—such as the recovery from the prostration of the fevers of childhood—give rise to eruptions and boils. Such frequently occur in the ear. The formation of a boil, or furuncle in the canal, is what is familiarly known as "gathering in the head." The swelling often completely closes the canal and extends to the side of the face and down on the neck. Beating, throbbing pain is constant. A few days is required for the furuncle to run its course, terminating in breaking and more or less discharge. Free discharge affords almost immediate relief, but there is likely to be a recurrence, sometimes to the extent of half-a-dozen in a few weeks. The danger from furuncles is that the great swelling may damage the drum membrane or break through it, into the middle ear. In children, the most alarming feature of this condition is the pain, for which everybody has something to recommend;—various forms of drops, poultices, etc. A simple method of dealing with the trouble is to apply, not poultices but hot fomentations. In many cases a few will relieve the pain, and by hastening the discharge of matter, accomplish a cure. Laudanum sprinkled in small quantity upon the hot cloth, before applied may alleviate pain when heat alone will not. To apply the fomentation—wring a cloth out of water as hot as can be borne, and apply over the part; reapply every half minute or so, for five to fifteen minutes. Repeat in two hours, keeping the ear warm meanwhile.

Located in the skin of the canal, is a large number of little glands, constantly giving off a secretion—the ear wax—which keeps the skin soft and pliant. This secretion, lying in a thin layer on the skin and constantly forming, moves slowly toward the outer end of the canal and needs no special attention—in fact is better let entirely alone, save to wipe away what reaches the auricle. The rolled end of a towel or a stick tipped with sponge is used to remove fancied excess of wax, but often instead of evacuating it the effect is to push it back upon itself, until finally the whole canal is blocked. Use of the ear scoop is ill advised from the fact that the skin is rudly abraded and scraped off. From too free secretion, or unnatural hardening of wax, the passageway occasionally becomes blocked. Attention is drawn to this by partial or complete deafness. When the accumulation is far into the canal, only experienced hands should be allowed to deal with it. Even where known to be wax, and seen near the outer end of the tube, it should be handled carefully, not poked and scraped out, but softened and removed by the syringe.

Children sometimes acquire the notion of hiding away small objects about their person, and the natural orifices of the body present convenient receptacles. Into the mouth, nose, ears and even into the eyes are thrust foreign substances of various size, not always small. Endeavors to mystify companions by imitating illusions, such as appearing to put a button or bean into one ear and withdrawing it from the other, has caused much and grave trouble. The object slips beyond the grasp and becomes impacted in the canal. Often the child from fright or dread of punishment says nothing about it till pain makes it necessary. Sometimes, unless the bean or button fills the canal so tightly as to cause deafness, the child forgets the occurrence, and wears it in the ear for a long time,—finally wax accumulating behind it, and pressing against the drum membrane, produces intense pain, and draws attention to the forgotten cause. If it happens that the substance cannot be removed by the syringe, the case must be placed in care of a competent physician. Most baneful results may ensue from working and pushing at such a thing as a round button in the ear, for the surface being round and smooth, resists the hold of pointed sticks, ear scoops, etc., and is forced bodily into the middle ear. Hard plugs of wax will act in the same way as a foreign substance. Pencils and penholders are sometimes thrust into the ears of children by their playmates, doing irreparable damage to the drum and middle ear:—accidents of this kind require skilled treatment.

A frequent cause of trouble to children an adults alike, is the presence of insects in the ear. Flies, ticks, beetles, roaches, find their way into the canal. The noise of their wings—the movements of their legs and wings against the drum—the fastening of their claws and tentacles into the drum, cause the most violent distress. When the bug cannot be seen and withdrawn from the orifice, it may be removed by filling the ear with sweet oil. With the head to the opposite side, straighten the canal by drawing the auricle upward and backward and pour in slowly. The oil first covers the drum and the canal is filled from the bottom. The bug rises to the top, is removed and the oil washed off. If the bug has made fast, the oil kills it by suffocation, and the syringe does the balance. Oil poured rapidly into the ear will leave an air space at the drum. To escape from the oil behind, the bug will frequently attack and bore through the drum.

Continual foul discharges from the ear are usually due to disease of or injury to the middle ear in which the drum has been partly or wholly destroyed. Scarlet fever, measles, etc., leave this form of trouble in their wake. Of all the affections of the ear, these chronic discharges are the most annoying, persistent and discouraging. As a foul ear is a disagreeable companion, it ought to be remedied as early as possible by good advice and thorough treatment. A popular fallacy is to the effect that it should be let alone for "if healed it will break out elsewhere." This is not a fact, and no one should permit a child to grow up with a running ear, without proper effort to relieve it.

A common complaint is from deafness accompanying fresh colds or even old catarrh. The cause is that inflammation in the throat extends to and blocks up the tube leading into the middle ear. When the blocking is removed hearing is restored—often with a loud snap. This tube must be free and open for perfect hearing, therefore do not neglect deafness of this kind, but as the seat of trouble is in the throat, have that part looked after.

Compressed air, (such as found in tunnelling, etc.,) and rarified air (encountered at high altitudes,) may cause rupture of the drum, inward or outward. A precaution against this is to have the nose clear and keep the mouth partly open so, that there will be equal pressure on each side of the drum.

Shock of water against the drum experienced from the breakers in ocean bathing, becomes to some a matter of serious moment from the inflammation that ensues. Persons with sensitive ears should wear a piece of cotton in each ear while bathing in the surf,—to be removed upon leaving the water.

Use of a syringe. Perpetual syringing is to be deprecated and though employed as rarely as possible the syringe should be properly used. The ordinary glass "ear syringe" is worthless. The best is of hard rubber, holding one or two ounces and of such pattern as can be worked with one hand. The nozzle not too thin and not over ¾ inch long. The point to be well rounded and smooth. With the syringe filled with warm water—never cold—in one hand, with the other hand grasp the upper part of the auricle and draw firmly upward and backward. Insert the nozzle half its length into the canal, directing the point downward. Force out the water gently at first, to avoid shock, and be careful that the water strike first upon the floor of the canal. The head to be erect or nearly so during the process. Never force water straight into the ear. If the object be to remove a hard plug of wax, the syringing may have to be repeated daily for some days, a small portion of it coming away each time. In cases of foul discharge, where treatment is not accessible, syringing will preserve a comparative cleanliness, but will seldom of itself effect a cure. When possible the syringe is to be applied by a second person.

The careless and thoughtless manner of handling the ear, and of administering punishment upon the ear, deserves a word. Let "boxing the ears" be abandoned. The force of the hand against the column of air contained in the canal, has often caused rupture of the drum or forced the whole drum into the middle ear. The same thing has resulted from the foolish habit of lifting children by the head, with a hand placed on each side. This is termed "letting the child see London"—but the child is better off without such sight of the great city. Pulling and twisting the ears for punishment, is as cruel as it is thoughtless.

And finally a strong word of protest against what is a common thing in some localities, *i. e.* that of piercing the ears and keeping them sore, for the purpose of curing sore eyes. It is a bad practice, resulting in no permanent benefit, and simply inflicts upon the child already suffering with sore eyes, the double torture of painful ears.

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BRADLEY HANDY WAGON

The Best on Wheels. Light, strong, convenient and low priced. **Handy** to get into and out of. **Handy** for single horse or pair. **Handy** for one person or more. **Handy** to load or unload. *Send for Free Circular, "How to purchase direct from the manufacturer."*

BRADLEY & CO. SYRACUSE, N. Y.
63 Murray St., N. Y., 22 S. Market St. Boston.

BUY THE WRINGER THAT SAVES THE MOST LABOR

OR PURCHASE GEAR Saves half the labor of other wringers, and costs but little more.

EMPIRE Does not GREASE The CLOTHES.

Solid White Rubber Rolls. Warranted. Agents wanted everywhere. Empire W. Co., Auburn, N. Y.

ESTABLISHED 1801.

Barry's Tricopherous FOR THE HAIR.

The Oldest and the Best.

Exquisitely perfumed. Removes all impurities from the scalp, prevents baldness and causes the hair to grow Thick, Soft and Beautiful.

FREE Samples beautifully colored Rug Patterns to introduce. Send 10c. for postage and packing, to GIBBS MFG. CO., Chicago, Ill. Agents Wanted.

NEW STAMPING OUTFIT FREE!

The **Ladies' World** is a mammoth 16-page, 64-column illustrated paper, devoted to stories, poetry, ladies' fancy work, artistic needlework, home decoration, housekeeping, fashions, hygiene, juvenile reading, etiquette, etc., etc. Its publishers, wishing to introduce it into thousands of homes where it is not already taken, now make the following unprecedented offer: Upon receipt of only **Thirty Cents,** we will send **The Ladies' World** *for* **Six Months,** and to every subscriber we will also send, **Free** and postpaid, a new and valuable **Stamping Outfit,** containing the following patterns: 1 set Initials, 1¼ in. high, 1 Dancing Girl, 9 in. high, 1 Running Boy, 7 in. high, 1 spray Daisies, 5 in. high, 1 bunch Roses, 4½ in. high, 1 cluster Apple Blossoms, 3 x 4 in., 1 Owl on branch, 4½ in. high, 1 bunch Peaches, 1 cluster Daisies, 1 spray Wheat, 1 spray Morning Glories, 1 Calla Lily, 1 bunch Forget-Me-Nots, 1 Rosebud with leaves, 1 spray Pansies, 1 spray Bachelor's Button with grasses, 1 Pink, 1 Day Lily with bud and foliage, 1 spray Vines, 1 bunch Daisies, 1 Japanese Bird with leaves, 1 Fat Boy (comic), 1 cluster Forget-Me-Nots, 1 Pansy, 1 spray Daisies, 1 Star Flower, 1 spray Spanish Rose, 1 Outline Design, 1 Vine, 4 patterns for flannel embroidery and 3 smaller designs for Crazy Patchwork, making in all 36 Elegant Patterns, worth at retail from 5 to 10 cents each, and 1 Complete Alphabet worth 15 cents, also 1 box best Powder, Etc., 1 Improved Distributor, 10c., and 1 Complete Book of Instructions, 10c. Remember, we give the entire Outfit described above *free* to every one sending 30 cents for a six-months' subscription to our paper. This Outfit is entirely new, and must not be confounded with the cheap catchpenny affairs advertised by others. Six subscriptions and six Outfits will be sent for $1.50. Do not miss this chance! *Satisfaction guaranteed.* As to our reliability, we refer to any publisher in New York. Address,

S. H. MOORE & CO., 27 Park Place, New York.

I WANT AGENTS TO SELL THE MISSOURI STEAM WASHER

To men or women of energy and ability, liberal terms will be given. It works on a new principle, which saves labor and clothing enormously.

Sample on two weeks' trial on liberal terms.

$600 to $2,000 a year is being made by competent, ability agents. Intrinsic merit making it a phenomenal success everywhere. Illustrated circulars free.

J. W. WORTH, SOLE MFR. 17th & Franklin Av. ST. LOUIS, MO. Or Box 1933 New York City.

LADIES Enamel your Ranges twice a year, tops once a week and you have the finest polished stove in the world. For sale by all Grocers and Stove Dealers.

PHONOGRAPHY OR PHONETIC SHORT HAND

Self-taught. Send for Catalog. Address The Phonographic Institute, Cincinnati.

DRESSMAKING FREE! Our Mammoth Illustrated Circular; invaluable to dressmakers and all ladies. Add., Roos Music Scale Co., Quincy, Illinois.

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Take Your Choice BUT DON'T

Make a mistake and get "mixed" over our offers.

☞ You will notice in the following pages *two offers* for each premium; one is for yearly subscribers, at 50 cents each, and the other is for 4 months trial subscribers at 10 cents each. You can take your choice, sending us clubs of trial subscribers or of yearly subscribers, as you prefer. Each offer is distinct from the other, is distinctly explained, and they do not conflict.

DECORATE YOUR HOME !

It will cost you nothing

For a few handsome TIDIES if you will take the trouble to influence a few neighbors to try the JOURNAL for four months at 10 cents each.

These Tidies Will be Given FREE This Month

To any woman sending us only 5 trial subscribers. Just show your copy of the JOURNAL to 5 neighbors and see how easy you can get 10 cents from them for a trial. We will send you sample copies to use if you like.

TIDIES STAMPED READY TO BE WORKED.

GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 2 SUBSCRIBERS, AT 50 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.

These Elegant Tidies are 14x18 inches in size, are made of the very best quality of Felt, and the same as are sold in the stores at from 40c. to 50c. each. You can select the color of felt you like, and have it stamped with any design you wish, either for Kensington or Outline, or Ribbon embroidery, all ready to be embroidered.

With these Tidies we give also, a book, which teaches the stitches used in art embroidery,—giving such clear and explicit descriptions as to be easily understood; and also a lesson in Kensington and Lustra painting.

We will send one of these Tidies and the book of stitches, for a club of only 2 new subscribers or 35 cents.

JUST AS GOOD AS GOLD !

No high-priced watch can keep any better time than a Waterbury.

THIS WATCH GIVEN FREE TO ANY BOY

Who will send us 50 Trial Subscribers at 10 cents each, THIS MONTH.

Any bright boy can find 50 women in an hours time, among his neighbors and mother's friends who will cheerfully pay him 10 cents for a four months trial subscription. Send for sample copies and distribute them all over the neighborhood, and you will find no trouble in getting a ten-cent subscription from every woman you call upon. They all want a good domestic journal, and ten cts. is so small a sum of money that even the poorest can afford it, and *all* will be glad of the chance to get it four whole months for so little money. Why, boys! you can pick up a *hundred* just as easy as fifty, and earn quite a number of premiums.

A GOOD WATCH FOR THE BOYS !

A GOOD, RELIABLE TIME-KEEPER, WARRANTED BY US THOROUGHLY FIRST-CLASS IN EVERY RESPECT.

THIS WATCH WILL BE GIVEN AS A FREE PRESENT to any boy sending us 50 ten-cent trial subscribers.

[FACE.]

[ELEGANT NEW BACK.]

THE WATERBURY WATCH is a stem-winder, and will run 28 hours. The case is *Nickel-Silver*, and will always remain as bright as a new silver dollar. The watch has a heavy beveled edge, and crystal face. The works of the Watch are made with the finest automatic machinery. Every Watch is *Tested* in varying positions and is perfect before leaving the factory. Each watch is put up in a handsome new improved *Satin-lined* case, for safe transportation through the mails.

So well-known have these watches become, thousands buying them in preference to higher-priced watches. The Company are now making 1,000 watches each day, an average of 1⅔ watches per minute.

This watch is thoroughly reliable, and will keep just as good time as any watch costing $40 or $50. If parents could only understand how this watch is made, and that it is really just as good a time-keeper as any costly watch, the company would not be able to supply the demand. Boys, you will find this a valuable premium, well worth working for.

Any bright boy can secure 50 subscribers in a day. Just show the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL to the ladies, and no one will refuse you 10 cents to try it 4 months.

Begin at once; use this paper for a sample copy, and send us a postal card for as many more as you can use.

OUR BEST AND MOST POPULAR PREMIUM OF ALL !

OUR OWN SPECIAL

Embroidery Stamping Outfit

Will be given this month to any lady sending us only 5 Trial Subscribers at 10 cents each.

This is THE BEST Outfit ever made, and can be had ONLY from us. What will cost you $1.00 elsewhere is far inferior to our own special outfit. Mrs. Knapp, our editor says: "It is the best at ANY price."

IT IS FREE THIS MONTH !

TO ANY WOMAN SENDING US ONLY 5 TRIAL SUBSCRIBERS AT 10 CENTS EACH.

Such an Inducement as This

OUGHT TO GIVE US ONE MILLION SUBSCRIBERS !

FREE TO ANY WOMAN WHO WILL SEND US ONLY 2 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS PER YEAR EACH, or, if prefered we will send it free, for only 4 subscribers for 6 MONTHS at 25 cents each.

Given to the Philadelphia LADIES' HOME JOURNAL Subscribers Only !

Designed under the supervision of Mrs. Louisa Knapp, Editor of the Philadelphia LADIES' HOME JOURNAL AND PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER, Expressly for the Subscribers of that paper.

A Woman Knows What a Woman Wants.

We feel sure that the ladies of this country have had enough of the Outfits containing only small patterns, and that they will appreciate an Outfit in which every pattern is made for practical use. With this idea in view, Mrs. Louisa Knapp, editor of THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, has designed an Outfit which will meet this long-felt want, and which is worth for real use, **DOUBLE ANY $1.00 OUTFIT** heretofore offered by us or by any other party in the country.

We are well aware that this Outfit contains a less number of patterns than those described in **FLASH ADVERTISEMENTS**, but the aim has been to produce an Outfit **EVERY PATTERN OF WHICH WILL BE USED**, instead of having an immense number of worthless bugs and butterflies, so crowded together as to render them entirely useless.

THIS OUTFIT CONTAINS NO TRASH !!

Mrs. Knapp has discarded the tidy, silks, needles, etc., and has put the **ENTIRE VALUE INTO THE PATTERNS**, adding only a box of powder, distributor and book of instruction.

The Outfit comprises patterns for every branch of needlework and flower painting, and **EVERY PATTERN IS THE FULL WORKING SIZE.**

The several Flannel Skirt patterns are each a full length strip, instead of a short section of the pattern, and **EACH BORDER HAS THE CORNER TURNED.**

Among the designs are two very beautiful sprays for the end of a table scarf, one of Roses, and one of Daisies and Ferns each 15 inches long, six exquisite fruit designs for Napkins and Doylies; Cup and Saucer, Sugar Bowl, etc., for Tray Cloths.

Design for Slumber Pillow, full set of Outline designs for Tidies, and complete set of Initials, large enough for Towels, Napkins, Handkerchiefs, etc. Besides these the Outfit contains Bouquets (not little twigs) of Poppies, Bachelors Buttons, Pond Lilies, Roses, Daisies, and many others, and a beautiful new design for Tinsel work.

ALL THESE DESIGNS ARE ENTIRELY NEW and as Mrs. Knapp has designed the Outfit expressly for the readers of the L. H. J., it can be procured from no other source.

Each Outfit is accompanied by directions for Stamping by **Parker's New Patent Method** without Paint or Powder, and **with no dash.**

We have made a contract for 50,000 of these Outfits, to be delivered during the season, and shall **Give them away right and left**, to any one will send us only two (2) subscribers at 50 cents each per year, or, if prefered, we will send it free for only 4 subscribers for 6 months, at 25 cents each.

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A STEAM ENGINE FREE !

Show This to Your BOys.

The Weeden Upright Steam Engine

Free to any boy sending us 20 trial subscribers at 10c. each.

A real, complete, working machine. You can blow the whistle or start and stop the engine by opening and closing the throttle valve as in a large engine. It is a scientific toy, nearer in appearance and operation to a large engine than any heretofore made. It is both amusing and instructive. It is safe and easy to operate. It will run small toys, and develop ingenuity. It is a simple and complete machine which will practically illustrate to the youthful mind that wonderful power so constantly at work on all sides in this age of steam. There are 41 pieces and over 400 operations in the manufacture of this engine. Every engine is tested and warranted to be in every respect as described.

HANDSOME PINS

FREE THIS MONTH.

Any one of the following pins given for only 5 trial subscribers at 10c. each.

Beautiful Gifts for Young Ladies !

Now is your chance to secure *free of cost*, some very pretty and stylish pieces of jewelry.

CRECENT PIN.

This style is VERY popular. The cut shows the design. It is of oxydized silver of the best quality and warranted not to tarnish. One of the best premiums we have ever offered. Easy to get free of cost, by securing only two subscribers at 50 cents per year each.

Address LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, Phila., Pa.

LADIES SILVER BAR PIN.

Given for only 2 Subscribers at 50 Cents per Year Each.

A Silver Bangle Lace Bar Pin, with four bangles handsomely engraved. One of our best premiums for ladies. They are very fashionable, and cannot be bought in any store for double the money we ask for 2 subscribers at 50 cents each.

Lace Bar Pin.

Given as a Premium for a Club of Only 3 Subscribers at 50 Cents Each per Year.

A very pretty and stylish Pin of frosted silver. They are the very latest style and are very popular. Given for a club of only two subscribers at 50 cents each, or sold for 50 cents and sent, postpaid, to any address.

A Good Ladies' Watch

FREE THIS MONTH !

To any woman who will send us only 80 trial subscribers at 10 cents each.

It is easier to find 80 women who will pay so small a sum of money as ten cents for a trial subscription than to find 40 who will pay 50 cents for a year. By distributing some sample copies around the neighborhood 80 trial subscribers can be secured in one day. This watch is very easily secured this month.

A CHATELAINE WATCH.

GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF 80 TRIAL SUBSCRIBERS AT TEN CENTS EACH; or given for only 40 subscribers and $2.00 extra in cash; or given for only 20 subscribers, and $3.00 extra in cash. Regular price $6.00.

These chatelaine watches are now very popular and fashionable. Every lady wants one. They are nickle silver of the best quality, stem winders and stem setters, nickle movement, covered by an extra glass cap over the movement. They are good timekeepers, and first-class in every respect. They are furnished to us by one of the largest and leading manufacturing firms in this country, whose reputation is well known for the best quality of work. Given for 40 subscribers if prefered. Send for sample copies to distribute, and get your friends to help you. Send subscriptions as fast as received, for which we will give you credit, until the full number is obtained.

Handsome Silver Ware

Given this month for only 5 trial subscribers at 10 cents each. Butter knife if preferred. Tea Spoons for only 12 trial subscribers. Set of Forks for only 20 trial subscribers.

HANDSOME

Silver-Plated Sugar Shell

Or Butter-Knife

Given for Two New Subscribers at 50 Cents Each per Year.

A new, handsome, neat and stylish pattern, triple-plated, on finest English white steel. Will wear for years. Almost as good as solid silver. All the objectionable qualities of German Silver and brass, which are known to have a disagreeable taste, and are, when a little worn, poisonous, will be avoided in the use of these goods. They are also stronger, and of greater durability than any goods produced.

A Butter Knife will be given instead of the Sugar Shell, if prefered.

For 6 subscribers we will give a set of Tea Spoons, same quality, and for a club of 10, a set of forks.

At 50 cents per year, in clubs of four or more, every lady in the land can afford the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. Send for sample copies to distribute among your friends and neighbors. Address:

LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, Phila., Pa.

Ladies Shopping Bag

We offer as a free present to any lady who will send us 20 trial subscribers at 10 cents each, one of our newest and latest styles of Shopping Bags.

If preferred, it will be given for only 16 subscribers and 25 cents extra; or, for 12 subscribers and 40 cents extra.

This is a very popular shopping bag with ladies and is a very convenient arrangement for carrying purse, handkerchief, and other such small articles when on the street or shopping. It has nickel trimmings and is made of fine leather. The style in shape is constantly changing, and we will send the best shape or style at time it is ordered. Given as a premium for 10 subscribers at 50c. each. Price, including one year's subscription, $1.65.

YOU CAN HAVE THE BEST

BOOKS ON FANCY WORK PUBLISHED,

FREE OF CHARGE THIS MONTH

If you will only show the JOURNAL to 6 of your neighbors and induce them to try it 4 months for 10 cents.

Jenny June's other three books are: "Ladies Fancy Work," "Letters and Monograms," "Needlework."

JENNY JUNE'S BOOKS.

ANY ONE OF THE THREE FOLLOWING BOOKS GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 3 SUBSCRIBERS, AT 50 CENTS EACH PER YEAR: Or for 2 Subscribers and 10 cts. Extra.

Knitting & Crochet.

Edited by Jenny June.

Knitting and Crochet.—A guide to the use of the Needle and the Hook. In arranging this work the editor has taken special pains to systematize and classify its different departments, give the greatest possible variety of designs and stitches, and explain the technical details so clearly, that any one can easily follow the directions. There are a large variety of stitches and a great number of patterns fully illustrated and described, which have all been tested by an expert before insertion in this collection. The aim of the editor has been to supply women with an accurate and satisfactory guide to knitting and crochet work. This book is printed on fine paper, bound with a handsome cover, and contains over

200 Illustrations.

The knitting stitches illustrated and described are: To Cast On with One and Two Needles—To Narrow—To Widen—To Purl—To Cast Off—To Slip a Stitch—Round Knitting—To Join Together—Edge Stitch. PATTERNS.—Peacock's Tail—Vandyke—Looped Knitting—Cane Work—Leaf and Trellis—Triangular Kilted—Gothic—Coral—Knotted Stitch—Diamond—Wave—Cable Twist—Stripes, etc.

MACRAME STITCHES.—Solomon's Knot—Simple Chain—Spiral Cord—Waved Bar—Spherical Knot—Slanting Rib—Open Knotting—Picot Heading—Cross Knot—Fringe—Tassels, etc.

CROCHET STITCHES.—Chain Stitch—Single Crochet—Double Crochet—Half Treble—Treble—Double Treble—Cross Treble—Slip Stitch—Tricot—Muscovite Tricot—Shell Pattern—Basket Pattern—Raised Spot Stitch—Ring Stitch—Hair Pin Crochet—Crochet Lace, etc.

DESIGNS AND DIRECTIONS are given to Knit and Crochet—Afghans—Undervests—Shirts—Petticoats—Jackets—Shawls—Insertion—Trimming—Edging—Comforters—Lace—Braces—Socks—Boots—Slippers—Gaiters—Drawers—Knee-Caps—Stockings—Mittens—Clouds—Purses—Counterpanes—Quilts—Rugs—Infants' Bootines—Hoods—Caps—Shawls—Dresses—Bed Quilts, etc., etc. Every lady will find this the newest and most complete work on Knitting and Crochet published.

EASY TO GET. GIVEN FOR ONLY 5 TRIAL

SUBSCRIBERS THIS MONTH

WHICH CAN BE PICKED UP IN A FEW MINUTES. DECORATE YOUR CHAMBERS PRETTILY, BY A FEW SPLASHERS. WHY NOT GET SEVERAL? THEY ARE SO EASILY EARNED. NO TROUBLE TO GET TRIAL SUBSCRIBERS AT 10 CTS. EACH.

LINEN SPLASHERS.

GIVEN AS PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 2 SUBSCRIBERS, AT 50 CENTS EACH PER YEAR AND 10 CENTS EXTRA for postage and packing.

These are designed to be placed back of a wash-stand to protect the wall from be spattered. They are embroidered mostly in outline with embroidery cotton or etching silk, and are washable. They are finished by fringing and drawn work, according to taste. We will send one Splasher and three skeins of French cotton for a club of only 2 subscribers, or 50 cents.

We have all the new and latest designs. One of the most popular premiums we have to offer. Only six subscribers required to secure it. Easily done, by simply showing a copy of the paper to six of your friends or neighbors. Splashers mailed to any address, postage paid.

PRETTY THINGS FOR THE HOUSE

ARE FREE THIS MONTH

To ladies who take the trouble to show the JOURNAL to neighbors and influence them to try it. THIS WILL BE GIVEN for a club of only 5 trial subscribers at 10 cents each.

Bracket Lambrequins.

GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 3 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.

These Lambrequins are made of Felt, the same as the Tidies, on any color you may choose; they are 12x20 inches in size, and are exceedingly ornamental when finished.

We will send one of these Lambrequins and the book of stitches for only two new subscribers, or 35 cents.

HANDSOME TABLE WARE

Makes an attractive house. THIS MONTH 20 trial Subscribers at 10 cents each will secure a set of

SILVER PLATED FORKS

GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 10 SUBSCRIBERS AT 50 CENTS EACH PER YEAR OR FOR ONLY 5 SUBSCRIBERS AND 75 CENTS EXTRA.

We give a set of six table Forks for only 10 subscribers. They are heavily plated with pure coin silver on white steel, and will wear for years. They are new and handsome patterns. Price $2.00. We use only the very best quality of silver-plated goods, on the finest English white steel. We will give these forks for only 5 subscribers and 75 cents extra in cash, if you cannot secure 10 subscribers, or for 3 subscribers and $1.00 extra in cash.

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$200 IN CASH.

Is a neat little sum of money, and will be easily earned by some one of our subscribers between now and October 15th. Even a hundred and fifty dollars, for the second largest list of trial subscribers, or a hundred dollars for the third, would be very acceptable to many. It would buy some very nice dresses, or pay for a six months' schooling, or pay off a part of the mortgage on your home. It would enable some woman to greatly improve or beautify her home.

Are you in debt? Why not make an effort to secure one of the cash prizes. Trial subscribers are very easily secured. The small sum of ten cents would not be refused for a four months trial, after once showing a copy of the JOURNAL. Any woman could spare that much. All you have to do is to ASK for it.

ANY YOUNG COUPLE

Intending housekeeping in the near future, would find $200 in cash, a very convenient commodity. It might be earned by October 15 if the two interested persons should both go to work to secure that prize. We furnish sample copies to work with. Should the $200 prize slip through their fingers there is still a chance for $150, or $100.

Given Free This Month

To any woman who will send us only 10 Trial Subscribers at 10 cents each.

This is one of our *best* and *most popular* premiums. Subscribers seem particularly well pleased with our Table Scarfs.

They Are Handsome.

Why not have one? It will cost you nothing.

You can get 10 trial subscribers in half an hour, and get a handsome present for your trouble.

Felt Table Scarfs.

Given for only 4 subscribers at 50 cts. each per year; or, given for only 2 subscribers and 25 cts. extra.

Table-covers, either square or scarf-shaped, are among the indispensable articles of fancy work. It is an absolute necessity now to have a cover for every table, and they can be made very beautiful when artistically worked.

We send a felt scarf, 18x50 inches, of any color desired, stamped on each end ready to be worked, with designs of your own choosing, either for Kensington, Ribbon or Tinsel embroidery.

A PRINTING OFFICE

Free this Month TO ANY BOY SENDING us 30 Trial Subscribers at 10 Cents Each.

Splendid Premium for Boys!

A COMPLETE PRINTING OFFICE

given free of charge to any boy who will send us 30 trial subscribers at 10 cents each, or for 10 subscribers and $1.00 extra in cash. 90 cents extra for postage if sent by mail.

The Daisy Printing Press, Type and Complete Outfit is the newest and only really practical printers' equipment for beginners. It affords pleasure and remunerative employment to boys or girls, who can print with this press, Visiting and Business Cards as perfect as can be done on presses costing many times the extremely low price of the DAISY. The very first order you get for printing may amount to two or three times the cost of this valuable outfit, so that in reality you will only have executed a little pleasant labor and have the source of considerable profit in the end.

This outfit is provided with Ink Table, Screw Chase, Adjustable Metal Card Gauge, and Patent Camposing Pallet, with Screw Attachment, by the aid of which ingenious little device the amatuer quickly learns to "set up" and "distribute" type, besides being a wonderful improvement over any other method for adjusting the form for Visiting Cards. It also includes the Composition Ink Roller, Can of the best Card Ink, and a full, regular font of Fancy Card Type, with Spaces and Quads. The whole put up in a neat sliding-cover wooden box, with full directions to amatuers, How to Print, How to set Type.

This PRINTING PRESS, 1 Composition Ink Roller, 1 Can best Card Ink, 1 Composing Pallet, and a full, regular font of Fancy Card Type, including Quads and Spaces.

The whole put up in a neat wooden box, with full directions to amatuers—How to Print, How to Set Type, etc.

Furthermore we will give free a Package of Cards to begin with.

Show this to Your Girls!

A FREE PRESENT TO ANY LITTLE GIRL

Who will send me only 20 trial subscribers at 10 cents each. Every one of your mother's friends and all the neighbors will gladly give you 10 cents for the JOURNAL 4 months. Show a copy to your neighbors and see how easy the club will form. No one will refuse you 10 cents.

BEAUTIFUL DOLLS

GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF 20 NEW TRIAL SUBSCRIBERS AT 10 CENTS EACH.

These dolls will delight the little girls. Their hair and eyes are beautiful, and their complexion indicates perfect health. Any little girl would be happy with one of these dolls to care for and educate. The face, neck and shoulders are bisque. The eyes open and shut, and the arms and legs can be moved in any position. It has a Jointed Kid Body of the finest workmanship. The head is movable, and can be turned in natural positions. The long flaxen hair, the "human" eyes, the rosy cheeks and beautiful expression of this pretty Doll will captivate any little girl's heart. It has Stockings and Slippers with bright buckles. You can easily get 20 of your mother's friends and the neighbors to pay so small a sum as ten cents for a trial subscription. Try it and see.

Useful Books for Young Ladies.

A FREE COPY Of either book given this month to any young lady sending us only 6 trial subscribers at 10 cts. each.

Usages of the Best Society.

The Usages of the Best Society: A manual of social etiquette. By FRANCES STEVENS. Nothing is given in this book that has not the sanction of observance by the best society. Contains 21 chapters. Introductions and Salutations—Visiting Cards and Visiting—Strangers and New-comers—Engagements and Weddings—Receptions and Debuts—Private Balls and Germans—Fancy Dress and Masquerade Balls and Costumes—Opera and Theatre Parties—Dinner and Dinner Giving—Table Decorations and Etiquette—Luncheons, Breakfast and Tea. The Art of Entertaining—Letter Writing and Invitations—Musical "At Homes" and Garden Parties—Traveling Manners and Mourning Etiquette—Wedding and Birthday Anniversaries and Presents—New Year's Day Receptions—Important General Considerations—Brief Hints for everyday use. This book is indispensable to all who wish to obtain the most enjoyment from daily intercourse with their fellow beings. Handsome cloth binding.

Will be found useful by all who wish to obtain instruction on matters relating to social usage and society.—Demorest's Magazine.

Given for a club of only 5 subscribers at 50 cents each. Price, 50 cents when sold alone.

Talks with Homely Girls.

Talks with Homely Girls: On Health and Beauty, their Preservation and Cultivation. By Frances Smith.

A manual of advice and instruction upon the general care of the health, exercise, bathing, the care of the head, hair, teeth, hands, feet, and the complexion, with chapters upon dress, manners, conversation, and all topics pertaining to a young lady's appearance and deportment. The twenty chapters are replete with information on Grace and Beauty of Form, Bathing Exercise, Care of the Head, Hair, Teeth, Face, Hands, Complexion, Carriage of the Body, Dress, Deportment, Conversation, and General Care of the Health. A very useful book for every lady. Handsome cloth binding.

Given for a club of only 3 subscribers at 50 cents each. Price, 50 cents when sold alone.

Splendid For Housekeepers!

No better book published for young housekeepers or those contemplating housekeeping.

GIVEN THIS MONTH

For Only 5 Trial Subscribers at 10 Cts. Each.

FREE!

For only 2 Subscribers at 50 cts. per year each.

A Book Heretofore Sold for ONE DOLLAR.

The greatest inducement ever offered!

Cookery FOR Beginners,

By Marion Harland, Author of "Common Sense in the Household" Etc.

The book, "Cookery for Beginners," has always been catalogued and sold in cloth binding at the low price of $1.00. But we have made a new edition in oiled, waterproof covers, containing the same number of pages as the previous editions. It consists of plain, practical lessons for girls and young housekeepers of small means. Its directions are to be relied upon, and its results are invariably delicate, wholesome and delicious. It possesses the advantage of being perfectly adapted to the needs of beginners. Mothers cannot give their daughters a more sensible and useful present than this volume. It is a most valuable addition to the home library.

THIS MONTH You Can Have,

FOR ONLY 12 TRIAL SUBSCRIBERS,

One of the best and most popular Books ever written for Boys or Girls.

Children are "crazy" for Miss Alcott's books. Their popularity is simply wonderful, and their sale has far exceeded any similar publication ever issued in the United States. **A FREE COPY** of any one of the Alcott Books will be sent to any boy or girl who send us only 12 trial subscribers at ten cents each. You can find in an hours time, 12 ladies who will cheerfully pay you 10 cents for a four months trial of the JOURNAL. All you have to do is to show them a copy of the paper. You could easily secure a hundred subscribers at ten cents each, and secure a number of premiums.

Miss Louisa M. Alcott's Famous Books!

MOST POPULAR BOOKS EVER WRITTEN FOR GIRLS.

By a Special Bargain with the Publisher of these World-Famous Books we can now offer them

This cut is taken from the book. The following quotation describes the picture and shows you the exact type in which the book is printed:

"They all drew to the fire, mother in the big chair with Beth at her feet, Meg and Amy perched on either arm of the chair, and Jo leaning on the back, where no one would see any sign of emotion if the letter should happen to be touching."

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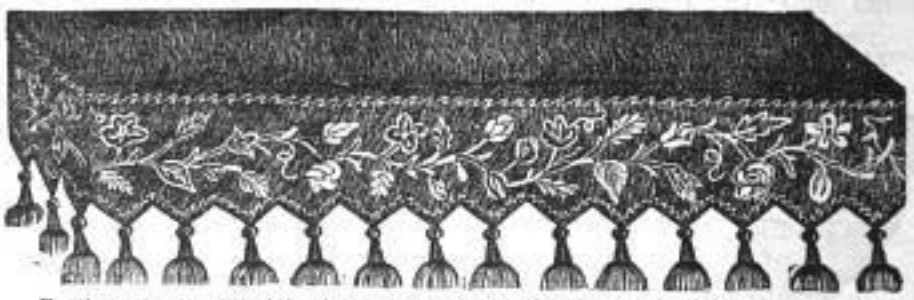

For the past year or two it has been the fashion to cover the mantlepiece with an embroidery a foot or more in width in front. These draperies usually cost from $1.50 to $2.00, but we will send a lambrequin made of the best quality of felt, 18½ inches wide and 2 yards long, of any color, and stamped as desired, for a club of only 6 subscribers, or $1.20.

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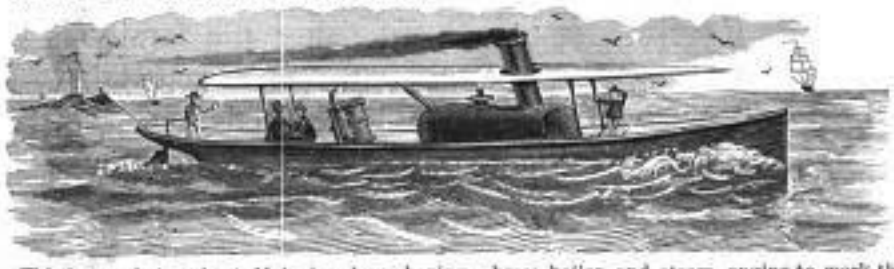

This is a real steamboat, 11 inches long, having a brass boiler, and steam engine to work the screw. Steam is made by placing a small lamp under the boiler, and filling the boiler with water. Will run half an hour without refilling. Perfectly safe; will not explode. Directions accompany each boat. The hull is of metal, handsomely painted. Has a nice cloth awning, and gaily painted flag floating at the stern. A fine model, sharp bows, a fast sailor. Great fun in playing ocean steamer. It will sail across the pond without any string to keep it from going astray. You friend on the other side will turn it back again. You can call it a "mail" steamer by writing notes back and forth and sending them by the steamer safely tucked away in the hold. Will take light freight such as a pen-knife, or marbles. We will sell this boat for $1.50, and send it postpaid to any address.

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School days will soon be here and you will want a handsome bag. You can easily earn one in a day Show this copy of the JOURNAL to 24 of your friends and ask them to subscribe for a four months trial at 10 cents each. They will *all* do it. Try and see.

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SCRIBBLER'S LETTERS TO GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS AND JULIA, HIS WIFE.

SECOND SERIES.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

I have had something on my mind, Gustavus, in regard to you and Julia, for some little time, and I can't help feeling that it will be a benefit to both of you if I relieve my mind of it. I've seen lots of households in my day, and I've come to the conclusion that the main cause of inter-connubial unpleasantness, is household expenses.

Now, do you know it would be the greatest relief to your mind in the world, if you would give Julia a settled income? You can't afford it! Now if that isn't like a man's nonsense! You talk as if I had asked you to make her a millionaire. I want to know, in common honesty and justice, if Julia *must have* something for the house, *does* it make it any less expensive if you pay for it at the end of the week when the bill comes in, instead of the beginning before there has *been* any bill? I will say for *you*, that you are prompt to pay your bills, nobody can ever find fault with the way you do that. But let me put it to you in reason: If Julia says to you, "My dear, Mary's wages are due to-night," "We must have flour to-morrow," "The bill for the oil has come," "Baby needs a new pair of shoes," at various times through the week, you give her the money and cheerfully. Now, would it *cost* you any more to hand her that money at the beginning of the week and let her spend it as necessity offers? Why do *you* want to know when Mary's wages are due? Why burden *your* mind with flour and coal-oil? You'd better think over it, Gustavus, and if you and Julia don't have to talk about *bills* so often, you will find more time for pleasanter topics. Let me tell you that the old saying, "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush," can be made most successfully to read "dollars." A *dollar* in the hand of the wife when she is *about* to buy, is worth *two* on the *bill* after she *has bought*. You'd better think about this considerably, my boy. You won't be obliged to distress yourself about such facts as that the cent-a-pound she gained on the beef-steak last week, she lost on the butter this week.

Remember that the firm is "Gustavus, Julia & Co.," and that each member of the firm has separate duties and methods of work, requiring a certain amount of capital (the capital of the "Co." being at present uncommonly hearty appetites and capacity for wearing out clothes.) In her department Julia supplies the capital of labor and brains—see that you do the rest, and then let her run her own department as her own judgment dictates. A man *properly* should never be bothered with the *details* of the housekeeping. All *he* should have to do with is the result. And I know that very few women, if they have their households properly arranged, care to discuss all the minor points of household expenses with their liege lords. But—if Julia come to you for five cents to buy a tin cup, and you have given her the same amount for exactly the same purpose the week before (to be sure she *could* call it "bread" as some wives do, but being honest she calls it "tin cup") you naturally inquire what has become of the article before bought. Then it becomes necessary for her to enter into the elaborate explanation that Mrs. Smilax called across the yard for the best remedy for her baby's colic, and while she was giving her the recipe for catnip tea, after the latest and most approved pattern, Georgie was seized with a noble ambition to place the new tin cup aforesaid, in the open grate, greatly to the detriment thereof, the handle being entirely melted off by the time it was perceived and rescued. And all this fifteen minutes talk about a paltry, miserable, little, five-cent tin cup, of the *existence* even of which you need never have been aware, if Julia had her own household money. You just try it, Gustavus, and see if you don't both have more time and a broader scope for conversation (not *talk*) when she does not have to *give* an account of each needed cent or you to *listen* to it.

Now there is your cousin Archimedes. He is a different pattern from you, but he was dreadful in my estimation. You've always wondered why it was, that on one occasion, when you and I were there a few years ago, Arabella burst into an uncontrollable fit of tears when Archimedes presented her with an elegant new coat. I remember the look on *your* face just as well as I remember the look on *his*, as he went out and slammed the door, muttering something about "it being the last time he'd ever try to please his wife or give her a pleasant surprise." Your face was a show. I admit that *I* wasn't overly comfortable myself. But I knew perfectly well that Arabella never, with all her pride, would have made such an exhibition of herself, if she could possibly have avoided it, poor thing! And I felt perfectly sure that there was something at the back of it all, that neither you nor I knew.

After you had gone she apologized, saying: "Cousin Scribbler, I *really* couldn't help it, and I wouldn't say anything about it now, if I hadn't made such a fool of myself. But things are just this way: I ask Archimedes for a little money, and ask, and ask, and he does give it to me, a little at a time, but always as if he fancied I spent it on candy, and eat it up by myself. Then it often happens that I want money, really *ought* to have it, and he says he hasn't any and he can't let me have it. Only yesterday I asked him for money for winter under-clothes for the children, and a new pair of blankets, and things like that that we *must* have before winter sets in, and he couldn't let me have it. To-day he brings me home a coat or fifty dollars that is no earthly use to me. Cousin Scribbler, what would I look like in an alpaca dress, much-mended kid gloves, last winter's bonnet, and a *fifty dollar coat*. That's all I've got to wear with it. Now he'll be mad that I don't wear it. Next week if I ask him for money, he won't have any because he has used it all in making me a *present* that I can't wear. It isn't justice! it isn't justice!" the poor woman sobbed, "that I should have to suffer for Archimedes' foolishness, and for him to think he is very generous all the time!" and I'm sure I agreed with her. So I advised her,—well, I shan't tell you what advice I gave her, but I do know that it had the right effect, for Arabella has her own income now, and they live very comfortably and happily together. Archimedes has *still* opportunities to exercise his *generosity*, but he is obliged to be *just*, as well—although he has much fewer petty distresses in regard to household expenses.

Again I say, "try it."

YOUR COUSIN SCRIBBLER.

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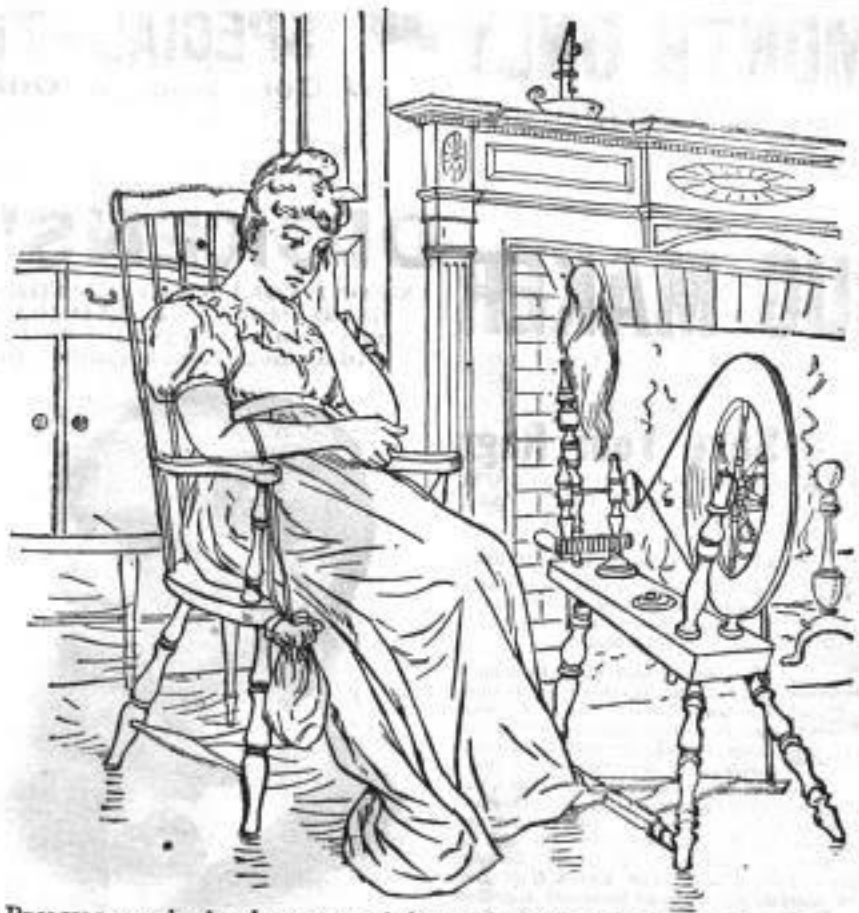

PRISCILLA, spinning long ago, sighs as she thinks how soon her linen
Will lose its glossy luster when, the wash, it once or twice has been in.
She does not know that in the *soap* the evil lies that makes her suffer,
Its great excess of alkali, which cuts the fiber, makes it rougher.

Our modern maidens need not sigh since IVORY SOAP has been invented
Containing no free alkali—by which this ruin is prevented.
For linen washed with IVORY SOAP in snowy beauty'll ne'er diminish,
But always, while it lasts, preserve its pristine gloss and lustrous finish.

A WORD OF WARNING.

There are many white soaps, each represented to be "just as good as the 'Ivory';" they ARE NOT, but like all counterfeits, lack the peculiar and remarkable qualities of the genuine. Ask for "Ivory" Soap and insist upon getting it.

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BEAUTY AND FRAGRANCE ARE COMMUNICATED TO THE MOUTH BY SOZODONT, which renders the teeth WHITE, the gums ROSY and the breath SWEET. It thoroughly removes tartar from the teeth and prevents decay. SOLD BY DRUGGISTS.

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For Ladies' and Misses, take a snug measure around waist over dress, and give it to us in inches.

For Children and Infants, take chest measure also, and state age of child.

We shall take pleasure in sending circulars to all who desire to learn more about this meritorious garment.

Waists sent by mail to any part of the U. S., postage prepaid, on receipt of price, and if not satisfactory, we will exchange or refund the money, if returned in good order. Mention LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

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CAUTION—Do not let others lead you into buying worthless imitations, as this is the ORIGINAL COILED WIRE SPRING ELASTIC SECTION CORSET and money will be refunded to wearer after four weeks' wear, if not perfectly satisfactory.

For sale by DRY GOODS DEALERS, or if not obtainable, will mail, postage paid, HEALTH PRESERVING, $2.25; ENGLISH PATTERN, $2.50; NURSING, $1.50; ABDOMINAL, $1.00; MISSES, 90c.

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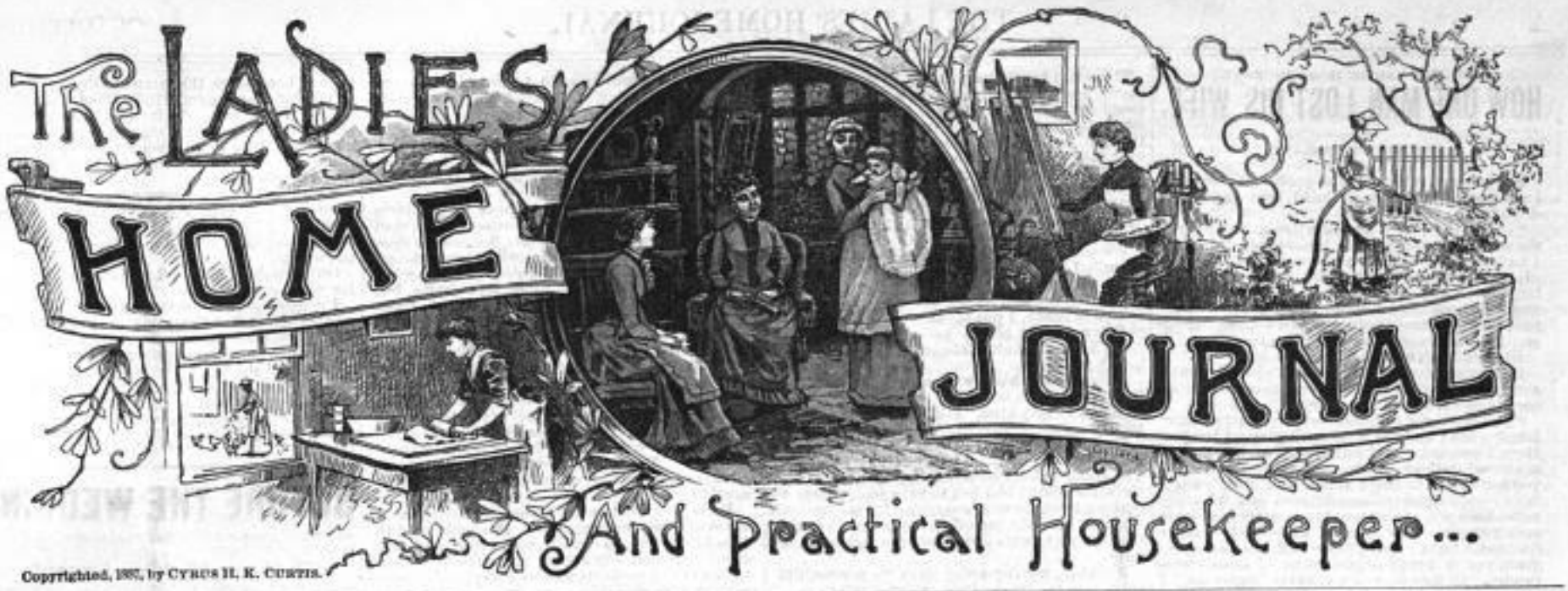

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KIDNAPPED IN MERCY

BY

WILL CARLETON

I.

Through long, bright paths of the gold-streeted town,
Three Angels went one day, to make a tour
In the cold country districts of wide space.
They walked past mansions built of costly gems,
They walked past steeples forged of solid gold,
They crossed a coral bridge on silver wires,
Swinging above a clear-voiced stream; they walked
Through parks that in their laps held huge bouquets,
And in their hands waved high, immortal trees:
They passed through yearned-for splendors realized
And every pure dream of their lives—come true!

Before they stepped out into cold wide space,
They strained their eyes on the magnificence
Of the half distant city—as if going
For many years, instead of one short day.

II.

Along the dusty turnpikes of the sky,
These Angels walked; they crossed wide avenues
That led to stars of various size and hue.
There was one where a gilded finger-post
Said, "To the Planet Venus": there was one
That read, "This Goes to Neptune." All the stars
Were mentioned in the guide-posts that they saw.
And yet they turned not right nor left; although
Their passports, sealed in heaven, would shelter them
Where e'er they chose to go. They could have seen
Where queenly Saturn found her diamond rings;
How the striped juggler, Jupiter, can toss
Four worlds for playthings round his stalwart form;
They could have viewed the stokers of the sun
Feed full each day his hot electric fires;
They passed all these and came to a small lane,
Barred by a gate, sagging on one strong hinge,
With slats part stained and rusted o'er with blood,
And now and then a wire of pure bright gold;
Whose latch was set with grand bewildering gems,
One view of which built Passion's wildest fires;
But with sharp hidden knives concealed inside
That cut the hand that lifted up the latch.
This was a road to Earth; and here they paused,
Raised the bright treacherous bolt, and entered through.
Earth once had been their own sweet, bitter home;
And still they sadly loved to visit here.

III.

Through flowers almost as sweet as heaven could grow,
Through hateful, bad-breathed weeds that bit and stung.
Past silver-throated birds that made the trees
E'en seem to sing—o'er serpents coiled and fierce,
Past wild brutes that would tear the world in two,
And white-skinned lambs that loved the Angels' looks"
And journeyed after them, and kissed their hands,—
Down a long, crooked, sharp-contrasted lane,
These Angels passed; and now they stepped on earth.
No scenery here, but was each hour excelled
In their high home; no architecture grand,
That came to even a parody on heaven.
What did they come to see?—Where they might help.

IV.

In a rough city road, they met with three
Small children, wandering desolate about,
Searching for something that would feed their minds,
And light their fancies; searching wistfully,
And wearidly, and with sad contenance,
For something that would cheer their desolate hearts.
One was a tiny warrior; he had fought
With coarser urchins, till his chubby face
Was scratched and bleeding; one a pretty girl,
Who made herself believe, that rows of stobes
Were mansion walls; and had her little rooms,
Each with the sky for ceiling; in one nook,
She laid a homely, patched-up doll, and oft
Above it crooned, and kissed it, with love-looks.
Another little girl, with dark, weird eyes
Was gazing at the clouds, as if she longed
To fly with them. But all looked desolate.—
And near to them, three loathsome shadow-fiends,
Laughed with each other—at the children leered—
And whispered—"They are certain to be ours."

By toil, and pain, and many a prayer to God,
The Angels dressed themselves in mortal shape,
And kindly called the children. They all came,
With tears of pleasure framed in eager eyes,
And hungry-hoping hearts. 'Twas many a day,
Since they had heard such restful, loving words.

"Where is your mother, little ones?" was said.
"Oh, she is at a grand reception, ma'am."
"Where was she yesterday?" "At some great lunch,
With many other ladies." "Day before?"
"Out at the Home for Orphan Children, ma'am."
"When does she let you see her?" "Only just
Once in a while. But nurse is good to us,
And goes and visits with another nurse,
And lets us run about and play alone."
"Where is your father, little ones?" was said.
"Why, papa!—let me see; we have one yet;
He lives down town, and stays at our house nights.
I saw him only just a month ago.
He's very large and pretty, but he scowls;
He doesn't like little children very well."
And still the shadow-fiends together laughed,
And whispered to each other, "They are ours."

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V.

Once more through paths of the gold-streeted town,
The Angels walked; and at heaven's outer gate,
Another Angel joined them, dressed in black.

Out in the country districts of cold space,
Again they journeyed. When, this time, was reached
The gate of earth, night stood there, calm and cold.
Through the long, gloomy winding lane they walked,
And then on streets, by earth's great shadow hushed.

Through thrice-locked doors, up lofty velvet stairs,
Of a large mansion, walked the silent four.
The children lay upon luxurious cots,
But poorly sleeping. One with tear-tracked face,
Mourned the lost ragged doll she loved too well;
The small boy curved his brow and shook his fists,
Against some foe he had in dreamland met;
The little girl lay sleeping, with sad smile,
Half hoping, and half sure her dreams were true;
But all looked piteous, sad and desolate.
And back of them, the loathsome shadow-fiends
Still laughed and whispered, "Certain to be ours."

Softly the Angel dressed in black bent down,
And kissed the little sleepers; a slight pang
Vexed each pale face—and then three forms came out
From the fair bodies—looking like to them,
But sweeter—happier—by a million fold.

They looked up at the looks of love they saw,
And trembling with the first pure heart-delight
They ever yet had known—soft kissed the lips
That bent to them and whispered, "Come with us."
And soon, all went to the gold-streeted town.

VI.

Then Faith, one of the Angels, said, "Right true
We were to those sweet colonists of ours;
And it has been as God said it would be."
And Hope replied, "The lives we have just saved,
Will learn to help and pity other lives,
And glorious will their shining future prove."
And Charity, chief of the three, exclaimed,
"Poor parents! when they find their little ones
Sleeping so cold, with death for covering,
They will remember all the sad neglect
And careless selfishness around them thrown;
And they will be better for their loss."

And Death said, "Farewell; I can only go
Far as the gates, I ne'er can enter in,
I do God's work but never see His home."
And wrapped her black dress round her, and was gone.

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(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

HOW ONE MAN LOST HIS WIFE.

BY MARION HARLAND.

She swayed, rather than stepped backward, and leaned against the wall, head bent and figure drooping.

"I have tried to be a good wife—and mother!" she panted piteously. "If I have failed in this, I have succeeded in nothing! nothing! Of popularity I have never thought. I have wished to help others and make them happy—in my poor way! I thought—I hoped—I had pleased you—that we suited one another—lived happily together. And all these years—*nineteen years*——"

Her head fell upon her hands.

Conscience made a futile stand against brutal savagery. My next sentence was more outrageous for the defeat of my better self.

"You could not illustrate my declaration more forcibly than by your present display of temper. Have I accused you of unfaithfulness in wifely or maternal duties? As to your protestation that you have tried to fulfill these and other obligations;—self-righteousness deludes you with the belief that you are better than your neighbors in such respects. The worst of us believes that he *tries* to do right. But I have said my say—have given you a much needed dose of unpalatable candor. Of course, you will never forgive me. I know your vindictive nature, but I retract nothing. I could say ten times as much to the same effect—and worse,—and leave the story half told."

"How could I speak thus to a woman—and that woman the one I had promised to love and cherish!" you say.

All the devil into which the savage had developed by now, the fiend that inspired me to kick and trample in the mire of humiliation a creature so utterly crushed and broken as the woman I watched. Watched, while she fought her agony of misery dumbly as she might have wrestled for life with a tangible foe. Saw her quiver and gasp, suffocated by the enemy's clutch upon her heart and throat, put out her hands to keep something I could not see at bay. Beheld and comprehended all, and neither moved or spoke. I, who could have ended the battle by a word!

"My God!" she cried presently, in the smothered accents of the dreaming, lifting her face to the smiling heavens, her wrung hands above her head. "My God! My God!"

Only that——three times!

The door-bell rang sharply, and before either of us could retreat, Dick Demorest, a neighbor whose wife was Naomi's dear friend came hastily through the hall. His child was dangerously ill, they feared dying, with croup. Would Mrs. Steele come to it at once!

"Certainly" said Naomi, promptly. "I shall be ready in five minutes."

She changed her dress and was with us again in that time.

"Don't sit up for me, Philip," she said quietly. "I may stay until morning. Good night!"

I said the words of farewell as easily and as civily as she. We did not exchange a kiss or even a hand-shake, before Demorest hurried her away.

Well! I was alone with abundance of time and leisure for rejoicing in my victory. There was my wife's empty chair, the honeysuckle she had dropped and trodden upon as she left me. The moonlight—crystal-pure as the river of life—flowed from end to end of the piazza, waves from the breeze-tossed roses were made spicy in breaking through the honeysuckle trellis; the divine calm of the June night was over and about me. Within was—*hell!* I snapped three matches spitefully on my heel before I could get a light for the cigar I had pulled upon for a minute, then threw away, while I walked the floor, pursued by the furies. By the time I had taken a dozen turns, the savage slunk into his lair in the "jungle we call the human soul." How angels weep and devils laugh over the foul retreat! I had played the dastard, had lied and bullied and outraged her in whose leal and loving heart I held the first place. My only apology was that I was in a bad humor. Business, fatigue, perhaps indigestion, had wrought madness within me. The cauldron had boiled over. This was my review of the affair. But for my wife's opportune departure, I might have gone on from bad to worse, from worse to worse, if there was a deeper depth than that into which I had fallen headlong.

I recovered rapidly. Naomi's abrupt withdrawal from the scene of action was, in a less degree, like the shock of sudden death. We had had many differences of opinion in the years we had spent together, for both had strong individuality and held pronounced views.

"But nothing like this before, thank Heaven!" I muttered. And—"Heaven forbid we should ever again!"

I picked up the bruised flowers she had let fall—blossoms from the vine I had helped her to set out the day our eldest boy was a month old. How tenderly she had smiled in reminding me of it!

"What could his name be but Philip?" she had answered her mother's question as to what our first son should be called.

I kissed the mangled blooms and laid them carefully between the leaves of my pocket-book. Then, I made up my mind to go around to the Demorests and, under pretext of inquiring into child's condition, contrive an interview with my wife and entreat her to forgive me. I actually walked a block or two before I concluded to let sleeping dogs lie. Naomi was no stranger to my hasty temper, but she knew, too, that the paroxysms were brief. I had been a fool and a brute, and the sooner it was forgotten by us both the better. I hated scenes. Nor is it easy for the most contrite man to acknowledge himself to have been wholly in the wrong. As I had been, I admitted *that* to myself.

I sat up until after midnight in the vain hope of her return. The memory of the omitted "Good night" kiss made me oddly uneasy. Yet the mutual love that had outlived the winds and surges of twenty years could not be wrecked in one sharp, brief gale. When I went up to bed, the fragrance of the fading roses she had worn filled the chamber. I gathered them up from the bureau and put them tenderly into water. She would thank me for it in the morning, perhaps interpret truly the feeling that moved me to care for them.

Directly after breakfast, I called at the Demorests. The baby was dead. The white badge that told the story of bereavement to passers-by hung straight and motionless in the sultry air; the front door stood open; people were passing back and forth in the hall and on the stairs. Naomi was talking in low tones with the undertaker in the front parlor. She was colorless and sad, and her face did not soften at sight of me.

"The baby died at six o'clock," she said, as she might impart the news to a common acquaintance. "Mr. Demorest asked that you might be sent to him as soon as you came. He is in the library."

She could hardly have fallen on my neck with kisses and tears in the man's presence, but I could not remember that she had ever looked at me before with utterly unresponsive eyes. I thought more of this than of poor Dick's sorrow over the dead baby. His wife begged that Naomi might remain with her until after the funeral. This was what Dick wanted to say to me. I could do nothing but consent. It was three days before I had speech alone with my wife. Then, she came home.

We welcomed her as if she had been absent for months. I had ordered her favorite dishes for supper, and bought a bowl of choice china to fill with my best roses and set by her plate. When the meal was ready, I put my arm about her, and the children danced before us to the dining-room, little Naomi running ahead to display "Papa's lovely present."

"Home is not home without her," said I, fondly. "Nothing is too good for her."

"Papa is very kind," said the mother's full, rich tones.

Do you remember what her voice was in speaking? Soft, round, and exquisitely modulated. The children noticed no change in it, but I did—the same want I had felt in her eyes. There was nothing in either that was meant for me—me only. I cannot describe the effect better than by saying that the wires were down between her spirit and mine.

Not then, nor for many days thereafter, did I enter into the truth of our altered relations. It was months before I grasped the awful fact that *the wife* in her was dead,—and by my hand! I believe there is a point in wedded love, as in friendship, beyond which the best beloved cannot go without fatal results to affection in one or both hearts. There are some things that kill with the saying as surely as the *coup de grace* destroyed sensibility in the wretch on the wheel. From the hour in which I heard, apparently unmoved, the cry to the God she thought had forsaken her in that no allowed the crucifixion of her heart, to that in which her dying gaze passed by me to rest on her children, and her last smile, her last word, her last prayer were for them——she never spoke impatiently to me, never crossed my humor——and never said she loved me! I protested passionately when subtler measures failed to undermine the barrier between us; I assailed her with reproach and invective, made desperate by discouragement. She neither blanched nor flushed; neither admitted nor denied the charges hurled at her. Always respectful in bearing, gentle in speech, and serene in countenance, she was never fond, or even as confidential as one friend might be with another. Did I ask her advice, she listened courteously and in the end, graciously defered to my judgment. If I were reticent or sullen, she seemed not to notice it. In the extremity of my unreason, the manifestation of her great love for the children who adored her, sometimes maddened me, and I broke out wrathfully at their youthful follies and peccadilloes. She forebode to defend them against me, and upheld my authority in and out of my presence. But, by the cold light of the eyes I had no longer the power to brighten with pleasure, or dim with tears, I knew that each scene of this kind led her to despise me the more, removed further from me the hope of winning her back.

There was, I am assured, no set purpose in this, no calculation of cause and effect. She was absolutely free from affectation. The past love for me was killed out—willfully killed out, I thought, and in this world there is no Easter-tide of resurrection for dead affection.

"Did she suffer, also?" you ask.

I believe it. With such dull pain as the mother feels, kneeling by the tomb of the child who died years ago. While she had it—living, warm, beautiful—in her arms, she gloried in the having. Now, that it is buried, she does not dig into the cold earth to bring it again to light.

She was ill but a week—to our knowledge. The doctors talked of a mysterious Something that sapped her strength gradually, unheeded by herself. Her name, child will have it that her mother was never the same woman after her—little Naomi's—marriage. When she fastened the veil on her daughter's head, she kissed her and said—"My life-work is done, now!" And at the child's tearful protest, she smiled strangely, but in unutterable sweetness, and put her, with one passionate, clinging kiss into the young bridegroom's hands.

All this I have been told. She uttered no complaint in my hearing. If she were lonely and faint of heart, she locked the pain and longing away from me, as she had concealed every deep emotion since the June night when I lost my wife, and Dick Demorest his baby. Dick told me yesterday he could "never, never forget what she was to them then."

It grated upon my ears like mockery—that "never, never!" from him when, against the same date, Memory had set for me, a cross so black and huge, that I have walked in the shadow of it ever since. He, and others, have meant to be very kind in what they call, my "recent bereavement." Sometimes there is a little dreary, acerb amusement at the bottom of my soul as I listen. Condolences fresh with sympathy, are belated commonplaces to a man whose wife died to him twenty years ago.

THE ESSENTIALS OF HOMEKEEPING.

The great object of all house-keeping, or better, home-keeping, is the health and growth, physical, mental and spiritual, of all the household. The danger is that this object will be lost sight of in the multitude of minor duties, constantly besetting the wife and mother,—upon whom falls the greater share of the responsibility for bringing all the resources of the household to contribute to the general well-being. These minor duties are important in themselves, but they are really only a means to the general health and happiness, and should never be allowed to hinder rather than help that one great end. Patience, intelligence, care and foresight, blended by love are the qualities with which the right-minded woman arms herself to guide the life of her home.

For the physical health, good food, suitable clothing and cleanliness are the prime requisites. Good food must be ample, nutritious and well-cooked, the two latter requisites being inter-dependent and inseperable. A knowledge of the elementary principles of the chemistry of cookery is an efficient aid in selecting our foods, so that bone, muscle and brain may each be nourished. If a woman can interest herself in the chemical wonders, which her hands daily and so carelessly create; reading about the subject when possible, receiving and giving object-lessons in science daily to her children, she will find "the daily round the common task," raised from slavish drudgery to noble work, nourishing both mind and body. Variety and the individual tastes of the family should be considered in providing the daily bill of fare. A good cook must, indeed, possess admirable traits. She is patient, steady-minded, thoughtful, accurate, quick of observation, decided and inventive; more good qualities than, I fear, those who eat her meals often dream are to found behind the kitchen door.

The cleanliness, which is next to godliness, does not consist in perfectly dusted rooms, spotless windows and shining paints, desirable as those may be, but rather in that care which keeps the cellar free from all decay well lighted and aired, which sharply inspects the bath-room, sink-drains, bedrooms and refrigerator, which opens all rooms and closets daily to fresh air and sunlight, which knows how and where all the house sewage is disposed of, and so protects the family from fevers and zymotic diseases. Neatness and order take less time than slovenliness and are always to be cultivated. Beyond this, whatever ornamention can be added to educate the taste, without distracting the time and strength of the home-mother from more important matters, is desirable. But richly decorated rooms at the expense of a worn body or an empty mind are too dearly bought.

Dress attracts in most homes far more than its share of time and attention. It should be suitable to one's means and to the season, and fashioned sufficiently in accord with the prevailing tastes not to make its wearer conspicuous, especially in case of children who are sensitive to being odd among their playmates. We judge people quite too freely and openly by their clothes. We discuss their dress too often before our children. We show our own lack of character too constantly in servile efforts to look just as and have what our neighbors do. This all bears its legitimate fruit, and we find our children early imbued with a respect for and a vain delight in clothes, which is a difficult feature of the problem of their development.

To sustain the mental and moral growth of the household is the most important duty of the home-mother, next to the bestowal and perservation of sound bodies upon her children, and is also that duty which is most often neglected; left to teachers, to strangers and to chance, amidst the rush and drudgery of "house-work," which is made to seem essential by the petty fashions of the day. The influence of parents over their children depends upon the unity of interest in the home-life, and that can only be maintained by the parents keeping a knowledge of and interest in the studies and pursuits of their children. If she would retain her hold, the mother must grow with and in advance of her children, and be to young gentlemen and ladies the intelligent guide, counselor, and friend that she was in the nursery. The foundation of this unity of interests may be laid very early by training the children to an interest in the mother's household duties. Thorough competency on the part of the mistress is the best remedy for inefficient service, and no daughter should be allowed to go to a home of her own, ignorant of the details of domestic work, which she will surely be called upon to oversee, and probably in some domestic exigency to perform. Little that we learn has the tenacity of that taught in our early years. Then, by all means, teach your children all household tasks, especially cooking. And there should be no distinction between the training of boys and girls for, at least the first seven years. Boys so trained never forget respect and consideration for women's work.

To neglect such training, saying, "I do not wish my children to work as I do," is weak and foolish. That your children help you in the burdens you so willingly bear for them, is no indication that their adult lives are to be cast in the same mold. Sacrifices for children, which take them from your influence, are always attended by grave dangers. Training in colleges or schools are, of course, desirable and beneficial. But the earlier years of every child should be spent surrounded by such influences that he may successfully bear the test of a separation.

Let there be no line between "the sphere" of the mother and daughters, and above all do not let such a line be drawn between the dining-room and parlor. So shall your children—not outgrow you, and decide the momentous questions of their lives, guided by their own fancies and prejudices without the aid of your maturer judgment.

AGNES B. ORMSBEE.

A WALK IN THE OPEN AIR.

BY JENNIE DEANS.

The weather was disagreeable enough. Ominous rain-clouds skirted the sky and might soon send forth great drops sufficient to drench one.

I had been looking forward through the morning hours to this afternoon ramble, knowing the increased physical vigor and mental enjoyment I should receive.

Eglantina wavered when invited to accompany. The weather was threatening. She wouldn't like to be caught in a shower lest she should dampen her thin-soled shoes, wet the feathers on her hat, or soil her fine gloves.

No Eglantina would remain at home in the coal-heated parlor, exhausting hand and brain in the various trifles she might conjecture, shrugging her shoulders and wondering *what* one could find out of doors!

For me—I liked a dash of rain. Let it come. Eglatina, pale, languid, or shall I say dull? may prefer the parlor. She has her choice; I mine.

If rain *were* near I possessed a waterproof, overshoes and sea-nymph hat. I followed my choice.

After a little the rain-clouds became more distant. The atmosphere grew exhilarating, and as I stepped briskly and smartly on I felt a part of nature's self. The fields and woods, brooks and birds were familiar; the very stones inspired sermons.

As I noticed the perfect harmony in nature—the beauty of her ceaseless melody, remembering "the stars of the morning sang together," the thought came to mind the sweet keys play because they are kept in tune! Applying this thought to life, I asked; How are the sweet keys "played," consequently "kept in tune?" and the answer came in various ways.

To throw off light-troubles, and "whistle down" petty annoyances and disappointments is one way, and don't break the heart about an ill-fitting dress or add a wrinkle of care to the brow because of poor luck with the yeast. Give the family home-made pudding and milk for supper, and try again to-morrow. You'll come off conqueror: if not, it were better to fail a dozen times and be pleasant about it, than to succeed at first, yet find something to fret and fuss about, causing the family to wish that bread or what pertained thereto, in the bottom of the sea.

And more than this, when woman shall have reached that state of perfection where the sweet keys of her system, that harp of a thousand strings so fearfully and wonderfully made, shall be in tune, she will have attained an achievement beside which woman's suffrage shall pale as a shadow; and a little more thought and study of this wonderful organism would lead on a long distance in this direction.

My walk refreshed me wonderfully. My cheeks were glowing, eyes sparkling, and whole being invigorated to the finger-tips, when I returned to find Eglantina in a drowsy state, still in the heated parlor.

Oh, benighted child! Remembering you, I sigh for what you have lost.

I wonder not at inertia, wine and tonics. I wonder more that Eglantina is as much the genuine woman she is, for well I know spite of untoward circumstances, a warm, loving heart beats within, and she is capable of things great and noble. My faith in womanhood is great, and when she shall get about it right earnestly to understand the laws that govern her being, a long stride toward the millenium will have been taken.

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[Engraved Expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]

The oldest and best known journal in Iowa is *The Hawkeye*, which was founded at Burlington, Des Moines County, as early as 1836. It claims to be the leading daily and weekly newspaper published on the Mississippi river, between St. Louis and St. Paul. One of its recent associate editors, a little man with a big heart and active brain, made for *The Hawkeye* a national reputation by quaint humorous writings. His portrait (an excellent and characteristic limning of a jovial face) is here given. Readers of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, in every section of the United States, will quickly recognize the features of a laughing philosopher whose name and fame have long been household words in American homes.

ROBERT JONES BURDETTE has just completed his forty-third year. Like his present biographer, he is a native Pennsylvanian, having been born at the post-village of Greensboro' in the extreme southwestern shire of "Old Keystone," July 30th., 1844. His father, Frederick E. Burdette, of Virginia, was of Huguenot lineage, and his mother of Welsh-German parentage. While their son Robert was yet an infant, this well-mated couple decided to move to Cincinnati; and when he was about eight years of age, the family left Ohio's Metropolis for the thriving city of Peoria, Illinois, where, to quote his own type-confession, Bob Burdette "devoted two solid hours of each day to learning how to make a new kind of noise." By the time he was thirteen years old (he says) he had accummulated noise enough to last him the rest of his natural life, and enable him to use three kinds of noises the same day. At Peoria he mastered a common school education. This, he once told me, was all he ever got and more than he deserved. In 1861, the future soldier, journalist and fun-maker graduated at the Peoria High School. A few months later, we find him, at the impetuous age of eighteen, a private in Company C., 47th Regiment Illinois Volunteers. He served through the war, being present at the siege of Vicksburg and was a member of the Red River expedition. At Corinth, he signally proved his fearlessness and valor.

The humorist's newspaper career began in 1869. He had been on a visit to New York, and wrote several racy letters from the great city to the Peoria *Daily Transcript*. His aptitude for journalistic work being clearly shown, when these letters were published, Mr. Burdette was offered a responsible position on the *Transcript*, and he soon went up higher to become night-editor. This promotion made him very proud. He admits, not confidentially, however, that he immediately began to wear gloves and ordered dress shirts that buttoned behind. He held his head upso high that memory got dizzy and it seemed to Bob only a dream that he had ever been "a happy, guileless, barefoot boy, sitting behind a woodshed in the old yard on Monroe Street (where the Peoria post-office now stands) making, in boyish solitude, frantic primal effort on the first and most surreptitious cigar."

On the 4th of March 1870, he married (I again use his own phrases) "the best and sweetest little woman in the wide, wide world. The Lord did His best when He made Carrie Garrett, and it's a mystery why He didn't find or make her a husband to match." Mr. Burdette's wedding was at the bedside of an invalid maiden, whose heart had long been in his keeping, but whose life-tenure was, on this solemn occasion, extremely precarious. "Her Little Serene Highness," as he affectionately called his wife, was spared, for nearly fifteen years, to be his comfort and guide. The "Prince," their only son, is now a handsome, sturdy, intelligent boy, the junior R. J. B., who says he is ten going on eleven. The bereaved father and child are almost inseparable. Their present home is at Bryn Mawr, one of Philadelphia's most beautiful suburbs. Pen-pictures, innumerable have glowingly exhibited the devotion of Bob Burdette to the wife he so unselfishly loved and tenderly nursed. It was she who first coaxed him to do humorous paragraphing and sketch writing for the press, and who made him realize that his peculiar talents could be used to advantage on the lecture platform. A lady living in Rochester at the time Mr. and Mrs. Burdette were spending a few summer weeks at Nantucket, wrote thus admiringly and feelingly of the man we all esteem. "I have learned that he who touches, as with a fairy's wand, the fountain of mirth and laughter and cheer for others, bears in his own heart the constant pain—hardest of all pain to bear—of seeing his nearest and dearest a helpless invalid. And yet with a devotion, such as few men are capable of, his brave young strength freely, sweetly, tenderly given to her whom he has promised through life to protect. Of him may it truly be said: 'Greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friend.' For daily, hourly is this service of his rendered. Mrs. Burdette is as helpless and dependent upon her husband as a little child. Wherever he goes, she goes; she is his guardian angel, and he hers in a literal sense. About the streets of the island town he wheels her wicker chair so carefully that not a jostle pains the sensitive body or startles the nerves of the invalid. Into the dining-room of the hotel he comes bearing his fragile wife in his arms; every want, every most trivial wish of hers is attended to by him, and all 'for love's sake.' There is a kind of patience that submits with dumb resignation to whatever burden God may send; there is another kind that lifts its head and sings God's love the while, shedding human sunlight over all, and healing its own heart at the same time that it heals the hearts of others. From this latter patience bubbles up the mirthful genius of Burdette's writings. It is said that he dashes off his humorous sketches first to gladden the heart of his wife and relieve the lonely hours of her invalidism, then gives them to the public and sets the whole literary world in smiling mood. Let us reverently uncover our heads to him who has so reverently proven himself a hero."

Shortly after his marriage, the genial humorist in partnership with a brother of the quill, whose name I have forgotten, began the publication of an evening paper, titled the Peoria *Review*. "It was a comforter for nearly two years," says Burdette, "as it brought me few cares and no uncertainty. I knew every Monday morning that on the next Saturday night I would not have money enough to pay the hands. During my career as editor of that wretched sheet, it never disappointed me in that particular—not once. Finally the sheriff took us into partnership, and there was a glorious increase of activity. He was an enterprising man—very. He realized more in an hour than I had done in two years. Presently that partnership dissolved and I, naturally, looked around for something to do. I thought I would try and get on the Burlington *Hawkeye*. It was a sober, staid old paper, financially solid. I was young and active. Thought I, 'I can do that paper good. If I can get on the staff, I am sure it will do me good. Well, I was thinking of going over there when one day its manager, Mr. Wheeler, came to see me, and offered me the position of City editor and special reporter. If I live ten thousand years, it will not be long enough time for me to be sufficiently thankful that I accepted the offer, and, besides that, I am very proud of the fact that they sent for me. It gave me an independence of personal satisfaction from which I have never recovered. I don't try to be funny in my writings. I have an idea occasionally and when I get it loose people laugh. Then I review the remark and shake it out to find the fun. My perception of a joke is not hung on a hair-trigger."

Mr. Burdette has not been editorially associated with the *Hawkeye* for several years. Of late the Brooklyn *Eagle* has plumed itself upon the fact that its luminous wings bear, to the world that laughs, most of the comical originalities of Robert the Rib-tickler. His facility and gracefulness of expression seem unimpared; his keen sense of the ludicrous, undimmed. "Burdette's humor," according to a critical estimate in the Boston *Daily Globe*, "is always sparkling and in good taste. It has not the whimsical elegance of Charles Dudley Warner or the cynical undertones of Mark Twain. Its keynote is struck from the life of the people, and, like them it is good-natured, gay, volatile, occasionally facetious, at rare intervals slightly satirical, turning easily from laughter to sentiment, and from tears to laughter again. Like Mark Twain, he likes to get hold of the harmless little foibles of human nature, the prejudices in which it indulges and the foolish actions which it perpetrates. But he treats them differently. He makes fun of them, and yet his fun is more kindly, sunny, and considerate. He has an affectionate yet free feeling for his kindred that is apparent in all his laughter."

Three books, four lectures and many volumes of uncollected newspaper merriment, in prose and verse, have made the American public familiar with Robert J. Burdette, and attest his great industry as a writer. In personal appearance, he is below medium height, weighs about one hundred and thirty pounds, is very easy in manner and free and affable in conversation. His forehead is (as seen in the portrait) rather low, yet broad and massive. A pair of dark, bright, soul-seeking eyes and a black mustache that is scarcely formidable enough to overawe a rounded chin, resting confidingly on a stout neck, are the facial characteristics of this, our fellow citizen, good and true, whose patent of nobility is incontestable. Up and down the land he has gone for the past dozen years, sowing fruitful seed in genial soil. The following is his own account of how he came to lecture: "Mrs. Burdette prompted me to it. One day when she was lying helpless she said she believed that if 'those fellows' could make money I could. And so she sat me down to write that lecture; and from time to time I rebelled with tears and groans and prayers. I told her I was too little that I had no voice; that I couldn't write a funny lecture anyhow. She kept me at it, and in due time we had the lecture in our hands; 'The Rise and Fall of the Moustache,' that was all right enough; now, how to get an audience! I thought I would try it first at Keokuk. If I delivered it first at Burlington, even if it were tame, tamer, tamest, I thought they might pat me on the back. But Keokuk hated Burlington. I thought: If it's flat the Keokuk folks will tell me so. Mrs. Burdette said that, as she was responsible for that lecture, she was going to hear the first delivery. So I carried her aboard the cars, we went down to Keokuk and they pronounced it good."

Since then every city, town and hamlet in our mirthful American world has endorsed the verdict of Keokuk. It has been noted that when Bob Burdette came a stranger to a strange place, he found old-time friends on almost every street and made new friends everywhere. "He preserves (says a Western editor) so much of that good old-fashioned, kindly sympathy and simplicity, which all the world loves, yet of which much of the world tries to rid itself, that it is very difficult to know him and not like him. We did not try."

His quaint letters hastily penned while on the road, show his bubbling spirit, his jocund appreciation of the eternal fitness of seasons and things. One winter day, eight or nine years ago, I found this postal-card, face upwards, on my editorial desk:

Another time, when he had been asked by a committee of newspaper men to meet them in banquet array, he wrote in this vein: "I cannot be there at the St. Nicholas and keep a lecture engagement at Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, the same night. My heart is with the guest whom you honor, and I could crowd this page full of good wishes for him. I hope he will grow tall and rich out West. Tell him to stop and see my brother John and the rest of the *Hawkeye* people as he passes—literally *passes*—through Burlington. Bid him not eat any lunch at Ottumwa; a stranger eats it only to die. Tell him to dine at Chariton and mention my name to the landlord. It won't cost him a cent to talk about me. Supper will be ready for him at Red Oak, and when he crosses the Missouri at Omaha, he must crawl under the seat for the bridge is so high he will fall out of the car window if he sits up."

Of Philadelphia, to which, in later years, he became greatly attached, he wrote in 1879 the cleanliness was appalling. "It makes you think of a heaven of house-cleaning and an eternity of mops and brushes. Sometimes I have been irresistibly impelled to go out in the street and scrape up a handful of mud to throw against a snowy blind. And I did go out into the street with that intention; but when I got there, I couldn't find any mud. If you want to throw mud at anything in Philadelphia, you will have to take your mud with you."

Such is ROBERT JONES BURDETTE as he is known to tens of thousands by written word and gleeful voice. My personal intimacy with him has been long maintained and to me has been a well-spring of pleasure. He is one of those mirrored by the poet in these lines:

> The sweetest lives are those to duty wed,
> Whose deeds, both great and small,
> Are close-knit strands of an unbroken thread,
> Where love ennobles all.

Concluding my unequal narrative of a friend and fellow-laborer in the pastures of literature, one smiling field of which we have jointly tilled to advantage, I accept his own decision that for us (the fools of the lighter sort) the earth is fairer and the stars are brighter. To us the sunlight is not hateful; to our ears and our hearts, alike, the song of the summer birds are sweeter. There is laughter and music in the air around us, and, as our own hearts are lighter, the world about us is made better. Let us persist in our folly. What care we if the world be round or flat?

HENRY CLAY LUKENS.

JERSEY CITY, N. J.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HOMELY HOMILIES.

BY ROBERT J. BURDETTE.

A Plea For Dust.

Certainly this is a duty, not a sin. "Cleanliness is indeed next to godliness."—*John Wesley.*

Who may have said this before John Wesley thought of it, I do not know. It is an old saying, and has generally been accepted as true. All women believe it; and, possibly, some men. But as a rule, man shakes his head doubtfully at the quotation.

Some how, the earliest masculine recollection fails to establish the connection between cleanliness and godliness. True, on Saturday night it was ever the fate of the juvenile man to be scrubbed up into a state of alarming polish, as a preparation for the Sabbath. The bath tub Saturday night, the sanctuary Sabbath morning; so far there did seem to be certain relation of propinquity between cleanliness and godliness.

But the boy promptly scouted the idea when it was suggested to him. Did the scrubbing of Saturday night have even a sanctifying influence upon him? Can any mother who reads THE JOURNAL tell me of any boy in all this world who ever conducted himself in a goodly, devout and decorous manner while she was twisting, and gouging everlasting martyrdom out of his tortured ears? There now, don't all speak at once; I know that your boy never cried during the Saturday immersion; I knew that before you spoke. I know your boy, good mother. He is a little angel, and the next time I catch him up my apple trees Sunday afternoon I'll clip his sweet little wings or break his dear little back, whichever comes handiest. But just to leave your own good boy out of the question, for we are not dealing with absolute perfection in the discussion of human questions, did you know of any other mother's boy who impressed you with a sense of his vital godliness and growing piety during the first inning of the family ear-scrubbing match? With the exception of the boy who wrote a couple of unrendable Sunday school books and died, you never knew such a case, always excepting, of course, your own immaculate boy.

Dearly beloved, cleanliness is a good thing, if it is not carried to excess. There *should* be something about it that makes for godliness; there is certainly a powerful influence for evil that it wields with relentless and implacable purity. I have known boys, under the maddening stimulus of compulsory cleanliness, to wish they had no ears; to wish that their hair *would* all fall out; to wish there was no water in the world; and one boy—the worst of all bad boys I knew—once, when his scalp was smarting and burning like an awakened conscience and his ears were glowing like two red lights on a railway track, wished, in an undertone, which his mother could not hear, that the Sunday school would burn down. It made his sister Mary's curls stand straight up with horror. Now, when cleanliness has such a malign influence as this, isn't there something wrong about it? It seem to me there is.

In the average human family, a family that isn't able to support and properly wait upon more than one or two servants, is the soul usually lifted up into a clearer ether of godliness on "wash day?" A wash day dinner is not infrequently a means of the mortification of the flesh, but does it therefore and thereby develop a higher spirituality? I trow not. Where do you find the most incessant struggle after cleanliness? Hand in hand with the greatest wickedness! In the slums of the city, always where all the women are all the time busy getting drunk, quarreling, fighting, scolding and scrubbing. In the section of the city where grace least abounds and sin has a ground rent on every tenement, you wade through puddles of suds, and almost every woman who stops to swear at you has a piece of soap in one hand and a scrubbing brush in the other. And yet she is neither cleanly nor godly. Not by a jug full.

Why, my hearers, I am sometimes inclined to think there is nothing neat about cleanliness. Did you ever notice the gentleman who drives a simple equipage around town, in the interest of cleanliness, collecting the crude materials for the manufacture of Prunc's, Celluloid, Biddle's and other famous brands of soap? There is no odor of sanctity about him, or about the reeking barrels in his wagonette which smells to heaven; that's about as near as they get to godliness. I wonder that he has no illustrated testimonial to the excellence of his wares from clergyman or opera singer. "I have sold soap-fat to Mr. Con. MacClanachy for several years, and have always known when his cart was coming long before I could see it. Christine Atelke Pitipatti." There is nothing goodly about a rendering or a bone boiling establishment; there is nothing elevating or refining about the manufacture of soap. It isn't a healthful business; it isn't pleasant; it is a nuisance, and has to be carried on a long way off from sweet, respectable neighborhoods. "Let us have less soap and more comfort," says the respectable neighborhood.

In conclusion, beloved, did you ever note in your husband, or your brother, or yourself, a sweet increase of piety, a steady growth in grace, a daily tendency to godliness, during the reign of terror, an expression sometimes euphonised into "house-cleaning days?" During this era of despair, when the Spirit of Cleanliness reigns supreme, is there an atmosphere of peace in the home; a tranquil, abiding joy that rises superior to door mats on the library table and soap in the ink stand? Does lovely woman—God bless her—wreathe her face in smiles at this time and go singing about the house, a sunny spirit whose presence is a poem? Is there, at this cleanly time, in and over and through *everything*, a thrill of quiet joyousness that makes "house cleaning time" the white day of all white days on the calander, for whose coming our weary, hoping spirits long and wait through all the year, as men who watch for the morning? H'm? I did not quite catch your reply. Speak up, please.

One word more; it was my intention, when I selected my text, to make this sermonette a plea for more dirt and comfort. I have changed my mind somewhat the text has developed itself, but yet I am not altogether convinced that there is not room and need for such a plea. Man is justified in his horror of cleanly methods. He came from dirt and to dirt he is bound; from dust to dust; it is so ordered. Shall he then quarrel with his intermediate state? Shall he despise alike his origin and destiny? Nay; his childish outcry against having his tender ears rasped with a set of motherly knuckles is no shriek of boyish pain or petulance; it is the living protest of his very nature against an unnatural flying in the face of Providence, and the established order of things. "What is man," exclaimed Job, "that he should be clean?"

Bear in mind, then, oh queen of the household, that there is a natural affinity, a hereditary allegiance between man and dust, and that the impatience, nay, even the wrathful enmity with which he regards the processes of cleanliness, are to him the gifts of the gods. Your womanly hatred of dust he considers a reflection upon himself. To-day, he knows that you would bow to the polished floor with proud humility, should Imperial Cæsar enter your parlor; but let Imperial Cæsar, dead and turned to clay, be helplessly blown into your pretty home by the lawless winds, and you would fire him out with all the womanly exorcism of broom, brush, and sweeper. Ah, thou daughter of Eve, heaven only knows how many times your impious hand sweeps from its resting place the dust of your ancestors, which might lie in grimy peace wherever it might happen to drift, or ever your more reverent husband would profane its hallowed rest.

And finally,—but I fear I weary you—might I suggest that her warfare against her husband's ancestry, woman is apt to be most ungraciously ungentle, not to say rough? Isn't there something most maddeningly exasperating in some violent measures against our natural condition? For instance, do you suppose—look me right in the eye—do you believe that any mother in this world, ever washes her own face as she washes the contorted countenance of her son? Tell me the truth—keep your eyes on mine, please,—does any living woman clinch herself fiercely by the hair of her head, when about to perform her ablutions, while with the other hand she rasps and gouges and digs at her tortured countenance and burning ears? Do you wonder that a boy's earliest impressions of cleanliness are as far removed from godliness as swearing is from prayer? By and by, that boy will grow to be a man, and become accustomed to the gentler ways of men. He will go into a man barber shop, and the man barber will smoothly take all the rough, wiry beard from his cheeks and chin with a touch as soft as velvet, he will bathe his face gently as the dews of June night kiss a rose, he will shampoo him into a condition of dreamy languor that is a delicious compromise between waking and sleeping, and as he thinks of the way he used to make Rome howl while his mother held him by the scalp and mauled him through a rasping imitation of a shampoo, how much happier he might have been on Saturday night, had his mother been a barber.

"Cleanliness is next to godliness," we will admit that, if you please. There is something deliciously comfortable and sweet in a dustless house, (it is the duster, probably,) but the roads to that Eyless Beulah are desert paths. What the man you are most interested in wants, is not less cleanliness, but less violent and dusty methods of attaining the border land of godliness. Bear with his natural tendencies with all the patience and gentleness you may. Remember that he was taken from the dust of the earth, and so loves his old mother with a lingering natural tendencies, as you, "Heaven's last, best gift," feel (or should feel for the noble creature from whose side you were taken; the first, but not the last rib 'un that fluttered the heart out of a man. "Let us have Peace."

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

CELIA'S IDEA.

BY KATHERINE B. FOOT.

It was a bright sunny room, full of beautiful things, with a cheerful wood fire on the hearth, reflecting itself over and over in many facets of the tall old andirons, with fresh flowers in a bowl on the table, and books and pictures everywhere; yet in the midst of all the brightness, Celia Weston lay on the lounge in her pretty blue wrapper looking the picture of discontent.

"Oh dear!" she said, "how the wind does howl about the windows,—it makes me dreadfully nervous. I wish it would stop."

"It would make you much more nervous if it got in and howled, than it does staying out and howling," said Mrs Burton, who sat knitting away on a stocking, and she gave Celia a very disapproving glance as she spoke.

"Oh grandma!" said Celia pettishly, "you always do think of such *unpleasant* things; I'm sure it's bad enough to lie here with a lame knee for weeks and weeks without thinking of such—such horrid things."

"You don't seem inclined to appreciate pleasant things, so I think it's well to remind you how well off you are, occasionally," said Mrs. Burton, looking over her spectacles.

"Well, I suppose I have got food and clothes and a fire, but everybody has these on a day like this in January. Ugh! how it howls;" and she nestled closer into the corner of her lounge and pulled her pretty Bellagio blanket of light blue with Roman stripes a little more up over her knees.

"Have they?" said Mrs. Burton quietly. "I have an impression that there are a good many people that haven't food and clothes and a fire on this bitter day."

Celia smoothed the nap on her blanket and said: Oh dear me, grandma, now what's the use of thinking about such things? I'm sure I can't help them any—lying here. I think Grandma Weston is so much more—well, more comfortable than you are,—she says "it's no use worrying about things you can't help." "

"I quite agree with her," said Mrs. Burton, knitting away very fast and the needles clicked in an emphatic way. "I quite agree with her about not worrying about things we can't help, but I wonder if there is any evil under the sun that is beyond help—that we really couldn't help if we tried hard enough?"

"My goodness! I never thought of it so," said Celia, and she stared into the fire, and her pretty cheeks grew rosy red and her fair hair glistened in all its waves as a sunbeam slanted across her head.

Presently she said: "Well, I wish my lame knee could have been helped."

"It could have been," said Mrs. Burton emphatically, "if your mother had listened to my advice and had kept you out of that ridiculous gymnasium."

"Ridiculous gymnasium!" said Celia, "why, grandma Burton, don't you believe in girls taking exercise?"

"Most certainly I do," said Mrs. Burton, dropping her knitting and pushing up her glasses to take a good look at Celia, "but I don't believe in taking it in that way."

"What way?" said Celia.

"Gymnasium way, to be sure," said Mrs. Burton. "You wouldn't have had a lame knee if you hadn't been hanging by your arms in a way that no girl or woman ever ought to hang. It's no wonder your muscles gave way and you came down in a crooked heap with this result; no, I certainly don't approve of gymnasiums as most of them are conducted."

"But we have to be taught to breathe properly and to walk—"

"Nonsense," said her grandmother, "I was never taught to breathe or to walk, and my lungs and my legs are in much better condition than your mother's although she is forty and I'm seventy."

"But then how shall girls exercise? They can't sit still forever and we need some exercise, we have to study so hard now."

"How shall you exercise? Sweep your room, make your bed, wash the breakfast dishes, and learn to cook and wash and iron and you'll get exercise enough when you've taken a good brisk three mile walk every day you'll have some appetite and some muscle that's good for something."

Celia straightened up a little in her corner. "Grandma Burton," she said, "I thought you were talking yesterday about the higher education for women and about old people getting behind the times and now just hear yourself go on,—about my doing a servant's work! Grandma Weston would never feel such a way, and you say she is way behind the times."

Mrs. Burton nodded her head and smiled a little, then she looked up. "Celia," she said in a way that the girl knew meant a good deal, "I have long had it on my mind to tell you something. Now I'll tell you. In the first place I do believe in the higher education for women but I believe in their *lower* education quite as much and a good deal more perhaps. I'll tell you what I mean," for she saw the question that trembled on Celia's lips, "It seems a dreadful thing to me that women in these days seem to consider it a disgrace to do housework. It ought to be the very first thing that every girl should be taught, no matter whether her parents are rich or poor. There wouldn't be so many poor people to begin with if all women were good housewives, that stands to reason—"

"But grandma," said Celia, "ladies can't work. How can they do all the things they have to do and housework,—cooking and things too?"

"Well, many so-called ladies would have better health and be happier doing housework than they ever have or ever will be dawdling about trying to learn to paint and embroider, when they have neither taste nor capacity for either. Then perhaps you haven't thought that lady is supposed to have originally meant "loaf giver," and it is not at all necessary that a lady should do housework all her life, if she is able to hire other women to do it for her, if she finds other work in the world where she can better put her shoulder to the wheel, but she ought to be able to instruct them in every part of their duties and if she knew how to do it she would have plenty of exercise all her life, and exercise of the best sort, calling into use every muscle of her body."

"How about her head and her brains?" asked Celia with a triumphant look.

Grandma gave her a quick sharp look as she said, It takes plenty of head work to do housework intelligently and as it ought to be done."

Celia was quite routed out of the field for a moment and then she said, "Well, grandma Weston don't feel as you do at all about such things. She——"

"Well, she ought to," said Mrs. Burton dryly, "for her mother was one of the most intelligent and capable housewives I ever saw."

"But that was in old times," said Celia, "when ladies did such things and it wasn't like being a servant."

Grandma Burton pressed her lips very firmly together for a moment and then she said:

"Your great grandmother, grandma Weston's mother, was a true lady in the best sense of the word,—she was also my aunt Tracy's servant and a most good and faithful one."

"My great grandmother a servant!" Celia could just ejaculate.

"A servant!" repeated Mrs. Burton. "I have often thought I would tell you this, for you have been growing so snobbish the last year that it seems to me high time that you should look at things as they are. I have been shocked to hear your grandmother Weston talking to you as I have heard her of "menial occupation," and such nonsense. No honest *work* is ever menial; but cringing for favor and place in society is about as menial work as a human being can indulge in. Your great grandmother was an honest, self respecting woman. She was the daughter of a well to do New England farmer, and she married another farmer, but troubles and misfortunes came to both families, and she was left a widow with three children, one girl and two boys. She was a good housekeeper and an excellent, capable and efficient woman, and she went to live with my aunt and kept her little daughter with her. Her boys were old enough to go to work; fourteen and fifteen, and they did, and they worked their way up in the world and one died a rich merchant and one is your good uncle William, who has been settled over one parish for forty years. Your great grandmother lived with Aunt Tracy until she died and was her good, kind, faithful friend always. After Aunt Tracy died and her will was read it was found that she had given your grandmother who was then a pretty young girl, a very comfortable little property, and her mother had a life income from the estate. Then your grandmother married a poor man and by her excellent judgment and self sacrifice and great capabilities as a housewife she made him a most excellent wife and until he made an immense fortune your good grandmother had no nonsensical notions."

Grandma Burton went on knitting and Celia sat very still.

"She's having a good "think," " thought grandma, "and it will do her good."

Celia sat up as straight as she could soon and said, "I don't mean to be snobbish, grandma,——it's vulgar to be a snob."

"We all have to learn our lessons," said Mrs. Burton quietly, "and it seems to me, Celia, that you had too much really sound good sense not to know that while there is no harm in being proud of our ancestors if they did any great or good thing, that it is wicked and silly to be ashamed of any of them or anyone else, who does any honest work, that's of use in the world. Truly well bred people, *real* ladies and gentlemen, never talk about servants in the sort of way that I have heard you use, as if the word servant was a sort of badge of inferiority or degration. We are all servants of somebody——did you ever think of that? The men and women highest in place and power,——the money kings and queens, the real kings and queens,——they are all servants, and they have a hard time of it too, always at the beck and call of somebody. Oh! this servant question is a great question," said Mrs. Burton, shaking her head. "But I didn't mean to preach to you when you asked me about how to take exercise, and I've only got to say that that's a good way for you to get it and if you want be a true lady you must learn the work that every true woman ought to be able to do whether she has to do it or not,——or likes to do it or not."

"I'd do anything if I only could get up and walk about," said Celia, "but I can't do anything now. Oh *dear*!" and she gave an impatient sigh and twitch.

"There's always something to do everywhere," said Mrs. Burton. "Just now you can stop fretting; that'll be *one* thing any way."

Just then came a knock at the door. "Mrs. Simmons to see you, Mrs. Burton."

"Oh dear! must she come up here?" said Celia, "she's always so full of her old hospital and things."

"Certainly not," said Mrs. Burton as she got up and took her cane to prepare to go out.

Celia had a quick flash of repentance. She remembered that it was hard for Grandma Burton to go up and down stairs and that she was occupying the family sitting room where Miss Simmons usually came, and that there was no other room on the floor where they were where Miss Simmons could just then be received.

"Oh, excuse, Grandma," she said, I'm sorry I said it——do ask her to come up here!"

Mrs. Burton did not even look at Celia; she knew by the sound of her voice that she meant what she said, and she sat down again, saying, "Show Miss Simmons up here, Sarah."

In a few minutes a tall, thin, very plain woman with a brisk, cheerful manner walked into the room.

"Ah! so kind of you to let me come up here," she said. "I heard you had a sort of hospital here and that being in my line, I thought I'd run in and see you."

"I'm very glad you came," said Mrs. Burton, and Celia, too said, "Yes, I'm glad you came," but she didn't add what she thought, "because I'd be glad to see a cat to-day, if it could walk on all its legs and came from out doors, and usually I hate cats."

Miss Simmons sat down in a corner near the fire where she could look at it and also at Celia and her grandmother.

"How pleasant it is here," she said as she pulled off her gloves and held her hands near the fire, "it's like a bit of heaven; so bright and smells so sweet. Oh——um—m—m——how *good* those flowers are."

"Celia thinks it's dull work to lie here," said Mrs. Burton

"Now for a hateful goody goody speech," thought Celia, but Miss Simmons settled her gold rimmed spectacles on her nose and looked at Celia and said, "Well I think it very likely;—it is dull work to have to "stay put" anywhere—if it is ever so pleasant."

"Why yes, so it is," said Celia with a surprised smile, "it's pleasant enough here——very pleasant," she added with a comprehensive glance about her room, "I guess that's why I feel dull. I didn't understand it before."

"Well you see," said Miss Simmons, "I've seen so many sick people since I went on the State board, that I've found out something about 'em and as one of my Paddy ancestors might have remarked, "small blame to me, either" " Then she suddenly stopped as her eyes fell on a pretty paper box on a chair near her.

"Oh! may I have that box——if you don't want it? I see it's empty as both ends are open."

"Why, of course," said Celia, "it's only a common paper box. I've burned up ever so many since I hurt my knee."

Miss Simmons had taken up the box and was carefully arranging the ends and fastening them. "That will delight Honora's heart," she said, "it's such a bright one with these red roses and that very apoplectic Cupid,——thank you ever so much."

"Who is Honora?" said Celia.

"Why, I thought I had told you about her,——didn't I tell you, Mrs. Burton?"

"No, I think not," said Grandma, looking up with an interested glance.

"It isn't so much to tell after all, but she has interested me so much. She's a poor old Irishwoman and her name is Honora Welsh and she has been in the city almshouse over on the Island for twenty years. She is partially paralyzed and can't walk a step and they get her up in the morning and put her in a chair and wheel her into a corner where there is a window. She can look out and see the sky, and she says it's such a comfort to her and reminds her of the time when she was a little girl in Ballynore and used to lie on her back in the grass and see the clouds sailing over head. And in the window she has two or three plants, and somebody long ago put up two shelves for her in the corner; and on them she has such a jumble of things, that are such treasures. You can never believe what things can be treasured until you've seen Honora's shelves. There she sits all day long, looking at them and her plants, and one day last month when a very feeble little blossom opened on one of her geraniums, Honora was so happy,——well, she was so happy she cried; for she said, "Now Miss Simmons, darlin'——it just came out loike it wasn't in a poor house at all, at all, and there it is as red as' shinin' as if it was a whole garden full." I declare it was the most *touching* thing" and Miss Simmons took off her spectacles and wiped them, and her eyes too.

Celia and grandma sat interested and silent.

"On those shelves," said Miss Simmons, "she has a plaster basket filled with plaster fruit painted in every color of the rainbow,——such impossible fruit as it is; and a plaster figure, and some old clam shells, and she says, "shure those mind me o' the sea," and a little bit of evergreen, "an' that's woods," she says. It was most pathetic to me when she first told me about her treasures and she won my heart so that on my weekly rounds, I always stopped to speak to her. One day she caught me by the shelves and said, "whisper dear!" and I leaned down and she gave me a wink and said, "it's dyin' I am for a cup of the rale old green tay, an' when Miss Sands was here she gave me some change now and agen." It seemed so hard not to give her some then and there, but I knew it wouldn't do and so I said, "well, you know Honora, Miss Sands wasn't a trustee and I am and I can't give to you and not to others;" and she looked so sorry that I had a bright thought and I whispered to her, "Honora, if a box should come to you some day with some things in it you wouldn't have any idea where it came from would you?" Her whole face lighted up and she gave me such an indescribable look, and a wink and said, "Oh don't be talkin'—shure me head's thicker nor a flagstone when I'm not thinkin'." "All right," I said. I went home and packed a box and in it I put some green tea, and some crackers,—those fancy ones; and a little pot of jelly and a little figure of an angel with wide open wings, that could hang up, and several other little things,—oh! there were two aprons of a bright gingham, both different, and then it just happened that I had put in a candlestick and two long red candles. I sent the box off, and when I went to the almshouse again some one had hung up the angel, and the candles were displayed on the shelves, and all the other things, and Honora was full of nods and winks. She drew me down to her as I came near and said, "Oh it's you have the Irish wit. They all think it,s a Catholic lady as sint me the box bekase o' the candles, an' never a suspect is it they have for you at all."

"Oh! what a lovely thing to do," said Celia, "and quite like you, Jane," said Mrs. Burton.

"Oh!" said Miss Simmons hastily, "that's all nonsense you know—it's such a pleasure, and it's so wonderful how little jealousy there is among the very poor. There are women there almost as helpless, and quite as poor and friendless as Honora, but they never seem jealous but always glad when she has a present,—and when I take her this box they will all admire it and seem as pleased as if they owned it."

"How many other women are there where she is?" asked Celia.

"About twenty in that room," said Miss Simmons. Her room is in the wing and they are all old women, crippled or hopelessly incurable in some way or another; but none so helpless as Honora. I often wish I could give these poor women something to occupy their time and their hands and minds, and it takes such trifles to please them. They beg me for all sorts of things, an orange, "a bit of bacey"—"

"Not the women!" said Celia with a horrified look.

"Oh yes indeed." said Miss Simmons laughing, "quite as often as the men do."

"Are there men too?"

"Yes, hundreds of them, but in a separate building, and hundreds of other women, but it is the men and women who are always confined to a bed or a chair that I long to help,—those able to work need another kind of help—to be set on their feet and helped to help themselves."

"How much suffering of all sorts you must see," said Mrs. Burton.

"Ah! no one knows who has not been there,—they do not even *dream* of it," said Miss Simmons and she sighed.

"I declare," she said suddenly, "it makes my very soul bounce within me, when I see people giving all their energies to foreign missions, with hospitals and almhouses right here at our doors that need mission work a good deal more than most of the heathen do. The poor sick people who have lived sordid, poverty stricken lives and have never seen—much less owned, a really pretty thing in all their lives, would be put in a new world, just to own a box like this: and just *think* how many of them go into the fires and the ash barrels of this great city."

"Why," said grandma, "a box like *that* would have been a treasure to me when I was a grown girl——we never had such pretty things in those days and *now* they're thrown away."

Celia sat with folded hands looking straight into the fire, and there was a little color in her cheeks and a brightness in her eyes that Grandma knew meant very serious thinking. Miss Simmons glanced at her too and then got up and drew her cloak over her shoulders.

"Oh do come again, Miss Simmons," said Celia, "and tell me how Honora likes the box." "Oh here, please give it to me a minute!" She took it and opened one end and slipped in a few violets from the bowl beside her. "Those smell sweet even when they're dried," she said.

As Miss Simmons shut the door behind her and met the fierce blast from the Mooth river she thought to herself, "I shouldn't wonder if I had dropped a seed." But even good, unselfish Miss Simmons couldn't dream what a plant was to spring up from that little seed.

Celia was very silent all that evening. "She is tired," her mother said, "the long confinement is telling upon her."

"Good gracious," thought Celia, I wonder how I'd bear living in a poor house years and years and never moving." The next day Celia wrote six notes to her dearest and most particular girl friends. She also held a long conference with her sister May,—thirteen,—and just two years younger than she was, and at last when she was alone with Grandma Burton, she first made her promise solemn secresy, and then had a long, long talk in which Celia did most of the talking.

"My dear," said Grandma when Celia stopped, "I think it is simply beautiful, and I'm sure you can carry it out. Lame knees are good things sometimes," she added with a twinkle in her eyes, and she kissed Celia, but a minute after her eyes were dim. Four days after was Saturday, and soon after nine o'clock the bell rang and one of Celia's friends came in carrying a large basket.

"Here I am," she said as she went up to Celia's room and Celia's mother heard her say, "Now what are you going to do with all these——"

"Sh—sh!" said both Celia and May warningly, and then the door was shut tight. Mrs. Weston had been told that morning that Celia had a great secret that nobody could know for a long time, and Grandma said it was a charming and delightful secret, and May was just hopping about on her toes with excitement. Sarah, whose business it was to answer the door bell declared that night that "the two feet is wore off of me with runnin' up and down stairs," for all day long the six dear and intimate friends came and went, and they always went out with empty baskets, and came back with full ones, very mysteriously covered. The first baskets came by district telegraph boys usually, except Fanny Brown's, which was solemnly carried up the steps by a footman in livery as Miss Fanny skipped out of the carriage and up the steps. The footman looked very much hurt because it was such a very large and very common looking basket; for as he said afterwards to the coachman, he didn't consider it the business of any man who hired for his place to be carrying charity baskets out doors, and that if it happened again he should speak about it. But the girls became so excited about something that they carried several baskets full apiece later in the day.

(To be Continued.)

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL]

DUTIES OF NURSES.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

The Anglo-mania which has held sway in the United States for the past few years has not yet led mothers to delegate to hirelings, the absolute rule that obtains in the English nursery. One reason for this may be found in the fact that the trustworthy nurse who figures in nearly all the tales of British child life is rarely found among us. Perhaps she is the product of an older civilization, where all men are not born free and equal; or possibly American matrons are more loth to confide their offspring to the exclusive care of employees. Still, unless the mother happens to be one of those women who have no interest outside of the nursery she is obliged to depend to a great extent upon the fidelity and competency of a nurse. It is better that this should be the case; no special advantage accrues to a child from having his mother his ever present vassal, while such close confinement is often a physical and mental detriment to the mother. With very young children she must, of necessity, be bound down. Upon her, unless the nurse is exceptionally well trained, must fall the washing and dressing of the babies. As the little ones grow older, the nurse may by degrees be initiated into these offices. Close watching will soon inform the mother whether her substitute possesses the deftness of handling and tenderness of touch requisite for such delicate work.

A kindly temper is a *sine qua non* in any one who has the charge of children. Endless patience is indispensable in an occupation where yielding to a sudden spasm of petulance that leads to a rough shake or blow, may produce serious consequences. Apart from physical trifles, a child's disposition may be permanently injured by constant association with a cross or sulky nurse. Children are readily influenced by gloomy looks and sharp words. It is pitiful to see at what an early age they will exercise all their small arts to win smiles and caresses. It is more than a pity—it is a *sin* that for no fault of theirs they should so often be surrounded with clouds.

In the close association of the nursery, the influence of character is felt with unappreciated force. The quick, imitative child picks up an ugly word, a peevish gesture, a dirty trick, and reproduces it with startling exactness. Here again the mother's eye and hand are needed. She must observe and judge the language her child hears, the conduct he witnesses. By her own observation she must satisfy herself that he is kept clean physically as well as morally. Perfect neatness of person must be insisted upon in the nurse, the business of daily bathing, of clean clothing closely regulated. By providing colored aprons to be worn while sweeping, dusting and scrubbing are in process, the white ones can be kept in a state to be presentable when the nurse is ready to sit down to her sewing or to the care of the children. The routine of her day is usually uneventful. Her first duties are to wash and dress her little charges, unless they, by sleeping late, allow her leisure to brush up and dust the nursery. The room may air while she attends them at their breakfast. In many households the parents look after the children while they are at their meals, thus allowing the nurse to do the chamber work. A little washing for the babies usually forms part of the nurse's work, and this may be done immediately after she has eaten her own breakfast. The family mending and the minor alterations of the little ones' clothing are included in her occupations. A woman who has the faculty for amusing children will generally be able to accommodate her various occupations to one another. The daily airing comes about noon, either before or after the midday meal. As evening draws on the nursery must be put in order, the children fed and prepared for bed. With young infants, the nurse is sometimes obliged to remain in the nursery during the evening, but older children do not need this, and she can sit with her work in an adjoining apartment, within hearing, in case she should be needed. Nurses do not generally expect to have charge of the children at night, nor is it advisable unless the mother is too weak to assume the care.

Some nurses are sufficiently intelligent to be entrusted with the administration of medicines, but these are few and far between. The best of them is not likely to manifest the discretion that is second nature to the mother. If it is ever necessary to give a child sedatives, it is prudent to keep them out of the nursery. With no evil intentions, the nurse cannot understand why a fit of restlessness should not be quieted by physic as well at one time as at another, and it is wise to remove temptation from the way. Nor must the state of appetite and bowels be left to her judgment. The mother should satisfy herself of the healthy condition of both by daily inquiry. A little thought given to such matters in early life may save incalculable trouble and suffering later.

The matter of corporeal punishment should hardly seem necessary to mention were it not that license in this respect is too often allowed nurses. On no account should any one but the parent ever lift a hand against a child. Naughtiness should be reported to headquarters and the penalty inflicted by the mother or father.

The religious instruction should never be deputed to servants. It is only in goody-goody story books that the pious servant reclaims the ungodly household. In this country, where the employer and employed are generally of different faiths, there should be no leaving to paid nurses the first spiritual impressions produced upon baby minds and hearts. The parents should be the guiding hand.

Daily evidence is given, both by hearsay and by sight, of the neglect from which children often suffer when on the street in charge of a nurse. While this may not always amount to actual cruelty it is frequently injurious. Babies in carriages are inadequately shielded from the heat in Summer and from cold blasts in Winter. Toddling babies are allowed to rest on stone steps or the damp grass while their nominal tenders compare notes as to beaux and bonnets. An occasional stroll by the mother for purposes of surveillance will satisfy her anxiety and have an excellent moral effect upon the nurse. The mother has a right to say where and how her child should have its outing, and it is the nurse's duty to take the baby where the mother may dictate and nowhere else.

[For the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE LITTLE CHILDREN OF FASHION. ABLE MAMA'S.

BY MAY KINGSTON.

"Did you ever think that this great world, with all its wealth and woe, with all its mines and mountains, its oceans, seas and rivers, steamboats and ships, railroads, steam printing-presses, and magnetic telegraphs, will soon be given over to the boys of the present age?"

"That is something to think about," was the answer; in fact there is something alarming in the thought," and throwing down the paper the two gentlemen strode off towards the beach.

I picked up the paper and finished the piece, a strong, pithy bit of writing; in fact a clear, bugle-call to the parents of these boys to be up and doing, fitting the little fellows for their important future. After reading it I looked about me to the boys, and then to the parents who were fellow-boarders at a favorite watering-place. One mama, in elegant attire, a trifle youthful and loud perhaps, was flirting in the latest and most approved style with a sleek, well-perfumed dude, while papa was playing billiards with a famous fast man, the miniature man, Master Hubert Albert, being left to Betty, the maid. Nurse Betty looks at her elegant mistress, and is fired with ambition to try her own blandishments on an idle boatman who lounges on a wharf near by. At once she simpers, fingers her apron and hangs her head as she sees pretty waiter-girls, or my-lady's-maid in the play, and ends in saying foolish things. The boatman follows Betty's lead, but ends in pouring into her willing ears flatteries which are insults.

The music from the band, the undertone refrain of the waves, and the witchery of the whole scene has its influence on Betty, so like her beautiful mistress she skirmishes about the borderland of sin. Her remarks are strengthened by slang, and Tim, the boatman not wishing to be outdone waxes somewhat eloquent, and sandwiches in a few oaths to add impressiveness to the talk, all of which is taken in by the ears of Hubert Albert, our little man. When mama dresses for the dance, Betty hurries her charge to bed without a thought of "Now I Lay Me," or if extra good-natured leads him about where he can hear the wonderful things said by "grown-up's."

Sunday comes, and per contract Betty has an outing in the morning, and as mama is so weary, papa "sees to" his little son, which means *paterfamilias* will sit, feet up, on the cool piazza, paper in hand, while the future statesman, governor, or manager of the interests of this great country, makes the tour of the bar and billiard-rooms, so that at a tender age he may feel quite at home in these apartments. In this tour his education gets quite a push in the wrong direction, by the conversation he hears and a taste of "pep-mint drops" the friendly bar-tender sugars well for the little fellow.

Betty is in love! so Betty tells fibs to get with Tim. To do this Hubert Albert is treated to candy, and is hired to fib also. Papa, with other fast men, bets on the races, so the little lad bets on the miniature regattas which the obliging landlord gets up for his little guests; a nice idea as it puts Hubert Albert in training at an early age, and if he is apt, he will be able to bet understandingly in the future.

The future wives of these boys are being fitted for life in the same school. They twist and smirk through the halls and piazzas, made up of sashes, gorgeous frocks, and cruel shoes, composed of heels and a band of kid somewhere near the toes.

They eat ices and salads, in a dainty way, long past the good old-fashioned bed-time, and chaff the waiters when they ought to be asleep. The little daughter is admired, and brainless men, or wicked men with brains bet heavily, or are willing to bet, that she will be as beautiful as her mama, and this coming to the aforesaid mama's ears, to acknowledge the graceful compliment, she dresses her miniature self gorgeously and lets her dance with some of the vileness of the land.

The little woman enjoys it, and also gets thus early accustomed to familiarities which are allowed in society.

Poor, little, homeless, neglected children, living your young life in a fashionable hotel in the training of a fashionable mother! How are you being fitted for the future, when this great and prosperous country, with all its wealth and woe, its improvements in arts, institutions of learning and schemes of benevolence, its honors and sacred trusts, will pass into your hands?

Far better the old-time home in a country farm house, where the evening's were spent on the old settle in front of a blazing fire, mother near at hand with her knitting, and father with his one newspaper or the almanac to con, when the treat was apples and pop-corn and perhaps cider added, instead of wine, salads and ices, the curtain dropping, lights out, at the unfashionable hour of nine.

[For the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

CARE OF THE LITTLE ONES.

However busy we mothers maybe, during these hot months, we must not, for one brief moment, relax our vigilance, or sickness may be the result. These days of burning heat, and sweltering nights, leave us with very little strength or energy, to meet the never ending demands of work, or time to properly care for the little ones, who suffer a great deal from heat. When they break out with it, the only way I can relieve them is by frequent bathing in tepid water, and dusting them with starch, or even dry flour.

I think a great deal of the remedy consists in knowing that something has been done for them. Sometimes, when our youngest boy comes in, dancing and howling like a young "dervish" for "sta-ach," a dust of flour on his neck, and back, will send him off perfectly happy and contented. I have been told that washing them in *buttermilk*, was a sure remedy, but it was too dreadfully suggestive of a pig pen to ever try.

The time for green corn, yellow cucumbers, cabbage stalks, and unripe fruit, seems, whose forced ripeness (!) renders them unfit for eating having come, and for which all children seem to have an especial hankering, and which must be kept out of their reach, or used with great caution, all cause us no end of trouble. The propensity for examining all sorts of insects, reptiles, caterpillars, etc., venomous, or otherwise, which our "enfant terrible" has always shown, and the terrific yells that greet our ears, over the loss of some unusually ugly specimen of a "bay-ug," (bug) that has succeeded in eluding the grasp of his merciless fingers, are fearful to listen to. "Such a nice one mama," and the tears fall afresh at the recollection; but the shower is soon over, for it is not in his nature to be anything but smiles long. One day I heard him calling me from around the house, and hurrying to see what could be the matter, now, found him leaning over a snake, whose flattened head, flashing eyes, and darting tongue, as he sprang at the little fingers only a few inches away, clearly showed its intentions. The child seemed to be imitating the motions of the snake, and so eager was he to grasp it that I had hard work to hold him, while I watched the snake, and called to the girl to bring some thing to kill it. We soon killed, and even buried it, and whether it was a poisonous snake or not I do not know, but such things are enough to turn one's hair grey.

Another thing we must guard against, is the sudden changes of weather; the cool mornings that render a little more clothing necessary, especially shoes and stockings. The latter should not be neglected for an hour or two each cool morning; for we should remember, that the little ones are just as much affected by the changes as we older ones, though they may not complain. I have frequently seen them dressed in one or two thin garments, when a man would find a thick coat comfortable. No wonder such children have bowel troubles. A few days ago a friend came to visit us; she had two little children, a lovely little girl of two and a half years, and a baby boy of two months, (one of a pair of twins, the other however being dead.) The little girl had some bowel trouble, and the mother gave her raw flour stirred in water, also, made some lettuce tea, and gave her, these remedies did not seem to have much effect, but the weather being very hot in the middle of the day, and quite cool mornings, while the child was dressed in pretty much nothing at all, gave me the clew to the trouble. I spoke of it, but the mother said children could not be dressed too thin in summer, so I held my peace.

The baby did not have a healthy thrifty look either, it was exceedingly restless, and its mother nursed it every few minutes, it seemed to me; and when she was not *nursing* it, she was feeding it with a spoon with cream, sugar and warm water. I gently tried to convince her that it was not a young turkey, that was always ready for food, but her only answer was, "Don't you think some catnip tea would be good for him?" I groaned and told her "no." When for a few minutes it would drop into a restless sleep, she laid it on the bed covered it head and heels, closed the room so that not a breath of air could get to it, then left it to—suffocate, and in a few minutes we would hear that little wailing cry. *She* wondered why her baby did not sleep. *I* wondered why she did not use a little common sense, she was a dear good woman, but I do not believe she has a "faculty" for baby tending. She spoke of the tired look on the little face and said "he was longing for his mate. *I* longed to get hold of it, loosen its clothes, take off part of those heavy skirts, then cuddle the dear little thing to my shoulder, and gently rock it to sleep, then put it in the coolest place I could find, and give it a chance to breathe. But alas! it was not mine and all I could do, was to come where I can free my mind to the dear, dear JOURNAL.

THORNY POPPY.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

"LITTLE DRESSED UP DOLLS."

MARGARET MEREDITH.

So we call them, poor children! half in regret, half in scorn, that the silly mother has put her main care and thought upon their finery. But this does not express the whole pitiful case. They are not dolls, and the little hearts are apt to be aching under those wide white collars as really and as frequently as those under the diamonds and point lace.

I know two little girls who always look like rose-buds. If their mother were to see this, she would never suspect that I was speaking of her children. She thinks they are contented and fortunate. But if you ask one of them, quietly sitting apart, to go play with your other little guests, she shakes her head: "Mama says she'll punish me if I tear my dress." The other, a most active minded looking tiny creature, about seven, said one day in cold blood, with the deliberation of a worn old man: "I wish I was dead." "Oh, why do you say that, my dear child?" "Because I am so tired." Life was one weary care-taking. Some day, probably, she will love dress well enough, and be all too willing to sacrifice herself for it—childhood's happiness lost and life's holiness of aim lost too!

I heard an elderly mother, not a very lenient one either, on clothes subject, say that she took great care not to find fault about mishaps which came to light on getting home from little trips and frolics, because she had such painful recollections of how her own good but strictly careful mother had spoiled all the pleasures of her childhood by the scolding or worse, which she grew to expect as a certain greeting on her return. The thin old best dress was torn, the ribbon lost, the shoes which had been so difficult to get were scratched, and the hard-driven mother's lynx eyed inspection always found something to overthrow her patience.

There may be stringent circumstances in which regard for children's future life-long interests requires the keeping up of a decent appearance, even at the cost of suffering; but even here be careful how you put on the screws of misery. Character is so much more important, and so much easier made or marred, than prospects. An understanding throughout the family of the real state of the case would do much to rouse them to care, and to make them womanly and manly in the highest sense, as well as in this practical matter; and penalties rather as reminders than as punishments would be less bitter.

In the great majority of our American families, the effort is made to dress as well as possible. Is it wise? Is it as elevating as it seems to be? as elevating as effort bestowed in some other directions?

The exact question lies here; whether it is best for you to dress your children as well as you can, or best to leave the margin of energy which you may save from that to give them a little extra home happiness, more training of their morals, and an example which will not have such a strong appearance of worldliness.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—To our kind editor and those good women who have joined to assist her in making the L. H. J. one of the purest and best papers of its kind: to those who have written such helps, especially in the "Mothers' Corner" I give my thanks. My pen is not brilliant but I may at least applaud when I hear a good thing from others. All should remember that each letter containing an account of trials overcome, or suggestions for those in the future is of value to some one, so do not say or think, "I am not sufficiently educated to write for our paper." We all have ideas, and some excellent ones, too. Yours may be just what some anxious mother, sister or daughter, needs most, so let us have them. If your articles, be they ever so brief, possess merit, they will be read eagerly. Send on your cake recipes, lace patterns, etc. We want them all.

What a help "Mildred's Conversation Class" is to the girls, and even the married girls. They are just what we need. Things that we supposed we knew all about are presented in such a clear light that we wonder how we can have gone on so many years making errors so glaring that had we applied our boasted knowledge of grammar we might have corrected long years ago.

Eben E. Rexford's talks are very instructive to amateur florists. In fact what is there in our dear little paper that we can do without? Do you all preserve your papers when read? I have a nice box, papered inside and out, with cover fastened by strap hinges, wherein each number is laid at full length (we never fold one.)

I mean to keep them all that when our little daughter becomes of suitable age she may be benefitted by the truths therein which will never be too old to be useful.

Like most writers I am in need of help and turn to our paper for it. My husband, on account of lung trouble has been advised by his physician to go to New Mexico. I would like very much to correspond with some resident of that territory. If any lady will be so kind as to send me her address I will gladly pay all postage and repay any trouble incurred, in any way I can.

Address MRS. E. F. WETMORE.

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(*Eng. Ed. pp. 619, Dietary Article No. 6. Am. Ed. pp. 478.*)

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE-WORK.

MARY F. KNAPP, EDITOR,
No. 20 Linden St., S. Boston, Mass.

Terms Used in Knitting.

K—Knit plain. P—Purl, or as it is sometimes called Seam. N or K 2 tog—Narrow, by knitting 2 together. Over—Throw the thread over the needle before inserting in the next stitch. This makes a loop which is always to be considered a stitch, in the succeeding rows or rounds. Tw—Twist stitch. Insert the needle in the back of the stitch to be knitted, and knit as usual. Sl—Slip a stitch from the left hand to the right hand needle without knitting it. Sl and B—Slip and bind—slip one stitch, knit the next; pass the slipped one over it, exactly as in binding off a piece of work at the end. * indicates a repetition, and is used merely to save words. "Sl 1, k 1, p 1, repeat from * 4 times"—would be equivalent to saying sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1. Tog means together.

Terms in Crochet.

Ch—Chain; a straight series of loops, each drawn with the hook through the preceding one. Sl st—Slip stitch; put hook through the work, thread over the hook, draw it through the stitch on the hook. S c—Single Crochet; having a stitch on the needle (or hook) put the needle through the work, draw the thread through the work, and the stitch on the needle. D c—double crochet; having the stitch on the needle, put the needle through the work, and draw a stitch through, making two on the needle. Take up the thread again, and draw it through both these stitches. T c or Tr—Treble Crochet; having a stitch on the needle, take up the thread as if for a stitch, put the needle through the work, and draw the thread through, making three on the needle. Take up the thread and draw through two, then take up the thread and draw it through the two remaining. S t c—Short Treble Crochet; like treble, except that when the three stitches are on the needle, instead of drawing the thread through two stitches twice, it is drawn through all three at once. L t c—Long Treble Crochet; like treble, except that the thread is thrown twice over the needle before inserting the latter in the work. The stitches are worked off two at a time, as in treble. Extra Long Stitch—Twine the cotton three times round the needle, work as the treble stitch, bringing the cotton through two loops four times. P—or picot; made by working three chain, and one single crochet in first stitch of the chain.

Can any one send directions and sample for fluted lace with four rows of holes in upper edge of flute? A. M. G.

V. E. D.—An Antimacassar is a tidy.

If "Irene" in June number, will send stamp and her address to me, I will send her a sample of deep flounces. MRS. J. L. DE HAVEN.
UNITY, MEAGHER CO., MONTANA.

If "Mrs. Wm. Thomas" and the "Mother of Two," who in July number ask for knitting silk stocking and mitten directions, will send to Nonotuck Silk Co. Florence, Mass., their address and three two cent stamps, asking them to send a book "How to use Florence Knitting Silk" for 1886, they will find all needed directions, and be able to tell just how much silk is required.
ONE WHO HAS TRIED IT.

Can some one send directions for Crochet Corset Cover? MRS. E. L. W.

Will "Achsah" send her full address to Jane R. Albee, CHARLTON, MASS.

Will some one give tried directions for making old time Polish Boots; size of needles, quantity and kind of worsted used for number 4 boot.
MRS. M. A. W.

Will some one who knows, tell me what will take wagon grease out of light bunting dress goods. E. M. C.

Grace H.—One way to stain a white hat is to paint it over with Shoe Polish, dry it in the sun, then paint again. J. V. C.

Can any of our readers tell where to purchase a kind of cloth used for hot beds, in place of glass, the width of it, and how much per yard.
MRS. A. R. CALVER.

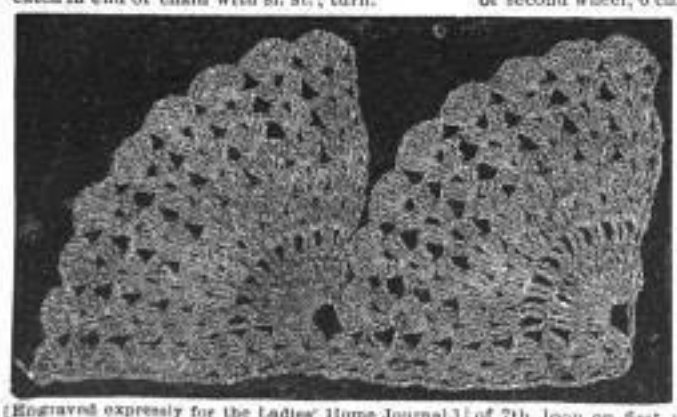
Mrs. P. H. would like some sister to tell her how to make a pretty bib *for her one year old baby.*

Some one asks in reference to rose leaves in ribbon work. I do not understand whether you mean rose petals or leaves. I have embroidered several patterns of the wild rose, working the leaves in chenille, and the flower in gros grain ribbon of three different shades. I prefer that kind of ribbon to satin. The sprays you can have stamped; I painted mine in outline on the material, as the stamped patterns are rather compact for ribbon work. All that is necessary for the pattern is to paint the outline of the leaves, leaving a space where you wish to applique the roses. The leaves are often embroidered in arasene instead of chenille. If one prefers buying the petals, they can be bought in plush (not ribbon) at Bentley's Art Needle Work Rooms, N. Y. MOLLY.

Directions for Fan Lace.

Chain 10 turn.

1st row—3 tr c in 5th stitch from needle, ch. 2, 3 tr c in same (this forms shell), chain 5 and catch in end of chain with sl. st.; turn.



[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]

2nd row—Ch 3, make 16 tr c in ch 5 of preceding, make shell in shell, 1 tr c in end of shell; turn.

3rd row—Ch 3, shell in shell, 1 tr c in each of the preceding 16 tr c; turn.

4th row—Ch, 5, 1 tr c in each of the tr c below, with 1 ch between, make shell in shell, 1 tr c in end; turn.

5th row—Ch, 3, shell in shell, 2 tr c under the 1 ch between the tr c in the preceding row, ch 1, 2 tr c in same place, skip 2 tr c in last row * repeat from * until you have made 7 more, or 8 in all, 1 tr c in end; turn.

6th row—Ch, 4, 3, tr c chain 2, 3, tr c in ch 1 of preceding row, * repeat from * to the end, making the shell of course, 1 tr c in end; turn.

7th row—Chain 5, shell in shell, the rest is same as preceding row, not forgetting to make a tr c in the row under; turn.

8th row—Ch 4, the rest is same as the row before, not omitting the tr c in end; turn.

9th row—Chain 3, shell in shell, the rest same as 8th row, after making the tr c in end; turn.

10th row—Chain 4, 5 tr c, ch, 1, 5 tr c in ch 2 of preceding row * repeat from * until you have 7 or 8 in all, shell in shell, tr c in end and you have the first scallop. C. S. H.

Directions for Infants' Long-sleeved High-necked Shirts.

Make a chain of 170 stitches. This chain will also be long enough for back and front and going over the shoulder. On this go back and forth 17 times in D C (double crochet), putting the middle through the back loop of the stitch which gives it the ribbed effect. On the 18th row crochet but 75 stitches, turn and work back and forth 17 times more. On the next row crochet 50 stitches and make a chain of 25 stitches; (this will make the opening in the front); work back and forth on this side 17 times. Then crochet 75 stitches and make a chain of 95 stitches and work back and forth 17 times, break off wool and commence at the shoulder and make the back of shirt by working back and forth 34 times; join it to the other side. Sew up sides until about 3 or 4 in. of the top. Crochet around the opening of front and neck a scallop, and run in a ribbon or crochet cord to fit the neck. For the sleeves make a chain of 65 stitches and work back and forth 30 times; join and sew up. With knitting needles pick up the stitches at bottom of sleeves and knit 1, purl 1, to form a cuff about two inches deep and bind off loosely. Double crochet, having a stitch on the needle, thread over, draw through the two stitches.
HATTIE WILLIARD WESTMORE.

[Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.]

Wheel Trimming.

Take a small stick or lead pencil and cut it down until 3-16 of an inch in diameter, wind thread round the end eight times, slip off and catch the threads together with a slip stitch make ch 3, then 36 d c in the little circle formed by slipping thread from stick, and join in the 3 ch stitches first made. Make a ch of 6, catch in top of third d c with a c, then ch 6, catch in top of 6th d c, so on round the circle until you get to the ch 6 first made, draw your thread through the same stitch with which you first started the ch, fasten securely, cut the thread; you will then have a wheel with 12 little loops of ch 6 around it. Wind thread round stick again and proceed as before, until circle is complete, then instead of making 6 ch stitches, make 3 ch stitches and fasten in third stitch of loop first made on wheel number 1, then 3 ch, fasten with s c in top of third d c of second wheel, 3 ch, fasten (with s c each time) in third stitch second loop on first wheel, 3 ch, fasten in top of sixth d c of second wheel, 6 ch, fasten in top of 9th d c in second wheel; so on round, until the circle is complete; slip thread, after fastening securely, and you have two wheels joined. Fasten third wheel in third stitch of 5th loop on second wheel, 3 ch, fasten in top of 3d d c on third wheel, 3 ch, fasten in third stitch of 6th loop, on second wheel, 3 ch, fasten in top of 6th d c on third wheel; then proceed with 6 ch round wheel as before, clipping your thread at end of each wheel: this completes first row. 2nd row—Form circle as before until ready to join to first row, then fasten with s c in third stitch of 7th loop on first wheel, counting from the top, or where wheel number two is joined, 3 ch fasten in top of third d c in wheel just made, 3 ch fasten in third stitch of 8th loop on wheel 1, 3 ch fasten in top of 6 d c on wheel, then proceed with 6 ch until wheel is complete. When next wheel is ready to join, fasten the 3 ch stitch as in 3rd stitch of 9th loop on wheel just joined, 3 ch, fasten in top of third d c of wheel just made, 3 ch fasten in third stitch of next loop, 3 ch, fasten in top of 6th d c of wheel, 3 ch, fasten in third stitch of loop on first wheel, 3 ch, fasten in top of 9th d c of wheel, 3 ch, fasten in third stitch of next loop on wheel number 1, 3 ch, fasten in top of 12th d c of wheel, 3 ch, fasten in 3rd stitch of loop on second wheel, 3 ch, fasten in top of 15th d c of wheel, 3 ch, fasten in 3rd stitch of next loop on second wheel, 3 ch, fasten in top of 18th d c of wheel, then complete the wheel as before, with 6 ch.

Sample is made from 8 linen thread; the trimming may be made any width desired. Is very pretty for a child's dress yoke. M. P. L.

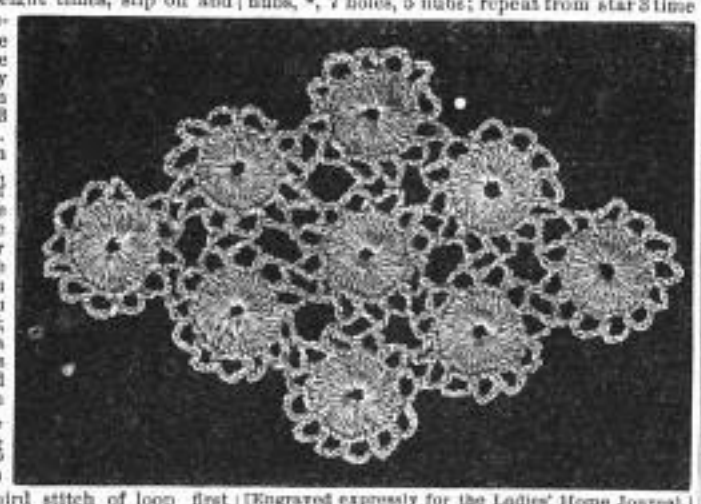
D c—double crochet,—thread over, draw it through two stitches, thread over, draw it through 2 stitches.

Pop Corn Tidy.

(By request.)

Chain 168 stitches.

1st row—1 d c in 3rd st of chain, ch 3, 1 d c in 6th st of ch, make 3 chain and put 1 d c in every 3rd st of ch through the row; you will have 55 holes; turn. 2nd row—ch 3, 1 d c under ch 3, ch 3, 1 d c in next loop, ch 3, 1 d c in next, * ch 3, 6 d c in next loop, take out the hook, put it in top of the 1st d c, draw it through the st you took the hook out of, and draw it through the first d c; this makes a nub; repeat from star 4 times, ch 3, 1 d c in next loop; this makes a hole; work five more holes; repeat again from the star 4 times, ch 3, 1 dc in hole, 3 ch, 1 d c in hole; 3 ch, 1 d c in hole; turn. 3rd row, Ch 3, 1 d c in first hole, ch 3, 1 d c in next hole, ch 3, 1 d c in next hole, * ch 3, 6 d c in next hole, which comes between the 2 nubs; take out the hook, put it through the top of first d c, on under side of work, then through the st you took the hook out of, and draw it through the d c, repeat from star 3 times, ch 3, 1 d c in hole, ch 3, 1 d c in hole, ch 3, 1 d c in hole, ch 3, make a nub in next hole, make 3 holes, repeat again from the star 4 times, make 4 holes; turn. 4th row—Ch 3, 1 d c in hole, * ch 3, 1 d c in next hole, ch 3, 1 d c in next hole, ch 3, 1 d c in next hole, ch 3, make a nub between first and second nub of last row, ch 3, make a nub, ch 3, make a nub, make 3 holes, ch 3, make a nub, ch 3, make a nub, repeat from star 3 times, make 4 holes, 3 nubs, 4 holes. 5th row—Ch 3, 1 d c in hole, *, make 3 more holes, ch 3, make a nub between 1st and 2nd nub in last row, ch 3, make a nub between 2nd and 3d nub, make 3 holes, ch 3, make a nub, ch 3, make a nub, ch 3, make a nub; repeat from star 3 times, make 4 holes, 2 nubs, 5 holes. 6th row—Ch 3, 1 d c in hole, make 5 more holes, 1 nub, 4 holes, 4 nubs *, 4 holes, 1 nub, 4 holes, 4 nubs; repeat from star twice, make 4 holes, 1 nub, 5 holes. 7th row—ch 3, 1 d c in hole, make 8 more holes, 5 nubs, *, 7 holes, 5 nubs; repeat from star twice, make 9 holes. 8th row—Ch 3, 1 d c in hole, make 5 more holes, 1 nub, *, 4 holes, 4 nubs, 4 holes, 1 nub; repeat from star 3 times, make 5 holes. 9th row—Ch 3, 1 d c in first hole, *, 4 more holes, 2 nubs, 4 holes, 3 nubs; repeat from star 3 times, make 4 holes, 2 nubs, 5 holes. 10th row—5 holes, 3 nubs, *, 4 holes, 2 nubs, 4 holes, 3 nubs; repeat from star 3 times, make 4 holes. 11th row—*, 4 holes, 4 nubs, 4 holes, 1 nub; repeat from star 3 times, 4 holes, 4 nubs, 4 holes. 12th row—4 holes, 5 nubs, *, 7 holes, 5 nubs; repeat from star 3 time make 3 holes; repeat from third row. Repeat until you have a half diamond, three whole diamonds, and a half diamond in length. For border, make a row of holes (ch 3, and 1 d c) all round the tidy. 2nd—Make 3 d c in each hole. 3rd—A row of holes. 4th row—4 holes, 1 nub, 4 holes, 1 nub; repeat. 5th row—*, 3 holes, 1 nub in hole before the nub in last row, ch 3, 1 nub in hole next the nub in last row; repeat from star. 6th row—*, 4 holes, 1 nub between the 2 nubs in last row; repeat from star. 7th, row of holes, 8th, row of nubs; tie in a fringe. M. F. K.



[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]

Child's Mitten.

Materials—One ounce of white Lady Grey yarn, two steel knitting needles number 10, and two finer ones, number 14.

Cast on 57 stitches with number 10 needles.

1st row—Make 1, slip 1 as if about to seam it, narrow; repeat to end of row. This is the well-known brioche stitch.

2nd to the 14th rows—Like the first. Be careful that the two stitches that are knit together are those which naturally fall together in the knitting.

15th to 18th rows—Like first.

19th row—1 plain, narrow; repeat.

20th row—1 plain, *, make 1, narrow *; repeat from * to *.

21st row—Plain.

22nd row—1 plain, seam 1; repeat.

23rd row—Seam the knitted and knit the seamed stiches of last row.

Repeat last two rows 3 times.

30th row—Make 1, slip 1, 1 plain; repeat.

31st to 37th rows—Make 1, slip 1, narrow; repeat.

38th row—Make 1, slip 1, narrow; repeat 5 times more; turn, leaving the rest of the stitches and knit the 18th row on the right needle in the same brioche pattern for 13 more rows for the thumb.

52nd row (of thumb)—1 plain, narrow; repeat.

53rd row—Narrow to end of row and bind off. This completes the thumb. Now go on with the hand. Take the stitches left on 38th row and proceed as follows:

39th row—Knit 3 together (this narrows one rib), make 1, slip 1, narrow; repeat brioche stitch to the end.

40th row—Make 1, slip 1, narrow; repeat to within 3 stitches of the end, then knit 3 together; thus narrowing another rib.

41st and 42nd rows—Like 39th and 40th, only knitting two together at the end.

43rd row—Knit 3 together, *, make 1, slip 1, narrow, *; repeat from * to *.

44th row—Make, 1 slip 1, narrow; repeat, knitting 3 together at end.

Repeat these last two rows 14 times, knitting 2 instead of 3 at the end of the rows.

59th row—1 plain, narrow; repeat.

60th row—1 plain, seam 1; repeat.

61st row—Like 60th row.

62nd row—Narrow; repeat to the end and bind off.

This finishes the mitten, which has been knitted flat. Now sew the edges and top of the thumb together, then edge stitches of the hand. A narrow ribbon or cord is run through holes of 20th row. This mitten is for the right hand.

In knitting the left hand one begin at the 39th row to knit the part for the hand first, leaving the six ribs for the thumb at the end of the needle, to be worked after the hand is finished. I will send a copy of the elegant book of rules called the "Star light Manual," which tells how to make everything of yarn, for forty-five cents.
EVA M. NILES.
EAST GLOUCESTER, MASS.

Knit Skirt.

Cast on 144 stitches.

1st row—Knit plain.

2d row—Knit plain.

3d row—Seam.

4th row—Knit plain.

5th row—Knit 2 tog, 3 plain, th o 1, k 1, th o 1, k 3, slip 1, k 2 tog, pass slip stitch over, k 3; repeat to end of needle.

6th row—Seam.

7th row—Same as fifth row; knit last stitch plain.

8th row—Seam, knit 5th row, and seam back until there are five rows of holes for one set of scallops, seam back on wrong side, seam across on right side, knit plain on wrong side, seam on right side, knit plain on wrong side, seam on right; then work 5 and 6 rows until there are the desired number of scallops, seaming back on wrong side last.

9th row—Slip 1, *th o 1, slip 1 like seaming k 2 tog; repeat from star, knitting last stitch; knit back and forth in this way until the skirt is long enough. Sew the strips together on wrong side.

For a child I make *three* or *four* rows of scallops and *two* strips. For a grown person 7 rows of scallops and 3 strips. Germantown wool is used; two skeins for a child, 1¼ pound for a grown person. Two wood or bone *afghan knitting* needles about the size of a common slate pencil. For a grown person sew the skirt on a yoke about a finger and a-half wide. M. W.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

INTERIOR DECORATION.

IV.

BY A. S. RAMSEY.

After some skill has been acquired, by practice, in the stitches explained in the first paper of this series, the worker is ready to begin the real embroidery stitch, or feather stitch as it is sometimes called, from its fancied resemblance to the arrangement of the feathers in a bird's plumage. It is so generally used for flowers and leaves that we will suppose a pattern of this kind to be the one to be done. The outline of the petal or leaf is first worked in "long and short," the edge being made close and firm, while the inner side of the line is open and jagged; the body of the petal is then filled with irregular, closely-lying stitches, taken like the simple crewel stitch, and so managed as to fit and dovetail into the broken, jagged, edge of the first line of work. The stitches must radiate from the flower centre or leaf stalk. The work should always be begun like all embroidery, by running a few stitches in the space afterwards to be filled with embroidery; it should be finished by running the needle lightly along the back of the work, bringing it through to the right side and clipping the thread close to the surface, thus avoiding knots and loose ends. Only practice can make possible this most difficult of all fancy embroidery, and can teach the proper direction of the needle and the right length of the stitch, which must not be long to be loose, nor yet so short and tight as to draw and pucker.

Feather stitch is used in crewels and in silk, often in both combined. In silk embroidery the thread should not be twisted, as this gives a hard, ridgy effect; but filoselle should be used, when possible, as the strands are so soft and clinging that the stitches seem to unite into a solid surface.

Crewel is appropriate to all woolen, linen or cotton fabrics, but to nothing more costly—linen and cotton are preferable to other stuffs. Silk can be used on any material, seeming to glorify the meanest by its wealth of color and rich texture. Satin, once so great a favorite, has, very properly, lost much of its hold upon popular taste. Its shining surface is not artistic for a background, and its lights are so cold in tone that it is almost impossible to make satin look well in small pieces. The soft Chinese silks, which come in such exquisite shades, or fine woolens are better for almost every purpose, unless the satin can hang in folds and masses, as in *portieres* and curtains.

Where shading is used in working the design, this style of embroidery may be carried to the point of a fine art, and much the same degree of artistic skill employed as in the use of palette and brush—indeed when the work was first revived among us, many exhibitions were given to show embroidery as exquisite as painting.

The flowers to be worked may be a wild rose, so placed that the petals are lighter at the edge than in the centre. The lightest shade is first used as the outline of the petal, then, in the broken edge, toward the centre, the next darkest shade is begun, letting the dark stitches fill up the empty spaces of the light color, so that no sudden change from one to the other is visible; the other shades are put in, in the same way, the effect being to produce a smooth firm surface where the shades blend and merge into each other as in Nature.

No better rule for this shading can be given than the old one: "Use your eyes and look at Nature." And yet it is an open question whether an attempt to make, in embroidery, a literal copy of Nature is at all a wise move; to really copy what we see requires an artist's knowledge and temperament, and to fail in the attempt generally means a hideous production. On the other hand, a close knowledge of Nature will be of great benefit even in the simplest kinds of embroidery, and without it all our work will lack character. One must study with roses to know that on almost every one there is at least one petal with a dark red spot on its surface or edge, to know that the centre is not really yellow, but is pale green, with yellow around it.

Another stitch used for flowers—especially small ones—is satin stitch. It is the same we see so often in white embroidery, on linen and cotton trimming. The needle is brought up exactly on the outline of the leaf or petal and then put down at a point exactly opposite on the other edge, thus carrying the thread over the width of the petal and making a long stitch from side to side. This is repeated until the petal is entirely covered with smooth close stitches. The work looks the same on back and front, thus using a great deal of material.

In many flowers, the stitches require to be made to radiate from the centre, and in leaves there is often a mid-rib dividing the two sides; the stitch in this case is worked from the rib to the edge. All stems are worked in solid stem-stitch; that is, in parallel rows of the single crewel stitch; and care should be taken to make all the rows begin at the bottom end of the stem, working them up to the leaf or flower; this adds to the neat firm look of the embroidery.

Of course color is one of the most important elements in this work, and fortunately there are some principles to be considered, although there are no rules which one may follow blindly. Artists consider the Alhambra of Spain to be a model of color, but they are not well agreed as to how its jewel-like effect is produced.

Mr. Owen Jones thinks, that in his study of it, he has discovered the law that no mixture or combination of color is entirely pleasing unless each of the primary colors is present; not necessarily in its crude state of bright red, yellow or blue, but in the shades which result from softening these colors with black or white, or by judicious mixtures with each other. This is but the old law of complementary colors: that is, orange being made from red and yellow, requires some shade of blue to produce harmonious contrast. Green (blue and yellow) requires red, and purple (red and blue) needs yellow. As has been already said, these colors are not to be thrown together in their crude state, but are to be modified in many ways. Red and green may resolve itself into pink and sage green. Orange and blue may be pale terra-cotta and sky color, and the yellow and purple may be cream and lavender, or heliotrope and gold. All that is needed is the presence even in the smallest quantity, of the third primary color. There are many lovely rooms and bits of decoration made by combining two contrasting colors, but beauty of the loveliest of two-color decoration is enhanced by a touch of the third, though of course the third is entirely dominated by the other two. Many daring experiments have been tried, some giving results so much more lovely than any conformity to accepted rules that one is tempted to believe that the most perfect harmonies lie close to the discords of color—as when Sara Bernhardt delights our eyes in a pale pinkish lavender robe lined with a rich red orange! But if examined carefully these experiments will be found to be always in the line indicated.

In a room, the effect is generally more pleasing if the warm rich color effects are produced by articles of different colors, rather than by many colors in the one object. The color of a room is most influenced by its walls and hangings, and if it is decided to let the walls and curtains furnish the dominating colors, then furniture or carpets or *bric a brac* must give of the third. If the walls are to be salmon pink, the curtains and furniture may be olive green; and on the sofa a

pale yellow scarf or cushion may be placed, while a wicker chair with a pale blue cushion will add harmony to the combinations.

Blue and green walls are not easily managed, but if they are an architectural necessity, then with the blue a dark golden brown in curtains and furniture may be relieved by a crimson chair, a Turkish rug, or a deep red lambrequin. The green walls call for curtains in some shades of red, the *bric a brac*, carpets and furniture, repeating whichever color is to be the ruling one for the room.

Perhaps the hardest object to bring under control is the carpet, as the manufacturers do not often follow any canon of art in their design.

In the first place we do not want to reproduce—or rather caricature—nature in our carpets, and fortunately the gigantic roses and lilies of twenty-five years ago, are quite faded out of the market. The flowers, if used, should be small, entirely conventionalized, and so thoroughly a part of the background, both in color and design, that there is no *spotty* look. Subdued colors are best, and give more value to the other decorations of the house.

Another difficulty with carpets is the trouble we experience in fitting the borders into corners and recesses; certainly no one admires the ugly spots thus made, and to avoid them many people have the carpet and its border made into a mat, filling up the recesses and bare spots with pieces of the original carpet; the matter is still further simplified by staining the floor a dark red or brown and laying the mat on this.

A Persian rug, though very expensive in its first cost, is, in the end, a great economy, for apart from its beauty, which is a "joy forever," it fits any room when houses are changed, it is sure to accord with whatever we have, or may get, and, if of good quality, will last two lifetimes; as however, many purses cannot afford the first outlay for the treasures, the American imitations come next in order of excellence. They are good and serviceable and can be found in soft, rich colors.

In our climate and with our domestic difficulties, it is sometimes thought that rugs on bare floors are not desirable, being cold and requiring constant dusting and care; these objections may be met by covering the floor with a carpet of solid, dark color, over which the mats are laid. This filling, as it is called, may be of very cheap material, if it be sufficiently subdued to escape notice; in bedrooms, a bright cheerful matting is exceedingly pretty as a background for rugs.

Kensington art squares, are much cheaper than either real or imitation Persian rugs, and are much used. The imported squares are heavier and closer than those made here, and are usually in better colors, but both grades look well and wear well. They come in all sizes and proportions, and can be found in all carpet stores in our large cities.

In a household where many old carpets have collected they can be turned into pretty mats, by cutting them into fine strips, (the finer the better,) sewing these together, and sending them to the weaver to be woven as rag carpets are made. A surprising quantity of strips is needed to make even a small mat—one can hardly have too much; the cutting must be done with the selvedge, and it is anything but easy work. The only carpets suitable for this purpose are two or three-ply ingrains, for the linen back to velvets, Brussels and such carpets, makes them too stiff and harsh for the purpose.

Fur rugs may be had at reasonable prices and sometimes are in lovely shades. The skin of the Chinese goat is among the cheaper furs, and its soft white, shading into black, often gives just the touch of these colors needed in a room.

Pretty rugs to be made by hand are shown at Wanamaker's fancy-work counter. Being imported from Germany they are expensive, ten dollars being asked for a rug three feet by four. The foundation is a strong material like very coarse canvas. On it is stamped a design, in the colors with which it is to be worked out, and one corner of it is worked as a guide. The material comes with it in the form of worsteds of the required lengths and colors. Three of these lengths are taken and doubled, the double end *passed* down through one mesh and *drawn* up through the next by means of a crochet hook, (which comes with the mat) the loose ends are then passed through this loop, which is drawn tight and firm over them till the ends stand up like the pile of a very thick velvet carpet. In this way the pattern is worked out, the ends are trimmed even and the rug lined. This work is imported not only in rugs but in covers for chairs, stools and foot-rests.

A lambrequin lately made for a wealthy bride, gives a chance to apply the stitches taught in this article in a way which will make much show in proportion to the labor expended. The lambrequin was composed of alternate squares of dull, red Chinese silk and of the lace known as antique guipure; sometimes called "art guipure." These squares were each five inches square, and on the silk ones was worked the design here annexed; and each square of the lace was different from every other. After they were put together they were bordered top and bottom by a band of the silk; the lower band being three inches deep, the upper one two inches. On the lower border was worked the design given below. In both panels and border the flowers were worked in pale pink filoselle, shading to deep color in the centre; the hearts were golden, as were also the heads of the stamens, (anthers) but those last were a darker, richer gold; the leaves, and calyx of the buds were worked in satin stitch, using shades of delicate blue-green like the color of leaves in a clove pink; the tendrils were golden brown, and the stems all a dark green. After the work is finished the lambrequin is lined with cream colored silesia and fastened to the mantel-board (previously covered with red silk) by means of nails, with fancy brass heads, tacked at equal distances apart through the upper band of silk. The bottom edge was then finished by a narrow lace like that in the squares.

This lambrequin might be copied in less costly material, using woolen satine in place of silk, or even by putting in grey linen squares worked in crewel, but retaining the border of silk or of wool for the sake of the color.

HOUSEWORK.

How very easy to perform the necessary work of a household. It may be accomplished with never a speck to mar the "snowy wrapper" if we may believe what certain maiden lady writers have written, when, *oh they* have never seen a kitchen! I am tired out, and more-over I am indignant! The idea of *doing housework* in a "snowy wrapper;" oh! ye weavers of bright and alluring, but impossible and impracticable theories. "Story writers:" it is my intention to deliberately impale you upon the point of my goose quill pen, and demand that you make unto me full restitution for the damages sustained by my feelings, and also my finances in my futile endeavors to put into practice the aforesaid alluring theories.

A good story I dearly love to read. The woman who does not, is as devoid of bright hopes and sweet fancies as a dried tomato vine. But oh! those heavenly, matchless women, or I should say heroines, who meet great reverses of fortune with such a sweet smile, and retire to a small house, where with several small children they do their housework, and always come to the morning meal in pretty white wrappers, with rosebuds in their curls, and always a "smile for James." Now that we have reverses of fortune is true, and as to the smile I do not object to that: the small olive branches, and also the housework are more than probable; what I do object to and boldly protest against is the white wrapper with the ribbon and rosebud accompaniments. Now I do not wish it to be thought that my anger is aimed at any of the talented contributers to the "LADIES HOME JOURNAL." It is not to be thought that I am going to lay a train of powder under the delightful and fascinating productions that the editor is at so much pains and expense to procure, then say please will she touch it off, and *blow them* all up! For everybody (that is anybody) reads it, and to my mind it is a moral certainty that some of the disturbers of my happiness those story writers who keep the heroines in the same identical "white wrapper," who are often going the rounds of this paper, or that magazine, may see this and get the benefit of the same!

But oh, direful thought, I think I behold a vast army of story writers bearing down upon me in battle array, and backed by the duped editors themselves; for this little cottage home with white muslin trimmings is a vastly popular delusion, judging from the quantity of it one sees in print; but I never run, and am ready to battle with my pen, for my theories; I am a housekeeper of ten years experience and I know whereof I do affirm. I didn't object to beginning in a little house, with four rooms—and doing my own work, it was so pleasantly like the heroines of the stories you know. And I assure you my wardrobe was supplied with the prescribed wrapper, and also dainty white aprons with the cutest little pockets, made and trimmed after the directions given by the aforesaid old maid writers. But now they are ingloriously banished to a small trunk in my bed-room, simply because facts and fiction decined to agree. Oh! how very hard I tried to keep house, as my story books had taught me, but I found I could not sweep the kitchen, and make the fires and run down to the cellar for potatoes, bring water from the cistern, and run to the garden for vegetables, without reducing those pretty aprons to a cloudy appearance. And then the doctor would get in quite a *state of mind* waiting for his meal while I was curling my hair, and pinning on the much talked of blue ribbon, and then wandering in the dewy garden culling sweet flowers to deck the table. In the ideal establishment of the stories, we know by heart what the bill of fare is—a pretty *round* table with spotless linen on which is set hot muffins, golden butter and a glass stand of honey—and the not to be forgotten "strawberries." All this is well enough—but just suppose the husband is not fond of the prescribed meal, and being an unromantic sordid creature—expresses a very decided preference for cornbread, beefsteak, and hot coffee, and as for the butter, fresh and golden, alas! what market affords such! for often the best we can get possesses a flavor highly suggestive of old cheese; and what if we can't get milk or cream for love or money, and the wood provided to cook with is green, and the oven won't heat at the bottom! Now for these other slight and insufficient reasons the muffins refuse to be light and sweet, how does that maiden writer manage it then! I notice there is one thing those lady writers always omit, that is who does the washing and ironing of that pretty little home, where white aprons and snowy wrappers prevail! Well the silent tear will start when memory brings wash day before me, of my early married life. *I did mine!*

Dear reader, see the change I have made from fiction to fact! Behold me in my little brick kitchen attired in a *dark print* dress, my hair combed plainly behind my ears, and a paper collar on; but, dear reader, I have my breakfast on time.

NINA.

THE FOE OF QUACKS AND FRAUDS.

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AND

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A NATIONAL ILLUSTRATED FAMILY JOURNAL.

MRS. LOUISA KNAPP, EDITOR.

MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT, MRS. J. H. LAMBERT, } ASSOCIATE EDITORS.

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W. S. NILES, MANAGER.

Our New York Office is for the transaction of business with New York advertisers.

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Philadelphia, October, 1887.

Subscriptions must begin with the number current when subscription was received. We do not date back, even upon the most urgent request.

Please sign full name and address to all communications to this office. We cannot answer anonymous communications ever through our columns. Such letters will find their way to the waste-basket.

If we could only forget what we would forget, if we could remember *only* what we would remember, what a delightful picture gallery, what a store-house of sweet sounds, of pleasant words, of loving tones, would memory be.

Now is the time to plan some pleasant evening entertainments or amusements for the little ones, against the time when the evenings shut in early and the windows must be closed, and the children deprived of their "after supper run" are restless and seeking other amusements

Mothers, be very careful of the little ones now. This is the month to begin with wraps morning and evening. Don't let them be out, either too early in the morning, on an empty stomach, nor too late at night, lest you allow them to store seeds of fevers or slow malarial tendencies. If they must be out early, be careful that they have a good breakfast first. The system is far more prone to contract sporadic diseases in the early *morning if the stomach be empty.*

The time for that dreaded ordeal, "Fall house-cleaning," is close at hand, sisters. Before you begin this year, reflect a little, and see if by some new management you cannot make it a little easier all round.

No wonder men hate house-cleaning so much when so many women go at it in such a back-handed way. Who wouldn't be "mad" when he skins his leg five nights in succession over the washing tub full of unnecessaries, set out in the front hall till the housekeeper "comes to the parlor" in her perigrinatines, the family meanwhile eating in the kitchen, because the dining-room is all torn up, and sleeping on a sofa because the beds are taken down. This sounds exaggerated, but it isn't.

Don't try to hurry through in a week, keeping the house and family in a turmoil till you are done. Take it easily, and above all, do have one comfortable room to sit in, all the time. It will preserve your temper, your back and peace in the general household.

We have spoken in past issues of the many attractions the JOURNAL will have to offer to the wives and mothers of the community, but we want now to say a word to them in regard to our advertisements. One of the great features of the JOURNAL is, and always has been, our clear, clean advertising sheet. Any man, woman or child who picks up our paper, cannot help finding among the advertisements something that is needed, or, at least, desired. Send for it, we assure you it will be as it is represented. If it should prove different or unsatisfactory, rest assured we will do our best to see the matter righted. This has always been our policy and will be so to the end. Other Publishers say to us "How can you afford to refuse such or such a firm?" "Afford! Why we can't afford to *take* them. We are too well known as reliable in our advertisements to take one about which there is a shade of doubt. We can't afford to lose the confidence of our list of subscribers and advertisers, and we have lost thousands of dollars worth of advertising rather than run any risk of such a thing.

No, we can't *afford* to take any but reliable advertisements, nor do we mean to do so. So if you think you are defrauded in any way Sisters, by depending on our columns, let us know at once, and if the matter cannot be righted we will refund your money.

We must persist and persist in placing before our subscribers some of the evidence that keeps coming in with every mail. We will only give three instances this month.

"I was delighted to receive your letters yesterday, *three* in number, the last dated June 28th." Evidently all had been lying here for some time. "Surely our postal officers are very careless," writes a subscriber from Wisconsin. This lady we have vainly tried to reach by mail since *May*.

"Please send me another June number," writes another. "I know you sent it, for I found the *empty wrapper* on the open country road." Evidently some one had taken it out of the office; fortunately, the wrapper was found, or perhaps we would have rested under the imputation of carelessness.

One more instance:—

"Perhaps if you would address our JOURNAL to the *Post Office*," writes a third (from Kansas this time). "I would have more chance of getting it, as I believe the mail carriers have an aversion to carrying papers of any sort, and fail to deliver them. I can quite understand you sending it off all right, and the fault being here, as there are complaints from every one on the same subject."

These cries come from all over the United States. If only the proper authorities could hear, or hearing, would heed; but the case seems hopeless, so far.

"More women," says a physician in a neighboring state, "catch cold by changing from a collar with a 'cape' to a ruche or ruffle, or capeless collar, than you have any idea of. I have had many cases of violent colds, resulting seriously, which could be directly traced to this cause. The neck is one of the most sensitive portions of the human body; hence it needs particular attention."

The LADIES' HOME JOURNAL not only issues a larger number of copies than any other periodical in the world, but mails them all to *paid subscribers*. No free sample copy editions are used to swell its circulation; but every copy is paid for at the full subscription price; no premiums or gifts being offered for single subscriptions. The edition is now full half a million (500,000) copies each issue, requiring about $6,000 worth of white paper, and the services of five presses ten hours a day, for an entire month. The mailing department alone employs about 65 persons, and about 2000 yearly subscriptions were received daily the latter part of Aug. and the first of Sept., increasing steadily as the season advances toward the holidays.

THE NEXT THING.

If we would analyze the methods by which the successful ones in the race of life have achieved their end, we will find that it was by their ability to seize on "the next thing." "Some are born to greatness, some achieve greatness and some have greatness thrust upon," says the sage, but those few who are born to greatness, or those who have greatness thrust upon them, are nothing to those who "achieve greatness" by doing "the next thing."

To every one is not given the power to see just what *is* the next thing, but to such as it is given, is assured of success. Others have the gift but from modesty or indolence (as often one as the other) they hesitate, and "he who hesitates is lost."

There is nothing so likely to produce success as a definite settled purpose; nothing so likely to assure a mediocrity of achievement as a daily performance of fixed duties with a vague hope that "something will turn up."

Life is too short for mere *waiting*, unless waiting be inevitable. Let him who waits, *watch* also that any straw which floats in his direction may be seized to best advantage. It is not once in a thousand times that one *leaps* to success. One arrives there only after having, with toil and pain and weariness, taken in hand from time to time as opportunity presents itself, "the next thing."

ADVICE.

Advice and counsel are generally regarded as inter-changeable terms, but there really seems to be a difference which, though slight, is decided. *Counsel* is never given unasked,—*advice* may be given in the most unprovoked manner. Counsel is a "reasoning together"—advice is the individual opinion of the advisers.

Children who have no parents to advise them, are regarded as very badly off, as indeed they are, but would not all such as need advice be better for *counsel* instead? To offer advice is to say how one would act upon some particular occasion brought to note, under the stress of some peculiar circumstances, but would it not be better for the future of that child, that counsel should be taken together,—the circumstances, incentives and general aspect of the situation be closely inspected as far as possible, and counsel given as the *proper* thing to do in all such cases, rather than as to what the *adviser* would do under these particular circumstances?

Further too, it less *advice* and more *example* were given to our children, both their lives and ours would not be one-half so hard.

Listen to the mother speak of her child, "so cross that nothing can be done with her," and note the fretful, whiny, peevish cross tone in which she *herself* relates the circumstances.

Mark the father who reproves his son for speaking disrespectfully to his mother, and then note the tone that same father employs towards that same mother when things are not right.

No, clearly, what the world is waiting for, the only thing that will come any where near perfecting a reform of the world in general, is for the *parents* to be and do that which they *advise* their children to do and be.

If parents speak of their children as quarrelsome among themselves, you have only to note the manner in which those same parents speak to each other, to find the cause of the fault.

When a parent perceives a new fault cropping out in their child, it is his or her first duty to see whether that child is not reproducing its elders, and if so, wisely say nothing, lest the child's attention be attracted to the parent's fault, and it is thus enabled to draw its own condemnatory conclusion.

Rather let the fault be corrected in the parent and it will gradually disappear in the child.

POSTAGE TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

A discrimination in the rates of postage to city subscribers is made between weekly and monthly periodicals, to the great disadvantage of the latter; for, while the weeklies can be mailed to city subscribers for one cent per pound, monthlies can not be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent for each two ounces, except where the subscribers go to the post-office for their mail. And, as the JOURNAL in its present form weighs over two ounces, we are, therefore, obliged to ask Philadelphia subscribers twenty-four cents extra or postage, unless the paper is addressed at the post-office to be called for, or to any P. O. box.

CORRESPONDENCE.

F. A., CRETE, PA.:—"Col. Boyd's Ward's" is out of print.

MRS. MILTON NEYHART:—You should be able to purchase Soft Solder at most any hardware store.

MRS. E. G. FLINT, ELSINORE, CAL.:—"Brook's machine Cotton" is manufactured at 19 Thomas St., N. Y.

MRS. WM. COVERDALE, GENESEO, N. Y.—You can probably get a folding clothes reel from John Wanamaker, Philadelphia.

E. W. STOWE, WESTFIELD, N. Y.:—The froth in Vienna Coffee is obtained by whipping the cream. On this pour the scalding coffee and the foam will stand for some time.

WE received many requests for the real names and address of some of our contributors who use a Nom de Plume. This we never do. But in most cases forward a letter to the person, so that he or she may act upon the question at discretion.

MRS. W. H. SWIFT, ST. MARY'S, OHIO:—Having done all this for your canary birds, your best plan would be to apply to a bird fancier in regard to the lice that infest them.

DEAR LADIES HOME JOURNAL:—I saw the request in the last JOURNAL that "A New Subscriber would like to know how to wash a rattan baby carriage.

I will tell her what I did with mine instead of washing it. I made the Mahogany Varnish (see Diamond Dye Almanac for 1887), and applied to the rattan part only, then varnished the wheels, etc., but if very much soiled paint them a very light yellow or cream, then varnish with coach varnish. F. A. W.

ALICE:—Can make hard soap that will not injure the hands by using Babbitt's Concentrated Potash, following directions on can, excepting she must add one-half lb of borax dissolved in the water with the potash. Do not use it in less than a month, the older the better. MYRTLE.

CAN any one tell me where I can get dissected or sliced Bible Pictures. Is there any place in Boston where I can get them?

I caught a "Buffalo Bug" the other day and experimented on him. Dalmatian powder and Camphor had no effect on him, but one drop of Kerosene oil dropped in the glass (not on him) stopped his capers forever. I used it all around the edges and in the cracks of of the matting where they were, and closed the room for a day or two, then opened the windows by day, and closed them at night. No sign of any bugs, and odor all gone. MRS. N. W. CLARK.

SUSQUEHANNA, Aug. 7th, 87.

CURTIS PUBLISHING CO.—The organ you ordered sent to me is received, and it is just as you represented it to be; I am very much pleased with it. I also received the warrantee last evening; I have more subscribers to send to you before long.

Yours,
FLORA COLLIER.

DEAR JOURNAL:—Some time since I promised to describe my "*Bread Raising Box*," and as you suggest that such a description is desired, I will give it, though I suppose it will be more acceptable, because more useful, to your Southern readers, who like warm, light bread for breakfast. The beauty of the "Raiser" is that it requires no other care than to start it right and let it do its own work.

It consists of a box with sides and bottom *double* and well packed with fine sawdust, an air-tight fitting lid, and a sheet iron tray to hold a heated brick bat." The box should be 18x18x20 inches outside, 15x15x18 inches. The tray should be, say, 5x5x4 inches, so as to keep the bucket bottom off the heated brick. Warm the brick so as to be just too hot to hold your hand on it. Warm it slowly and *thoroughly* (for there lies the secret) and put it in the tray at the bottom of the box, put the bread in a tin bucket and set it on the tray, shut down the top tight and let it alone (or still better at bed time punch down the dough and break the first rise) and in the morning the bread will be beautifully light, and ready for the baking pan.

The box, neatly painted outside, is not unsightly in the bedroom. I have used mine for twelve years and regard it as invaluable.

MRS. L. B. JOHNSTON.

July 25th, 87.

DEAR EDITOR:—I have kept still and listened and listened for so long (which is perfectly natural for me), that I must write now and tell you how very much I enjoyed reading the JOURNAL. I find it a great deal of company for me, as I am just beginning to keep house, and it would be quite lonesome for me some days, after my work is done, were it not for the JOURNAL. I enjoyed the "Artistic Needle-work Department," and find lots of useful information in the "Brush Studies." After reading the letter from Prudence Parsons in the April issue, I wanted to jump up and shake hands with her on her views of the subject, and how I wanted to congratulate Claire Alix for speaking for herself. She spoke for me as well. I have always since married, worked, not because I would "to turn my wages into fine raiments and showy adornments," but because I feel it my duty, as Claire Alix remarked, "to pluckily put my shoulder to the wheel and help my husband to turn it," and I cannot see surely that he is rendered contemptible, or that the spark of manliness is extinguished within him by my having done so. Rather the reverse I should say, and as for girls staying at home to be "Father's Comfort," I would remark that it takes lots of money in this world to depend on father for the sake of being a comfort.

Those with wealth in abundance know little of the struggles in this world for existence, and to such the article on "Women and Work," by Mary E. Cardwill, is best suited.

Truly yours,
GARDINER, ME. MRS. C. S. D.,

RAVENNA, July 21st, 87.

EDITOR JOURNAL:—I have been thinking for some time of writing to you, and telling how very much pleased I am with the JOURNAL. I am a new subscriber, but as the years roll on, shall become an old one, for I mean never to be without it again. The chat of the Sisters is very interesting, and I always feel that I must talk with them.

I want to tell Addie not to give her baby boy too many new playthings. He will be more contented if he is taught to play with the old ones, which can easily be done if he is not left with them too long at one time.

I should like to shake hands with 'Harry's Wife' and tell her "that is just the way I did." She has such pleasant words for us old ladies that we shall like to hear from her often.

Alice can make her old walnut furniture look quite like new by using black varnish plentifully diluted with kerosene. Can any of the sisters tell me how to prevent black ants from getting into my pantry. H. L.

ED. L. H. J.:—I would like my many sisters of the L. H. J. to know how much may be accomplished by two of the Florence Lamp stoves, placed side by side. I have done the work for three in family by them. Over the two I can set a large dinner boiler and use it for boiling vegetables, it boiling much quicker than by one alone, with a less quantity of water. A fry-dish or griddle can be heated, all sides alike. This Summer I have made many berry cakes over them. One stove alone leaves a surface around the edge not browned. The oven bakes to a charm. A. A. E.

MISS ROSE, LYONS KAS.:—To clean your jersey, wash it first in warm soap suds, in order to remove any grease that there may be about it. Wash carefully after this in soap and water, and lay out to dry without rinsing or wringing. This will make it look like new.

DEAR EDITOR:—The HOME JOURNAL is so valuable to me that I can not think of losing one number. As I am a young housekeeper, the Practical Housekeeper column is of particular interest to me. Many a delicious dinner I have prepared by following its simple and explicit directions. My husband compliments me on my success, and says that he had no idea that I was such a good cook; neither did I. But I keep my own council and mentally thank Christine Terhune Herrick. I have showed your valuable paper to many of my friends, and several have signified their intention of subscribing for it.

Yours respectfully,
LOS ANGELES, CAL. MRS. F. E. Y.

DAMASCUS, OR., 7, 23, 87.

DEAR EDITOR:—In reply to "A Country Girl's" question, I would say; select those with good, strong stems so they will bear the weight. Those of a fine hair-like appearance are most beautiful, I think, but they must not be loaded too heavy with alum or they will be likely to droop too much. Any grasses that will make a pretty winter bouquet, will do nicely. I always gather the top or seed head only, and tie in bunches till perfectly dry. Anything of the appearance of Orchard grass is nicer than Timothy or the like. Many kinds arranged together are much more beautiful than a few; so get a few of *all*. In Kansas the country girls all know what Tickle grass is, and if you do, gather a good supply for a border and it will add very materially to the effect. These should be gathered before fully unfolded. I have never tried to crystallize any flowers, except what we call everlasting, such as Bachelor buttons, that will dry very firm, and will not fall to pieces. Remember if you wait too long to get your bouquet of grasses, the seeds will ripen after you get them, and will fall off in handling, and the grasses will be of a faded color.

Oh, yes! I must tell dear "Thorny Poppy" that I have a little two-year old that is following in the very footsteps of her five-year old.

I wish to thank "Velma Caldwell Milville" for the article entitled, "An Appeal." It contains my own sentiments *exactly*, but I could not have written it so *forcibly*. LOESA M. M. HEDGE.

ED. L. H. J.:—My stand of houseplants seeming to be drooping last Winter, I took of the sediment left after the first straining of meat jelly, three or four teaspoonfuls, and mixed in the earth around roots. The effect was almost magical. My Calla, English and Scotch Ivies, Oxalis, etc., have made wonderful growth.

Driving some miles from home one day last summer, we passed between low lines of hills, seemingly composed of nothing but hot, dry sand, and it was a source of wonder how the huge pine trees obtained sustenance. Yet, all over this same hot, dry sand, were myriads of the loveliest flowers I ever saw. Each shining, translucent cup standing on a short stem, the colors ranging from white to deep red rose, they resembled miniture pond lilies, save that not a trace of green leaf was to be found. We took up a number of them, put them in bed of sand and soil, and this summer we had even richer, larger blossoms. I saved some seed, but during a recent illness, a mouse lunched on them.

I smile in grim sympathy for the lady who sat down and cried over prospective "round corners" for the style of housekeeping which obtains in these Western wilds would probably shock our sisters who guide domestic machinery nearer centres of civilization. But V. C. M. in her "appeal," rather startles the sisters out here. Of course, every right thinking wife and mother agrees with her in wishing to teach the little ones to a thoughtful, humane, and consistent in their treatment of all persons and animals. But the idea of a sane woman asking God to forgive her for killing a fly, is rather farfetched, and borders on downright irreverence. V. C. M. must be made of somewhat finer clay than we common mortals; a little "too fine and good for human natures daily food." She ought to come out and live on the frontier awhile; she would soon be cured of such ultra-sentimentalism. I think I am humane as most women. Every animal on the place, from the canary bird to the cow, is fat and sleek. The cat and dog run *to*, not *from* us. But there are seasons when gnats, flies and mosquitoes are so thick it requires not only screens, but the utmost patience and vigilance to make life endurable. I confess to solid satisfaction in exterminating as many of the pests as possible, irrespective of this wonderful mechanism as compared to the comfort and well-being of still more wonderful human beings in my care.

I should like to hear if any one tried that recipe for light bread that was scattered along in a story in the number for July, 1886. I reduced it to form, added a trifle, and we have used it ever since, and for lightness, sweetness and delicious "nutty" flavors, it can not be excelled.

We tried faithfully for several weeks, the "kerosene" method of washing, but gladly returned to our old way, as being easier and more satisfactory. *Babbit's* soap and "1776" powder can't be excelled *if one knows how to use them.*

How I envy "Thorny Poppy," her bright, helpful little Nellie. She is a treasure any one might be thankful to have. Tell "Jack's Wife" to cuddle and rock her baby as long as possible; I wish there were more like her that children might rise up and call them blessed.

Won't "Claire Alix" write again! I want the promised sequel to her letter. I, too, have been self-supporting, and feel no loss of dignity, or want of home comfort in so doing.

MRS. THOS. JACOBS.

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[For the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

COTTAGE DINNERS.

OCTOBER.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

Strict observance of the minutiæ of neatness is necessary for comfort at the table. There should be no condoning of untidiness in any form, least of all when it appears in its most repulsive aspect,—dirt. Yet the neglect of the little things that make up the attractiveness of the table is painfully common, and the mistress of the home will need to be constantly on the watch to prevent carelessness.

At a pleasant Summer resort on the sea-coast, the guests of a certain family boarding house were afflicted by a lack of neatness in many of the most essential points. The food was good, plentiful and well cooked, but the plates on which it was served were smeared and never shiningly clean, while the tablecloth was worn until the bill of fare for several days could be ascertained by the stains the different varieties had left upon the napery. The tea and coffee were strong and good, but the cups that held them were soiled and sticky to the touch. The individual butter plates came on the table greasy, the clean (!) forks were not unlikely to bear traces of egg or gravy between the tines, and there was a pleasing uncertainty at each meal whether one had the napkin she had used at the preceeding repast or one that had done service for some one else.

Even in those homes where no such gross untidiness as this would be tolerated, minor matters must not be overlooked. When the tablecloth is disfigured by a spot at a single place, this should be concealed by a clean napkin smoothly laid over the unlucky blemish. The knives should never be allowed to appear until all marks of acid, etc., have been polished from them. The silver should be bright and the china and glass free not only from visible dirt but from the slight roughness to the touch that indicates either want of thoroughness in the wiping or imperfect cleanliness of the towel. The salt cellars should either be emptied and refilled after every meal, or the top of each be pressed down, specks removed and more salt put in to take the place of that removed at the last using. There is an unpleasant suggestion to a salt cellar only two-thirds full and bearing the unmistakable imprint of a greasy knife, or worse still, crumbs or bits of other food.

A custom pursued in some households is that of putting on the individual salt cellars empty and passing around a larger one full of salt and furnished with a salt spoon. Each person is thus enabled to help himself to what he will need for his own wants. The small quantity of salt left in the little cellars may then be thrown away after each repast.

That the people who gather about the board should be scrupulously neat in their personal appearance, should, one would think, go without saying. Still there are families where the father and sons sit down to dinner in their shirt sleeves and with unwashed hands, and the mother and daughters come to breakfast without collars, and hair in curl papers or crimping pins. It is bad enough in men, but unpardonable in the women. To them it falls to uphold the standard of neatness in the home and they fail when they appear in a state that is only permissible in a dressing room. What can be more de-appetizing for a man than to seat himself at the breakfast table opposite a row of greasy curl papers or horn-like crimpers. If bangs or frizzes are absolutely indispensable, let the hair be released from its bonds before each meal and put up again afterwards. The time consumed would be nothing in comparison with the agreeable results achieved by the little added trouble. Most women would exclaim at the idea of eating their breakfasts in nightcaps, and yet this coiffure would be quite as attractive and far neater than the unkempt papered method of dressing the hair that is disgracefully prevalent.

SUNDAY.

Coddled Chickens.
Rice Croquettes. Boiled Potatoes.
Charlotte Russe. Cold Slaw.

COODLED CHICKENS.

Choose young, tender chickens, suitable for broiling. Split them down the back and lay them in a dripping pan. Dash a cupful of boiling water on them, turn a pan over them and roast in the oven for half an hour. At the end of this time rub them over with butter, remove them for ten minutes, and baste again with the gravy in the pan. Rub them with butter once more in about five minutes and then baste frequently with the pan gravy, keeping the fowls closely covered between times. Try them with a fork to see if they are tender. When done they should be a uniform, delicate brown. Dish and keep hot while boiling up the gravy, thickening it with a little browned flour, and seasoning it with minced parsley, salt and pepper. Pour half a cupful over the chickens and serve the rest in a gravy boat.

BOILED POTATOES:—See previous directions.

RICE CROQUETTES.

Two cups boiled rice.
Two eggs.
One teaspoonful sugar.
Half teaspoonful salt.
Butter the size of a walnut.

Melt the butter and work this, the egg, well beaten and the salt and sugar into the cold rice. Shape with the hands into croquettes, roll in flour and fry in lard or nice dripping. Be careful not to make the mixture stiff. Drain the croquettes in a hot colander and serve them laid on a white napkin on a dish.

COLD SLAW.

One egg—the yolk only.
One teaspoonful butter.
Two teaspoonfuls sugar.
One teaspoonful flour.
One cup mild vinegar. If it is very sharp dilute it with water. Salt and pepper to taste. Heat the vinegar to boiling, add to it the sugar, salt and pepper, and the butter rubbed smooth with the flour. Stir until it begins to thicken, put in the well beaten yolk of the egg, boil up once and remove from the fire. Have ready in a dish the heart of a nice white cabbage, shredded fine with a sharp knife. Pour the hot dressing over this, mixing it in well with a fork and set aside to become perfectly cold before sending it to table.

CHARLOTTE RUSSE.

One quart whipped cream.
Half box Coxe's gelatine.
Four eggs.
Two cups milk.
Two cups sugar.
Two teaspoonfuls vanilla.
Two dozen penny sponge cakes.

Heat the milk to boiling with the sugar in a farina kettle, dropping in a pinch of soda the size of a pea to prevent its curdling. Beat the eggs light and pour the hot milk upon them a little at a time. Return all to the fire and cook until the custard is set, stirring constantly and watching closely that it does not break. Just before taking from the fire, add to it the gelatine, which should have been soaked two hours in enough cold water to cover it. Let the custard become cool and stir the whipped cream into it. Line a plain mould with the sponge cakes, split in two, the edges touching each other closely. Into the shape thus formed pour the whipped cream and custard and set on the ice until needed. Turn out on a flat dish just before eating.

MONDAY.

Chicken Melange Pie.
Fried Oyster Plant. Broiled Potatoes.
Tomato Salad.
Crackers and Cheese.

CHICKEN MELANGE PIE:—Boil six eggs hard and slice them; cut all the meat from the bones of the chickens cooked Sunday, making a gravy of the bones. In this stew half a dozen sweet potatoes cut in quarters. When they are tender place a layer of these in the bottom of a greased pudding dish. Sprinkle with pepper and salt, and place a layer of the chicken on top. Over this comes a stratum of hard-boiled eggs, followed by one of bacon, cut into very thin slices. Repeat the order of ingredients as long as they last, and cover all with a good plain crust, first pouring in all the gravy left from the chicken bones. Bake until the crust is done.

FRIED OYSTER PLANT:—Scrape and wash the roots and boil until they are tender enough to be mashed with the back of a spoon. Work them into a paste with two eggs, whipped light, a teaspoonful of butter, pepper and salt to taste and a little milk. Mould into round cakes, dip in flour and fry in boiling lard to a nice brown.

BROILED POTATOES:—Cut cold boiled potatoes into rather thick slices, and lay them between the sides of a small toaster. Broil brown on both sides over a good fire, lay on a hot dish, put a bit of butter on each and sprinkle with pepper and salt.

TOMATO SALAD:—Peel large, fine tomatoes and put them in a plate directly upon the ice. Have them there at least two hours and just before sending to table cut them in quarters with a sharp knife. They should be chilled to the heart. Serve with a plain salad dressing of one teaspoonful sugar, one saltspoonful each of salt and pepper, two tablespoonfuls of oil and four of vinegar.

CRACKERS AND CHEESE:—See previous directions.

TUESDAY.

Broiled Chops au *Francais*.
Tomatoes and Corn.
Baked Sweet Potatoes.
Pears, Apples and Grapes.

BROILED CHOPS AU FRANCAIS:—Trim the fat and gristle from the chops and broil them ten minutes over a hot fire, turning them often, and watching that they do not smoke. Have ready a puree of potatoes made of a cupful of mashed potatoes, beaten light with an egg, a teaspoonful of butter, half a cup of milk and a sprinkling of salt and pepper. Lay the chops in a baking pan and put a spoonful of the potato on top of each. Set in a quick oven long enough to brown the potato and serve at once, before it falls.

STEWED TOMATOES AND CORN:—To two cups of stewed tomatoes add a cupful of boiled green corn, cut from the cob. Simmer together ten minutes, stir in a tablespoonful of butter and season to taste.

BAKED SWEET POTATOES:—Wash and wipe large sweet potatoes, lay them on the floor of the oven and bake until soft. Serve in a napkin folded in a dish.

PEARS, APPLES AND GRAPES:—Wipe pears and apples bright, and cleanse the grapes, if sticky or dusty by plunging each bunch into cold water and laying between the folds of a soft cloth. Arrange the fruit tastefully in a dish, and garnish with leaves or flowers. Provide each person with a plate, finger bowl, fruit napkin, fork and spoon.

WEDNESDAY.

Curried Halibut.
Boiled Rice. Spinach.
Cabinet Pudding.

CURRIED HALIBUT.

Three pounds halibut steaks, cut quite thin.
Half an onion.
One tablespoonful butter.
Two teaspoonfuls curry powder.
Juice of half a lemon.
Half teacupful gravy or soup stock.

Shred the onion, fry it brown in the butter in a saucepan, and stir in the curry powder. Cut the halibut steaks into pieces about three inches square, removing the skin and fat. Lay the fish in the saucepan with the curry powder, onions and butter, pour over them the gravy and let all simmer about fifteen minutes. Squeeze in the juice of a lemon just before serving.

BOILED RICE:—See previous directions.

SPINACH.—Wash the spinach very thoroughly and pick the leaves from the stems. Put on the fire in boiling water slightly salted, and cook twenty minutes. Remove from the fire, drain dry and chop as fine as dust. Return to the saucepan with a tablespoonful of butter, pepper, salt, and a saltspoonful of nutmeg. Heat hard for two minutes, and serve in a very hot dish on slices of buttered toast.

CABINET PUDDING.

Four cups fine bread crumbs.
Three cups milk.
Three eggs.
Half cup sugar.
Half cup seeded raisins.
Half cup currants washed and dried.
One teaspoonful vanilla.

Let the bread soak in the milk while beating the eggs very light. Stir these into the bread and milk, with the sugar. Beat all together and add the vanilla and the currants and raisins, well dredged with flour. Turn immediately into a buttered brown bread mould or tin pail with a tightly-fitting top. Set in a pot of boiling water and boil steadily for an hour and a half. Turn out and eat hot, with hard sauce.

THURSDAY.

Potato Soup.
Veal Olives.
Puree of Turnips. Baked Potatoes.
Orange Froth.

POTATO SOUP.

One dozen medium sized potatoes.
One quart milk.
Two teaspoonfuls butter.
One tablespoonful flour.
Salt and pepper.
Half a small onion, minced.
Small bunch of parsley, minced.

Boil the potatoes until mealy, rub them through a colander and put back on the fire with the onion and parsley. Cook slowly for twenty minutes. Heat the milk to boiling in a farina kettle, and thicken it with the butter and flour rubbed together. Pour the potatoes into the tureen and stir the milk into them just before sending to table.

VEAL OLIVES.

Three pounds veal cutlet, cut into slices about six inches long, by three wide.
One pint oysters.
One cup of forcemeat, made of fine bread crumbs and a little fat salt pork minced very small, moistened with the oyster liquor and seasoned with pepper, salt and sweet herbs.

Spread each slice of veal with the forcemeat, lay a couple of small oysters, or a large one in the centre, roll up the meat with the oyster inside and pin the roll with a small skewer. Lay them in a dripping pan, pour over them a cupful of boiling water in which has been melted a tablespoonful of butter, bake covered for an hour, basting frequently with the gravy, uncover and brown. Keep the olives warm while you thicken the gravy with browned flour and season it with a couple of tablespoonfuls of tomato ketchup. Pour the gravy around the olives in the dish.

PUREE OF TURNIPS:—Peel and slice half a dozen large white turnips. Boil them until soft enough to mash, rub them through a colander and return to the fire. Beat into them a tablespoonful of melted butter, a tablespoonful of cream, and pepper and salt to taste. Serve very hot.

BAKED POTATOES:—See previous directions.

ORANGE FROTH.

One box Coxe's gelatine, soaked two hours in two cups cold water.
Six small tart oranges.
One cup and a half sugar.
Four eggs—the whites only.

Peel and squeeze the oranges and put rind, juice and the sugar and soaked gelatine over the fire in a double boiler. When the two latter are dissolved, strain through a flannel into a dish to grow cool. When almost hard beat into the jelly the whipped whites of the eggs, and beat until both are a stiff froth. Set to form in a plain mould, and when formed heap by the spoonful in a glass dish.

FRIDAY.

Baked Pickerel.
Mashed Potatoes. Scalloped Tomatoes.
Apple Pancakes.

BAKED PICKEREL:—Select rather large fish, have them carefully scaled and cleaned, but do not remove the heads. Score the fish with a sharp knife on the sides and backs and lay in a large dripping pan, pouring a cupful of boiling water over them. Bake slowly, covered, until tender, basting with butter and water five or six times. When the fish are done lay them in a hot dish and pour over them a sauce made of one cupful of milk, heated to boiling and thickened with two teaspoonfuls of corn starch rubbed smooth with as much butter, a little chopped parsley and pepper and salt at discretion.

MASHED POTATOES:—See previous directions.

SCALLOPED TOMATOES:—Peel and slice fresh tomatoes and place a large layer of them in a baking dish, strewing them thickly with bread crumbs, dotting with bits of butter and sprinkling with pepper and salt. Alternate the strata in this style until the materials have all been used. Bake to a nice brown in a steady oven.

APPLE PANCAKES.

Four eggs.
Four cups milk.
Two cups prepared flour.
One cup Cerealine flakes.
Saltspoonful salt.
Half cup powdered sugar.
Twelve fine tart apples.

Prepare the batter by adding the milk to the beaten yolks and stirring in the flour, Cerealine Flakes and whipped whites alternately. Have ready the apples, peeled, cored and cut into slices half an inch in thickness. Roll the slices in sugar until they are well coated; dip them into the batter so that they are thickly covered with it, and drop them, two or three at a time, into boiling lard. Drain in a colander and sift over them powdered sugar mixed with a little cinnamon.

SAUCE FOR PANCAKES.

One cup boiling water.
One cup sugar.
One tablespoonful butter.
Half teaspoonful cinnamon or nutmeg.
Juice and grated rind of a lemon.

Stir sugar and butter into the boiling water, and add the lemon and spice after taking it from the fire.

SATURDAY.

Beefsteak Pudding.
Scalloped Potatoes. Creamed String Beans.
Baked Pears and Cream.

BEEFSTEAK PUDDING.

Four cups prepared flour.
One cup cold water.
Half cup suet.
Two pounds of round steak, cut into pieces as for stewing.
Pepper, salt and ketchup.

Free the suet from strings and rub it to powder. Chop it into the flour, add a pinch of salt and work with the water into a paste just stiff enough to be handled. Line a round, plain bowl with this, first buttering the inside of the vessel. The paste should not be over an inch thick. Fill with the cut meat, sprinkling each layer with pepper and salt and dashes of ketchup. Cover the top with a piece of pastry cut to fit it, pinching the edges of the pastry, lining and covering closely together. Tie over all a good sized pudding cloth, floured liberally on the inside, and fastened securely, but not so tightly as to hinder the pastry's swelling. Set the mould in a pot with enough boiling water to cover it well. Boil hard two hours, taking care that the water is filled up as fast as it boils away. When it is done plunge it upside down for a second in cold water, untie the cloth, slip a dish carefully under the inverted mould and turn the pudding out upon it.

SCALLOPED POTATOES:—Into three cups of hot mashed potatoes, beat half a cup of milk, two tablespoonfuls of butter, one raw egg and pepper and salt to taste. Fill a baking dish with this, sprinkle bread crumbs over the top, bake covered twenty minutes, uncover and brown.

CREAMED STRING BEANS:—Drain the liquor from a can of string beans, cut them into inch long pieces, and stew fifteen minutes in boiling water, to which has been added a pinch of salt. In another saucepan mix three tablespoonfuls of milk and one teaspoonful of corn starch rubbed into a tablespoonful of butter. Add this, a little at a time, to a beaten egg, season with pepper and salt, return to the fire for three minutes and stir in a tablespoonful of scalding vinegar just before pouring over the drained beans, in a hot dish.

BAKED PEARS:—Wipe large sweet pears and place them side by side, stems upward in a pudding dish. Pour over them a cupful of boiling water into which has been stirred a tablespoonful of sugar. Insert a pan over them and bake until the pears are tender. Let them become cool in the liquor, and serve them in a glass dish with the syrup poured over them. Eat with sugar and cream.

HOW TO CAN SWEET CORN.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

There are at least two excellent methods of canning green corn from which the housekeeper may take her choice. In the first process she will probably find less difficulty than in the second.

Select good firm ears, with as few imperfect kernels as may be. Put over the fire in a pot of boiling water and cook until they are so well done that the milk will not flow from the grains when they are pricked with a fork. Cut the corn from the cob with a sharp knife, shaving as close to the cob as possible. Choose wide-mouthed stone crocks for keeping it, and place a layer of salt, about half an inch thick in the bottom of each. Follow this with a two inch layer of corn, and more salt on that. More corn comes next, and so on to the top of the jar, the last thickness being of salt one inch deep. Melt enough lard to cover the salt with a thick coating, and pour it on *after* it has cooled. Before it quite hardens press on it a round of white paper just the size of the jar's mouth. Set the jar in a cool place and when the corn is needed, take it out long enough before cooking to soak it several hours.

The second method is to be followed where tin cans are used, or such as will permit of the top being pierced. By this rule the corn must be cut from the cob before cooking, packed into the cans and these hermetically sealed. They must then be set in a large boiler and straw placed between the cans so they may not strike against each other. Enough cold water must be poured into the boiler to cover the cans and this gradually brought to a boil. After they have reached this point they must boil an hour and a half. They may then be removed from the fire and the top punctured to allow the escape of gases. Immediately afterwards, while still very hot, these holes must be sealed.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

FALL FASHIONS.

The Autumn Wrap. Jaunty Jackets and Elegant Confections in Lace, Beads and Silken Stuffs. Bodices for Full Dress. New and Serviceable Suitings. Decorative Novelties in Beaded Trimmings.

BY MRS. JAS. H. LAMBERT.

All important just now is the demi-saison wrap, which serves to conceal the defects in a partly worn dress, or to enhance the beauty, and add to the importance of an entirely new toilette.

Such an outside covering proves a much needed accessory during the fall months, and the actual comfort of the wearer greatly depends upon the weight of the garment, which must be light to carry, but sufficiently warm for the cool days which provoke the desire for such out of door exercise as promenades and carriage rides.

English tailor-made jackets in plain, checked, plaided and mixed cloths, are considered correct for young ladies, and even their mothers, that is if the matrons are not too stout to appear in fitted garments.

Some of these garments with open front, show ornamental braided or embroidered vest or waistcoat, while others are fitted to the form, and buttoned down the front. As yet, no double-breasted jackets have been shown, but they doubtless will put in an appearance later on, for Winter use.

It must be remembered that the morning and evening jacket or mantle cannot be worn in the middle of the day, for in the warm sunshine something lighter is needed, and for such wear there are numbers of charming confections in all manner of materials.

One of the new pelerines is remarkable for its elegant shape, the front and back being deeply pointed; the shoulders also terminating in deep points on the arms, by way of epaulettes or short sleeves. This wrap is of surah, literally covered with a finely figured Escurial net, on which are hung rows of festoons in jet-beads. Each row of festoons is marked by a jet-tassel at the edge, the tassels forming a species of fringe. The high standing collar is of the beaded net and silk, the upper edge being cut in vandykes and edged with beads. In front is a kind of draped plastron or chemisette of black silk gauze, which materially adds to the beauty of the graceful little wrap.

Another of these shoulder capes is in circular shape, with purse fronts. If it is made of figured grenadine made up over silk, and is trimmed about the cape portion with a ruffle of Chantilly lace. The front ends are gathered and confined by beaded gimp purses, ending in drop ornaments. Beaded ornaments to match are placed on the shoulders, and at the waist line of the pointed fronts.

In regular mantilla shape is a wrap of surah under plaited Chantilly lace, with a double coquille of lace down the front, and deep lace flounce bordering the mantilla ends. The basque at the back is of plaited lace, and bands of beaded braid are passed over the shoulders. The collar and plastron are beaded, and the Pelerine sleeves are covered with rows of jet-fringe. A waist-band of ribbon tied on the left side, gives finishing effect.

Warmer looking and very dressy is a mantle of black velvet, under loose front of sleeves of jet-beaded gauze. The basque backs are finished with lace, and loops of beads fastened by jet ornaments, are festooned across front and on basque, while the collar is trimmed with diamond shaped jet ornaments.

Still more showy is a peculiar wrap, a kind of basque mantle in black velvet, with yoke and waistcoat positively covered with a net of steel beads with jet pendants at each diamond joint: The sleeves, front and basque are of black lace, over velvet and under a fall of fringe formed of steel beads, with three jet-pendants to each string of steel beads. Tabs of velvet ribbon on the sleeves are finished with ornaments of steel and jet, similar ornaments being used on the front and side of mantle.

One of the decided novelties for the demi-saison is called a mantlet, while in reality it is a close-fitting basque bodice in bronze velvet, with a shoulder cape in finely plaited Chantilly lace, the jabot and braces are also in the pretty lace, and the deeply pointed basque skirts in front, and the plaited part at the back are also edged with Chantilly lace, put on full. A handsome necklet with pendant in moonlight beading correspond with the bead and chenille tassels on the right hip, as well as the huge gimp-beaded ornament glittering on the left hip, and headed with a large moire bow.

Similar mantles will be made in velvet and velvetine in all the fashionable colors, to wear with dresses of silk in the same hues. They will be trimmed with beads in solid colors, or in the suitable iridescent shadings.

FASHIONABLE BODICES.

Unless the dress is intended for street or ball-room wear, the corsage is really of greater importance than the skirt, and the fancy for having a bodice of different material from that in the skirt proves most convenient to ladies who have dresses with good skirts, while the bodices are either out-grown, worn out, or, at least, defaced. In some instances defects may be concealed beneath the plastron, epaulettes, and other trimmings of beads, which are now so popular, but again it may be necessary to make an entirely new bodice, and for such purpose velvet, brocade or plain silk may be used.

A new and elegant corsage of faille Francaise is close-fitting at the back, but with full fronts, clasped by a belt of velvet. The basques and side-pieces form three tabs at the back, drawn into tassel ends, with a passementerie ornament, and falling on a square end tab of velvet sewn underneath each.

Novel and stylish is a bodice with deeply pointed basques at back and in front, hollowed out well at the sides, the spaces being filled in with ribbon loops of various lengths, so that the lower line is quite straight all round, the line passing beneath the edge of basque joints, back and front. A ribbon is secured to the front point with a small bow, it is then passed through the loops at the sides, and ties on the back point in a second bow.

An exceedingly pretty and odd sleeve accompanies this bodice. It is also of silk, with the edge cut into long tabs, which are turned under to form loops, through which a ribbon is passed, and then draped up the outer seam with two bows, one at th. edge and the other where the drapery finishes at the elbow.

To wear with a skirt in garnet silk, the new bodice is in velvet, a richer darker tone of the same color. It has an open front filled in with fichu folds of cream crepe, and the curves to the sleeves are of the same. The revers on open corsage are of garnet velvet and the elbow sleeves are of Spanish point-lace. Band of garnet velvet with rosette at the right side, is worn about the neck with this dress.

For a full dress dinner bodice the corselet is in old pink peau de sole, secured with lattice work of silver cord. The short sleeves and braces are made of cream silk muslin, and the stomacher is formed of interwoven cream pink tinted feathers. Rosebuds with velvet leaves are placed on the sleeves, and a garland of roses crosses the corsage.

An exquisite novelty in corsages has the top portion of the waist in bead embroidered brocade, showing countless colors, while below is a kind of corselet with basque points in grey velvet, secured with luminious buttons in which are seen all the colors of the beads. Velvet straps with shoulder bows hold the corselet in place.

The original idea of a home dressmaker, described some time ago in an American journal, have recently been illustrated in an elegant Parisian toilette. The skirt is of lace, looped with silk and velvet ribbon, and the objective portion of the gown, the corsage, is made of dark velvet and neutral tone silk, the original waist having been in the silk. The front of the corsage is cut out in pointed shape over and below the bust, and the front side seams are also cut out, as are the top of sleeves over shoulders, all the spaces being filled in with vandykes of the rich velvet. The sleeves are finished at the wrist with bands of velvet and the collar is en suite.

NEW MATERIALS AND TRIMMINGS.

Quite a number of new dress goods have already been received by prominent merchants in New York and Philadelphia, but as yet they have not been "opened" nor exhibited, nor have they been named or classified, hence our readers must be content with as clear descriptions as is possible to give the novelties which show both checks and plaids in flat body lines, with brocaded or embossed stripes running up and down, regardless of the other decorative features.

There is also a woolen stuff which shows rows above rows of peacock feathers all over its surface, in self or solid colors for the costume, and with a feather border in another color for the draperies and decorative portions.

Plain woolen goods with satin stripe borders are also shown, while the fabric with a stripe of moire alternating with one of wool, comes in improved qualities, and in all the new colors.

Scotch plaids are brought out in various combinations of designs and colorings, one of the newest being the Dhu plaid, an unassuming woolen texture, very soft, and showing double checks in double and twist yarn in the brighter defining lines, and in plain fabric threads outlining the other checks, which are in different ground colors from the checks bordered with the yarn.

The Dhu plaids are known as woolen stuffs, while other new Scotch or clan plaids are in a firmer twisted and more closely woven fabric termed worsted.

Ogoutz suitings in small stripe designs, minute figures and irregular checks are exceedingly attractive, and will form stylish costumes for ladies, misses and children.

The novelties in Clan Plaids are marked $1.00, $1.25, $1.50 and $1.75 a yard. The Dhu checks or plaids sell at $1.00 a yard, in all street colors, and Ogoutz and Vassar suitings are sold for $1.00 a yard, being alike in price and general character, but different in width, design and coloring.

For the plain parts of combination costumes of plaids and solid colored goods, a French plaided braid proves very decorative. This braid comes in the various hues and shades of the checked materials, and trims most stylishly.

On solid silks, satins and velvets, bead trimmings will be profusely used to form gowns for dinners and receptions. Exceedingly lovely are the ornaments, fringes and gimps of pearl, and satin beads, and equally elegant are those in steel, jet and iridescent colorings, which are used upon black and rich dark hued dress goods.

For information about trimmings, thanks are due John Wanamaker. For facts about dress goods, Sharpless Brothers and John Wanamaker.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Mrs. N. O. B."—No. "The Milliner and Dressmaker" published in N. Y., comes nearer to what you want than any other journal.

"A Subscriber"—Your velvet is a beautiful shade. Henrietta cloth or very fine cashmere the same shade will go with it splendidly, or you may use the finest quality of clan plaid in red, green and blue.

"Mrs. A. W. Stow"—Have sent your letter direct to Redfern, who will doubtless give you facts and prices.

"Q"—By calling on or writing to The Canfield Rubber Co., No. 7 Mercer St., New York, you can see or gain the desired information concerning the chamois skin jackets. Those I have seen are without sleeves. Sometimes they are worn under the dress waist, and again under the wrap, if it is a jacket which will cover the chamois skin garment.

"Mrs. J. L. P.":—of Dawson Dakota, read fashion article in this number LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, and you find desired information.

"Margaretha":—Yes, you can both wear full dress at that hour. Two brides maids will be quite enough. They can wear either pink or blue. Measure from the top of your head to the edge of your train, and you will have the correct length for your veil.

"Mrs. J. F. R":—Your letter came too late for reply in last issue L. H. J. It is difficult to explain that what appears in the October No. L. H. J. is written in August, that is why many of the letters are not answered in this column, for it is no use to give desired information when too late to be of service.

"Mrs. Livingston":—You can get all materials for Holiday fancy work by writing to E. Ridley and Sons, Grand and Allen Sts., New York, write for sample copy of magazine containing prices of materials for fancy needle-work. You will also find therein price lists of dress goods and various articles for family use.

"Dress Maker":—Write direct to John Wanamaker, Philadelphia, Pa. You can get small quantities of dress trimmings and other goods from that store at wholesale or dress-makers prices. The German and French novelties in beaded trimmings and ornaments have already been exhibited at that house and very elegant they are.

"Edith Hastings":—You are very foolish to wear the hair cushions when they are unhealthy and uncomfortable. The torsion spring bustles of braided wire are entirely comfortable, light in weight, flexible and elastic, and are capable of wearing gracefully the weight of any dress skirt. The popular shapes are the Lady Washington, Lace covered at 85c., the Pearl 60c, the "A" bustle 50c, and the small Daisy 40c. To save time and trouble please send Postal-note and order one or more bustles direct to Weston & Wells, 1017 Chestnut St., Phila., Pa.

"A. B. O": Frankfort, Ky.—You should be able to get Colgate's "Rince Bouche" at any druggists, however, we have sent your letter direct to the manufactures, who will give you the desired information,

(*Concluded on page 15.*)

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THE KINDERGARTEN.

IV.

BY ANNA W. BARNARD.

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No one watching children at play fails to observe the common habit of toy-breaking, and surprise is often manifested that a costly toy seems to give less pleasure than the rag doll with the homely details of whose make-up the little ones are familiar. To a thoughtful mind the fact soon makes itself known that children provided with many and expensive toys are apt to be nervous, fretful and discontented. This is because their undeveloped brains are confused and bewildered by the great number and variety of toys. In the eager efforts to "see inside," and gain some idea of their construction, the toys are broken, and the children are baffled and discouraged in their attempts to join together the shattered fragments. After long observation and study of these facts, Froebel was forced to the conclusion that the so-called "destructiveness" of children is simply "perverted constructiveness," and that toys should be made so as to admit of separation into parts, and reunion of those parts. Upon this conclusion he founded his third gift.

SOLIDS.

THE THIRD GIFT,

THE DIVIDED CUBE.

The third gift is a two-inch wooden cube, divided once in each of its dimensions into eight one-inch cubes. The resemblance between the second and third gifts is in the cubical form of part of the second, and the similar form of the third, both as a whole and in its parts. The third gift in being a whole divided into equal and similar parts, contrasts with the second gift whose sphere, cube and cylinder are unequal and dissimilar.

The second gift conveys the impression of a unit and a whole; the third gift represents the *divided* whole. The divided cube encourages the child's spirit of investigation, and modifies his desire to destroy. It may be taken apart, joined together again into its original form or perfect whole, or out of the parts may be formed other perfect wholes. By this means the child is gradually led to examine the parts, and to see that each part is exactly like the whole except in size. He receives the ideas of whole and part, of form and comparative size, and sees the relation of one part to another. By this division into parts, and examination of parts, he becomes thoroughly acquainted with his cube. The study of the concrete must always precede and form the basis of the study of the abstract. The ball was the first toy, then the sphere, similar yet different, followed by cylinder and cube, both resembling yet both differing from the sphere, now comes the larger cube divided into eight smaller cubes, the increased number of the familiar forms bringing fresh delight to the children as with folded hands they sit in their little chairs around the low tables, trying to keep silence. Then one who has been patient and quiet is asked to distribute the boxes containing the gift. This he does by placing them on the table, a box in front of each child, waiting upon himself last. When his task is finished and he is seated, the boxes are opened in concert to the counting of the kindergartner, who slowly counts from one to ten, as she gives the following directions:

"1. Raise both hands.

"2. Place your hands on the right and left sides of the boxes.

"3. Turn the boxes over once toward you.

"4. Turn the boxes over once more in the same direction." (This movement brings the lids of the boxes next to the table).

"5. Draw the boxes quietly toward you till the front side comes a little past the front edge of the table.

"6. Put the left hands on the top of the boxes, and with your right hands draw the lids from under.

"7. Place the lids on the table near the edge at the back.

"8. Push the boxes gently backward till they rest on the table half-way between the front and back edges.

"9. Very carefully lift off the boxes, and find under each one a cube.

"10. Place the boxes at the left side of the lids."

If in following these directions the children make mistakes, they try and try again, and if they are very careful in removing the boxes the cubes will in most instances be found undivided, giving a sense of order and completeness. No farther directions are given if the children are very young, and as a rest they play with their cubes as they so long to do, investing and building at pleasure. They soon learn that the cubes cannot find space in the boxes, unless each one is in its proper place; so when the play is over, they fit together the small cubes into the form of the larger cube, place the boxes over them, slip the lids under, turn the boxes over, put on the lids and place the boxes in proper position on the table, ready to be collected by a little waiter proud and eager to be chosen for the service. While the boxes are being collected, and an assistant is putting them away, the children often sing together a song of their own choosing. Of course the directions given are not arbitrary, but serve to show the care and accuracy required in the distribution and collection of the materials for work, everything being done with the utmost order and precision.

The children soon discover that each separate part of the third gift is similar in form to the cube of the second gift, though smaller in size, while the third gift as a whole differs from the cube of the second gift in being larger and in being divided.

When the third gift is examined as a whole, attention is called to the number of its faces or sides, and before it is divided for building an exercise like this is often given. The kindergartner says, "Let me see how many of you can do exactly what I tell you to do. Touch the front side of the cube,—the back, the right, the left, the top, the bottom."

As she slowly gives these directions, one at a time, it is seen that nearly all the small fingers are touching correctly the sides named, until the last direction is given to "touch the bottom of the cube," and this calls forth a chorus of eager voices, exclaiming:

"We cannot!"

"Why?"

"Because it is *under*!"

"If it is under, and your fingers cannot touch it, what does touch it?"

"The table."

Thus every exercise calls into action the observing powers, and requires concentration of mind, while the pleasure and stimulus of companionship makes all work a delight.

Sir Isaac Newton said that he was unable to think continuously on any one subject longer than fifteen minutes. *One* minute is a long time for a little child to think, and great care is taken not to prolong the directions till signs of fatigue are manifested, but the play is often varied so as to give complete relaxation to body and mind.

The children arrange the small cubes in straight rows and count them; they try to find out in how many ways the large cube can be divided into halves, and by experimenting, prove for themselves that this can be done in three different directions; viz. through its length, breadth and thickness, producing what they call respectively top and bottom, right and left, and front and back halves. The older children divide the cube into fourths and eighths, and are taught after each division to re-unite the parts in the whole cube, ending always as every analysis should, with synthesis. Thus fractions (though that dreadful word is never heard in the kindergarten) become familiar and friendly realities. By degrees and with pleasure the children learn to perform the elementary operations of arithmetic with concrete things.

Many figures are built by direction. Starting with the whole cube as the first form, each succeeding one is produced by taking from and adding to this form, and after building hundreds of figures, we end as we began with the cube. These forms are not destroyed or thrown down, but new ones are produced by changes in the position of the blocks. All the cubes are to be used in every form.

While building, the children must obey every direction given, touching only the cube they are told to touch, trying neither to let it fall, nor to make undue noise in handling it, and learning to build well by placing the cubes evenly one upon another, and by fitting each with exactness into its proper place. Each mistake is to be rectified, if possible, by the child who makes it, if not, the other children are encouraged to make the correction. As a rule it is best not to touch the children's work, no one should do for them what they can do for themselves.

The remark once being made by a kindergartner to the mother of one of her little pupils; that "The exactness and precision required in the directed use of Froebel's gifts teach children to tell the truth:" the mother was inclined to laugh at what she no doubt considered the exaggerated statement of an enthusiast, but subsequently admitted that she had come to believe it might be true, for, said she, "My little son is no longer satisfied when I reply to his questions, 'I guess so,' or 'perhaps so,' but says, 'Mamma, I cannot understand you when you say those things, I want you to say "'*Yes* or *No*!'"

Besides the dexterity of hand and accuracy of touch acquired by the careful use of the building blocks, under the direction of a thoughtful person, each form may be made to teach lessons of far greater value. For instance, how tenderly the little ones will fit together the eight cubes that are to make a chair for grandpapa, if by a word or a song they are helped to think of the dear old man they love so well, and whom in their lively fancies they can almost see sitting in the chair made by their willing hands. So often as the building goes on, kindergartner and children sing together this little song.

GRANDPAPA.

"Grandpapa's hair is very white,
And grandpapa walks but slow:
And he likes to sit still in his easy chair,
While the children come and go.
'Hush!' play quietly,' says mamma,
'Let nobody trouble dear grandpapa.'

Grandpapa's hand is thin and weak,
From working hard all his days,
'Tis an honest right hand and a loving heart,
That has won all good men's praise;
'Kiss it tenderly,' says mamma,
'Let every one honor dear grandpapa.'

Grandpapa's eyes are growing dim,
Have often seen pain and death,
But the lovelight has never gone out of them,
Nor the courage and the faith.
'Children, all of you,' says mamma,
'Have need to look up to dear grandpapa.'

Grandpapa's years are growing less,
A blessing he leaves behind,
For a good life he lived and a good fight fought,
Was to mercy e'er inclined,
'E'er remember it,' says mamma,
'To honor the name of your grandpapa.'"

The writer remembers one occasion after the chairs had all been built, and every member of a happy little company with solemn gaze fixed on the empty chairs, sat with folded hands awaiting the always requested song, when out of the silence a child's voice was heard thoughtfully saying, "Why don't we ever sing anything about *grandmamma*?" The suggestion was too appropriate not be at once acted upon, the chairs were divided as could easily be done, into right and left halves, making two chairs out of each one, and the song was altered so that one-half of it told of grandpapa, and the other half of grandmamma, and ever after when the chairs were built, this was the established custom. The touching conversation of the little folks at the time above alluded to, took place too long ago to be recalled, but the impression of it can never be effaced.

Many persons are mistaken in supposing that in the kindergarten children are allowed to do exactly as they please, subject to no restraint whatever. On the contrary, while it is neither expected nor desired that order should be so strictly observed here as in the school room, yet there are times when implicit obedience is required, as well as times when spontaneity of action is not only allowed but encouraged. Had children the right kind of home training, there would seldom be any need to do more than request them to perform the pleasant tasks of the kindergarten, but alas! this is not always the case. We receive them as they are, not as they were meant to be, and if a wholesome restraint is sometimes used, this is not to be counted against the Froebelian system, but against injudicious early training, with which we have had naught to do, and for the results of which we decline to be held responsible. But we must not expect too much of the little ones entrusted to our care, we must not give them a task unless we are sure of their ability to accomplish it without too great effort. Our part evidently is, gently to lead them step by step. Conversation, stories and songs aid greatly in entertaining and keeping them happy. They are social in their natures and need a great deal of love and sympathy. Whoever gains the love of a child wields over it an immeasurable influence.

With all of the gifts are made three classes of figures; viz. forms of life, utility or use,—forms of cognizance or knowledge, and forms of symmetry or beauty. Forms of life represent real objects, or objects of use that really exist, as houses, bridges, etc. Forms of knowledge relate to number, order and proportion; they instruct concerning properties and relations of numbers, by a particular arranging and grouping of the blocks. Dividing the cube into two, four or eight parts, gives forms by which the child gains mathematical conceptions. Forms of beauty are ideal forms, regularly constructed so as to satisfy the sense of symmetry and order. In making these we first call attention to the different ways in which the cubes may touch each other; viz., side to side, edge to edge, side to edge and edge to side. They may also be placed in certain relations to each other, without being in actual contact. Forms of beauty are only one block high,—one half of the blocks are united to form a fixed center, around which the remaining ones are symmetrically arranged and moved according to the law of opposites. Every change in the position of a block requires an opposite change of position in the remaining blocks or opposites.

The central point from which we work, leads us to think of the invisible Center within our own being upon which all thought and action depend, and by which we are guided in our struggles to build up around it a beautiful life. Is it to be wondered at, that ignorant as we are of the laws which govern our complex natures, we become one-sided physically, mentally, morally and spiritually? If we are ungraceful in body, unwise in mind, hard in heart, and unlovely in spirit, is it not solely because we disobey the eternal laws of life, order, love and beauty, not one of which can be broken with impunity? Who can conceive of the wondrous beauty of a perfect man or woman—one who lives in obedience to the Divine laws!

If through our own fault, or that of our ancestors, we are made to suffer much in this earthly life, is it not a consoling thought that the suffering may all be caused by the re-adjustment of whatever has been wrongly developed in our natures, and that as each fault is righted we gradually approach the perfect life, when pain and sorrow having accomplished their mission, shall finally and forever cease?" In that day we shall understand the meaning of the passage, "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath it entered into the heart of man to conceive the glories prepared for him." For how can a man see, being blind? How can he hear, being deaf? How can he conceive of beauty with a heart lying like a stone in his bosom?

The remark was once made that the "forms of beauty are closely allied with love," but the hearers failed to elicit from the speaker a satisfactory explanation. Nevertheless, we all know that a loving heart is a beautiful one, and it is an established fact that those who love *become* beautiful. How beautiful in the eye of the lover is the Beloved One! "How handsome are our friends!" The persons who boast of an ability to love one human being only, are not admirable characters, but the great hearts who love the race we delight to honor. Wherever they are, invisible windows open wide and we are bathed in floods of sunshine! Into darkened lives they come, and shadows all dissolve in the light that radiates from their presence! Is it because their souls are symmetrical? But what has all this to do with "forms of beauty?"

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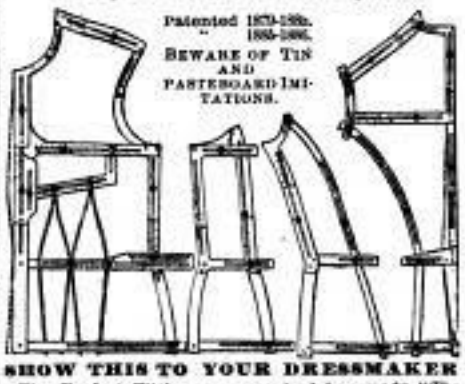

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—All inquiries about flowers and their culture will be cheerfully answered to the best of my ability in the columns of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, when they are of general interest. Those of a personal character, and not of general interest, will be answered by mail,—provided a stamped envelope is sent for reply; and not otherwise. If an immediate reply is desired, it can only be obtained by mail, as the matter for the paper is made up several weeks in advance of date, and any reply which comes through the paper will necessarily be delayed. In asking questions about plants which you have failed to grow successfully, tell what kind of culture you have given them, and this will often enable the editor to get at the difficulty, and give you the information you require.

Send all letters directly to the address given below, and not to the office of publication.

SHIOCTON WIS. EBEN E. REXFORD.

More About Roses.

Since the publication of my article on Hybrid Perpetual Roses in June or July number of the JOURNAL, I have received a great number of letters from admirers of this Queen of flowers, and the questions asked in many of them the writers will find answered in the present article.

There seems to be a difference of opinions as to what a Hybrid Perpetual Rose really is. Some think that it is a sort of very tender rose: others, that it is a perfectly hardy rose; some that it is like Teas and Noisettes in habit of growth, others that it is a rampant grower, and many ask to have the character of its blooms described.

In the accompaning illustration of the Baroness Rothchild—one of the best Hybrid Perpetuals,—a good idea is given of the forms of most varieties of this suberb class. They are, for the most part, very double, large, fragrant, and of magnificent colors. The "Baroness" is a pale, soft pink,—of the most delicate shade of that lovely color,—and the petals have a texture like that of satin. It retains a cupped shape until it sheds its petals, and on this account is preferable to those sorts which have more reflexed petals, the shape of the flower being always finer in all stages of developement among the cupped sorts. Its foliage comes well up to the flower, making a Rose cut with a short stem an exquisite little bouquet in itself.

Though the Baroness Rothchild is distinct from other varieties in all respects, it is a good type of the class, and those who do not clearly understand what kind of a flower the Hybrid Perpetuals have can get a very good idea from the engraving. The pinks, scarlets, and carmines in this class, are as a general thing, richer in tone than among the Teas or Noisettes; but there are no yellow ones.

At the north, this class is not hardy,—that is, it can not be depended on to stand the winter without protection. In some instances it comes through without much loss, but as a general thing it suffers so that it becomes comparatively worthless, as it will take an entire season to get a good start only to be killed back the following winter, so that it never gives the satisfaction it always will when properly cared for. I would always advise laying the branches down on the ground, and covering with something. I have already recommended evergreen boughs as being about the best of any covering, but where these are not to be obtained straw, litter, leaves, or clear soil, will do very well. As the stalks become somewhat stiff with age, and are likely to be broken by bending down, I would advise heaping some earth about the base of the plant, and bending the branches over it. This does away with the danger of breaking the branches by making too sharp a turn in them. If earth is used as a covering, let it be as dry as possible. Sand is better than a heavier soil. The aim is, not to keep out frost, as some think, but to keep the sun from getting to the branches after they are frozen. The damage to plants which succumb to our winters is not done by cold, but by alternate freezing and thawing. "Protection" is not, therefore, a protection against cold, but against the sun's rays, and anything which will keep them from the branches answers the purpose, provided it does not smother the plant. That covering which will shield from the sun and at the same time allow a free circulation of air about the plant is best, and this is what evergreen branches will do better than anything else. But, as I have said, the material of which the covering is made is not so important. The important item is, to see that the plant is covered. If you are not willing to take the time and trouble to cover your plants, you ought to go without them,—and the chances are that you will be obliged to do so.

I would say to all inquirers that I would not advise them to set out plants in the open ground in the fall. All plants require time in which to become established before they are able to withstand our winters, and late-set Roses will not be in the proper condition by the coming of cold weather.

But I would advise those who have cellars, or who are willing to take the pains to bury or heel in their plants, if they have not a cellar, to procure them this fall, so that they will be on hand for early planting in the spring. If we wait till spring to procure them, it is generally quite late before our orders are filled, especially if we send a mixed order, and they do not get the benefit of the early part of the season. If planted as soon as the ground becomes fit, they will get a good start before the hot weather comes, and the consequences is that such early-set plants always do much better than late-set ones, because they have made roots which enable them to withstand dry weather without being checked by it, as plants with poorly developed roots generally are. For this reason I would advise sending for plants this fall. They will come safely at any time, as they will not be injured by freezing, and the growers can send until the ground freezes so that they cannot take up the plants. It is often the case that plants are taken up and stored in cellars by the growers, so that they can be sent out at any time in dormant condition. Dormant plants are always preferable if they can be procured in proper season, to pot-grown ones.

Some write that they have consulted such catalouges as they happen to have, and some of the varieties I named are not to be found in them. It is true that the lists vary among the many dealers. But every dealer always keeps in stock some of the very best sorts, and it would be perfectly safe to instruct any dealer to whom an order might be sent to substitute good varieties for those named that he might not be able to supply. Dealers,—that is, reputable dealers, and no others should be patronized, under any circumstances,—never keep worthless varieties. Indeed, worthless varieties are discarded by the originators, so that they seldom reach trade, therefore, most of the sorts grown for sale can be depended on. Sometimes a new sort is sent out that proves to be comparatively worthless, but as soon as it is found to be poor it is discarded promptly. If you know that the person to whom your order is sent is an honest man, it is safe to trust to his judgement in these particulars. He will do better by you than you would be likely to do for yourself, if you are an amateur.

It is a good plan to prepare your beds for the reception of Roses the present season. Spade them up well to a depth of two feet. Make the soil as mellow as possible. If not well-drained, dig somewhat deeper and fill in at the bottom with something which will hold up the soil when returned to the bed, and allow the surplus water to drain out of the soil and run away from the roots of the plants. Have your manure in readiness for use when needed in the spring. If you can have your choice in this respect, always take old, thoroughly-rotted manure from the cow-yard. Use liberally. Roses like rich food. Old soil from a chip-yard is well adapted to the culture of Roses.

In watering plants in the cellar, be careful to put them in a cool place, and one as dark as possible. Aim to keep them entirely dormant. A warm cellar, and a light one, will excite growth, or keep the plants in a disturbed condition, and this is harmful. The Hybrid Perpetuals grow to a heighth of three to five feet, in rich soil, and make fine, compact bushes.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

Mrs. R. S.: wants to know how to treat a Lantana Borbonica. I grow several varieties of Palms in the same kinds of soil that my most common plants get. I have excellent success with them, and it is attributed to the fact that I keep them in deep pots, in which the roots have a chance to run down, instead of spreading. I keep them in a shady corner of the greenhouse, water freely, take care to have good drainage, syringe freely overhead every day. If scale appears, as it generally will, I take an old tooth-brush and scrub all infested parts until the insect is routed.

L. C. E. asks how to take care of the Cape Jessamine. I find that my plants do best when I keep them in the cellar until March. Then I bring them up, water sparingly until signs of growth set in, and rather more liberally after that, but never give enough to make the earth wet. It is quite necessary that the pots in which this plant grow should have good drainage, and the soil should be a light one, and repotting should not be done until after the blooming period is over. If disturbed before that, the buds may drop. Keep the plants free from scale and red spider. After blooming, I set my plants out of doors in a shady place until fall.

M. E. R. wants to know if Fuchias are grown from seed, and how. Yes, they are easily grown from seed, and I suppose that the care given the seeds of other greenhouse flowers is all that is required to start them. The earth in which all fine seeds are sown should be light, mellow, and free from lumps, and the seed should be scattered as evenly as possible over the surface and covered lightly by sifting earth over them. Then cover the pot box or pan, with a woolen cloth which should be wet occasionally by sprinkling it. This will keep the soil moist until the plants begin to show, and is much better than applying water directly to the soil. Care must be taken to give the plants all the air posible after they appear, and they must not be kept in a place where they will be too warm, for too much heat forces an unnatural growth. When they have made two or three leaves they should be pricked off into small pots by themselves. These directions will apply to all kinds of small seeds which it is desired to start to growing in the house.

E. L. R. asks to have the difference between poison Ivy and American Ivy or Ampelopsis explained. The poison Ivy has three-parted leaves, while the other has five-parted leaves. It is a very singular fact that we have no native vines with poisonious characteristics whose leaves are five-parted.

L. M. P. will find part of her questions answered in reply to Mrs. J. H. D. in Sept. No. Remove the mealy-bugs with a stick or bristle-brush which you can work into the nooks and corners where they congregate. An emulsion of kerosene is good, but it is some trouble to apply it, and in small collections hand-picking is preferable.

Mrs. L. R. would like information about rooting Syringas. Take a branch, preferably a sprout growing beside the old plant, and give it a sudden twist which will half break it about a foot from its junction with the parent plant. Bend this down and cover the sprout at the place where the break is in it with earth, putting a stone on the soil to hold it and the plant in place. Stick a stick by the end of the plant which is out of the soil, and tie the sprout to it in an upright position. Leave it to form roots, which it will be quite likely to do at the place where the break in it was made. Do not separate it from the old plant until next spring.

N. A. P. C. writes that the Auratum Lily which she planted in the spring has not sprouted, though she knows it to be alive. It is frequently the case that Lilies do not put in an appearance the first season after planting. If the bulb appears healthy, do nothing to it. It will be likely to start into growth next spring.

In reply to several inquiries about growing evergreens in pots I would say that I have had no experience with this class of plants, therefore I turned over their questions to Mr. W. D. Boynton, a nurseryman of this place with the request that he should answer them for publication in this paper. He has kindly complied with my request. I append his letter:—

"I would say that the practice of potting evergreens is rapidly growing in favor. A few years ago they were hardly thought of in this capacity, but their merits as foliage plants have brought them into attention, and the demand for them as pot plants is rapidly increasing. They are potted in ordinary garden soil, kept moist at the roots, given a half shady place to stand in, and used to furnish a background of green against which flowers are displayed. They are hardy, of the easiest culture, and are never attacked by insects. I shall be pleased to answer any inquiries respecting them and their culture, if those asking the questions will enclose a stamp to pay postage on reply."

Therefore, if any one wants to know anything more about evergreens as pot-plants, let them write to W. D. Boynton, Shiocton, Wis., and ask their questions of him, as I know nothing at all about them, as I have said.

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FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HINTS UPON ETIQUETTE AND GOOD MANNERS.

NO. XVIII.

BY MRS. S. O. JOHNSON.

Advice to Wives.

It has been said that the "sweets of matrimony" doubtless consist of honeyed words for the first month, and of candid expressions for the rest of life.

There is a great deal of truth in this statement, but if the candid expressions are sugar-coated they will produce a much better effect. Human nature as a rule, is averse to fault-finding, but if it is administered like a dose of castor oil with a sweetened, well-flavored essence at the top and bottom of the glass, then the distasteful oil slips down without leaving a trace of its nauseousness. So kindly reproof can be sandwiched between well-deserved praise in a very subtle manner, and after the praise has been digested the reproof can do its healing work.

Does disputing about trifles add to your dignity or establish your superiority? No, indeed! and if wives would only follow the good advice which centuries ago it is said was given to a woman seeking council from a wise adviser:—"Fill your mouth with water when you are inclined to dispute with your husband and you will never carry on a quarrel with him." Silence is truly the most insurmountable barrier to interpose between yourself and a quarrelsome husband. If you will not feed the flame of his anger the fire must soon die out itself. An old proverb tells us that, "A pleasant, cheerful wife is as a rainbow set in the sky, when her husband's mind is beset with storms and tempests; but a dissatisfied and fretful wife in the hour of trouble, is like one of those fiends who are appointed to torture lost Spirits. Therefore, if your husband returns home, looking worn and jaded, you must strive to meet him with a bright face and a cordial greeting, but never ask, "What is the matter?" or in any way allude to his appearance, but offer him his slippers, and give him an appetizing dinner or supper; and the ice which has formed around his heart will soon thaw out, and when he has been well fed perhaps he will tell you of his troubles, and thus seek relief from their heavy load by making you the sharer of his burdens, the help meet of his woes, and more than likely the relating of his tribulations will lessen their weight. It is a wife's duty to aid, relieve, assist and cooperate with her husband in everything in existence, and if they are well-mated she will be to him a dual-existence. If not, God help them! for man cannot. Only by earnest, constant prayer can a wife perform her duty to her husband, and if she has not a high esteem and respect for him she cannot work with a will in his interests, and for his welfare. Shakespeare tells a wife that, "Thy husband is thy lord, thy life, thy keeper, thy head, thy sovereign; one that cares for thee. And for thy maintenance, commits his body to painful labor, both by sea and land, while thou liest warm at home, secure and safe: and craves no other tribute at thy hands but love, fair looks and true obedience, too little payment for so great a debt." But in these later days it is the few not the many who "liest warm at home, secure and safe;" and many a woman is forced by cruel circumstances to toil early and late to support a husband and children, from whom she receives a little love and few thanks for her well-doings, for he looks upon her as "his goods, his chattels," and no one shall gainsay her right to work for him.

Yet it is not of women's rights that I would write; I should much prefer to write of "women's wrongs." Of rights she has enough, if she possesses the spirit needful to enforce them. Women are counselled *always* to be gentle, meek, forbearing and long-suffering, and the majority of them learn these lessons in all their bearings, because they are forced to do so for their own peace and comfort. But, alas! it is not until years of discretion are attained, that these virtues become their possessions, for they do not often come to them as a birth-right, but are only gained by the aid of God and Christ. "*Come unto me all ye who are heavy laden and I will give you rest,*" are words that sink deeply into the hearts of wives borne down by cares and troubles, and when they have truly learned the blessed truths they possess, then they are never comfortless or forlorn, but as strong in the Spirit wherewith Christ makes his people free.

Christ gave to woman her rights, and wherever Christianity is taught, women are respected as as they respect themselves. Self-respect is as essential to the discharge of wifely duties as sunshine is to the growth of the flowers; and without it no woman can establish a Christian home. By self-respect I mean the upholding of one's right to be always treated kindly and courteously and never to receive or speak abusive words.

If a wife will allow her husband to swear in her presence either to herself or concerning others, she lessens her self-respect. No matter how profane your husband has been previous to your marriage, you should teach him that to take the name of his God in vain is a bitter sin, and that God will not hold him guiltless, although he may think it too trifling a thing for you to speak of. I know of an instance of a politician who married late in life a young girl who had been brought up in a refined, educated circle, wherein an oath was never heard. The first profanity she listened to from her husband's lips startled her exceedingly, and she wept so violently that he could not calm her for some minutes. Then he begged to know the cause of her distress, and could hardly believe that his profane words could have produced such an effect. To him they were as naught, yet during the days of his engagement to the lady he had not allowed an ugly word to escape his lips.

"Did it cure him of swearing?" do you ask?

"Yes." Yet it took more than one trial to do so, but in the end the cure was effectual—as far as his home was concerned.

Profanity is a deadly sin in the household, and decency alone shall put an end to its usage. Vulgarity is also a hateful thing to be avoided both in speech and action. Herein a wife can prune her husband's speech,—as Ruskin says it is her duty to prune all his faults by a judicious pinching of the sprouts.

These little foxes which "destroy the vines" can be exterminated when they are of a small size, but when they have grown large they will destroy all hopes of happiness on earth.

If you are of a despondent nature strive with all your strength of purpose to rise above it. "*Count your mercies,*" as Mrs. Stowe makes her creation—Sam Lawson do, and estimate their value as tried in the balance against your troubles, trials and tribulations, then *master them*, trampling them under foot. If you go forth to look for trials, a large crop is already springing up at your feet, but if you go forth to rejoice in the glories of the earth, the sunshine, the flowers and all the wonders of creation, you will return home with your heart uplifted and strengthened, prepared to wrestle with your woes and conquer them. If your husband does not incline to converse with you freely, don't pout and sulk, but read or occupy yourself in some way until he inclines to talk, and then do not pour into his ears all your household vexations. He has plenty of vexations in his business arrangements. No one's life runs on a smooth turnpike, there are roaring lions in every one's pathway, and fretting about them will not remove them, but earnest and persistent efforts in the right way will accomplish wonders.

Do not be jealous of your husband's occupations, or of his acquaintances; jealousy is a hydra-headed serpent whose life must be stamped out if one would live in peace and love at home and abroad. A jealous wife is a terror in her neighborhood, and a constant stirrer up of strife, and if you feel any such spirit rising within you, wrestle with it by constant prayer to be delivered from its grasp. "It is jealousy's peculiar nature to swell small things to great; nay, out of naught, to conjure much; and then to lose its reason amid the hideous phantoms it has formed." Let him read the newspapers and magazines without interruption, or saying, as some silly fools of wives have said:—

"Oh! you care more for the newspaper than for me."

For if you make such an accusation against your husband, you may live to prove its truth, and he will not be the one to be blamed for it. Read the news yourself daily, if possible, if not, weekly, and be able to converse intelligently upon all the public questions of the day; even to the vexed question concerning the visitors and Professors of Andover Theological School. By so doing you will make yourself companionable to your husband. Ask him to read the newspapers and magazines to you while you are sewing or doing fancy work to adorn your surroundings; and you can pass many a pleasant evening in this manner, and learn that husband and wife are drawn close together by the mutual enjoyments of a literary character than by attending receptions and theatrical amusements. A cosy chat will follow the reading, and you will learn that literature, even of the highest kind, will supply good topics for every day table talk, and gradually there will spring up a felicitous fusion of ideas and sentiments which will engender an never-failing, well-spring of generous, loving emotions.

Husbands and wives thus trained will find that contention, disputes and a readiness to find fault with each other cannot take root in their domain, because they have cultivated flowers therein, rather than weeds.

Neatness and order are two essentials of a happy home, and a wife must exercise both if she desires to discharge her duties religiously. I would not counsel a wife to clothe herself and her children extravagantly, but neatly and becomingly, which habiliments can be cheaply obtained at the present time. If you would not appear before a lover slovenly attired, with hair uncombed and dress badly adjusted, why should you do so before your husband? If it were due to your lover to present a charming appearance, why not to your husband, whom you have sworn to love, honor, and to cherish? So let me beg of you to make your toilette with as much care, both morning and afternoon, in your own home, as you did in your parents' home. But avoid too great a display of fine clothes if you must be your own maid servant, as the majority of American girls are in their early married days. Suitably attired, even if it is in a five cent print, a woman will command the admiration of her husband and children if she is worthy of it. Never come to the table with soiled hands or face, and uncombed hair, or with a dirty dress or apron. Soap and water are cheap, and no woman should restrict herself in their usage. Many a man is driven to seek his pleasures elsewhere, by the slovenly habits of his wife and his ill-trained children and disorderly home; and upon whose shoulders shall be laid the sin? Not wholly upon the wife, who probably has had work enough for three men to do laid upon her weak shoulders; but the man should do his part always, and assist his wife in taking care of the children, and even in the preparation of the meals and in tidying up the rooms when he knows that there is more work to be done than two hands and two feet can possibly do.

Will the man say, "that is my wife's work, not mine?"

No, indeed, it is not her work to do daily more than can be done without intense labor; as well demand of her to make bricks without straw, as the Egyptians demanded of the Hebrews, as to do the work of three women in one day. So if you desire to do your duty, wield the broom and clear up the apartments, and amuse the children, and do not flounce out of the house and leave her alone to cope with more work than woman can do, while you seek diversion at a 'gilded saloon,' and come home maddened with rum.

Unhappy homes! alas how numerous they are, and where lies the fault? Whoever can solve this problem will be the benefactor of his race. Yet it lies in the power of men and women to make home happy, but without mutual aid it cannot be accomplished. Cheerfulness, however, is a great aid to happiness, and a laugh will often drive away tears. Learn to laugh and be happy, to be cheerful, and thus make others happy. Is it hard, my friends to urge you to laugh and be cheerful when gloom and darkness surround you on all sides? No, I think not, and if you will make yourselves sweet and lovely, and laugh and be merry, you may drive away the clouds which darken your life. Always bear in mind Peter Pindar's couplet, which runs thus:—

"The turnpike road to peoples hearts I find
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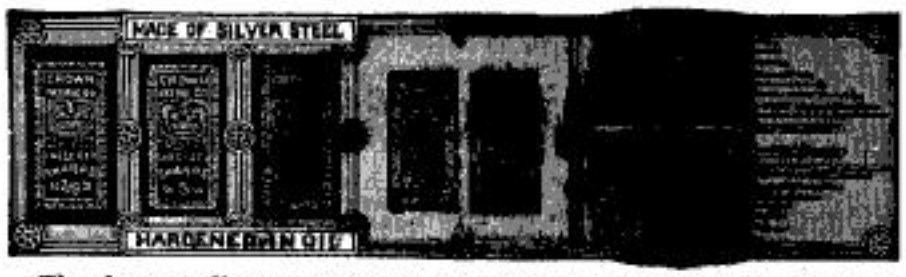

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

SOME HINTS ON MONEY MAKING.

BY ELLA RODMAN CHURCH.

IX.

A woman, with a strong yearning for a home which she could not evolve from a third-story room in a third-class boarding place, resolved, in a moment of desperation, to launch out into the reckless extravagence of a modest flat of skyward tendencies, consisting of three rooms only and a bath-room. It was humble enough, but the added space seemed palatial; while the independence of such a realm to herself was worth all the labor of housekeeping.

The excitement of furnishing the flat, especially on next to nothing, was simply delicious; and when furnished, the bright, cheery little nest was charming. It was full of comfort, too,—with broad lounges, and abundant foot-stools, and plenty of tables, and easy chairs, and draperies just where they were wanted. There were "bits of colors" in the right places, a few good pictures on a small scale, and a thorough air of refinement over all.

How that woman did work to get it in order! And how when it was in order, she worked harder than ever at the neglected writing to make up for lost time. For her pen,—and a not particularly gifted pen, but one that worked on rather ploddingly in a certain groove—was her sole support: and the additional expenses of this luxurious mode of living entaled additional labor. But she enjoyed it, housework and all—for she could not afford a maid; and the pleasure of entertaining a friend at her own table was abundant compensation for the extra cooking and dish-washing.

The writing rather lagged, though, there were so many interrutions on which she had not counted; and when after six months of housekeeping, a good opportunity presented itself to let the flat furnished, she was persuaded to try the experiment for a short time. A friend, who was a real-estate agent, said to her, one evening, "It is astonishing what results can be accomplished, even in these cheap flats, by tasteful furnishing. Why, I could rent this flat for you, to-morrow, as it stands, at an enormous profit.

Belinda listened with interest: she did not wish to give up her home, but 'enormous profit' had an alluring sound to an impecunious woman. What did he consider enormous profit?

"Well," taking out pencil and card in a business like way, "you pay $25 a month for the bare rooms,—what did the furnishing cost, all told?"

She knew it by heart; for how often she had gone over that list, pinching in here and cutting off there, before she had ventured on the step of actual expenditure. It was something to be proud of, for $250 had paid for everything.

"You did well; and as there is a frequent demand for moderate furnished flats, I can get you $40 a month for these rooms as they are."

It seemed to Belinda a great cross to have to give up her cosy little home even temporarily; but it turned out to be the best thing that ever happened to her. A young couple appeared the next day, and engaged the rooms on the spot, expressing the most enthusiastic admiration of all their equipments. The late proprietor stipulating that they were to be rented only by the month. Then, like a wise woman, as summer was approaching, she took flight to the country, with pen, paper, and ink-bottle, and a fresh impetus for writing.

She had a delightful room in a quiet, old-fashioned house, where two maiden ladies pursued the even tenor of their way, with little variation from week to week, and where the liberal table and price of board were quite a glaring contrast. The young couple in the flat rather shook in their shoes, as the end of each month approached,—but no edict of expulsion arrived; and, had they known of their landlady's extended operations, they might have ceased to feel uneasy.

Literary work flourished, that Summer: there was something in the air of her retreat that seemed to brighten our scribbler's faculties, and quite a little snow storm of checks floated down upon her. Two or three of these were somewhat unexpectedly represented by three numbers; and finding that she could now carry out a half-formed purpose without infringing on a very small bank account, Belinda set about a rather daring piece of work.

The house at which she sojourned was at the extreme end of the village, and all the 'life' went on at the other end. There was a hotel there and several boarding-houses, which all seemed to be full,—for the air was quite celebrated for its strength-giving properties; and it was a frequent boast with the permanent inhabitants that there was not a house in the place that anybody wanted, to be bought or rented. This was a common regret among sojourners who would have liked a summer residence there; and as vacant lots were quite as scarce as houses, they had not even the resource of building. But an enterprising woman had thoroughly explored the land round about and this is what she found:

An old house with a low sloping roof,—small windows with two or three panes of glass broken out of each—a low entrance door—a general want of paint—and some shabby out houses attached at one side. A large door-yard, now occupied principally by rank grass and wild carrot, with some half-smothered Morning-glories trailing amid the rest of the vegetation; and at the back of the house an acre or so, with some fruit trees and the remains of a vegetable garden. Two magnificient elms in front afforded a pleasant shade without making it gloomy.

The Misses V——could only tell their boarder that there was no one in the place at all interested in the house which really belonged to a little girl nine years old who never lived in it, but her grandparents died there some time ago; the child was an orphan, and lived with her uncle and aunt in a town about twenty miles away. Wondered why she cared to hear about the house—*they'd* always thought it a dreadful 'spooky' kind of place. They supposed likely that people who wrote stories liked to pick up all they could to put into 'em.

Belinda let it go at that, and gave no sign of her real intentions; but she made private surveys of the house from all points of view, and she decided it had capabilities Then she became acquainted with the village carpenter, through the medium of a pair of brackets which she made as an offering to her hostesses, and found the man of tools a gentleman of somewhat elegant leisure except for 'odd jobs.' But he was social and sensible, and could give her all the information she wanted.

The house was well-built,—Mr. Plane's father had put it up, 'a matter of seventy years ago,' and all the work and materials in it were 'true.' He thought it not unlikely, too, that the Uncle who had charge of the small girl and her property, would be willing to sell the place at a low price, and he could easily make the inquiry as he often had errands to the town where he lived.

The worthy man considered the improvements about which the lady inquired rather 'notional,' as the house had answered all the purposes of living without them,—but city people had many 'kinks.' It would bring him a good piece of work, at any rate; and he made a reasonable estimate of the cost of materials and payment for his labor. This decided Belinda to buy the property if it could be had at or below a certain sum, and for very little ready money.

Everything seemed to favor her plan: there was no difficulty in purchasing, and at even a lower price than she had been willing to pay. The trustee looked upon the house as 'an old rat-trap' that could never be worth more, and would be likely to bring less by keeping it. The new purchaser was fairly startled at the ease with which she had been made a landed proprietor; but still keeping her own council as to the end she had in view, she immediately set Mr. Plane and his assistant at work on the outside of the house, while she explored the interior.

She found two large rooms separated by a square hall on the lower floor, with a spacious kitchen at the back, and a large buttery or store-closet beside it; a stair-case with a landing and a turn to either side; on the second floor, three good-sized rooms and a small one,—with a loft above it. Here was a good field for genius to exercise itself upon: and the field was taken to some purpose.

The great sloping roof was painted in dull red, and the house in primrose tint with brown blinds; the small windows were furnished with leaded panes, and an inexpensive porch raised the apparent height of the low door. There were flower-boxes outside of the windows, made of pine and covered with oil-cloth that looked like painted tiles: and these were filled with short-hanging vines, and gay verbenas. The dingy outhouses, needed when a farm of one hundred acres was attached to the house, had been carted away and sold for old lumber, and the ground on which they had stood sodded with grass from the roadside.

Within doors, a judicious use of paint and some cheap wall papers—for which our woman of business made an especial trip to the city—of good designs and coloring, had worked an equal transformation: and an equally attractive-looking dwelling could scarcely be found in the place. Each of the elm trees bore a legend to the effect that the property was for sale; and there was a regular stampede of summer boarders to view the premises.

An invalid Commodore, with his wife and daughter, became the purchaser; and at least half a dozen others would have taken the bargain off his hands. Belinda had been merciful, and contented herself with $500 profit after all expenses were paid; and as the Commodore prefered making the payment in cash, she had a good round sum in hand for another venture. It was very exciting work, and she had no idea of resting upon her laurels yet a while.

Her next operation, however, was not so fortunate. She had returned to the city, and hired quite an expensive flat in a fashionable neighborhood, which she furnished very tastefully at a greater outlay than her judgement altogether approved. This she lived in until it was rented, and then she particularly disliked to give it up. So did the parties who took possession: but as they also disliked to pay the rent, and ceased to do so altogether after the first month, the strong arm of the law was required to dislodge them.

Then Belinda moved back and stayed in the pleasant apartment until spring; when three ladies, mother and daughters, with the nicest of maid-servants, established themselves there with great satisfaction. With the rent paid in advance and unexceptional references, things went on smoothly again; and the enterprising landlady sought fresh fields and pastures new.

It was a seaside place, this time, where some friends were summering; but it was not yet largely known, although possessing many attractions. There was not a single pretty house in the little village, and the dwellings generally were on a large, rambling scale. The new comer was fortunate enough to obtain two very nice lots with 'ocean fronts,' at $200 apiece,—on which she built charming little cottages, at a cost of $800 each. The next season brought more visitors, and the cottages were sold at a profit of $2000.

These were not extensive operations, nor did they bring immense profits: but they were very satisfactory to the person who engaged in them, and many other women might be equally fortunate. The lesson was soon learned that inexpensive flats and houses, made fit for the occupancy of ladies and gentlemen, bring larger profits in proportion, and are more rentable and saleable, than larger and more expensive ones.

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Are the best BLACK GROS GRAIN DRESS SILKS. To introduce them, we will retail at factory price, ONE DOLLAR PER YARD, express prepaid: as good as are usually sold at $1.50. Send two cents postage for sample. RAVEN SILK COMPANY, 144 MONROE STREET, CHICAGO, ILL.

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CUT Human Hair bought (no combings or old hair) send sample of length, and price will be given. S. C. BECK, 802 Filbert Street, Phil'adelphia.

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LIZZIE—"Yes. But he has been very ill. No food seemed to agree with him, and we tried many. At last we tried CARNRICK'S SOLUBLE FOOD, which agreed with him at once."

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For INFANTS AND CHILDREN.

For Mothers, Invalids, Dyspeptics, and Aged People.

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THE ONLY FOOD *that thoroughly nourishes the child, without the addition of cow's milk.*

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Custom-Made Plymouth Rock $3 Pants.

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NEW STAMPING OUTFIT FREE!

The Ladies' World is a magnificent 16-page, 64-column illustrated paper, devoted to stories, poems, ladies' fancy work, artistic needlework, home decoration, housekeeping, fashions, hygiene, juvenile reading, etiquette, etc., etc. Its publishers, wishing to introduce it into thousands of homes where it is not already taken, now make the following unprecedented offer: Upon receipt of only Thirty Cents, we will send The Ladies' World for Six Months, and to every subscriber we will also send, Free and post-paid, a new and valuable Stamping Outfit, containing the following patterns: 1 set Initials, 1½ in. high, 1 Dancing Girl, 8 in. high, 1 Running Boy, 7 in. high, 1 spray Dahlia, 6 in. high, 1 bunch Roses, 4¾ in. high, 1 cluster Apple Blossoms, 3 x 4 in., 1 Owl on branch, 4½ in. high, 1 bunch Peaches, 1 cluster Dahlias, 1 spray Wheat, 1 spray Morning Glories, 1 Calla Lily, 1 bunch Forget-Me-Nots, 1 Rosebud with leaves, 1 spray Pansies, 1 spray Bachelor's Button with grasses, 1 Fish, 1 Day Lily with bud and foliage, 1 spray Vines, 1 bunch Dahlias, 1 Japanese Bud with leaves, 1 Fat Boy (comic), 1 cluster Forget-Me-Nots, 1 Pansy, 1 spray Dahlias, 1 Star Flower, 1 spray Spanish Rose, 1 Outline Design, 1 Vine, 4 patterns for Sacred embroidery and 3 smaller designs for Crazy Patchwork, making in all 55 Elegant Patterns, worth at retail from 5 to 25 cents each, and 1 Complete Alphabet worth 75 cents, also 1 box best Powder, 15c., 1 Improved Distributer, 10c., and 1 Complete Book of Instructions, 15c. Remember, we give the entire Outfit described above free to every one sending 30 cents for a six months' subscription to our paper. This Outfit is entirely new, and must not be confounded with the cheap celebrity affairs advertised by others. Six subscriptions and six Outfits will be sent for $1.80. Do not miss this chance! Satisfaction guaranteed. As to our reliability, we refer to any publisher in New York. Address, S. H. MOORE & CO., 27 Park Place, New York.

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FALL FASHIONS.

(*Concluded from page 10.*)

"Young Mother"—The best book regarding the care of Infants and what they shall wear, you can get by sending name, address and one two cent stamp to Best & Co., Lilliputian Bazaar, 60 and 62 West 23rd Street, New York.

"Miss Dora Gilbert":—and others. We learn from John Wanamaker's book manager that the best work on "Horsemanship for Women" by Theodore H. Mead, will be sent by mail for $1.00. The author gives instructions which he believes will enable even a young girl to train and subdue a horse in the most thorough manner.

"Miss G. J. H.:"—We do not furnish patterns of any of the garments described in the fashion articles in THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, sorry not to be able to oblige you.

"M. B. W.":—Some of the best dressmakers in New York and Philadelphia cut patterns direct from the form of the customer; a little practice will enable you to do so. Yes, the Family Buttonhole attachment will save your time and eyesight; it is largely used by manufacturers of cloaks, costumes and other garments. Many thanks for your interest in the JOURNAL. Hope the little orphan girl will be successful in getting up the club.

"Linnie Owen:"—If the room is large the table can stand in the center, if not place it against the wall. Use a large square cover. Why not buy felt and make a cover for your table. You can embroider a center piece and designs in the ends or corners, as you can decorate with applique figures.

"New Subscriber:"—Make infant's long wrap of cashmere, and line with flannel. The most useful style has yoke, full lower portion, and loose sleeves.

"Young Wife."—You can get a pretty and serviceable Jersey waist from Lewis S. Cox, 1220 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, at less price than it would cost you to have a new waist made to go with your partly worn garnet silk skirt. Jerseys are the most convenient and fashionable garments now in favor. If you do not want a jersey make a plain basque in garnet velvet, which you can also wear with black silk skirt.

"Mrs. E. B. Howser," Ada, Ottawa Co., Kansas:"—Strawbridge and Clothier's magazine contains a story, screeds on new styles, and instructive articles on fancy work and household economy, with a price-list of articles you need in your business. The subscription price is 50 cents a year. It is published in Philadelphia, cor. 8th and Market streets. To secure foreign and domestic patterns and fashion plates, you must take other Journals. Demorest's magazine is good, and so is the "Young Ladies Journal," price $4.00 a year, which can be secured through the International News Co., 31 Beekman St., N. Y.

"Miss M. Louise M.:"—You can get a traveling costume ready-made, but think you would be better satisfied with one you have made after a becoming model, in a new style. Write to Sharpless Brothers, 8th and Chestnut Sts., Philadelphia, for samples of Vassar suitings, Roderick Dhu Scotch checks, new Cashmeres in odd shades and plain cloths in medium weight; then you will see the new goods and can make your selection from the samples.

"O. F. T.:"—Poplin will make you a handsome and useful dress, any of the brown shades in Puns Irish poplin will be suitable, or you may use mastic or grey; this will cost you about the same as a dress of good silk. Plain cloth, or the small figured Vassar suitings will make you a walking and traveling costume, and then you have another dress in Bradlette or Ardinries to wear when too warm for your woolens. A pretty tea gown of challis, and one or two gingham home dresses will be quite sufficient for your outfit, with the exception of plain, neat and pretty under-garments. We wish you much happiness in your married life. Yes, we do take an earnest interest in the welfare of all the good friends of THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

"B. M.:"—Make the skirt of the young lady's dress just long enough to escape touching the ground, she is too tall to wear short dresses.

"Alice Rhuland:"—Have skirt of Gypsy costume made of red silk, trimmed with bands of black velvet; low corsage in red, yellow and black stripes with white bodice. The suit may be further finished with sequins or gilt fringe on skirt and bodice.

(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

"ELEGANT,"

There are a great many nice persons in this country, of the sort whom Marion Harland very well describes as "the educated children of new people." They appear very well, and doubtless are anxious to behave and speak exactly like those who are technically called "the best people." Not having been brought up, however, among the latter species of humanity, they every now and then show the fact by some little word or expression which betrays them. Perhaps they remark, when you call upon them, "You're quite a stranger," or they ask after "your folks," or speak of some rather plain individual as "very homely," or of some young man as "a young gentleman," or they "love" their food, or most common of all, they use the word "elegant," when they mean "beautiful."

It is about this last word which I wish especially to speak, because, although it is never used in its wrong sense by people in what is called "the best society," yet I have often noticed the mistake when it is the only one made by those who do not belong in that magic circle.

Let us turn to Worcester's Dictionary, and see what is the true meaning of the word. We find the following definitions.—"Elegant. Having elegance; refined; polished; graceful; genteel; accomplished."

Now, which of these meanings does the young lady intend to convey who tells you that she has had an "elegant time," has eaten "an elegant peach," has seen "an elegant sun-set," or has taken "an elegant drive?"

A young man once remarked to a friend of mine, "Isn't this moonlight perfectly elegant?" She answered with perfect gravity, "Yes, it really *is* very stylish."

I wonder if that young man ever again said "elegant" when he meant "beautiful." He was a well educated man undoubtedly, for my impression is, he was a Harvard student, but he showed that he had lived with people who were not altogether *elegant* in their modes of expression.

A. P. C.

FREE By return mail. Full Description Moody's New Tailor System of Dress Cutting. MOODY & CO., Cincinnati, O.

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By its aid the hair, beard or moustache can be curled any desired style in from one to two minutes. For ladies it produces the "Langtry Style," the "Patti Bang," the "Montague Curl," and any other form desired by ladies wearing their hair in the fashionable "loose and fluffy" mode. Gentlemen's moustaches and beards curled for the day in a few seconds. A beautiful article; handle of rosewood, other part nickel-plated.

Dr. SCOTT'S ELECTRIC TOOTH BRUSH OF ALL DRUGGISTS.

The finest Tooth Brush ever made, constructed by a new patented process which renders it impossible for Bristles to come out in use. Each of above articles guaranteed and sent on trial, postpaid, on receipt of price, 50 cts., or both for $1. They may be returned if not satisfactory. Canvassing Agents wanted for Dr. SCOTT'S ELECTRIC CORSETS, BRUSHES, BELTS, &c. No risk, quick Sales. GEO. A. SCOTT, 842 Broadway, New York. Sold at Drug and Fancy Stores. Mention paper.

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It is adapted to the improvement and enjoyment of both sexes, of all ages, of every family whether a resident of the City, village or country.
Not a word of crime or impure suggestion in any part of the paper.
It is an old paper, and carries its age and reputation equally well.
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Sample Copies of the Weekly Press furnished to any address free of charge.

Address, THE PRESS COMPANY, Limited, Philadelphia, Pa.

(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

CHILDREN VISITORS.

A friend comes to me in distress and asks, "What do you do when your neighbors' children torment you?"

"I send them home."

"But then you offend their parents!"

"Not if they are sensible ones; and if they are not I do not care."

There are many women who shirk their parental duty and systematically turn their children over to their neighbors to be entertained or taken care of.

Mrs. G., who is nervous and cannot bear the noise of children, sends her own away from her presence, no matter where, so that they do not disturb her.

Mrs. M. wants to read her novel, or gossip with her friends undisturbed, and her children are turned out into the street.

Mrs. B. keeps her little ones under her own watchful care and provides entertainment for them; consequently these little waifs banished by their mother came to her pleasant house and find amusements unknown to their own dreary homes.

If Mrs. B. is lacking in moral courage, she will let these undisciplined children rummage in her bureau drawers, finger her pretty ornaments, tease her baby and quarrel with the older children, until, on the verge of frenzy, she loses her self-control, speaks sharply to her own children, and expends her wrath upon her unoffending servants, or perhaps upon her husband.

But, if Mrs. B. is wise, she will teach *all* children who invade her castle that she is mistress there; and that the rules which apply to her own children apply to others as well.

A meddlesome child will be kindly reproved; and if persistently troublesome will be sent home. Some children will openly resent this. I know of one who when told to go home because of some misdemeanor, declared she would not go, and had to be forcibly put out of the house; but the next day she came again, promising to be good if she might come in.

The degree of insolence which these chronic visitors sometimes display is astonishing, and it requires courage to enter into a contest with them. The chances are, too, that they will introduce manners and language hitherto unknown in a carefully reared family; and, even if this is not the case, each added child brings more noise and more care. It is not fair for one good-natured woman to have the care of several families besides her own.

Another trouble is the disagreement of the nursery customs. This should not be allowed except in very rare occasions, and *never* for fear of offending either a visiting child or her family. When the time comes for meals or bed or studies, the visitors should be sent home, even though they themselves are not accustomed to regular habits.

Mrs. B. has a new neighbor with an only child. The parents of this child are fond of society, and leave the little girl much to the servants. One evening she goes to visit at Mrs. B's. When her children's bedtime comes Mrs. B. tells their guest that it is time for her to go home; but finds the child can not do so, for her parents have gone to the theatre, and the servants are all out, and will not be back till ten o'clock. Not wishing to keep her own children up so late, she tells the little guest to amuse herself with a book while she is upstairs, and that she will play games with her after the children are in bed. It is trying to have to give up this time to her neighbor's child; but it is better than to disturb the habits of her family; and, besides, it serves as a lesson to the little girl and *perhaps* to her parents also.

BRET KUNGE.

"Boss" Button Fastener

A linen string (white or black) about 4 feet in length, with a needle firmly attached.

FOR DOMESTIC USE,

for fastening buttons on shoes and garments, or for other strong sewing purposes.

IT IS THE MOST USEFUL COMPANION FOR TRAVELERS. Can be used to advantage by **Sportsmen** for stringing fish and small game. Sample bunch of 18 strings by mail, 25c. **J. K. KRIEG & CO., 39 Warren Street, New York.**

LADY AGENTS actually clear $20 daily. I have something entirely new for LADY AGENTS that sells at sight in every house. A minister's wife sold thirteen the first hour. **MRS. H. F. LITTLE, A. 2, Chicago, Ill.**

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Price 25 Cts

Does the Same Work as a Brass Mounted One that Sells for 75 Cents.

The Lens is accurately ground and well mounted for examining Silk, Linen, Seed, Insects, Bank Notes, and various other things. It lears artists that should help in the hands of Children as well as Grown People, as they get more instruction and amusement from it in an hour, than they would without its aid in weeks. FARMERS, MECHANICS, MERCHANTS, MINERS, CLERKS, STUDENTS and LADIES, all have use for it. The smallest seed or insect, a drop of milk, the crawlers in a bit of cheese, the tiniest screw, the quality of Linen or Silk, the quality of Stone or Ore, the genuineness of a Note or Coin. Microscopic objects of nature, the quality of lace, etc., all come within the scope of this Instrument. A sample will be sent by mail post paid on receipt of **25 CENTS**. For **One Dollar** we will send **Five** Magnifiers. Price to the Trade and to agents, when sent by Express, **$1.50 Per Doz.** Send money by P. O. Money Order, Reg. Letter, or by Express. Postage stamps taken. World M'f'g Co., 182 Nassau St., N. Y.

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A ROSE ROOM.

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The best Recent Paper Flower outfit Book of Instructions, over sixty samples, imported paper. Samples of Flowers made up. Patterns and material for making one dozen Flowers mailed, on receipt of 25 cts. With this outfit, a person can soon learn the art of making Paper Flowers.

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"A La Lyre Francaise" Boulanger March Arange fav—A. H. Rosewig.—Suppressed by the French Government—but sung in secret and immensely popular. Stirring and beautifully melodious—Send 25 cents for complete music—full size—to PATERSON & WAYMAN, 1478 Halstead St., Chicago, Ill.

REVERSIBLE PIE FORK! Something New. Sent by mail **50c.** Turns the pie around without removing from the oven. Agents wanted. GEO. C. LEE, CONWAY, MASS.

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SECOND SERIES.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

Now, my dear Julia, it sort of seems that I have devoted my energies and good will to Gustavus for quite a spell. I feel called upon to do you a little friendly turn now. I've been sitting here thinking and thinking, and it just occurred to me that people *do* do dreadful curious things without knowing anything about it. This may not be a brand new notion, but you are welcome to it for what it is worth. It did my heart good the other day to hear you reprove Bessie in that nice, kind, motherly way you know so well how to use—telling her it was not nice to gossip about her neighbors when she told you that "Mrs Smilax had just got in three barrels of potatoes," and that "Belle Perriwincle's new Spring hat was perfectly horrid." I said to myself, "I'm glad of that; Julia knows what she is about." If there is anything in this world that's hard to deal with it is a gossiping woman, and I'm glad that Julia is 'nipping in the bud' Bessie's tendency that way, (for I'd seen it myself some time before, and I'd made up my mind that if you didn't take her in hand pretty soon, I *should*, for it was clearly *somebody's* duty). So I was glad I say, for *really* Julia I don't give all this advice because it's pleasant for me to do so—no indeed—only because I never was one to shirk a *duty*. Well, I was glad, I say again, and I said to myself, "with all her faults Julia has got the right track with those children." But bless your heart! what was my surprise to hear you talk a few moments after, right in the child's presence, too. And I found out that the reason you reproved Bessie, was that you didn't happen to take any interest in Mrs. Smilax's potatoes nor yet in Belle Perriwincle's new Spring hat. You're sure *you're* no gossip, are you! Well, then, you're sure of more than I am: There! don't look so savage (as I know you do, just as well as if I were looking at you). What did you say! You said, "Cousin Scribbler, have you seen Maude's new furniture!" I said "no." "Well it is without exception the ugliest, most absolutely tasteless thing I ever saw; upon my word it would give me the horrors to live in the same house with that sofa. And the carpet! don't mention it! What a shame it does seem for people with no taste to have the spending of so much money, while other people with lots of taste, have so little to spend." And you looked kind of set up and self-satisfied, that I could have boxed your ears, (I'm glad now, that I didn't; but it was an awful temptation). "Well, it *is* dreadful;" is that what you say! I dare say, and so is *Belle Perriwincle's new Spring hat* perfectly horrid to Bessie, no doubt. But that wasn't all—you did more than that. That was expressing your individual opinion of some one's else taste. But you had the dress-maker if you recollect, and you actually *gossiped*, yes, gossiped with your dressmaker,—shame on you, Julia! If *she* didn't know any better, you do. And when she told you that the ice-cream fell short at Mrs. Swansdown's party, and that Miss Everich had a dreadful mole on her neck, and that was the reason she always wore that black velvet round her throat; and that Mr. Swyller came home intoxicated three times while she was there last. What did *you* do? Did you even *look* as if you didn't want to hear it? You may well blush; and if she tells that Gustavus is unkind to you and that you have a dreadful time getting a-hold of any money, because you wanted money the other day and couldn't have it (and I must say you acted very ugly about it under the circumstances), don't you be surprised—for if she'll *gossip to* you, she'll gossip *about* you. She has! Well, I must say I'm glad of it. Perhaps you'll learn a lesson. O yes, Julia, what you told Bessie is very good advice—very good, indeed. It *is* not nice to gossip about one's neighbor's, but I can tell you something worth two of that: "Practice what you preach," Julia, practice what you preach.

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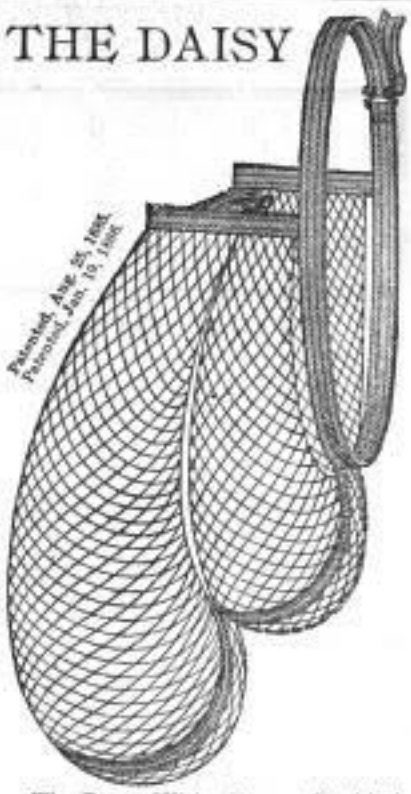

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VOL. IV, NO. 12. PHILADELPHIA, NOVEMBER, 1887. Yearly Subscription 50 Cents. Single Copies 6 Cents.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

THE SPRING FARM.

BY MRS. MARY J. HOLMES.
Author of "Tempest and Sunshine," "Lena Rivers," etc., etc.

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CHAPTER I.

AT THE FARM HOUSE.

It was a very pleasant, homelike old farmhouse, standing there among the New England hills, with the summer sunshine falling upon it, and the summer air, sweet with the perfume of roses and June pinks, filling the wide hall and great square rooms, where, on the morning when our story opens, the utmost confusion prevailed. Carpets were up; curtains were down; huge boxes were standing everywhere, while into them two men and a boy were packing the furniture scattered promiscuously around, for on the morrow the family, who had owned and occupied the house so long, were to leave the premises and seek another home in the little village about two miles away. In one of the lower rooms in the wing to the right where the sunshine was the brightest and the rose-scented air the sweetest a white-faced woman lay upon a couch looking at and listening to a lady who sat talking to her, with money and pride and selfishness stamped upon her as plainly as if the words had been placarded upon her back. The lady was Mrs. Marshall-More, of Boston, whose handsome country house was not far from the red farmhouse, which, with its rich, well cultivated acres, had, by the foreclosure of a mortgage she held upon it, recently come into her possession, or rather into that of her half brother, who had bidden it off for her.

Mrs. Marshall-More had once been plain Mrs. John More, but since her husbands death, she had prefixed her maiden name, with a hyphen to the More, making herself Mrs. Marshall-More, which, she thought, had a very aristocratic look and sound. She was a great lady in her own immediate circle of friends in the city, and a greater lady in Merrivale, where she passed her summers, and her manner toward the little woman on the couch was one of infinite superiority and patronage, mingled with a show of interest and pity. She had driven to the farmhouse that morning, ostensibly to say good-bye to the family, but really to go over the place which she had coveted so long as a most desirable adjunct to her possessions. What she was saying to the white-faced woman in the widow's cap was this:

"I am very sorry for you Mrs. Graham, and I hope you do not blame me for foreclosing the mortgage. I had to have the money, for Archie's college expenses will be very heavy, and then I am going to Europe this summer, and I did not care to draw from my other investments."

"Oh, no, I blame no one, but it is very hard all the same to leave the old home where I have been so happy," Mrs. Graham replied, and Mrs. Marshall-More went on: "I am glad to hear you say so, for the Merrivale people have been very ill-natured about it and I have heard more than once that I hastened the foreclosure and intend to tear down the old house and build a cottage, which is false."

To this Mrs. Graham made no reply, and Mrs. Marshall-More continued:

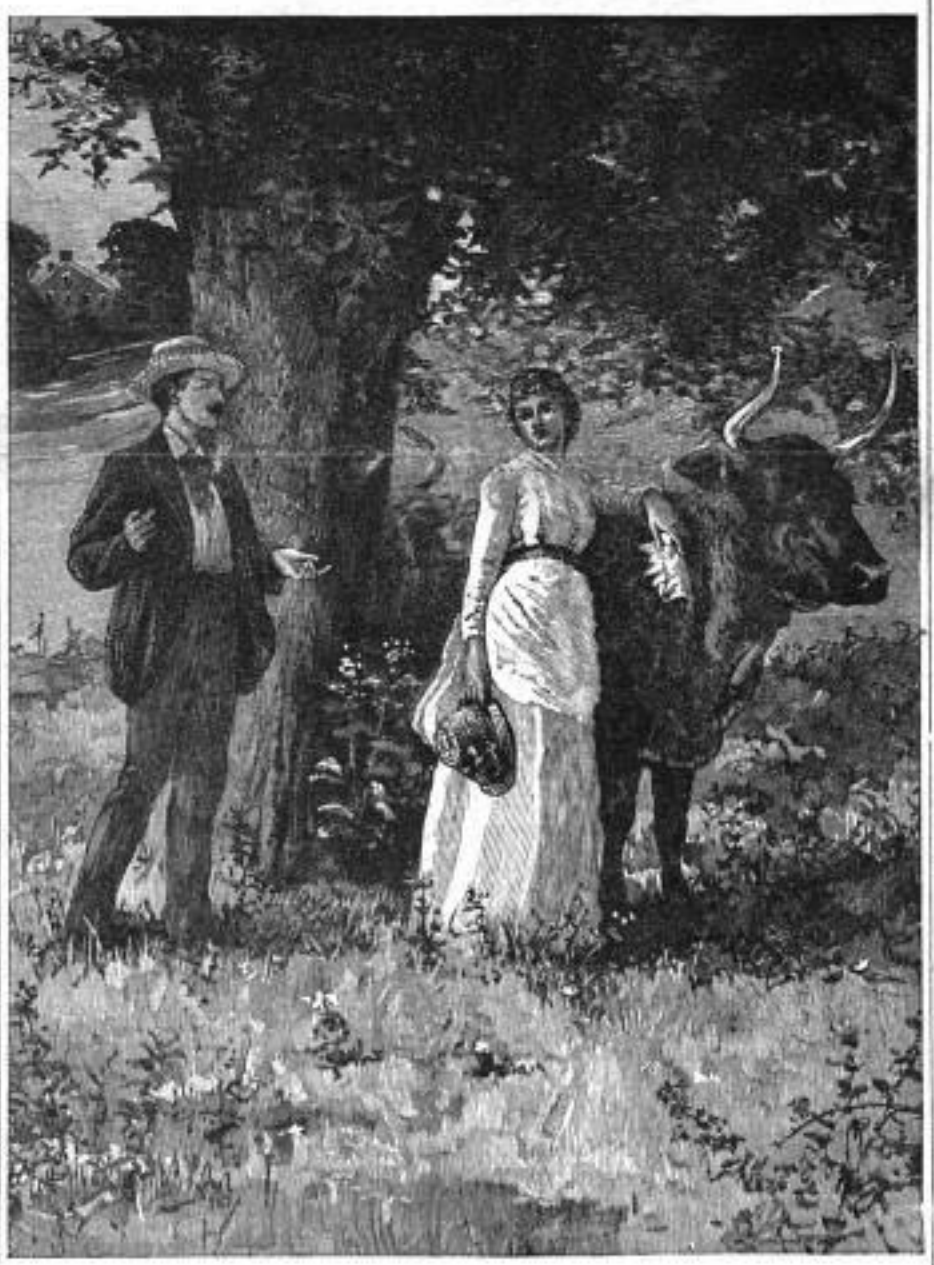
"You will be much better off in the village than in this great rambling house, and your children will find employment there. Maude must be eighteen, and ought to be a great help to you. I hear she is a sentimental dreamer, living mostly in the clouds with people only known to herself, and perhaps she needed this change to rouse her to the realities of life."

"Maude is the dearest girl in the world," was the mother's quick protest against what seemed like disapprobation of her daughter.

"Yes, of course," was Mrs. Marshall-More's response. "Maude is a nice girl and a pretty girl and will be a great comfort to you when she wakes up to the fact that life is earnest and not all a dream, and in time you will be quite as happy in your new home as you could be here, where it must be very dreary in the winter, when the snow-drifts are piled up to the very window ledges, and the wind screams at you through every crevice."

"Oh-h," Mrs. Graham said, with a shudder, her thoughts going back to the day when the blinding snow had come down in great billows upon the newly-made grave in which she left her husband and went back alone to the desolate home where he would never come again.

It had been so terrible and sudden, his going from her. Well in the morning, and dead at night; killed by a locomotive and brought to her so mangled that she could never have recognized him as her husband. People had called him over-generous and extravagant, and perhaps he was, but the money he spent so lavishly was always for others, and not for himself, and as the holder of the heavy mortgage on his farm had been content with the interest and never pressed his claim, he had made no effort to lessen it, even after he knew it had passed into the hands of Mrs. Marshall-More, who had often expressed a wish to own the place known as the Spring Farm and so-called from the numerous springs upon it. She would fill it with her city friends and set up quite an English establishment, she said; and now it was hers, to all intents and purposes, for though the deed was in her brother's name, it was understood that she was mistress of the place and could do what she liked with it. Of the real owner, Max Gordon, her half-brother, little was known, except the fact that he was very wealthy and had for years been engaged to a lady who,



by a fall from a horse, had been crippled for life. It was also rumored that the lady had insisted upon releasing her lover from his engagement, but he had refused to be released, and still clung to the hope that she would eventually recover. Just where he was at present, nobody knew. He seldom visited his sister, although she was very proud of him and very fond of talking of her brother Max, who, she said, was so generous and good, although a little queer. He had bidden off the Spring Farm because she asked him to do so, and a few thousand dollars more or less were nothing to him; then, telling her to do what she liked with it, he had gone his way, while poor Lucy Graham's heart was breaking at the thought of leaving the home which her husband had made so beautiful for her. An old-fashioned place, it is true, but one of those old-fashioned places to which our memory clings fondly, and our thoughts go back with an intense longing years after the flowers we have watered are dead, and the shrubs we have planted are trees pointing to the sky. A great square house, with a wing on either side, a wide hall through the centre and a fireplace in every room. A well-kept lawn in front, dotted with shade trees and flowering shrubs, and on one side of it a running brook, fed by a spring on the hillside to the west; borders and beds and mounds of flowers;—tulips and roses and pansies, and pinks and peonies and lilies, and geraniums and verbenas, each blossoming in its turn and making the garden and grounds a picture of beauty all the summer long. No wonder that Lucy Graham loved it and shrank from leaving it and shrank, too, from Mrs. Marshall-More's attempts at consolation, saying only when that lady arose to go, "It was kind in you to come and I thank you for it; but just now my heart aches too hard to be comforted. Good-bye."

"Good-bye, I shall call when you get settled in town, and if I can be of any service to you I will gladly do so," Mrs. Marshall-More said, as she left the room and went out to her carriage, where she stood for a moment looking up and down the road, and saying to herself, "Where can Archie be?"

CHAPTER II.

WHERE ARCHIE WAS.

A long lane wound away to the westward across a strip of land called the mowing lot, through a bit of woods and on to a grassy hillside, where, under the shade of a butternut tree a pair of fat sleek oxen were standing with a look of content in their large, bright eyes as if well pleased with this unwonted freedom from the plough and the cart. Against the side of one of them a young girl was leaning, with her arm thrown across its neck and her hand caressing the long white horn of the dumb creature which seemed to enjoy it. The girl was Maude Graham, and she made a very pretty picture as she stood there with her short brown hair curling in soft rings about her forehead; her dark blue eyes; her bright, glowing face, and a mouth which looked as if made for kisses and sweetness rather than the angry words she was hurling at the young man, or boy, for he was only twenty, who stood before her.

"Archie More," she was saying, "I don't think it very nice in you to talk to me in that patronising kind of way as if you were so much my superior in everything and trying to convince me that it is nothing for us to give up the dear old place where every stone and stump means somebody to me, for I know them all and have talked with them all, and called them by name, just as I know all the maiden ferns and water lilies and where the earliest arbutus blossoms in the spring. Oh, Archie, how can I leave Spring Farm and never come back again. I think I hate you all for taking it from us, and especially your uncle Max."

Here she broke down entirely, and laying her face on the shining coat of the ox began to cry as if her heart would break, while Archie looked at her in real distress wondering what he should say. He was a city-bred young man, with a handsome, boyish face, and in a way very fond of Maude, whom he had known ever since he was thirteen and she eleven, and he first came to Merrivale to spend the summer. They had played and fished together in the brook, and rode together on the pond and quarreled and made up, and latterly they had flirted a little, too, although Archie was careful that the flirting should not go too far, for he felt that there was a vast difference between Archie More, son of Mrs. Marshall-More, and Maude Graham, daughter of a country farmer. And still he thought her the sweetest prettiest girl he had ever seen, a *jolly lot* he called her, and he writhed under her bitter words, and when she cried he wanted to cry and tried to comfort and explain matters as best he could. But Maude was not to be appeased. She had felt all the time that the place need not have been sold, that it was a hasty thing, and though she did not blame Archie she was very sore against Mrs. Marshall-More and her brother, and her only answer to all Archie could say was, "You needn't talk. I hate you all, and your uncle Max the most, and if I ever see him I'll tell him so, and if I don't you may tell him for me!"

Archie could keep silent and hear his mother blamed and himself, but be roused in defence of his uncle Max.

"Hate my uncle Max!" he exclaimed. "Why, he is the best man that ever lived, and the kindest. He knew nothing of you, or how you'd feel, when he bought the place; if he had he wouldn't have done it; and if he could see you now, crying on that ox's neck, he'd give it back to you. That would be just like him."

"As if I'd take it," Maude said scornfully as she lifted up her head and dashed the tears from her eyes with a rapid movement of both hands. "No, Archie More, I shall never take Spring Farm as a gift from any one, much less from your uncle Max; but I shall buy it of him some day if he keeps it long enough.

"You!" Archie asked, and Maude replied, "Yes, I, why not? I know I am poor now, but I shall not always be so. People call me crazy, a dreamer, a crank, and all that, because they cannot see what I see; the people who are with me always, my friends, and I know their names and how they look and where they live; Mrs. Kimbrick, with her fifty daughters, all Eliza Anns, and Mrs. Webster, with her fifty daughters, all Ann Elizas, and Angeline Mason, who comes and talks to me in the twilight, wearing a yellow dress; they are real to me as you are, and do you thing I am crazy and a crank because of that?"

Archie said he didn't, but he looked a little suspiciously at the girl standing there so erect, her eyes shining with a strange light as she talked to him of things he could not understand. He had heard of this Mrs. Kimbrick and Mrs. Webster before, with their fifty daughters each, and had thought Maude queer, to say the least. He was sure of it now as she went on:

"Is the earth crazy because there is in it a little acorn which you can't see, but which is still there, maturing and taking root for the grand old oak, whose branches will one day give shelter to many a tired head? Of course not; neither am I, and sometime these brain children, or brain seeds, call them what you like, will take shape and grow, and the world will hear of them, and of me; and you and your mother will be proud to say you knew me once, when the people praise the book I am going to write."

"A book!" and Archie laughed incredulously, it seemed so absurd that little Maude Graham should ever become an author of whom the world would hear.

"Yes," she answered him decidedly. "A book! Why not? it is in me; it has been there always, and I can no more help writing it than you can help doing,—well, nothing, as you always have. Yes, I shall write a book, and you will read it, Archie More, and thousands more, too; and I shall put Spring Farm in it, and you, and your uncle Max. I think I shall make him the villain."

She was very hard upon poor Max, whose only offence was that he had bidden off Spring Farm to please his sister, but Archie was ready to defend him again:

"If you knew uncle Max," he said, "you would make him your hero instead of your villian, for a better man never lived. He is kindness itself and the soul of honor. Why, when he was very young he was engaged to a girl who fell from a horse and broke her leg, or her neck, or her back, I've forgotten which. Anyhow, she cannot walk and has to be wheeled in a chair, but Max sticks to her like a burr, because he thinks he ought. I am sure I hope he will never marry her."

"Why not?" Maude asked, and he replied, "Because, you see, Max has a heap of money, and if he never marries and I outlive him some of it will come to me. Money is a good thing, I tell you."

"I didn't suppose you as mean as that, Archie More! and I hope Mr. Max will marry that broken backed woman and that she will live a thousand years! Yes, I do!"

The last three words were emphasized with so

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vigorous blows on the back of the ox that he started away suddenly and Maude would have fallen if Archie had not caught her in his arms.

"Now, Maude," he said, as he held her for a moment closely to him, "don't let's quarrel any more. I'm going away to-morrow to the Adirondacks, then in the fall to college, and may not see you again for a long time; but I shan't forget you. I like you the best of any girl in the world; I do, upon my honor."

"No, you don't. I know exactly what you think of me, and always have, but it does not matter now," Maude answered vehemently. "You are going your way, and I am going mine, and the two ways will never meet."

And so, quarreling and making up, but making up rather more than they quarreled, the two went slowly along the gravelly lane until they reached the house where Mrs. Marshall-More was standing with a very severe look upon her face as she said to her son, "Do you know how long you have kept me waiting?" Then to Maude. "Been crying! I am sorry you take it so hard. Believe me, you will be better off in the village. Neither your mother, nor you, could run the farm, and you will find some employment there. I hear that Mrs. Nipe is wanting an apprentice and that she will give small wages at first, which is not usual with dressmakers. You'd better apply at once."

"Thank you," Maude answered quickly. "I do not think I shall learn dressmaking," and Maude looked at the lady as proudly as a queen might look upon her subject. "Mrs. More do you think your brother would promise to keep Spring Farm until I can buy it back?" she continued.

The idea that Maude Graham could ever buy Spring Farm was so preposterous that Mrs. Marshall-More laughed immoderately, as she replied, "Perhaps so. I will ask him; or you can do it yourself. I don't know where he is now. I seldom do know, but anything addressed to his club, No. ——, —— street, Boston, will reach him in time. And now we must go. Good-bye."

She offered the tips of her fingers to the girl who just touched them and then giving her hand to Archie said "Good-bye, Archie, I am sorry we quarrelled so, and I did not mean half I said to you. I hope you will forget it. Good-bye; I may never see you again."

If Archie had dared he would have kissed the sweet face which had never looked so sweet to him as now; but his mother's eyes were upon him and so he only said "Good-bye" and took his seat in the carriage with a feeling that something which had been very dear had dropped out of his life.

(To be continued.)

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

CELIA'S IDEA.

BY KATHERINE B. FOOT.

Annie Carroll came up stairs giggling and said as she went into Celia's room, "I brought *this* basket full down in a Sixth Avenue car,—and I guess people thought I had washing; and the conductor said, "Whew! that's a big basket for you to carry," as I was getting in, and somehow it stuck in the top step, and I half tumbled over it, and the conductor lifted it up as if he thought it was awfully heavy, and it just flew up in his hand and he looked so surprised and said, 'It's bubbles, I guess,—so light.'"

The boys were usually not at all curious about "girls' doings," as they scornfully called Celia's and May's occupations and amusements, but before night came they were nearly wild. The girls whisked in and out so quickly and the door was locked all the time, and the scraps of conversation were so tantalizing that they were determined to know what was going on. They coaxed and threatened by turns,—they tried to enlist Grandma, who was not to be bribed, finally they appealed to their mother to know if the girls had a right to keep the sitting-room to themselves all day, and after being assured that Celia had that room for her very own while her knee was lame they took refuge in wild whoops on the stairs and in the dark corners in the upper entry. But after one of the girls just saved herself from falling down stairs, and cried, because she was so frightened and startled, the boys were fairly forced to beat a retreat. "Girls are such 'fraid cats," they said loudly and scornfully as they went down stairs and May retaliated by shrieking after them, "We ain't as mean as boys anyhow."

Even Mr. Weston said, "Well, what's all this—what's all this, my daughters?" when he came home and went as usual to see Celia and found the door locked.

"Oh father!" called Celia, "is that you? Wait a minute, please!" and after two or three minutes and a good deal of scurrying and shuffling about, the door was opened. Nothing unusual was to be seen except more girls than usual, all with bright faces and eyes and flushed cheeks.

"Dear me!" said Mr. Weston, "is it a woman's suffrage meeting?"

"Mercy, no!" said Celia, "it's the——"

"*Don't* tell the name!" screamed seven excited shrill voices.

"Did you suppose that I was going to?" said Celia loftily. "I was going to say, "it's the meeting for the interchange of sympathy."

The girls laughed and Mr. Weston said, "I'm quite in the dark."

"Where you and everybody else will have to stay for two whole weeks," said May, and nobody can go into the study either."

"Well," said Mr. Weston, "I'll try to possess my soul in patience and wait;" and he let himself down in a chair by Celia's lounge.

"Whatever it is, it has brightened you up," he said as he took Celia's hand. One by one the girls said good-bye and went home, and the boys were let in and whatever the secret was it was locked up in the study, and the key of the door was in Celia's pocket, and the door itself directly behind her lounge, so no one could even peek through the keyhole.

At last two weeks went by, and all that time, every spare moment the girls had, every afternoon and all day Saturday, they were with Celia and they always came with full hands and went out with empty ones. Then a note was written to Miss Simmons and she was asked to be at Celia's house at nine o'clock precisely on the following Saturday.

"We will set the time early before father goes out;" Celia and May decided. The six girls were there at half-past eight o'clock, and all went straight up stairs and the door was locked again. But at precisely nine o'clock May poked her head out.

"Are you all ready?" she called.

"All ready!" came from below.

"Come up, then;" and she retreated, leaving the door open.

The boys made a wild rush and were in first. The girls stood about the room and Celia sat up on her lounge and everywhere was boxes,—on the tables, piled on the floor, on the chairs,—there seemed to be no end to them. There were candy boxes of all kinds and boxes that ruffles had come in, and pretty fancy soap boxes; it would be impossible to tell what sort of boxes were there, for there were so many. Almost all were pretty ones, with bright pictures printed on them, and on other plain ones were pictures pasted on.

As the family with Miss Simmons came in, Celia said, "Now please all of you listen. You see we girls thought——"

"No we didn't!" said Carry Daniels, "you thought!"

"We girls thought," said Celia, ignoring the interruption, "that if we could collect some boxes of our own and from our friends and put some little things in every one that we could give them to Miss Simmons to give away to the poor sick people in the hospitals; or wherever she pleased, and so,—well, here they are, Miss Simmons,—we wanted to help."

"My dear girls," said Miss Simmons, and then her eyes filled and she choked and couldn't speak. When she could she said, "It's such an idea, such a thought; and now none of you will ever waste any more boxes."

As the girls afterwards said among themselves, "Why, no one said much." But Mr. Weston looked so pleased, and there were tears in Grandma's eyes and Mrs. Weston said, "It's such a nice thing for you to do," and the boys said, "If you'd have told us, we'd have helped you."

"Well you see," said May, "we did think of it, but we were afraid you'd rampage." And the other girls nodded assent.

"We might have at first, but not when we found you had some sense about your old secrets," said Tom, who being the youngest was always spokesman, and who was also always superior in his opinions of girls.

"But now," said Mr. Weston, "how is Miss Simmons to get all these boxes to her people?"

"Well, that's just what we wanted to ask you," said Celia.

"What's in them,—first tell me."

Celia smiled. We kept a list. I'll read it. We have four hundred and twenty-seven boxes and they were collected from twenty different houses, including ours,—the girls just thought up their friends who bought lots of candy and stuff and they went and asked them for their boxes and people were real kind about hunting them up. It seemed a shame to give them away empty, and so we got all our old Christmas cards and all the scraps of silk we could find, and odds and ends of worsteds, and we cut out all the whole stories out of the papers, and all the pictures out of all the illustrated papers we could get, and Kitty's father gave her a load of illustrated catalogues, and we cut those out and then—Emma had a lot of flower mottoes left from her party. Then besides,—don't laugh, father,—we bought some "old fine cut Virginian tobacco,"—that's what it says on the wrapper,—and we made up little packages of that; and we put something into every box and wrote on the outside what it was, and for a man or a woman or a child.

"Where's the men's pile?" asked Mr. Weston.

Emma showed him. Mr. Weston opened two or three boxes. One held a story cut out of a newspaper, a pretty picture, and a little package of tobacco, and one had a bundle of soft pine sticks and a penknife. "That's for a whittling man," Emma explained.

Another had a spool with a worsted chain partly done on pins. "There was a sick man in the country last year, who made lots of those," said Emma, "they're lovely for dolls for little children. I began that."

Mr. Weston said very little but afterwards he went out saying "I am going to think a minute down stairs," he said to himself. "And that originated in the head of my Celia;—it may be the foundation of a whole charity, and will while away a good many weary hours for poor sick creatures, and it's one of the very foundation stones of political economy—the prevention of waste."

Miss Simmons opened some of the boxes and said, "These are *just* the things for sick people—light to handle and things that will give them something to think about in their long lonely days. How did you ever happen, girls, to think of these bits of silk and these spools of sewing silk and needles too—I declare! with them?"

"Oh! easily enough," said Celia. "When we began to think we seemed to have so many things come into our heads. I remember hearing Grandma say how very stupid and silly, crazy patchwork or any patchwork was for people able to do useful work, and that put that in my head, and then we thought what you told us of Honora."

"These bright bits of silk will be such real treasures," said Miss Simmons.

Just then Mr. Weston called her, and after half an hour both came back.

"Put on your things, girls," said Mr. Weston; "all but grandma and mother and Celia, and boys, come help to carry these boxes down stairs."

"Oh, what *are* you going to do, father?" asked Celia.

I am going to put all these girls and Miss Simmons and all the boxes into two carriages and Miss Simmons is going to take them about with her to give them away."

"Oh, I wish I could go too, said Celia.

"I wish you could!" came in a chorus, and then Celia said bravely, "Oh! never mind; you'll all come back and tell me all about it."

"That's my brave daughter!" said her father with a fond kiss, and as her father's kisses were very rare, Celia felt that she had won his great approval. He carried her in his arms to the window that she might see the girls and the boxes piled into the two carriages with their merry, jolly looking drivers and after kissing her hand, and looking after them as they drove off, and a minute's laughing look at wondering faces in the opposite houses, she was quite content to be laid back in her soft nest.

Her father sat down by her and said, "Miss Simmons is going to take the girls over to the Island to the city poorhouse and into some of the rooms where the incurable old people are. It is those people, she says, who need the help and cheer that little comforts and pretty bright things bring. The very sick people in hospitals are too sick to care to do anything except just lie still, and to the various children's institutions, a great many playthings are sent;—but the poor old people, crippled or paralyzed or nearly dead from long lives of overwork and privation, who are just spending their last days on earth in a poorhouse, need help and cheer, and she has taken the girls to see some of these people. She says that she can do it, being a regular visitor but that there are only two or three rooms where she would care to take them, and the rest she will give out herself."

"Why don't they give them to everybody in that one poorhouse?"

"Well, there wouldn't be one hundredth part enough, to begin with, and then except on a day like Christmas it wouldn't be a good plan. People who drift into almshouses shouldn't be made too comfortable and so too ready to stay there, and without making an effort to help themselves;—but the poor people she spoke of can't help themselves and do need a little brightening up. Now I must go down town—good-bye," and he was off.

Celia happened to be left alone nearly all day; some old friends of her mother's and grandmother's came in unexpectedly about half an hour after and both Mrs. Weston and Mrs. Burton went out to lunch with them.

So Celia had a good quiet time to think, and after lunch she fell fast asleep. She was waked by a noise of hurrying feet and of laughing voices and then the girls burst in, all talking at once.

"Miss Simmons didn't come up—she had to do an errand and will be here soon,—but oh *Celia!*—you ought to have been there. Sometimes we wanted to laugh and sometimes we wanted to cry."

That much Celia made out in the babel of voices. "Well, one of you tell me," she said. So Mary Page began: "Well, we went over on the boat to the Island and Miss Simmons took us straight to where Honora was, that she told you about,—and it was in a wing and we didn't go into the main building at all. And Miss Simmons got some big clothes-baskets somewhere and we carried them upstairs ourselves. And we were so glad we had them sorted out and marked, because just as soon as we went in, those who could get up crowded right around us and they all began to beg for something and sometimes we had just what they asked for. But the tobacco—oh dear! it didn't go a quarter round."

"A quarter? No indeed," said the others; "why, they nearly all wanted it. But one woman was so glad of a crochet needle and some worsteds, and another poor woman in bed, just cried over a Christmas card that had an angel on it—and she kissed it over and over. Oh! it would just take a whole book to tell you about it," said Emma. "But the boxes seemed to please them so. They unfastened them and tried to fasten them again, and exclaimed and wondered over them, and admired the pictures so. Celia it made me feel wicked—to think of the boxes I had burned up—when some not half so pretty made them so happy."

And really the girls were in such a state of excitement that it was a week before Celia heard the precise details she longed to hear.

Miss Simmons came in while the girls were exclaiming and explaining and she said as she bent over and kissed Celia, "You ought to be a happy girl to-night, you've made so many people happy to-day. I wished for you to see how grateful they were, and so pleased."

"I'm so glad," said Celia, "and Miss Simmons, I've been thinking of something to-day. If there really is anything in this idea, wouldn't it be a good thing to have one day in the year just to give away boxes and call it 'Box day?'"

"I don't see why not," said Miss Simmons.

"And it might come some day when nothing else comes; when it isn't Christmas or Fourth of July or Thanksgiving."

"The first of March would be a good time," said Kitty, "it's between everything and such a dreary time everywhere."

"So it is," said Miss Simmons, "and perhaps the 'Flower Mission' people would take 'Box day.'"

"Oh splendid!" cried all the girls all at once, "if they only would!"

"I don't see why they wouldn't," Miss Simmons said, "they have no flowers to distribute then, and they know just the people everywhere in almshouses and hospitals and other places where the little gifts would be so welcome. I will see one of the managers about it."

When Miss Simmons said "I'll see," it meant something and so it happened that "Box day" will surely be *some* day,—and under the wing of the "Flower Mission."

So "Celia's Idea" took root and grew, and it not only made happy many poor and helpless and lonely people but it also abolished a great waste, and it taught young and happy girls in the shelter of homes, to think of and remember and work for the poor, and the old, and the sick, and the homeless, who are always with us. And because they thought of and worked for others, they were more considerate and loving of one another and of everyone in their homes; and empty boxes instead of being a pest and a care in every household, were suddenly turned into blessing and happiness.

THE END.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MARIETTA HOLLEY (JOSIAH ALLEN'S WIFE.)

[Engraved expressly for the Ladies' Home Journal.]

She wore a gown of ruby velvet. Soft and glittering accessories of lace and jewels heightened the charm of rich, pale complexion, red lips and soul-lit eyes that seemed to look beyond you—beyond the horizon—into other worlds.

This was Marietta Holley as I saw her for the first time, at a reception in New York; and though in all that brilliant assemblage she was the cynosure of every eye, I could see that hers was a soul that dwelt as far above the trivialities of social life as the stars in their calm fields of ether are beyond this earth.

The "untimely frost" that lay upon her soft, wavy hair, had very far from "killed the tender flowers" of either face or heart.

Having long—and most heartily—enjoyed an acquaintance with "Josiah Allen's Wife," it was a rare pleasure, being presented to the author of so unique and delightful a creation.

As our eyes met, a subtle magnetism seemed to draw us together; a spontaneous kinship of soul asserted itself, and the thought that sprung up in my mind she gave utterance to.

"I have surely met you before," she said, with charming *empressement*, as she took my hand.

The graceful figure, the well-poised and nobly-proportioned head, the calm, intellectual face, lit up by those wondrous eyes, all formed a picture, striking and queenly. Every feature seemed to have received and retained the impress of her dainty, refined spirit; even the delicate ears were those a sculptor might have modeled, and the hand that held mine was a study for an artist.

But I was mutually satisfied that though I knew her intimately through her books, we were yet personally strangers. But perhaps by some intuitive clairvoyance she recognized in me a sister spirit who had echoed her noble sentiments clothed in Samantha's homely language or the pathetic utterances of "Sweet Cicely."

Miss Holley's home is at Adams, Jefferson Co., New York, where she and her sister own jointly the same maple-embowered cottage to which her parents went to reside the day of their marriage. But her winters are passed, generally, in New York and the larger cities, while she divides her summers between the old home and Saratoga and other pleasant places. She is the youngest of six children, all of whom are married except one sister and herself. Her father dying while she was quite young, she devoted herself to the care of an invalid mother, until the death of the latter a few years ago.

Miss Holley is very domestic in her tastes, and has often made the remark to the writer that she did not see how she had ever yielded to her fate and gone forth into the great, busy world.

Though authorship is pre-eminently her great talent, yet music and art are numbered among her minor gifts. For a long time in early youth she cherished the aspiration of becoming an artist, and many were the crude but graceful sketches with which she surrounded herself. Of music she is passionately fond, and in accordance with the music-loving side of her nature, it is her delight to sit in the twilight in the old homestead and sing the hymns and ballads her mother so loved to hear.

For a time it was hard to tell which taste would gain the mastery—art, music or literature, but the last finally prevailed, her first effusions appearing in the country papers. Afterwards she wrote for the *Independent*, *Christian Union* and *Home Journal*, poems and sketches, in some of the latter taking the *nom de plume* of "Josiah Allen's Wife."

Her literary works are numerous, but probably the most widely known and enjoyed are "Samantha at the Centennial" (which she wrote without being there), "My Opinions and Betsey Bobbett's," "Sweet Cicely," and "Samantha at Saratoga," the last just published. She is an indefatigable and rapid worker, often writing one story in a morning, and, not infrequently, has as many as four books in progress at once.

That she should find time amid such arduous labors to keep fully posted on the current events and literature of the day, shows a wonderfully receptive mind, when we consider, too, that she is ever ready to meet all the requirements society imposes.

Works so numerous and popular have brought their author money as well as fame. Not only are they read and enjoyed by the educated and refined, but they have gone largely into the homes of the lowly, and many are the letters she has received from the latter class expressing their appreciation of her sympathy with their griefs and trials, and gratitude for the good her noble championship has done them. These letters Miss Holley keeps by her and often refers to them, for the inspiration and comfort they give her in her work.

In Miss Holley are combined the noble characteristics which go to make up a great woman; chief among which is her marvellous personal magnetism, a quality that captivates all who come near her and enables her to win and hold a host of friends. It is this strong element which has stolen into her books, holding the sympathetic interest of her readers, and it is also shown in her daily life in which unusual experiences are constantly occurring, demonstrating her possession of this most gracious gift in an extraordinary degree.

It is nowhere more evident than in her conversation, which bubbles over with wit and repartee, all partaking of the speaker's peculiar originality. Those who laugh over the funny speeches of "Samantha" and "Betsey Bobbet," cannot conceive how far droller they sound fresh from the lips of her who invented those mirth-provoking remarks.

Nor is her vein always that of humor; no one can change more quickly or entirely "from grave to gay"—and then, from gay to grave. As her fun is sparkling, so is her tenderness deep.

She is a woman of profound religious feeling, and she has told me how frequently, in moments of despondency or perplexity, so inevitable to those in her trying field of labor, she has been revived and composed by "one of the sweet old chapters," with its promises and consolation.

Patient and brave, her powers of endurance have been put to the strongest tests but have never faltered. Sympathetic and benevolent, she is always ready to lend a helping hand to the weak or unfortunate, and to none more quickly than to the members of that sex whose "rights" she so warmly and eloquently advocates. Especially is this unselfishness manifested in regard to struggling young aspirants of either sex in the same field as herself, and she does all in her power to aid such in overcoming the difficulties that beset those thorn-hedged but fascinating grounds.

Enthusiastic in every cause she espouses, the intense earnestness of her purpose, and her strong personality, show themselves broadly through her fictitious creations. Absorbed in her theme, it seems at times as though she forgot the homeliness of the vehicle she had elected, and a beauty and refinement of words and thoughts gush forth scarcely possible to an uncultured "Samantha." This worthy dame is often too slow a Pegasus, and the author's muse takes flights which could hardly be reached by "Josiah Allen's Wife."

The realism of this intensely entertaining conception, is so strong and the author has become so identified with her quaint exponent of "wimmen's rites," that the thoughtful reader cannot fail to be at last impressed with the wonderful patience of the woman who for so many years has lived—though it be only in imagination—with so trying a "companion" as Josiah. We sometimes wonder that one so eminently attractive as Marietta Holley, has escaped the toils of matrimony, but the mystery is partly explained when we reflect upon the provoking being her brain has evolved as a life-"pardner," whom (she acknowledges in her dedication) though having been his "consort for over 14 years, she still loves him with a cast-iron devotedness."

In "Sweet Cicely," the author's favorite book, her inimitable humor is even more saliently set forth, by the contrast between the pathetic picture of the poor, "sad-eyed mother" and the strong outlines of her homely comforter. The delineation of "Betsey Bobbet," through its very exaggeration, causes the reader to laugh even while he shivers at the possibility of such a female, determined at all hazards to find and occupy her "speah."

"Samantha" says in the preface to "My Opinions," she "never went to school much, didn't know nothin' 'bout grammar, and never could spell, worth a cent;" and we cannot but sympathize with her as she enumerates the reasons which make her shrink from so formidable an undertaking: "I can't write a book, I don't know no underground dungeons, I hain't acquainted with no haunted houses, I never see a hero suspended over a abyss by his gallusses, I never beheld a heroine swoon away, I never see a Injun tommyhawked, nor a ghost; I never had any of these advantages; I can't write a book." In spite of her "agonizin' apprehensions," in spite of "Josiah's" "sithes" as he declared his financial inability to "hire folks to read the book," we cannot be too thankful that "Samantha" harkened at last to the "hauntin' voice that kept a 'swaldin" her, and *did* "put her shoulder-blades to the wheel."

Not the least striking or important part of Miss Holley's style, is the deep purpose and clear logic which underlies all this fun and badinage. In this respect she differs from humorists, generally, of the other sex—such as Mark Twain and Artemas Ward. In her peculiar line she stands almost alone. She has few competitors and not a peer. She is, emphatically, the woman humorist of America.

FANNY CHAMBERS GOOCH.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

A VICTIM TO PETICKULERS.*

BY JOSIAH ALLEN.

I've been bed-sick, and very bad,
And pains, and chills, and cramps I've had:
And at Tirzah's Samantha come suddenly down,
With pleurisy pains from heel to crown;
She couldn't get home with her plaguy crick,
So they never let her know I wuz sick.
But the neighbors turned out good and true,
And stood by me to help me through;
The come alone, and they come by pairs,
They come with mules, and they come with mairs,
And I felt the goodness that in 'em lay—
And treated 'em well both night and day,
Till they brung in them peticklulers.

They come from far and they come from near,
With new wild remedies, strange and queer,
My mouth wuz a open and burning road
Down which the streams of their medicine flowed,
Streams of wormwood, and oil of tar,
And onions, and warmuts, and goose, and b'ar,
But my meen wuz a Christian's all the while,
I rithed, and swollered, and tried to smile:
Till they brung in them peticklulers.

They blistered my back, and they blistered my breast
They oiled my nose, and they oiled my chest—
They gin me sweats of various sorts,
Hemlock and whiskey, and corn, and oats;
I drinked their gruel weaker'n a cat,
I drinked their whey, didn't wink at that,
I stood their pills cures, and their mind,
I took 'em all and acted resigned
Till they brung in them peticklulers.

But they tried their cures to the very last,
And I grew no better very fast;
And I s'pose they thought 'twould brighten my gloom,
To bring some peticklulers into my room—
So they drove 'em in, and they talked of flies,
And of chicken's teeth, and musketer's eyes,
And they talked of pins, and stalks of hay,
And lettis seed, and there I lay
A victim to small peticklulers.

And one man recounted a lengthy tale
About the best way to drive a nail
And one old woman talked a hour
On a pinch of salt, and a spoonfull of flour,
And one man boasted two hours the deed,
He did when he pizened a pusley weed,
And there I'd sweat, and there I'd groan,
And pull my grey locks unbeknown,
A victim to small peticklulers.

And one man sot with a anxious frown
Disputin' himself right up and down,
As to whether the hour wuz one or two,
When his old off mair lost off its shoe
Sometimes 'twas two, and then 'twas one,
And so through the hours that mair wuz run,
And it trampled my brain, till I cried "Whoa!
Do shoe the old mair, and let her go,"
But under its heels I had to lay,
And sweat and rithed, and cussed the day
They drove in them peticklulers.

And they wondered if Jane had cloth enough
For her calico apron with bib and ruff,
And they mentally rent their robes and tore
For fear that suunthin' wuz wrong with the gore,
Till I wished that gore wuz over it rolled,
And on Joseph's boots that had been new soled,
And they almost mistrusted wuz too thin,
By pretty nigh the wedth of a pin,
And I vowed I could put their souls all in
And rattle 'em round in the head of a pin.
And there I groaned, and turned, and lay,
And sweat, and rithed from day to day,
A victim to small peticklulers.

Till one day I riz and cried with might,
"Bring on an earthquake into my sight,
Fetch me a cyclone good and strong,
A hurrycain, pestilence, bring 'em along,
Let me see 'em before I am dead,
Let 'em roar and romp around my bed,
But ketch 'em, kill 'em, drive 'em away,
This very minute of this very day,
Every one of your dumb peticklulers.

Let me be killed out square and rough
By a good hard kick from a elephent's huff,
Or let a volcano rize and bust,
This mortal frame if bust it must,
But I swan to man that I won't die
By a kick from the off leg of a fly:
And agin I swan, that I won't give in
And go to my grave on the point of a pin,
Killed by your dumb peticklulers."

My eye wuz wild, my goery meen
Skairt 'em almost to death, I ween,
The three old men fled out of my sight,
The two old wimmen mad with afright,
Jostled each other, and fell over chairs;
And they all on 'em said I wuz craxler'n bears.
But I seitled back on my peaceful bed
And most mistrusted that I wuz dead
And had got through the gate to Beulah land,
And I smiled some smiles, serene and bland,
For I never had felt such peace before,
As when I drove 'em out of the door,
Everyone of them dumb peticklulers.

*Josiah wuz bound on printin' this, very much against my wishes. And I take it that it is my duty as well as privelege to tell what I mistrust started him off to writin' poetry. Writin' poetry at his age! and with his heft! the idea!

Wall, this is what I mistrust is the reason. I don't know for certain, but I mistrust.

There wuz a man in Loontown a owin' us quite a big debt, and he afterwards went to peddlin' fish, and as we couldn't get the debt in any other way we took it in fish. Two barrels of slapjacks, besides some bull heads, and other fish. And somehow I didn't seem to care about 'em, and Josiah bein' so savin', and not wantin' 'em lost, he eat most the bull on 'em himself. And I have s'posed to myself that that is what started him off onto poetry—I feel like death about it.

The slapjacks wuz very small, and that accounts to me some, for the weakness of the verses. (And some I lay to natural causes. Poor creeter, he can't write). And I begged and begged him not to try to print it, but he would, he acted obstinate, and sot. I lay that same to the bull heads, (and some to natural causes).

But the bull thing has been a blow to me. It has worked me up dreadfully, *dreadfully*

JOSIAH ALLEN'S WIFE.

JONESVILLE.

POST SCRIP:—There is several dollars back yet on that debt, and Josiah wants to take the rest on it in fish. And he is that savin' if he takes 'em, he'll eat 'em. I tremble for the result. I'd rather lose the debt, than take the resks—far rather. S. A.

LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION.

Mrs. Thomas had risen earlier than usual, one frosty morning in October, in order that breakfast might be ready when her husband should return from the railroad depot, three miles distant, where he had driven with a load of cauliflowers, to be sent by early train to his son in the city.

Mrs. Thomas wanted to get breakfast before her husband started, but the good old man would not allow it, declaring that a drive in the crisp morning air would only whet his appetite. But when he returned and took his seat at the table, his wife noticed that he seemed depressed, and although she had his favorite dishes for breakfast, he seemed to have no appetite.

"Father," she said, "I won't let you drive so far again on a cold morning without your breakfast; you don't eat anything, and it's because you're been up so long."

"No, mother, ridin' before breakfast didn't take away my appetite; but I saw the cruelest sight this mornin,' and its nigh about broke me down"—and the old man wiped his eyes.

"What could it 'a' been? Anybody hurt or killed?" cried his wife.

"Worse'n that. I'd rather be hurt or killed than have anything so dreadful happen to you or me. I know we never should live through it. When I drove up to the platform this mornin' to unload, there was somethin' that looked like a big bundle before the door of the station; the agent hadn't got there, it was so early. It took me some time to unload, and then I had the curiosity to drive along up to the door to see what it could be. And what do you think it was! Jane Manse's *mother* sittin' in a rush-bottomed chair all bundled up and shakin' with the cold. For a minute I was so beat that I couldn't find my tongue; then I said, 'Miss White, is that you?' 'Yes, Mr. Thomas,' said she; 'I'm goin' over the hill to the poor house!' 'Ain't possible, Miss White,' said I; 'I really began to think that she had lost her mind and wandered away from home in the night. 'It's the livin' truth, Mr. Thomas,' said she; and then she told me that Dan Manse and Jane persuaded her to sell her farm and give them the money, which would be enough to pay her board with them as long as she might live. She was growin' old and helpless, and not fit to be left alone; so she thought their plan would be good. She sold the farm and gave the money to Dan, who invested it in a mine, expecting to make an immense fortune: then he found out that the mine was a fraud and the money was all lost. Not long after that the old lady was made to feel that she was in the way. Dan talked a great deal about retrenching his household expenses, and at last proposed to send his mother-in-law to the county house. She resisted as long as possible, and Jane cried and entreated, but Dan carried the day. He took the old woman to the five o'clock train this mornin', and she waited an hour on the platform before the agent opened the door. I had half a mind to put the poor old woman into my wagon and bring her home to share the little that we have. One thing I decided on my way home, and that is, not to give the farm to James as long as we live."

"But our James could never do such a heartless thing, father," said Mrs. Thomas.

"No, I don't think he could, but we won't *tempt* him to do it."—*Lilian Mayne.*

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

ALL THE YEAR ROUND IN THE HOME.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

I.

AT THANKSGIVING.

Despite the head-shakings and mournings over the fast tendencies of modern life among Americans, they preserve some of the good old-fashioned virtues. They show no tendency to remove the old landmarks of family affection, rather seeming instead to develop a disposition to clannishness that should go far to redeem them even in the eyes of the pessimists. Not in older countries do families manifest more longing to assemble themselves at stated seasons and laying by outside interests, to consider themselves again, if but for a day, as the members of one household.

At no time of year is this predilection more strikingly apparent than at Thanksgiving. From the far ends of the earth the sons of New England turn their faces and feet towards the old homesteads, traveling thousands of miles to spend the last Thursday in November under the family roof tree. In the Middle States, where Yankee persistency has been grafted upon Dutch steadfastness, or in the far West, where cities have been planted and sprung up from New England seed,—wherever there is in a family in whose veins flows any drops of the blood descended from Pilgrim or Puritan, the scattered members reunite at Thanksgiving time. No one who has seen them can forget the laden trains, ten and twelve cars long, requiring the strength of two locomotives to draw them, that carry home the wanderers to what is pre-eminently the Family Festival. There is a deep beauty in the thought of this chord of love which tugs so strongly that it cannot be resisted. The two ends are often knotted in widely differing spots. One may be held by the son or daughter in a rich home that would seem a stately palace in comparison with the plain little brown farmhouse among the hills where the other end is fastened. But the love and yearning are the same in both homes, and the yearly re-union strengthens between parents and children, the tie that might otherwise become weakened by absence and change.

With the approach of November, mighty preparations begin in all the country homes. The turkeys must be watched carefully, driven in every evening and regaled night and morning with an extra feed of corn. The laying hens are stimulated by hot mashes and savory messes to do their best in the matter of eggs and those fowls who have proved recalcitrant in this regard, or who have been so unfortunate as to be hatched of the opposite sex, enjoy a brief but fatal dissipation of fattening food. The best pumpkins and squashes are selected for pies, the finest potatoes, beets and onions picked out and stored in a particular corner of the cellar, the barrels of cider tested to find the one that is to be honored by use on the great day, and the apples, nuts and other domestic dainties chosen that are so peculiarly appropriate to the Harvest Home of the season's plenty.

And as the festival draws near, what multiplying of duties and pleasures! What a squawking of fowls, awakened from their delusive security and plenty to serve their country by their sacrifice! What a flying of feathers! What a chopping of fruit! What a thumping of pastry! What a beating of eggs! Above all, what a delicious odor of pies and cakes, great and small, rich and plain! enough, one would think, to feed an army, and yet that will melt like snow before the sun under the attacks of the allied forces of sisters, brothers and cousins, who will shortly descend upon the homestead.

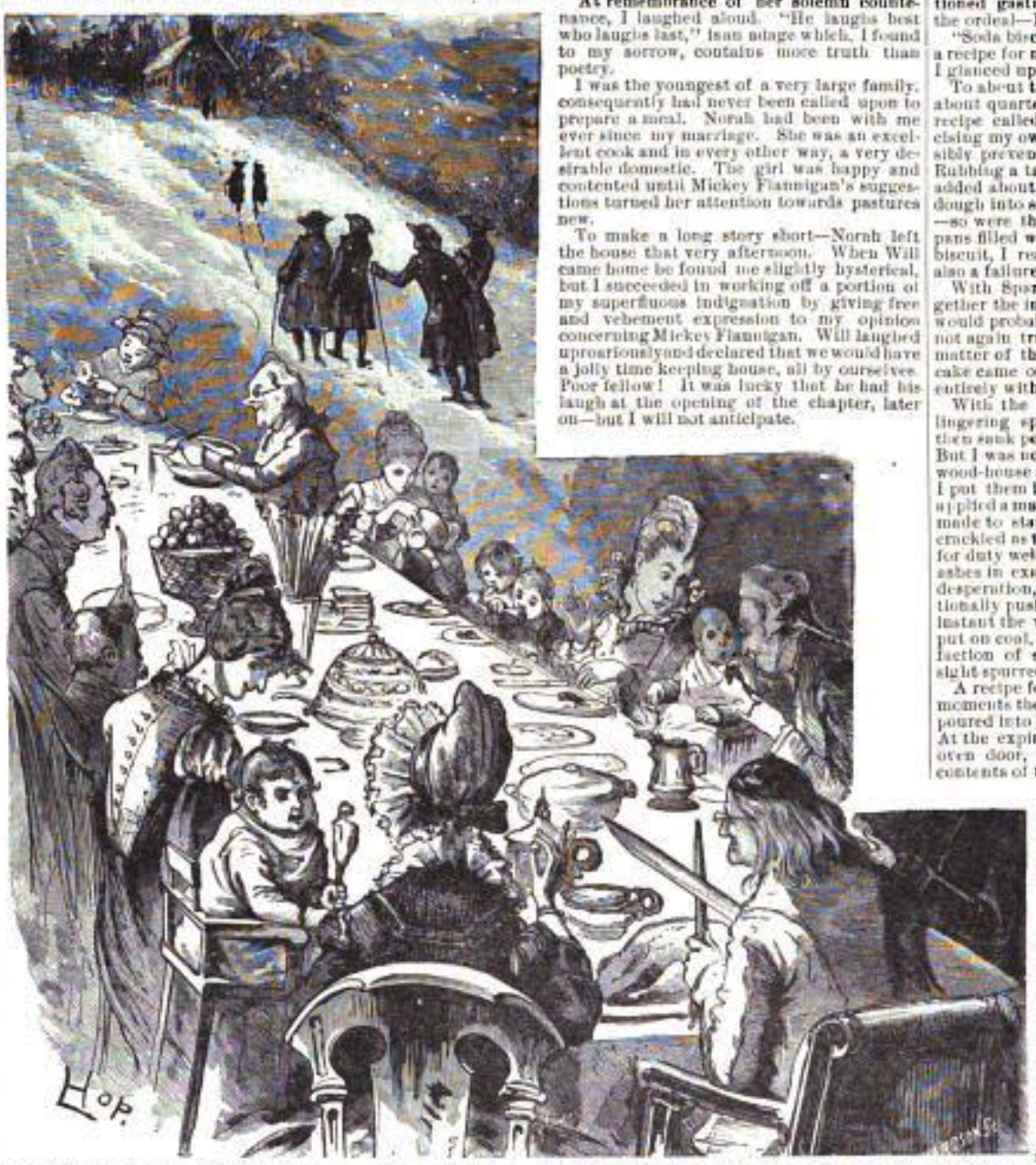
Nor is the bustle less vigorous in other regions of the house besides those devoted to the mysteries of the culinary art. The bedrooms must be opened to sun and air, the stores of linen rigorously inspected for any sign of stain or yellowness that may require bleaching, floors must be scrubbed, paint scoured, rugs and bedding beaten. There must not be a blemish or a flaw to be found anywhere. There must be as little possibility of unaired sheets as of leathery pastry and the entire household force vie with one another in their efforts to achieve a perfection of order and trimness. The Fall housecleaning has not been enough, the whole house must be re-swept and garnished.

Floral and evergreen decorations are postponed until Christmas, but an endeavor to give the home a look of harvest cheer may be accomplished by setting up small sheaves of grain, tied around the middle with ribbons, in corners where they will prove effective. Autumn leaves that have been pressed so as to preserve the color, great branches of the berry-studded shrub known either as fire bush or burning bush, trails of bittersweet and dried stalks of feathery golden-rod will be quite as ornamental and far more appropriate than all the hot-house flowers that ever bloomed. If there are open fireplaces in the house,—as there always ought to be,—great fires should be laid in them, ready to light just before the travelers arrive, and generous stores of logs and kindlings provided to replenish the hearths.

In the city, the preparations may be less extensive, but are full as thorough. There are so many aids to labor there that less arduous exertions are required than are necessary further away from shops. The homely old-fashioned dishes are all recalled for the benefit of the expected guests. The dinner on Thanksgiving Day has acquired a prominence that throws nearly everything else connected with the festival into comparative obscurity. The hearty breakfast that begins the day, and the simple supper, consisting of little more than a cup of tea and a sandwich, with which it ends, are only items, and petty ones at that, by the side of The Meal. For this, the housewife selects her finest table-linen, and brings down her most prized china, that she cherishes as an heirloom, possibly as a portion of her mother's or even her grandmother's wedding outfit. For this she polishes her silver and scours cutlery and plated ware and for this she puts forth all her culinary skill. The stuffing and roasting of the turkey must receive her personal attention and to no other hands will she entrust the manufacture of the pastry for the chicken and oyster pies that are to divide the honors with The Bird of Thanksgiving. As for the pumpkin pies,—the mere thought of permitting anyone else to have a share in their mixing and baking sends a thrill of dismay all up and down her spinal column. A well-proved cook may perhaps be allowed to make the cranberry sauce, and possibly even,—if she is closely superintended—to fry the doughnuts, although this latter privilege is granted with reluctance. Doughnuts, crullers and cookies must be made by the half peck if there is to be any pretence at satisfying the rapacity of the juvenile hordes who will presently be turned loose upon them.

The thought of the large body of visitors to be entertained at Thanksgiving would be more of a burden if the same formality had to be observed then that would be demanded by an equal number of guests at any other time. But at this, a family party, etiquette may be cast to the winds and the load of work and responsibility appreciably lessened by suffering each one to bear his share. A dinner *a la Russe* with its multiplicity of courses would be sadly out of place on Thanksgiving Day. Then, if ever, the board should groan beneath the weight of plenty and resemble as far as possible, the old-fashioned spread of the days of our grandfathers, when course dinners were unknown. One need not go so far as to place the meat and pudding on the table at the same time, but the turkey at one end, the mighty chicken pie at the other, the oyster pie maintaining a place midway between these two *pieces de resistance*, and the double row of vegetables, cranberry and apple sauces, pickles and jellies, drawn in line of battle up and down the board, may all be set out in the old style without fear of shocking the fastidious taste of even a professional diner-out. Nice customs curtsey to great kings, and under the sway of old Thanksgiving, minor rules and precepts of entering and of the ordering of viands may be swept away.

As it should be in all jubilees, the advent of Thanksgiving should be accompanied by none but kindly feelings and memories. Old feuds, sore hearts, hard feelings should be put aside for this day. No one has a right to make his especial anxiety or pet grievance a spot in this feast of charity. It should commemorate the Harvest Home of kindly deeds and words, the reaping from a sowing of honest endeavor and high purpose, as well as the gathering in of the fruits of the earth. The thankfulness for the blessings of health, home and country are too often forgotten in the purely material view of the celebration. "The gift without the giver is bare," and the festival without the animation of the spirit that prompted its existence is shorn of its deepest and richest meaning.



THANKSGIVING.

The feast at last. The grace is said
And up bobs every eager head,
And bright eyes, like some greedy power
Go seeking what they may devour.

The turkey at the feast is lost;
The chickens get their drum sticks crossed;
And empty plates, just filled with pies,
The good wife marks with smiling eyes

Perhaps this day in years to come
May find them wanderers far from home
And with joy-haunting memories cheer
The shadows of that changeful year.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

GRANDMOTHER'S DOUGHNUTS.

BY M. A. THURSTON.

"It's meself that's tired of wurruk an' I've made up me mind, mum, that I'll be afther takin a little resht."

Such were the words that greeted me as I arose from the breakfast table.

"Why, Norah, you surely will not leave until I can secure some one to take your place!" I exclaimed in consternation.

"If you've noane engaged to supply me place, mum, sure 'tis no fault o' mine," replied Norah with a toss of her head. "Me health's failin' an' be the advice of me cousin Mickey Flannigan, I'll be afther takin' a resht." Concluded the damsel drawing down the corners of her large mouth lugubriously.

"I'll be goin' this afternoon, mum," said Norah as, with heavy, masculine strides, she withdrew from the room. Her stout form and ruddy countenance failed to present convincing evidence of ill health. Like the majority of servants, she longed for a *change* and in the brusque manner already stated, informed me of the fact. I was forced to realize that Mickey Flannigan was an important factor in the management of Norah's affairs, but instead of bowing in meek submission to the inevitable, my heart rose in rebellion against the irrepressible Mickey.

"Poor Norah!" I exclaimed. "Can it be possible that she is in the last stages of consumption!"

At remembrance of her solemn countenance, I laughed aloud. "He laughs best who laughs last," isan adage which, I found to my sorrow, contains more truth than poetry.

I was the youngest of a very large family, consequently had never been called upon to prepare a meal. Norah had been with me ever since my marriage. She was an excellent cook and in every other way, a very desirable domestic. The girl was happy and contented until Mickey Flannigan's suggestions turned her attention towards pastures new.

To make a long story short—Norah left the house that very afternoon. When Will came home he found me slightly hysterical, but I succeeded in working off a portion of my superfluous indignation by giving free and vehement expression to my opinion concerning Mickey Flannigan. Will laughed uproariously and declared that we would have a jolly time keeping house, all by ourselves. Poor fellow! It was lucky that he had his laugh at the opening of the chapter, later on—but I will not anticipate.

We had tea and toast for supper, toast and tea for breakfast. The noon meal was composed of hard, indigestible potatoes, coffee of a peculiar flavor and—toast and tea.

Thus three days dragged along. Will advertised for a servant but only two individuals appeared—one a middle-aged woman with waters eyes and flaming nose, who was loud and vociferous in the assertion that she was of "Frinch extraction sure, and cooked the most liegint meals at the hotel ioninst the post-office." The second applicant was a pale, delicate girl who had scarcely sufficient strength to climb the marble steps in front of the house. I dismissed both applicants. Will scolded when I told him what I had done, and declared that even the presence of an individual with a nose like a peony would be preferable to the outrageous mode of living into which we were rapidly drifting.

"It seems to me, Helen, that you ought to be able to get up a decent meal. Toast and tea are well enough occasionally, but as a steady diet such fare grows monotonous."

Of course my eyes filled with tears for it was the first time anything like a reproof had fallen from the lips of my husband, but fortunately I was endowed with too much common sense to grow hysterical and declare my intention to pack up immediately and go home to mother. I closed my eyes resolutely to keep back the tears and swallowing a great lump in my throat, said in the most cheerful tone I could command:

"Mother gave me a recipe book before I left home, and I am quite sure that I shall be able to get up something appetizing."

Will called me an angel of goodness and with an affectionate kiss, hurried away to his office. The minute he was out of sight, my heart sank like a lump of lead and the repressed tears rolled down my cheeks, making unsightly marks upon the pretty pale blue wrapper which already exhibited signs of having been brought in contact with pots, pans and kettles.

For a moment I hesitated, loth to begin my first lesson in the art of cooking—but recollecting the truism—"Nothing venture, nothing win," I hastened to buckle on my armor, which consisted of a neat chintz dress and a big blue and white checked apron. I hurried into the kitchen where I found the fire in prime order for my experiments. I opened the recipe book at random. Directions for making "Grandmother's Doughnuts" claimed my attention.

"The very thing!" I exclaimed exultingly. "Will dotes on doughnuts. How surprised he will be when he sees what I have accomplished!"

Following the directions faithfully, I sifted four pounds of flour into an earthern dish, then added one pound of butter, six eggs, two heaping tablespoonfuls of baking soda and one pint of milk. I worked the mixture into a soft dough, rolled it about half an inch think and cut it into small circles—dropping them one by one into a pan half filled with hot fat. The doughnuts rose to the surface and appeared to be all right, but when I attempted to turn them, they broke into minute pieces and bobbed up and down in the fat as though thoroughly rejoiced at my discomfiture. With my face almost blistered by the heat, I scooped up the cakes with a perforated ladle, then put in the next batch, and so on until half the plates in my kitchen closet were filled with piles of greasy, brown crumbs. The plentiful use of soda, gave to the cakes a greenish hue and the strong odor that greeted my olfactories set me to wondering how any woman, who had ever eaten "Grandmother's Doughnuts" could possibly live to greet a third generation. Doctors can rarely be induced to take their own medicines, and perhaps the old lady, imbued with a spirit of emulation, did not partake of the doughnuts herself but distributed them among friends and relatives. Those who possessed unquestioned gastronomic ability, probably survived the ordeal—I shudder to think of the rest.

"Soda biscuit are very nice for tea and here is a recipe for making them," I said cheerfully, as I glanced up and down the pages of the book.

To about three quarts of sifted flour, I added about quarter of a teaspoonful of soda. (The recipe called for two teaspoonfuls, but by exercising my own judgment I thought I might possibly prevent the biscuit from turning green.) Rubbing a tablespoonful of lard into the flour, I added about a pint of water, then moulded the dough into small cakes. The oven was moderate—so were the cakes—and as I drew out three pans filled with rows of hard, white indigestible biscuit, I realized that my second attempt was also a failure.

With Spartan-like determination, I mixed together the ingredient for a sponge cake—which would probably have turned out all right if I had not again trusted to my own judgment in the matter of the quantity of flour to be used. The cake came out of the oven tough as leather and entirely without flavor.

With the drawing out of the cake, the last, lingering spark of fire flickered for a moment then sank peacefully into its bed of white ashes. But I was not yet vanquished. I hastened to the wood-house and brought in an armful of fagots. I put them in the stove on *top* of the ashes and applied a match. One, two—three attempts were made to start a blaze. The wood smoked and crackled as though anxious to retain a reputation for duty well performed, but still it lay upon the ashes in exasperating blackness. In a spirit of desperation, I seized the poker and quite unintentionally pushed aside the mass of ashes. In an instant the wood was in a blaze. I hastened to put on coal, and in a short time I had the satisfaction of seeing a bright, glowing fire. The sight spurred me on to fresh efforts.

A recipe for "pone" caught my eye. In a few moments the ingredients were mixed together, poured into buttered pans and placed in the oven. At the expiration of ten minutes I opened the oven door, and was dismayed to see that the contents of the pans had climbed to the top and was running over the sides. The only thing that I could do, was to close the door and await developments.

Tired and thoroughly discouraged, I glanced towards the table where lay my culinary failures—blissfully unconscious of their dismantled glory. With a sob I threw myself into a chair and resting my throbbing head against the side of the table, let the tears flow unrestrained.

"Helen! Helen wake up! Laws a massy did any one ever see sich goin's on!"

With a startled cry I opened my eyes to find Aunt Hetty, enveloped in a cloud of black smoke, standing by my side.

"The pone!" I cried making a dash for the oven door. As I opened the door a cloud of thick, black smoke rushed out and almost choked me.

"It is burned to a cinder!" I exclaimed regretfully.

"No doubt about it," said Aunt Hetty drily. "But du tell me Helen, what you've been tryin' to do?" she concluded glancing around curiously.

"I—I—have been trying to learn how to cook," I replied in a trembling voice—then I broke down entirely, and with my arms around Aunt Hetty's neck sobbed out my disappointment.

"Poor child," said Aunt Hetty, stroking my cheek affectionately, "I used to tell Marthy thet she was raisin' you the wrong way, but she was the youngest one to hum herself, an' I reckon she had her head chuck full of ideas afore she went to boardin' school. Now Helen," continued Aunt Hetty energetically, "I've come tu stay a spell. I brought a basket full o' my best preserves—the kind you used tu like. Run along up stairs, put a little cold water on them red cheeks, then lay down a bit. Don't mind how things look!" she exclaimed, as she saw my gaze wander round the untidy kitchen, "you mind Aunt Hetty just as if you were the little tot that used tu rod about in the hay, hunt eggs, an' race through the fields at Cyrdale farm."

If the truth must be told, I was glad enough to avail myself of Aunt Hetty's advice, and as I laid my tired limbs upon my bed, and pressed my flushed cheek against the cool, refreshing pillow, visions of by-gone days flitted before me. What jolly times I used to have during my periodical visits to Aunt Hetty! What delicious bread, cakes, pies and preserves she set out for the children who came in from their romps in the fields hungry as bears.

I opened my eyes just as the little clock upon the mantel sounded its last stroke.

"Five o'clock!" What *will* Aunt Hetty think of me!" I exclaimed. The appetizing odor that pervaded the house, convinced me that Aunt Hetty had not been idle, and when I reached the scene of my humiliations, I found that order had been created out of chaos.

Aunt Hetty, with sleeves rolled up and face beaming with benevolence, was busily engaged in preparing the evening meal. A can of salmon

(*Concluded on page 15.*)

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[For the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

A CHAPTER OF "DON'T" FOR PARENTS.

BY MARGARET JEAN MCVEAGH.

1. Don't forget that you brought your children into the world without their knowledge or consent. You have no right to embitter the life you have thus thrust upon them. I have known parents to make absolute slaves of their children, compelling almost constant attendance, under the popular delusion that young limbs are never tired; and like the old slave-master, giving nothing in return but food and clothes.

Don't laugh at and deride your children's hobbies. Remember how much brighter life has seemed to you, when you could realize some cherished dream, and treat them accordingly.

3. Don't forget that youth needs amusement. Your children have not only bodies but minds. Rest for the body and amusement for the mind are demands of nature which too many parents ignore. If you do not provide for your children healthful and sufficient amusement, then thank God for His mercy on you, if your children do not take to dangerous or wicked pleasures when they are older.

4. Don't forget that your children are beginning life, while you, perhaps, are ending it. Give them the benefit of your experience, but don't expect that your experience will serve them in place of an experience of their own.

5. Don't be impatient with your children when they doubt your estimate of the world's allurements. Remember it is you who have tested these things, not they. You did not see with your father's eyes, neither should you expect your children to see with your eyes.

6. Don't demand respect of your children, or endeavor to enforce it by your authority. Respect is paid not to those who demand, but to those who deserve it.

7. Don't neglect your children's friends. Invite them to your house. Show your children that their friends are your friends, and your children's friends will be such as you will approve.

8. Don't be jealous of your children's friends. If you make your society delightful to your children, they will always prefer you to any other companion. If your child prefers everyone else to you, stop and ponder whether you have not compelled him to seek elsewhere the companionship, love and sympathy he ought to have found in you.

9. Don't be afraid to let your children see your love for them. Let a child feel that no matter where he goes, or what he does; no matter whether friends forsake or foes slander him, his parents' love and trust will always follow him—and that child is not only safe for all time, but the thought of this love will shine out like a lamp in a dark place, cheering and strengthening him against all odds.

10. Don't forget that the great Father of all has had infinite trouble with you. You have been just as refractory, ungrateful and disobedient as any child you have. Let this thought temper your anger, and make you wise to direct a complex human soul.

[For the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

LITTLE AILMENTS.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

Doubtless, much reform is due to over-zealous work of fanatics, but he who makes the unqualified statement, as published in an article on health, a short time past, "Teach your daughters to be ashamed of a headache," certainly commits a grave error.

To teach a child to desire health as a blessing to be greatly prized and worthy of much sacrifice of artificial pleasure, is one thing, but to inculcate a shame of being ill, is entirely another—it is to sow seeds for diseases in after life, which no amount of care can cure, no amount of remorse can alleviate.

What has happened to the child? Only a little fall! Get up, my son! Be a man! Don't cry for such a little thing! "But my knee *hurts*," persists the child through his tears. "Nonsense! what if it does! Run around and forget all about it!"

Six months later the mother learns to her unspeakable sorrow, that perfect rest at the time of that "little fall," was absolutely necessary, to allow nature to repair the injury—an injury for which there is now no remedy, though artificial methods have been resorted to for weeks to the torture of the child, to try to effect the cure which nature would have made in a few days, with care upon the part of mother and patient.

One child, well known to the writer, "had a bad habit of crying" as a baby. The parents endured it, albeit not always stoically, for a certain length of time. Now, babies do not cry day in and day out for nothing, but these parents assumed, as do many other parents, that the child was "cross." So when the child grew older, old enough as they thought, to understand, the child was punished for her perverse fretfulness. The feelings of the parents can better be imagined than described, when they discovered, as the child very slowly learned to walk, that one little leg was shorter than the other, and that she gave evidence of incurable hip disease. Poor little creature! The misery she had endured as a fretful, speechless, misunderstood baby, is beyond computation.

A child complains of a headache, a sick stomach, a stiff neck—any one of the thousand ills that child flesh is heir to—all trifles in themselves, perhaps.

Dismissed summarily, the child becomes reticent about its ailments, and the mother never learns of the hundred imprudences the child commits.

When adults have so little judgment in regard to a right mode of living, what especial exercise of that faculty can we expect to see exhibited by children? A child may readily eat imprudently, but if she never complains of the result of the imprudence, she may continue to eat imprudently directly under the eye of the most careful, watchful mother; for, many times, even the simplest diet should be avoided as aggravating a state of the stomach which needs only rest for recuperation. A child may drink ice-cold water or milk, after she has become much heated, and if the mother never sees the performance, and the child is never supposed to complain of attendant discomfort, the process is likely to be repeated once too often, and the child is sacrificed on the shrine of ignorance—ignorance on the part of the child as to proper care—on the part of the mother, as to the actions of the child.

There are many things in childhood of so slight a nature as to seem absolutely unimportant, but these slight derangements, if allowed full sway, often result in diseases of the gravest character—and while I would not for one moment recommend the course of treatment for children known as "molly coddling," I would most certainly urge upon mothers the necessity of *knowing*, personal inspection, that all is right with their children.

How much irreparable injury has been done by over-jumping of rope—by racing under a tropical sun, by bathing in an exposed place in the heat of the day, much, if not all, of which might have been avoided if the mother had carefully investigated a little pain in the head or stomach, and not waited for weeks, to learn through wretched results, that her child "has been in the habit" of committing through ignorance, utmost imprudences.

When children have an ache or a pain, it is not always something for *them* to be ashamed of, but rather a matter of reproach to the parents, as being the inherited result of imprudence, or the effect of ignorance or carelessness upon the part of parents.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

FIRELIGHT DIVERSIONS.

The hour before bedtime, in the early dark of winter days, is, perhaps, the most trying for a mother with a brood of young children.

The days play has not been long enough for the older ones, and for the babies, who have not taken time through the short, daylight hours for even a short nap, it has been too long. So, sleepy wails and rollicking shouts, and tearful remonstrances and noisy racing of the little folks, who seem bewitched to dance and romp and sharply dispute, will close the day, unless measures, even more active than their own, are taken to quiet the hub-bub-boo.

You are tired and well-nigh spent with the steady strain of demands made on your strength throughout the day, and the baby is fretfully wailing for quiet and sleep. Perhaps, sometimes you are tempted to soundly scold or roundly spank every one of the noisy little carousers, making a quick ending of their fun, and hustling them to bed with unhappy thoughts and tear-stained faces, but you know that this is not wisdom. The effervescing, animal spirits of healthy childhood must have expression in some way. In the grateful hush of their sound sleep an hour later in the evening, which we, like "Thorny Poppy," call the most restful hours a mother knows, when asleep," how thankfully glad we are, if through loving tact and patience, we have quieted their noise, without resorting to harsh word or hand, but by interesting them in some still game or soothing, good-night story, that has sent every little nestling to bed with a happy heart and added faith in his mother's love and resources!

It is a very easy matter to interest small people, so they quickly forget their noisy plays and wrangles, and gather about you in the ruddy lights of the open fire to listen to the story, or help with game, only, when you are yourself, exhausted; so tired that it is an effort to speak, following the thread of a story, or to answer the unlimited questions to which it gives rise.

A quiet, fireside game that calls for low-toned voices and no running of little feet, sitting sometimes, in their nighties by the warm hearthstone while baby's head sleepily droops lower and lower, the half lights of the fire play softly over the eager, trusting little faces upturned to yours, is easier, often for a *spent* mother to follow, than a good night story.

We have several such games for our little folks, some of them original, and some of them ourselves played, when a little child sitting by our mother's knee in the firelight that has forever gone out in the old home.

Game number 1.

Mamma and each child wise enough to count six, is given six kernels of corn, or six beans or six buttons. (Ten is the original number, but we limit to six to simplify and abbreviate the game). Then mamma slyly slips from one to six kernels into her right hand—no one must see how many—and turning to her right-hand neighbor, briefly asks in a whisper, "hull-gull?" That neighbor promptly replies, "Handfuls!" to which mamma laconically responds, "parcel how many?" The waiting little man or maiden, eagerly scans the closed hand as though to read the number hidden within. "Two," he answers as a guess.

"I hold five, you must give me three monies," and in proof of her statement, shows on her open palm, five kernels of grain.

This right-hand neighbor pays her due out of his store, and then hiding in his own pink-tinted, or chapped, or grimy, little fist from one to three grains of corn, whispers to his right-hand neighbor the old query, "hull-gull?"

"Handful," she answers, mentally guessing how many kernels his closed hand holds.

"Parcel how many?" is the next question, and on receiving answer, "three," jubilantly assures her that she owes him two of her yellow coins, for a single grain he held in his right hand.

So the game goes on from left to right, round the happy group before the fire, each paying his due, which is always fixed by the number of coins between those held and those guessed, and if the guess is correct, just so many kernels or coins are forfeited to that right-hand neighbor.

When one has parted with all his money, he is dropped from the game, unless some trusting friend will loan him a coin or two, with which new capital he can again commence business, though if bedtime be too near, mamma will not allow such extension of the game.

Who ever wins all the kernels, wins the game.

No. 2. One of the children brings the letter box, which holds ten duplicates of each letter in the alphabet, stiffened with card board or oil cloth to prevent curling. If mamma is too tired to select the letters of easy words for each of her little folks who can spell, she whispers to each child the letters of a word, not in order, but in confused arrangement. Each child by turn then picks the letters of their word from the heap in the box. The first letter of each word is given, then all is quiet, and baby can sleep and mamma knit or doze, while her little people transpose their letters every which-way till the word is found.

Game number 3.

As many acorns are placed in a row on the hearth before the glowing coals, as there are children in the group. Each child knows his acorn and watches its roasting closely, for whoever owns the acorn that first bursts and pops out of line, is the happy believer that he shall first be the favored one to "go to the store," that mecca of earth to country-bred children, and in the order the acorns pop, so they pretend to believe will be their turn to be taken to the mecca.

Firelight game number 4.

"I am thinking of something in this room that rhymes with wire," mamma says dreamily, restfully enjoying the stillness and hushed voices of the children.

"Is it liar?" a flushed cheek little boy asks, looking up into mamma's face with conscious eyes.

"No, it is not liar."

"Is the word tire?" a thoughtful little girl questions, after a long pause, touching the pretty pink garment that was part of her day clothing.

"No, it is not tire," mamma answers sleepily, half way across to Nod's Island.

"I dess it is fire," whispers the very youngest, and when mamma is roused to admit that her answer is correct, it is that little girl's turn to puzzle the group with study over some word denoting any article the room may contain, after giving its rhyme.

Game number 5.

Do not play unless you can give a little margin for suppressed giggles of merriment and surprise. Each child provides himself with slate or a bit of paper, and pencil. Mamma, too, in the first round of the game, to start interest.

Then every player draws the very cutest pig that he can, pen and trough and swill bucket, too, if he chooses, but the pig large and plain in the foreground, and then, all in the game close their eyes, "honor true," and put on piggy's tail.

The squeals come in when eyes have popped open, and it is found that one has hung this curly appendage to piggy's eye, another swung it from his ear, and others represented it as spirited comets dangling in the firmament high and dry above his pigship.

Chimneys to houses, bails to buckets and pails, and hats to extravagantly dressed ladies and gentlemen can be added in like manner, creating a deal of fun, and sending every little boy and girl to bed with sunshine in heart and face.

The best part of these games is that the bulk of their thought and work can be thrown onto the children, giving mamma a grateful and needed rest.

JOHN'S WIFE.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

ADVICE TU PARENTS.

If a child commences a dogein and a dukein its hed, and a throwin its littel hans and arms up over its face, in self protexun as it wer, whenever yu make a effort tu smuthe its hare, yu may be sertin that the parents uv that child are in the habet uv nockin it over the hed, and uv boxin its ears, fur a child has the facelty uv tellin a grate many things without sayin any thing by the wurd uv mouth. If yu want a child to grow up smart, yu shood begin erely tu nock it over the hed, and box it over the ears, as any wun can see how much smarter a child will naterly grow, if it has its soft and tender brane jarred up in that way. It dont make any particular difference what part uv the hed yu begin on, nor which ear yu box first, as the brane is as soft and tender in wun place as another, and the ear drum is as easy busted on the right side as the left. The mane thing is tu nock it hard enuff tu make it see stars a flashin befour its ize.

The practis uv nockin the childern on the hed is anshent, a most any wun can remember how tha ejnoyed bein nocked on the hed when tha wus littel, and how tha longed fur the da tu cum when tha cood du likewise tu sum other childs hed.

Judgein from the number uv parents a practisin it, it must be a plesant amoosment, and it ought tu be encuraged, as it helps amazinly tu keep the insain asylums full, and gives stedy employment tu the docters. If yore child shood cri in the nite with the ear ake, accordin tu the homapatha rule uv like cures like, it wood be a good idee tu give it anuther box over the ear. And then if wun uv yore littel fellers shood di uv brane fever, it wood be such a consolashun tu visit its grave every Sunda, and while a puttin flours onto it, think over how many hundred times yu had nocked the deer littel departed on the hed, there is sumthin very consolin in such thots.

UNKEL JOSH.

"Ronald's Wife":—Baby's hands are ordinartly made of fine flannel ⅝ of a yd. long, and two fingers wide. Hem on sides should be turned down but once and cat-stitched. Flannel skirts should be made of fine flannel in which there is some cotton, as all-wool flannel falls up too readily.

"A Young Mother":—When decay appears in the first teeth it is always well to have them filled at once. An imperfect tooth affects a child in every way, and should never be permitted to remain in that state.

In the near future we will publish an article on the care of children's teeth, prepared by Dr. Chas. L. Browne, a well known dentist in New York.

ED. LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I should like to tell the mothers of the "HOME JOURNAL", how I wash my baby's feeding bottles: I have found my plan so simple and satisfactory, I would like for others to try it. I have a piece of stout wire about twelve inches long, bent at one end, about the eighth of an inch, (or less,) thus——.

With this bent end and a tiny piece of soft cloth about two inches square, which I soap slightly, I clean the bottles perfectly. Then rinse in clear water thoroughly. Try my plan mothers, and you will always have sweet, clear, and clean bottles.

M. T. D.

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[*Eng. Ed. pp. 63, Dietary Article No. 83. Am. Ed. pp. 42.*]

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLE WORK.

MARY F. KNAPP, EDITOR.
No. 20 Linden St., S. Boston, Mass.

Terms Used in Knitting.

K—Knit plain. P—Purl, or as it is sometimes called, Seam. N or K 2 tog—Narrow, by knitting 2 together. Over—Throw the thread over the needle before inserting in the next stitch. This makes a loop which is always to be considered a stitch, in the succeeding rows or rounds. Tw—Twist stitch. Insert the needle in the back of the stitch to be knitted, and knit as usual. Sl—Slip a stitch from the left hand to the right hand needle without knitting it. Sl and B—Slip and bind—slip one stitch, knit the next; pass the slipped one over it, exactly as in binding off a piece of work at the end. * indicates a repetition, and is used merely to save words. "Sl 1, k 1, p 1, repeat from * 3 times"—would be equivalent to saying sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1,—sl 1, k 1, p 1. Tog means together.

Terms in Crochet.

Ch—Chain; a straight series of loops, each drawn with the hook through the preceding one. Sl st—Slip stitch; put hook through the work, thread over the hook, draw it through the stitch on the hook. S c—Single Crochet; having a stitch on the needle (or hook) put the needle through the work, draw the thread through the work, and the stitch on the needle. D c—double crochet; having the stitch on the needle, put the needle through the work, and draw a stitch through, making two on the needle. Take up the thread again, and draw it through both these stitches. T c or Tr—Treble Crochet; having a stitch on the needle, take up the thread as if for a stitch, put the needle through the work, and draw the thread through, making three on the needle. Take up the thread and draw through two, then take up the thread and draw it through the two remaining. S t c—Short Treble Crochet; like treble, except that when the three stitches are on the needle, instead of drawing the thread through two stitches twice, it is drawn through all three at once. L t c—Long Treble Crochet; like treble, except that the thread is thrown twice over the needle before inserting the latter in the work. The stitches are worked off two at a time, as in treble. Extra Long Stitch—Twine the cotton three times round the needle, work as the treble stitch, bringing the cotton through two loops four times. P—or picot; made by working three chain, and one single crochet in first stitch of the chain.

Crochet Chemise Band.

Make a chain of 12, join in a ring.

1st row—Put 24 d c in the ring; join.

2d row—*Ch 4, 1 s c in third d c; repeat from star 7 times; join.

3d row—Ch 3, 1 d c in first loop of ch 4, ch 2, 2 d c in same loop, *2 d c in next loop, ch 2, 2 d c in same; repeat from star 6 times; join.

4th row—*8 d c in loop of ch 2, 1 s c between 4 d c; repeat from star 7 times; join.

To join the second wheel to the first wheel,

(Engraved expressly for The Ladies' Home Journal.)

make 4 d c in loop of ch 4, take out the hook, lay the 2 wheels together, then put the hook through the stitch you took it out of, draw it through the first wheel, make 4 d c in same loop, to finish the scallop, 1 s c between the 4 d c. Join next scallop the same, and finish the wheel. When the band is the desired length, for the edge, to sew it on by, join the thread in 4th st of scallop, ch 9, 1 d c in 4th st of next scallop, ch 6, 1 treble crochet (thread over twice) where the wheels are joined together, so on round the band. Next row, 1 s c in each st. For the upper edge, repeat these two rows. 3d row, ch 6, 1 d c in every 6th st, (which brings the d c over the d c in first row.) 4th row, 2 d c in loop, ch 2, 2 d c in same; repeat in each loop. 5th row, 8 d c in ch 2, 1 s c after the 2 d c; repeat through the row. The band can be made with a point in front, and in the shoulder. M.

Featherstitch Tidy.

With two very coarse knitting needles, and Dexter's cotton Nos. 10 or 12, cast on 130 stitches, which knits 5 times through the pattern, and 3 for each edge, which are *knit* every time across, instead of being purled, except first stitch, which is slipped every time. To make tidy larger or smaller, increase or diminish by 25 stitches, that number being required for each pattern. Knit across 3 times plain before commencing pattern, also the same at the end before binding off, to correspond.

1—Knit 2 together 4 times, over and knit one 8 times, knit 2 together 4 times, purl one; repeat.

2—Purl.

3—Plain knitting.

4—Purl.

Commence again at first row. This is exceedingly pretty, for anything so simple and easily accomplished. AUNT RUTH.

Knitted Mat.

Cut the rags same as for a carpet, and sew them together. Take large wooden needles, cast up any number of stitches you can divide by 5—35 stitches makes a good sized mat. Commence by knitting 5 stitches, then return, knit 10, return and knit 15, so on, knitting 5 more each time, and return, until all are knit off. Commence with 5 again. The mat is knit in gores shaped like a parasol covering. Knit a number of gores, until the mat will lie flat on the floor. There will be a small circular hole in the centre, which you fill in by casting up 3 stitches, (on the same needles;) increase each row until you have 8 on the needle, then reduce until you have 3; this will make a piece large enough to fill the place; always be sure to knit the stitches in each row of the mat. A mat of 50 stitches weighs 5 pounds, and will last 10 years. Both sides of mat are alike. MRS. I. C. HEIGHT.

FISHKILL VILLAGE, DUTCHESS CO., N. Y.

Will some one please tell how to crochet curtains in linen shoe thread? SUBSCRIBER.

Crochet Square for Quilt.

1st row—Ch 6, join into a ring, ch 2, 18 d c in ring; join.

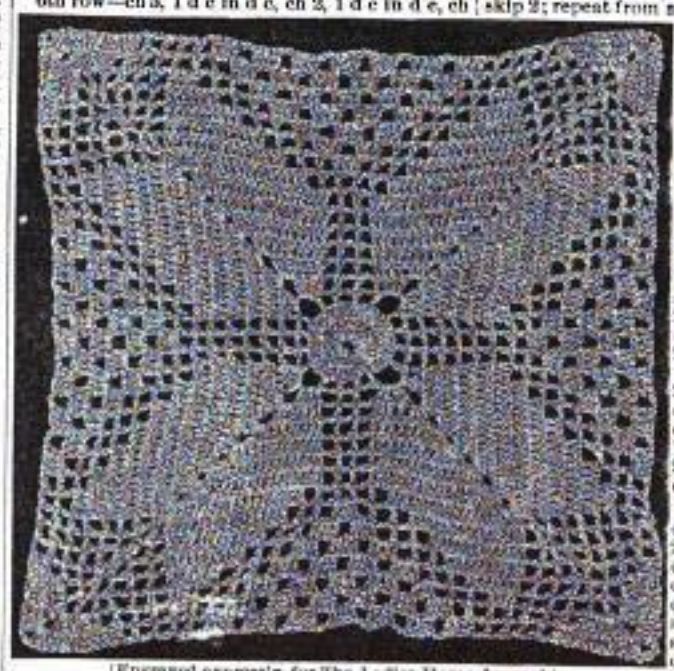
2d row—ch 3, 2 d c in each of the 18 d c; you have 36 d c; join.

3d row—ch 5, skip 1 st, 1 d c in next st, ch 2, skip 1, 1 d c in next, ch 2, skip 1, 1 d c in next, *ch 4, skip 2, 1 d c in next, ch 2, skip 1, 1 d c in next, ch 2, skip 1, 1 d c in next, ch 2, skip 1, 1 d c in next; repeat from star twice, ch 4, join in 3d st of the ch 5.

4th row—Ch 5, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, *3 d c in loop, ch 3, 3 d c in same loop, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, 1 d c in d c; repeat from star twice, 3 d c in loop, ch 3, 3 d c in same loop, join in third stitch of ch 5.

5th row—Ch 5, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, *4 d c in 4 d c, 3 d c in loop, ch 3, 3 d c in same loop, 4 d c in 4 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 2; repeat from star twice, 4 d c in 4 d c, 3 d c in loop, ch*3, 3 d c in loop, 3 d c in 3 d c; join.

6th row—ch 5, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, *7 d c in 7 d c, 3 d c in loop, ch 3, 3 d c in loop, 7 d c in 7 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 2; repeat from star twice, 7 d c in 7 d c, 3 d c in loop, ch 3, 3 d c in loop, 6 d c in d c; join.



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7th row—Ch 5, 1 d c in 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, *10 d c in 10 d c, 3 d c in loop, ch 3, 3 d c in loop, 10 d c in 10 d c, ch 2, 1 1 c in d c, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 2; repeat from star twice, 10 d c in 10 d c, 3 d c in loop, ch 3, 3 d c in loop, 9 d c in 9 d c; join.

8th row—Ch 5, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, *16 d c, ch 3, 16 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 16 d c, ch 3, 16 d c; repeat from star twice, 16 d c, ch 3, 15 d c; join.

9th row—Ch 5, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, *19 d c, ch 3, 19 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 19 d c, ch 3, 19 d c; repeat from star twice, 19 d c, ch 3, 18 d c; join.

10th row—Ch 5, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, skip 2, *19 d c, ch 3, 19 d c, ch 2, skip 2, 1 d c in the 19th d c of last row, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2; repeat from star twice, skip 2, 19 d c, ch 3, 19 d c, ch 2; join.

11th row—Ch 5, 1 d c in d c, 2 d c in ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, skip 2, *16 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in middle st of ch 3, ch 3, 1 d c in same, ch 2, 16 d c, ch 2, skip 2, 1 d c in 19th d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2; repeat from star twice, skip 2, 16 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in middle st of ch 3, ch 3, 1 d c in same st, ch 2, 16 d c, ch 2, skip 2, 1 d c in 19th st, ch 2; join.

12th row—Ch 3, 3 d c in first 3 stitches, ch 2, skip 2, 4 d c in next 4 stitches, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, skip 2, *13 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, 1 d c in middle stitch of ch 3, ch 3, 1 d c in same, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, 13 d c, ch 2, skip 2, 1 d c in 16th d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2, skip 2, 4 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2; repeat from star twice, ch 2, skip 2, 1 d c in 16th st, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2; join.

13th row—Ch 5, skip 2 stitches, 4 d c in next 4 stitches, ch 2, skip 2, 4 d c in next 4 stitches, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, skip 2, *10 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in middle of ch 3, ch 3, 1 d c in same, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 10 d c, ch 2, skip 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, skip 2, 4 d c, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, skip 2; repeat from star twice, skip 2, 10 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in middle of ch 3, ch 3, 1 d c in same st, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 10 d c, ch 2, skip 2, 1 d c in 13th st, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2; join.

14th row—Ch 3, 3 d c, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 6, skip 2, *7 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in middle of ch 3, ch 3, 1 d c in same, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 dc, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 7 d c, ch 2, skip 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c; repeat from star twice, ch 2, skip 2, 7 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in middle of ch 3, ch 3, 1 d c in same, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 7 d c, ch 2, skip 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2; join.

15th row—Ch 5, 1 d c in 4th d c, 3 d c, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, skip 2, *4 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in middle of ch 3, ch 3, 1 d c in same, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2, skip 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2 4 d c, ch 2 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2 skip 2; repeat from star twice, 4 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2 1 d c in middle of ch 3, ch 3, 1 d c in same, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2, 3 d c; join.

16th row—Ch 3, 3 d c, ch 2 and 4 d c 3 times, *ch 2 and 1 d c 6 times, ch 2, 4 d c, 3 d c in next loop, ch 3, 3 d c in same, 4 d c in next 4 stitches, ch 2 and 1 d c 6 times, ch 2 and 4 d c 6 times, repeat from star twice, ch 2 and 1 d c 6 times, ch 2, 4 d c, 3 d c in next loop, ch 3, 3 d c in same, 4 d c in next 4 stitches, ch 2 and 1 d c 6 times, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2; join.

17th row—Ch 5, 4 d c, ch 2 and 4 d c 3 times, *ch 2 and 1 d c 4 times, ch 2, 10 d c, 3 d c in loop, ch 3, 3 d c in same, 10 d c, ch 2, and 1 d c 4 times, ch 2 and 4 d c 7 times; repeat from star twice, ch 2 and 1 d c 4 times, ch 2, 10 d c, 3 d c in loop, ch 3, 3 d c in same, 10 d c, ch 2 and 1 d c 4 times, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2, 4 d c, ch 2, 3 d c; join.

Use number 12-4 threaded-knitting cotton, or number 10, if you like it finer; 4 of these squares knit with finer thread, make a pretty tidy. J. E.

Knitted Jacket.

3½ oz. white split zephyr worsted.

Cast 200 stitches on steel needles using two needles. Knit once across plain, then seam two and two for five purls. Make a row of holes by putting zephyr over twice and narrowing. Kit four purls more seaming two and two, knitting but one of the loops and dropping the other. Then put the stitches on large sized ivory or wooden needles. Knit 35 purls plain garter stitch. Then divide 60 for each front, leaving 80 for back. Knit 30 purls on each. Then 16 purls, narrowing on each side of the *back*, and one side each side of the fronts. Bind off. After the shoulders are sewed up, take up stitches on neck on the steel needles, seaming two and two for 7 purls, then row of holes, and 7 more purls. Bind off.

FOR SLEEVES:—Cast 70 stitches, knit 85 purls plain garter stitch. Transfer to steel needles, knitting one row plain, and then seaming two and two, 38 purls. Bind off. Draw ribbon through holes at neck and bottom. The sleeve will seem small for the arm size, but must be stretched and made to go in. I have knit this, and they are thought to be very nice to wear when flannels are left off, or are worn over corsets with flannels. B.

Narrow Crochet Edge.

(By request.)

Make a chain of 9 stitches; turn.

1st row—3 double crochet in 6th st of ch, 2 ch, 2 d c in same st, 4 ch, fasten with slip st in last st of ch 9; turn.

3d row—Chain 3, shell in shell, 4 ch, fasten with slip stitch in hole between the d c of shell in 3d row and the scallop formed by the 4 chain, and 12 s c, then fill in 4 chain with 6 s c, 4 chain, fasten in centre of scallop with slip st fill in with 12 s c, finish the half scallop with 6 more s c, shell in shell, 1 d c in top of ch 3.

4th row—Chain 3, shell in shell, 4 chain, fasten with slip st as in 3d row; turn.

5th row—Fill in chain 4 with 6 s c, 4 ch, fasten with slip st in the centre of last scallop, fill in with 6 s c, 4 ch, fasten with slip s t in centre of next scallop, fill in with 12 s c, and the remaining half scallop with 6 s c, shell in shell, 1 d c in top of ch 3. This forms one deep point or scallop. To begin another point, turn, ch 3, shell in shell, 4 ch, fasten with slip st as in 3d row, fill in with 6 s c, 4 ch, fasten in centre of scallop in 5th row, fill in with 12 s c, then 6 s c in the half scallop, shell in shell, 1 d c in top of ch 3, and so on as at beginning of 4th row. This edge is pretty and durable, is best when made of number 30 cotton or 50 or 60 linen thread. L. C. P.

LIVERPOOL, ENG.

"Subscriber":—Bee Hive lace is the same as Pine Apple Lace, given in a late number of the JOURNAL—July 1886, I think. M.

Wave Braid Trimming.

Braid number 45, spool cotton number 30. Put the hook through the middle of the edge of braid, ch 4, 1 d c in same place, *ch 6, 1 d c just one side in centre of hollow of braid, ch 1, 1 d c the other side of centre, ch 6, 1 d c in top of second wave, ch 1, 1 d c in same; repeat from star through row.

2d row—Ch 3, 1 d c in ch 1, 1 d c in top of next d c, *ch 2, 1 d c in third st of ch 6, ch 2, 1 d c in first st, ch 1, 1 d c in ch 1, ch 1, 1 d c in next st, ch 2, 1 d c in third st, ch 2, 1 d c in first st, 1 d c in ch 1, 1 d c in next st; repeat from star.

3d row—Ch 4, 1 d c in top of 2d d c, ch 2, 1 d c

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in next d c, ch 2, 1 d c in next d c, ch 2, *1 d c in each of next 3 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in 1 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in next d c, ch 2, 1 d c in next d c, ch 2, 1 d c in next d c, ch 2, 1 d c in next d c, ch 2; repeat from star.

4th row—Ch 6, 1 d c in second loop, ch 2, 1 d c in next loop, ch 2, 1 d c in loop, ch 2, 1 d c in loop, *ch 4, skip a loop, 1 d c in second d c in group of three, ch 4, 1 d c in second loop, ch 2, 1 d c in next loop, ch 2, 1 d c in next, ch 2, 1 d c in next, ch 2, 1 d c in next; repeat from star. This finishes top part of trimming. Lower edge of braid: 1st row same as 1st row of top part.

2d row—Ch 4, 1 d c under ch 1, ch 1, 1 d c in same, ch 1, ch 1 dc in d c, ch 2, *3 d c in ch 1, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 1, 1 d c in loop, ch 1, 1 d c in same, ch 1, 1 d c in d c, ch 2; repeat from star.

3d row—Ch 3, 1 d c in second d c, ch 2, 1 d c in next, ch 2, 1 d c, in next, ch 2, *1 d c in each of next 3 d c, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, 1 d c in next, ch 2, 1 d c in next, ch 2, 1 d c in next, ch 2; repeat from star.

4th row—Ch 3, 1 d c in second d c, *ch 2, 1 d c in top of loop, ch 2, 1 d c in third d c, ch 2, 1 d c in d c, ch 2, 1 d c in second d c, ch 2, 1 d c in first d c, ch 2, 1 d c in second d c; repeat from star.

ALLIE S.

Crocheted Skirt.

I have made six of these skirts for grown people and three for children, they are very much admired and very easy to do. Two colors are used, and as I made one of pearl grey and pink, I will use those colors in the following directions. Of course, you understand the grey was the main color. You begin at top of skirt. Chain 180 of grey; this makes 20 points; s c in three successive chain, then 3 s c in next ch, (for point) then 3 s c in succession, skip 2 ch, 3 s c in succession, 3 s c in next ch, 3 s c in succession again and skip 2 ch and repeat until your chain is all worked, then work in the stitches just the same. (I should have said you joined your 180 ch.) Crochet six rows of grey like the above, then every other row pink for 3 rows, then about 25 rows grey, then 4 rows pink, 1 row grey, 6 rows pink, 2 rows grey, 8 rows pink, (or you can put 4, 5, 6 rows of pink as best suits you.) Then comes the border. I had no rule for it, made it as I worked. It wants to be as deep or more than your last row of pink; wants to be very full, and heavy bottom of shells, and is of the grey. You must widen about every 10 or 12 rows. You widen by 5 s c in top of point instead of 3 s c, for one row, then work next 10 or 12 rows same as before. Crochet loosely. I used "Madonna" yarn. It took 2½ skeins of grey, and 1½ of pink. Skirts something similar sold here in the stores for five dollars, and the yarn was harsh and cheap, no border to them, and I would not have taken one as a gift. These are lovely, and are worth troubling yourselves a little to do if you want a nice skirt. Anyone that cannot understand these directions I will explain more fully by letter or send a miniature sample if they will write to the address below. The size of this one is plenty large for a good sized person, and as you make a cord and put through the points of top, putting a tassel or cord on each end, you can push the fullness to the back, or bring it forward to suit. Here is something nice to work on this summer for Christmas presents. IDYL DEE.

89 EAST PICO ST., LOS ANGELES, CAL.

Crocheted Cornucopia.

Make a chain of 36 stitches; turn.

Use No 6-4 threaded knitting cotton, or Macreme twine as coarse.

1st row—2 d c in third st of ch, ch 1, 2 d c in same third st; this forms a shell, * skip 2 stitches, make a shell in next st*; repeat what comes between the stars, through the row, until you have 12 shells, ch 3; turn.

2d row—Make a shell in the middle of each shell, ch 3; turn.

Work 18 more rows like the second; you will have 20 rows of shells; this makes a square piece; sew it together on wrong side. Make a stiff flour starch wet with strong coffee; rub it into the cornucopia; shape it over a pastboard cornucopia; put it by the stove to dry, before it is thoroughly dry, loosen it by running a fork under it; put it on again, smoothing it into shape; let it dry; give it two coats of gum shellac. Run a ribbon through the upper row of shells, tie a bow, also tie a bow at the point or end; suspend it by a ribbon; cord and tassels may be preferred by some. Melt a piece of glue in with the starch, it stiffens better. ALLIE.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

INTERIOR DECORATIONS.

BY A. N. RAMSEY.

V.

With the regular embroidery one may successfully use "appliqué"—the name usually given to the work by which a pattern is cut from one material and transferred, or applied, to another by means of various fancy stitches.

When neatly and properly done,—with no raw edges, no mismatched figures, no mistakes in color or design,—it is very rich and effective, and has the further advantage of requiring much less time and skill than almost any form of fancy-work. Of course, it must be conceded, at the outset, that applique is but an imitation of embroidery, a sort of short-cut to it, and therefore much less artistic than the genuine work—just as a chromo is less artistic than the original picture; nevertheless, the advantages of applique are so many that it is likely to hold its own for a long time. Nor is our confession of the imitation, any reason why we should not make the imitation as good a one as possible, the object being to produce work which shall seem to have been woven as we see it, or at least to be heavily or skillfully embroidered. With this end in view, we must avoid every thing which would suggest the idea that one piece of stuff has been cut up and applied to another.

Various materials are used for this purpose, and taste is needed in the selection of those which are to be combined—in very rare cases it may be proper to apply silk and velvet figures to a cotton background, or, vice versa; but, these are so truly exceptional cases, that they do not affect the general rule, which declares that as nearly as possible, the background and the pattern should be of the same degree of richness, but where this is impossible, the design should be of the richer material.

Plush is one of the best fabrics to use as a foundation, for the outline of the pattern sinks into the pile, and thus the design seems to melt into the background and blend with it so entirely that the desired effect of heavy embroidery is produced. But plush is not always appropriate to the article to be made, and then the softer woolens, felts, silks, velveteens, or even cotton, or linen may be treated to produce a successful result.

No. 1

The design to be applied is first traced, or drawn very exactly, on the stuff to be used, and then accurately and carefully cut out—the greatest pains must be taken where figures, leaves, or stems are to join, for the parts must be so exactly fitted together that they match perfectly. The pattern is then pinned in place, so that all the parts may be seen in connection and, if velvet or plush is used, it must be so arranged that the pile shall always be in the same direction—(otherwise the light will be reflected so differently as to make changes in the shades of color. The pattern, being basted into place, is finally fastened there by some of the stitches described in this article.

With very delicate and expensive material, a process called "backing" is used, that is the design after being cut out is pasted to stout linen or cotton cloth held in a frame, this is then cut out again, and the pattern applied as before.

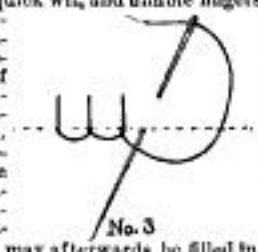
Some workers prefer to glue their applique to the foundation instead of basting it, in this case the paste should be made of flour or starch, and as thick and dry as possible, in order that it may not soak through to the surface; for very delicate tissues isinglass or gelatine paste is necessary though these are very hard to manage successfully.

The stitches used to cover the rough edges of the applied pattern will be found useful in many other ways, though they are no longer considered as real embroidery stitches. The best known of them is called "chain stitch"—a stitch much used in ancient work and quite in vogue during the last century and the early part of this, but since the invention of sewing machines it can be so accurately imitated by them that no one cares now to use it for solid embroidery. That it is possible to produce lovely effects with it, in solid work, is shown by many exquisite specimens of it Japanese and Chinese embroideries. To work it the thread is drawn through the material, from the wrong to the right side; the needle is put down again very close to the spot where the thread issues, the point being brought to the surface again at a short distance, but within the loop made by the thread as it lies on the stuff—this loop being afterwards drawn firm, but not too tight. For the second stitch, the needle is put down again in the centre of the last stitch, beside the thread as before, but this time, the point comes up in *front* of the first stitch, and inside the loop made by the thread; this repeated many times will give a continuous chain of interlinked stitches—each one springing from the centre of the one behind it—like the wrong side of sewing done on a single thread machine. The illustration will show this better than it can be described. Worked with coarse crewel, or silk in rather large stitches, chain-stitch is especially useful and effective in dividing borders, finishing edges and defining designs, but where the lines must curve a small fine stitch will be necessary to follow them neatly. The chain should always be begun at the farthest point from the person and worked towards you.

No. 2

"Rope stitch" is a variation of chain stitch, but is much richer and more pleasing in effect. The first stitch is worked precisely as in chain stitch, but for the second, the needle is not put down in the centre of the first, but outside of it, to the left, and half way back to the starting point, pushing the loop away to insert the needle close to it, the needle point being still brought up inside the loose loop of thread as before. This gives the chain of twisted, slanting stitches shown in figure 2.

A third stitch, much used in applying designs, is the old-fashioned scallop stitch, or "Decorative Buttonhole" as it is sometimes called. Under either of these names it is the same used in working muslin and linen trimmings for under clothes or flannels for skirts and the like. It is always worked from left to right, the thread being brought to the surface at a point a little distance above the edge, and, while the thread is held firmly at the edge by the thumb of the left hand, the needle is put back at a point on a line with the first, brought to the surface again just below the edge of the pattern, in such a way that the thread passes under the needle-point from left to right. This loop is then drawn tight (not enough to pucker it, but sufficiently so to keep the thread from hanging loose) and the worker is ready for the third stitch which is but a repetition of the last. Great variety may be introduced in this stitch, by using stitches of different lengths and slants; arranging them in groups of three or five, or separating groups of one length, by a single stitch of another, and the regular button-hole stitch may be used as a finish. Any one with quick wit, and nimble fingers will find in the accompaning illustrations, many hints towards any number of original combinations and arrangements of this stitch.



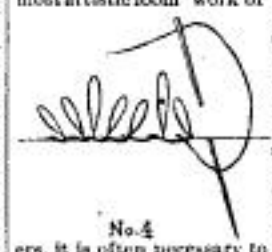
No. 3

Any of the foregoing stitches may be used as heavy outline stitches, for conventional or geometrical designs which may afterwards be filled in, either with regular embroidery or some of the old fashioned "filling stitches," of which there are numbers and some of which will be given in succeeding articles of this series.

In the meantime some uses for these stitches, and for applique, will be suggested by the articledescribed.

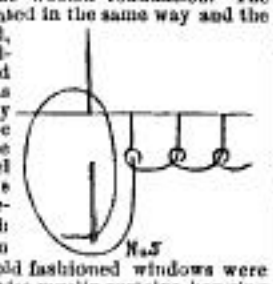
A sofa cushion, lately shown in a New York exhibition of art needlework, was made from cretan embroidery and plush. The cushion was twenty inches square, having a centre of thecretan work, some ten inches square, this being closely covered with sprays of flowers, of stiff design, worked in peculiar, but very lovely shades of pink, blue and green, with here and there a gleam of silver. It was bordered on each side by a band of plush five inches wide. The corners being mitred. The plush was a very yellow olive-green of a warm, rich tone, and the bands were sewed to the centre square by a double row of "rope-stitch," in pale pink and pale blue floselle, half an inch from these, the double row was repeated on the plush. Across the bias seams of the mitred corners was an oblong piece of cretan embroidery, pointed at each end, the piece being sewed to the plush by a row of chain stitch in the same shade of olive-green floselle; and round about it, framing it in, were alternate rows of chain and rope stitch in dark red, pale blue, reddish brown, and pink, the rows being half an inch apart. Towards the outer edge of the plush were two double rows of chain and rope-stitch in dark olive and dark red, and after the cushion was lined with dark red silk, the entire edge was ornamented by small tassels of crewels (repeating the colors of the cushion) sewed by their heads close to the material. The cretan embroidery can now be bought at very low prices in Japanese and good upholstering stores, sometimes a bit can be bought for fifty or seventy-five cents, which will serve as material for applique in articles far more elaborate than the cushion described.

Very pretty applique work is made with the designs printed upon French Cretonnes and cotton sateens. Some of these represent the best and most artistic loom work of the world, and often the beauty of the design is only equalled by that of the color and drawing. From these materials bunches of flowers trailing vines, or, sometimes, groupes of figures are cut and applied to a foundation. Where the pattern consists of flowers, it is often necessary to add sprays, tendrils leaves or buds in order to supply as far as possible the setting from which it was cut. These additions should be worked on the foundation in colors exactly matching those of the original design, and, if well done, this work aids very much in the effort to produce a good imitation of embroidery.



No. 4

An old bedroom was recently the despair of its young mistress, whose eyes were greatly offended by its bare white-wished walls, its high four post bedstead, hung with a faded green woolen stuff, and by the plain white mantle-shelf high up on the wall. It would have seemed no easy task to beautify such a room even with all the powers which come with money, but its owner thought it a hopeless one, in view of the fact that she had but five dollars to spend on it. The result of much thought made her decide to white-wash the walls with the ordinary lime mixture to which had been added sufficient Chinese Vermilion to make a warm blush color. (The color was mixed much darker than needed for it dries much lighter in shade than the wet wash.) The green bed-hangings were taken down, and as the curtains were too faded to use, the best parts of them were cut out and used as a rather deep plaited ruffled around the sides of the high ceiling of the bed and on them was appliqued a border of wild roses cut from a french cretonne, this pattern was sewed down with scallop stitch in crewel the precise shade of the woolen foundation. The old valance was treated in the same way and the bed, when finished, was more than usually pretty. By good luck some silesia was found, which exactly matched in color the faded green of the bed; of this a mantel lambrequin was made which was likewise decorated with the wild roses from the cretonne. The old fashioned windows were draped with plain swiss muslin curtains, hanging from the top to slightly below the sill, and tied back half-way up with narrow pink and green ribbons. The carpet was taken up—the good parts cut into shapely mats, and bound with braid—then laid back on the floor, which had previously been treated to a coat of varnish with which was mixed a very small quantity of Burnt Sienna. The old rocking chair had a new cushion made from part of the bed curtains, and tufted with knots of various bright colors, and, on a little mahogany table was a pretty cloth, made from an old party dress. The materials had been white gauze with stripes of satin; a breadth of this was used as the cover, the two ends being edged by lace some two inches deep, above this, little tuits of floselle had been sewed in a border, about five inches deep. The tuits were an inch apart, and sewed on with out regard to any pattern, being just the ends of floselle left from former fancy work. The mixture of all shades and colors suggesting Persian work. Various little devices added to the coziness of the room. A thermometer was made from an ear of corn from which three rows of grain had been picked out for a distance of about three inches along the side. In the space thus left empty a piece of thin white muslin was pasted, and on this was lightly glued one of those tiny ten cent thermometers which had previously been tacked to a background of narrow red ribbon just the size of the vacant space. The ear selected was a very yellow one and when covered with a coat of shellac varnish and hung up by a crimson ribbon, made a pretty ornament. To put finishing touches to this transformed room some blooming, flourishing plants were placed in a sunny window.



No. 5

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

1. Are folding doors much used in city houses?
2. Are mantel-shelves used when there is no fire place?

1. No. Folding doors are replaced in modern houses by those which slide and where this can not be done in an old house the doors are lifted from their hinges and the place supplied with curtains. Curtains are also used with the sliding doors.

2. Where there is a projection (called a "breast") for a mantel-shelf, one may be placed on it even without a fire place—though one can always be imitated—but without this "breast" a mantel-shelf is an architectural mistake.

A PICTORIAL PHENOMENON.

It is known in the best homes everywhere in this land of domestic virtue and well-front residences. They call it THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL AND PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER, and Cyrus H. K. Curtis, its energetic manager, has pushed its national circulation beyond *half a million copies, each issue!* Ten thousand dollars per annum is cheerfully paid by him to its editor, Mrs. Louisa Knapp, who has enrolled among this successful magazine's regular contributors such names, to conjure with, as Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, Mary J. Holmes, "Josiah Allen's Wife," Rose Terry Cooke, Louisa M. Alcott, Marion Harland, Christine Terhune Herrick, Kate Upson Clark, Harriet Prescott Spofford, Will Carleton, Robert J. Burdette and Henry Clay Lukens. The latter's biographic and reminiscent sketches have been highly appreciated. Every copy of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL is paid for at the full subscription price, no premium or gifts being offered for single subscriptions, and no *free sample copy editions being used to swell its circulation.* No medical, novelty or humbug advertising of any description is allowed in its columns. The publisher, by making himself responsible for his advertisers, has secured the confidence of his readers to a remarkable degree, making the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL so good an advertising medium that its columns have been filled for the last two years several months ahead. Now full up to November, at the altitudinous price of Two Dollars a line!

For his bright, semi-humorous papers, entitled "Homely Homilies," begun in the July number of this phenomenal monthly, Mr. Burdette is paid fifty dollars a column. The subjoined laconic correspondence is everyway characteristic of both writers:

I.

Office of the
CURTIS PUBLISHING COMPANY,
PHILADELPHIA, June 33, 1887.

ROBERT J. BURDETTE,
DEAR SIR:—Enclosed find check for eighty-three dollars to pay for article used in the July number of THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL—said article measuring one and two-thirds columns.
Yours truly, CYRUS H. K. CURTIS.

II.

BRYN MAWR, June 4th, 1887.

'Tis something, nothing;
'Twas yours, 'tis mine, and shortly it will be
John Wanamaker's—likely;
That advertised country from whose bourne
No wandering check returns. * * * Soft you now!
The fair I see you.

ROBERT J. BURDETTE.

—*The N. Y. Journalist, Sept. 24th, 1887.*

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HINTS.

A GOOD AND CHEAP SINK.

I was taught to wash dishes in a sink, so when I began housekeeping in the West, where I could not easily obtain an iron or soapstone sink, the Yankee mind began to ponder.

The result, I will try to describe plainly: A wooden box, the size of the wished-for sink was made, the four sides of the box joined to the bottom in such a way as to flare about 2½ inches, to avoid any sharp corners, the bottom of my sink measures 38x15 inches inside, measuring across the top of the outside 44x22 inches, the sides are 5½ inches high. This box was taken to the tin shop and lined carefully with zinc,—you need a wide flare to avoid corners, which make it difficult to fit the zinc neatly. The bottom of the sink must be of one wide, well-seasoned board—¾ inch thick board is heavy enough—if of more than one board, the bottom of your sink will become ridgy. I know a sink of this kind that has been used four years and is just as good as new. No rust, easy to clean, no danger of breaking things easily. The zinc and tin man's work on my sink was only $1.00.

A GOOD WAY TO TURN A WIRE SCREEN DOOR INTO A STORM DOOR.

At first, to save the trouble of taking off, and expense of a storm door, I covered my wire screen by tacking over the wire, a covering of heavy unbleached muslin, then gave it a good thick coat of paint of a pleasing color, and no wind could find the way in. In the spring I take off the cloth carefully, and store it away for another winter.

Now, my husband thinks he has an improvement; he has fitted wooden panels, large enough to lap on the door frame sufficiently to be fastened on by screws.

Now, one thing more: If any one detests a pie with the under crust soaked with the juice used for filling, (and a busy housekeeper cannot always make pies fresh every day) coat the under crust with a very thin layer of white of egg—eggs are so cheap with me that I do so, and never have a juice-soaked, soggy pie. BUSY WOMAN.

1888. CALENDAR. 1888.

We beg to announce the completion of a new Steel Plate Engraving, designed for us by Messrs. JOHN A. LOWELL & CO. It is pronounced by them the most exquisite Calendar which the engravers' art has yet produced. Size, 11x14 inches.

We will mail a copy to any address upon receipt by us of 10 cents, in stamps, cash or postal note.

DOLIBER, GOODALE & CO.,
Boston, Mass.

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One of the most beautiful styles ever produced in a Black Silk. Our Silks are all made from a superior quality of pure silk yarns, and dyed by the best dyers in the world, hence their permanent richness and superior wearing qualities. Send four 3c. stamps for samples, stating kinds most desired, and we will send choice line to select from, and return stamps with first order.
Please mention the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.
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69 State Street. CHICAGO, ILL.

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And STEREOPTICONS, all prices. Views illustrating every subject for PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS, etc. A profitable business for a man with small capital. Also Lanterns for Home Amusement. 100 page Catalogue free.
McALLISTER, Optician, 49 Nassau St., N. Y.

This cut shows the back of the famous ADJUSTABLE DURABLE SUSPENDER, and method of fastening the webs, without sewing or riveting, so they cannot possibly pull apart under any strain. There is a similar attachment on each of the front ends. These trimmings last for years, can be used on any webs, and are worth 5 times their cost.
For a birthday, or Christmas gift, nothing can be better, and price is within reach of all. LADIES! here is something practical and useful, as well as beautiful, a gift that will remind the wearer of the giver every day, with a blessing for their thoughtfulness, for if there is anything a gentleman can appreciate, it is a suspender that is not only easy and comfortable, but one that can also be depended upon under any circumstances. Anyone can make money by showing this suspender and taking orders for them. Ladies will buy them for Christmas gifts, and gentlemen who are not thinking of buying suspenders, will buy a pair as soon as they see what they get in the DURABLES that they can get in no other suspender in the world.
Samples sent by mail only 75c. 1 doz. (assorted webs.) by mail $5.00 and 50c. for postage. 2 doz. by express, $9.00. To those who want something extra, we will send a set of trimmings and an elegant pair of webs, imported stock, for only $1.00. This is a special bargain.
TO ALL who send us orders for 2 doz. before Dec. 1, we will send a pair of $1 suspenders free, and an extra pair for each additional 2 dozen.
To the 10 persons sending (in the aggregate) the 10 largest orders in amount, we will give to the highest, 10 pair of the $1 suspenders, to the next, 9 pair, and so on down to the lowest, who will receive 1 pair.
The names of the successful persons will be published in the Jan. number of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. Each competitor must mention the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL in writing us.
Send in your orders early, first come, first served.
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Vests to Match, $2.25 AND FULL SUITS AT POPULAR PRICES.

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Steam Engines, 35c. $8 Organettes, $3
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FREE Samples beautifully colored Rug Patterns to introduce, Send 10c. for postage and packing, to GEMS MFG. CO., Chicago, Ill. Agents Wanted.

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THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL

AND

PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER.

A NATIONAL ILLUSTRATED FAMILY JOURNAL.

MRS. LOUISA KNAPP, EDITOR.

MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT, MRS. J. H. LAMBERT, } ASSOCIATE EDITORS.

Published Monthly at 441 Chestnut St.,

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

THE CURTIS PUBLISHING COMP'Y

Publishers.

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Advertising rates two dollars per Agate line each insertion. Reading notices, four dollars per line Nonpareil measurement. Address,

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PHILADELPHIA, PA.

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Notice is always sent of expiration of subscription. If not renewed it is immediately discontinued. No notice is required to stop the paper, and no bill will be sent for extra numbers.

Receipts.—The fact that you receive the paper is a proof that we have received your remittance correctly. If you do not receive the paper promptly, write us that we may see that your address is correct.

Errors.—We make them so does every one, and we will cheerfully correct them if you will write to us. Try to write us good-naturedly, but if you cannot, then write to us any way. Do not complain to any one else or let it pass. We want an early opportunity to make right any injustice that we may do.

NEW YORK OFFICE: Potter Building, 38 Park Row, Room No. 1.

W. S. NILES, MANAGER.

Our New York Office is for the transaction of business with New York advertisers.

Subscribers should not address any letters to that office.

Philadelphia, November, 1887.

Subscriptions must begin with the number current when subscription was received. We do not date back, even upon the most urgent request.

When sending in your subscription please state whether it is a *renewal* or not. If a renewal, what month it should begin. Many subscribers are now receiving expiration paper, because, when sending in their *yearly* subscription, they failed to state that they had already subscribed for three months. This makes much trouble and ill-feeling among the subscribers, besides causing us much annoyance. When sending in subscriptions, send likewise all necessary information.

In answer to many questions daily received, we wish to tell those who are sending in subscribers on our 4 months trial offer, that this offer includes, as we distinctly state, the last four months of the year and *those months only*. We send for 10 cents, September, October, November and December issues and *no others*. There is positively no option about the time of beginning. Once more, our offer holds good *only* for *September, October, November, December*. Subscriptions sent in in *December*, on that offer, will receive precisely the same papers as those sent in September.

If your subscription expires with the December number, why not begin now to show the JOURNAL to your neighbors, and start your club? The December JOURNAL will be a double number, 32 pages, including a complete premium list. Club raisers who have sent us lists of trial subscribers, can easily secure a renewal from every woman who has read the JOURNAL for the past three months, and thus secure, with VERY LITTLE effort, some splendid premiums, for the coming holiday season. A splendid Parlor Organ can be secured for 350 subscribers, or for a less number of subscribers, and a small amount of cash. A Gold Watch for 180 subscribers, or for 100 subscribers and $10 extra in cash. Magic Lantern for 10 subscribers. Waterbury Watch for 30 subscribers. Doll for 10 subscribers. Silk Plush Photograph Album for 35 subscribers. Silverware, Books, Watch Chains, Stamping Outfits, Fancy Work of all kinds. Why not begin now on your club?

We have a request from one who appropriately calls herself "a silly subscriber," for something to bleach the hair—"some simple thing which will not injure the roots or make it brittle" We know of no such "simple thing." It is a serious matter always to interfere with work which Dame nature seems to be doing well, unaided. When Nature is at the wheel, we are pretty sure to find our physical condition good, (unless we are the victims of some constitutional disease,) and when we ask her to step aside and let us take her place to see if we cannot regulate matters a little more to our own satisfaction, we make a great mistake. She steps aside gracefully sometimes and to our sorrow, lets us have our own way for a time, but we are very apt to steer into dangerous waters, if not to actual shipwreck.

In some cases, she rebels and teaches us at once to let her alone. But be she lenient or severe, it is well to let her have her way. If there be one thing she knows more about than anything else it is assorting eyes and complexion to match a woman's hair. When a woman undertakes to change the color of her hair, she is very apt to make a ludicrous combination.

TRADING.

One of the practices frequently indulged in, in childhood, and one against which parents should firmly set their faces, is that of trading among themselves, commonly known by the elegant term of "swapping." While we believe in children having full possession of their own things, (for only in that way can there be inbred in them a thorough sense of the personal rights of others) we do believe also that that right should rule when it comes to parting with their possessions.

The habit of "swapping" engenders, or fosters if it does not engender, two very undesirable characteristics—a desire for gain and a discontentment with articles possessed—and children grow accustomed to looking around to see if some one else has not some more desirable possession than their own.

Those inclined to be unscrupulous, learn early to "drive a sharp bargain" with those younger or more innocent than themselves, and woe to the mother whose son becomes a "little less than **honest,** in his childhood.

SELFISHNESS.

"Selfishness," declares some one, "is the motive power of all action, be that action good or bad. It may not be apparent on the surface, nor suspected by the actor, but it is there." Just how much truth there may be in such a pessimistic view of human nature, each one must judge for himself. But there is a certain kind of unselfishness manifested in this world which gives a great deal of trouble to those around and entirely defeats its own end.

Perhaps it will be a case of sickness in the house. The devoted wife, mother, or daughter, feels it to be her sacred duty, (as well as pleasure,) to give herself up body, soul, and mind, to the invalid. This answers perhaps for a little while, but if the illness be a continued one, the nurse becomes utterly worn out, loses all desire for food or sleep, and rests on the verge of real illness. A neighbor comes in to "sit awhile," a perfectly competent person to take her place. "O no," she answers to all entreaties, "I can do well enough. I'll get along. I don't need any rest. I'll let you know when I can't get along any more. I don't want to trouble any one." This isn't unselfishness, it is foolishness. To be of most use to the invalid, a woman should catch all the rest she can. The world will perhaps condemn a mother for leaving a child in misery and going away to lie down. She is wise, and if the child is in such misery that its cries cannot be stilled, and she herself can do nothing that any one else cannot do, she should go far away and shut herself in and try her best to obtain the rest a mother needs so much.

Otherwise the time will in all probability come, when she herself will need as much nursing as the child. Who *then* is to do it? If some one can be found *then*, let her be found now, to *assist*, that all may be saved added trouble.

How often do we find in a family where severe sickness has prevailed that one member after another succumbs, but it is nearly always the overtasked, overwearied nurse. If those who nurses the *nurse*, were allowed to assist in nursing the *first patient*, in all probability there would be no second. Men often work out the same idea in business. They will devote themselves to the interests of their employer, to the utter exclusion of self, in a manner that is neither noticed or appreciated. They wear themselves out, and no one is the wiser, and no one the better of it all but the employer, who had perhaps no need of it, and neither respects nor admires his devoted servant any the more. "Self preservation is the first law of life," and it is a law that all are bound to respect for themselves to a certain degree. Be careful then how you condemn in another as selfishness the exercise of that instinct of self preservation which without belittling, makes that other one only the more competent to stand a longer strain, or fulfill higher duties.

NOTICE TO PHILADELPHIA SUBSCRIBERS.

A discrimination in the rates of postage to city subscribers, is made between weekly and monthly periodicals, to the great disadvantage of the latter, for, while the weeklies can be mailed to city subscribers for one cent per pound, monthlies cannot be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent for each two ounces, except where the subscribers go to the post-office for their mail. This regulation *REFERS ONLY* to subscribers *in the particular city in which the periodicals are published*. As the JOURNAL in its present form, weighs over two ounces, we, being located in *PHILADELPHIA* are, therefore, obliged to ask our Philadelphia subscribers twenty-four cents extra, for postage, unless the paper is addressed at the post-office to be called for, or to any post-office box. *REMEMBER, this refers to Philadelphia subscribers ALONE, and to those in no OTHER city.*

NOTICE TO CLUB RAISERS.

October 15th being the date after which competition for our cash prizes is closed, we must request all competing for those prizes, to send us, after that date, a list of the *number* of the subscribers that they have sent in, in order that we may compare them with the lists upon our books and verify them, thus leaving no possibility for mistakes.

The names of the winners will be published in the following issue.

A SILK DRESS

Given for 200 subscribers at 50 cents per year; or for 150 subscribers and $5 extra in cash; or for 100 subscribers and $10.00 extra in cash; or for only 50 subscribers and $15 extra in cash.

We offer 20 yards of fine colored silks, any color desired. Samples will be sent from Philadelphia stores. A fine quality of black silk can be given on same terms.

If you cannot secure the full number of subscribers required, why not send us as many as you can, and pay a small difference in cash? A nice silk dress can be secured for very little money, in this way. You should remember that two six month's subscriptions count as one yearly, and that when you fail to induce a neighbor to invest 50 cents, you can nearly always secure a 6 month's trial, for so small a sum of money as 25 cents.

Miss Margaret B. Harvey has published another book,—"Musical Studies at Home," a series of successful papers designed to reach "persons remote from centres of musical culture, those whose early education has been neglected, those who have become discouraged by wrong methods of teaching and those whose time and means for self-improvement were limited." In an easy and attractive way Miss Harvey aids the musical student with many wise suggestions. She has succeeded admirably in simplifying the accepted methods of instruction.

The regular price is $1.00, but we have about 300 copies on hand, which we will close out at half-price. On receipt of only 50 cents, we will mail a copy to any address.

The December JOURNAL will be an unusually fine number, full of good things,—a surprise in fact. Will Carleton will contribute "A Christmas Party,"—a full-page illustrated poem. "Spring Farm," will be continued. "Josiah Allen's Wife" will have one of her best sketches.

Why not send us 6 cents for a copy of this great holiday double number, to be sent to your neighbor? You will have no difficulty then in securing her subscription, which when sent to us with your own renewal, will entitle you to one of the many premiums we offer for 2 yearly subscribers.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WILL someone tell "Muriel" how to keep sad irons from sticking, while doing up shirts?

AGGIE:—Send your questions about "rare coins" to A. W. Smith, 533 Chestnut St., Phila.

MRS. M. P. C.:—Deer hair for child's pillow can be had at harness makers' for 25c. per lb. One pound is sufficient for one pillow.

"A SUBSCRIBER," N. Y. CITY:—You can transfer your pattern to velvet or plush, by using thin white paint instead of other liquid or powder.

ANNIE PARSONS, DUNNSVILLE, ESSEX CO., VA:—You need a thorough course of hygiene and medical treatment. We cannot advise further.

WILL someone please send to the following address, the directions for fixing bleached ferns? Mina A. Marshall, Fairfield street, North Cambridge, Mass.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Your cheery little paper has been a welcome addition to my reading-table, and I wish to add my mite to its columns, and recommend to your many readers the pleasure to be gained from neighborhood reading clubs.

These little gatherings, though familiar in the cities, are not so well known as they should be in smaller towns, and will afford a delightful change to the weary home-keeper, as well as a mental stimulus.

Several of our ladies have met once a week for the study of Dante's incomparable poem, "The Divine Comedy." We have used several translations, one author giving added clearness and strength to some passage more involved by another translator; the preference of our club is given to Longfellow. Help is gleaned from all quarters; public libraries, current magazines, French critics, and occasionally we find a Dante enthusiast and student, full of original interpretations of this most original work.

The club is composed exclusively of ladies, meeting in the afternoons, that the evenings may be kept sacred to the dear home-folks, and we all have felt helped and strengthened, mentally as well as spiritually, by our literary work.

Something of lighter character is to be substituted during the languid Summer, but I earnestly beg of all mothers, to take up and persistently carry on, some course of reading, for their own sakes as well as for their families. All Chautauqua students will bear witness to the benefit gained by reading a little *every day*, and it would be pleasant to learn through your paper of similar clubs.

From Dante to roses is an easy transition, and I wish to get from some of your readers a formula for the preservation of rose leaves in a perfume pot. Would not this be a pleasant way for some of your readers who live where the "Queen of Flowers" is abundant, of putting money in the purse? I will gladly pay for a fragrant little pot of bottled sweetness, to cheer my guests at some future reading. Faithfully yours,

BELOIT, WIS. ANN DANTE.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I have been made to think very seriously of late, about the injury caused our children, by the reading matter contained in three-fourths of the newspapers of to-day.

I cannot help believing, that a good many of the highly-colored, atrocious things that are printed, are either made up, or highly exaggerated. My attention was first called to this matter, by observing some boys with whom I was thrown a great deal.

After reading the daily papers, one said to the other: "Did you read about the hanging last Friday?" "Yes, and wasn't he game, though," the other answered, in rather an admiring tone.

From that they went on to discuss the murderer, the murder, and all the details connected with it. When that was done, I think every other sensational item in the paper was gone through with. Finally I said, "Boys, what is our government and political news to-day?"

"Oh! we don't read that trash; it is too dry for us."

Not only the boys, but a young miss that I know of, almost sixteen summers, has the same habit of singling out everything sensational, and altogether ignoring that which would tend to improve her intellectually. Now that my little daughter is six years old, and will soon be reading for herself, my thoughts naturally come to such things. I, like all other mothers, would have my children just as intelligent and refined as circumstances and surroundings can make them. I think such reading as that to which I have referred has a tendency to inflame a child's mind, and make it think that the whole world is going, or gone, to the bad. That childish minds should get such ideas as that, is to me, dreadful. I never want my children to think the world is being overcome by the devil. The best way, that suggests itself to me, to correct this evil, is to provide them with papers and books, suited to their age, and encourage them to read; for there is no greater source of improvement than reading, if we read good things. I have made it a point to buy at least one book a month, and in that way to accumulate a library. The outlay is very little, and yet I feel the benefits will be large. Now that books are so cheap, we may all collect them in this way. Test the fitness of them for our children, by reading them ourselves.

Let's see if more of you will not try to keep your children from reading this poisonous matter, by providing something better and more suitable by my economical plan. KITTIE.

ED. LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—The honey crop the past season was very light. Probably it did not average in any part of the country more than one-eighth or one-fourth of an average crop.

What honey I did get was put up in one-pound sections, and I was very careful to take it off at just the right time. For, while honey should stay on the hive a sufficient length of time to be thoroughly ripened, it should not remain there longer lest the bees soil the cappings by going over it.

When I wished to remove the honey, I, having armed myself with the smoker, opened the hive and, taking hold of a corner of the enamelled cloth, which cover the section cases, drew it back gently, *not* with a jerk, smoking them a little the while, to keep them from rising and to drive them down, somewhat, from the section case. These cases are made in sections, and each section holds three boxes. I got as many bees as possible off from the honey and then set the case above the broodnest, or other cases, placing the enamelled cloth under it, so the bees from below might not have access to it while those in it went out through the wire excluder in the cap. This was done in the forenoon, and late in the afternoon I took it from the hive, and placed it in the honey room. Here the boxes were removed from the cases and placed on a bench, then scraped (to get off the propolis) and then covered with wood-sides and labelled.

The wood-sides are a great feature in making an attractive package for the market. The label forms the hinge on which the covers swing.

With a handsome label and covers neatly stamped, the package is one of the most attractive ever placed upon the market. I sold it this year for 20c per box, retail, and wholesaled it at 20c per lb and 10 per cent off. I produce no extracted honey, as I believe the extractor is, to a great extent, the cause of low prices of honey. I think it is as much work to produce extracted honey and place it on the market, as it is to produce comb honey, unless indeed, it is sold to liquor manufacturers. That I *would not* do under any consideration.

I have found, that by judiciously giving away one box I can sell twenty, but of course, judgement must be exercised in doing it, as some never appreciate it. A very good plan, and one which has been much advocated recently, is to distribute leaflets, telling some of the different uses of honey, both culinary and medicinal. This will tend to increase the sale of honey. I have found it excellent for preserving fruit, and nothing, in my experience, will relieve colds, sore throat, or bronchial troubles more quickly than a mixture of honey and flour of sulphur. I know, as I have had occasion to try it myself.

DEAR JOURNAL SISTERS:—I wonder into how many homes the JOURNAL penetrates whose inmates have through daily toil, the carrotly, work-hardened hand, the enlarged bone, the prematurely old look that years of constant, never-ending house-work is sure to bring. Ah! many, so many of us must churn, (and Southern women' most of them, even milk the cows,) cook, wash dishes, sweep, dust, make beds, gather and prepare all the vegetables, not only cook the fowls but *kill*, *pick* and *draw* them.

We have no market even to deliver our wants at our doors; and I trow not all the dear readers of the HOME JOURNAL receive it direct from the mail carrier through the ubiquitous servant within the immaculate seclusiveness of brown-stone front—and I venture to say that of the 400,000 readers of the JOURNAL, there are thousands to whom so much advice is given from the serene heights of those same brown-stone fronts, it comes simply as some curiosity from foreign shores, which, turn and twist as you may, you can find no niche into which it will fit, and must simply be accepted as a *rara avis* at which you may occassionally look and wonder over. We poor, toil-worn country women, who have just so much to do and just so much to do it with, do not so much need line upon line and precept upon precept as we need mental recreation and we'll never get it by being told how to do this, that and the other with never a blessed thing to do it with. Why Marrietta Holley has enfused into me more good-natured, jolly, hearty utility to get through a day of real hard, ungenial work than all the "common sense" dothous, that could be heaped upon me in a life time. And I take it that the hand that runs such a glib pen telling others what to do, does simply none of the actual manual labor that is hidden behind the scenes. There are but three things needed to make a home what it should be—whether it be a brown-stone front or a humble log cabin—cleanliness, tact, and system. Apply these to all the circumstances of life, and the very best outcome will result from the material in hand. And the woman who has to nurse her own babies and work enough besides to keep the hundred hands of an untidy Briareus busy from daylight till dark, does not need for her absolute peace of mind to have such a continual thrust of brown-stone fronts and drilled battalions of servants and silver waiter service into her little obscure brown cot—occasionally it is well enough—we want to know about things as they exist, but too much of it all might cause a riot of dissatisfaction among the numerous throng of "Mrs. Poysers" in the land. "Your true rustic turns his back on his interlocutor," says George Eliot. He certainly does on too much dictatorial aggressiveness into the unchanging and unchangeable workings of his own little domicile. But ah, how a little diversion does help to lighten the burdens of the never-ending woman's work. I will not repeat the old hackneyed phrase, for every body knows its never done—just to think of having to wash dishes three times three hundred and sixty-five days in every year and then to have it dinned into your ears from years end to years end, how to contrive to muss up more dishes to be washed.

There are plenty ways of knowing these things; let those seek them who want to know, but dear tired, over-worked sisters, after the work is done to the very best of your ability, do not think to rest your weary bones by going on a mental gymnasium through some-body's house work that pulls your own little efforts in confusion about your ears but offers no palladium instead.

Dear sisters let's read that which will bring mental exhilaration and not unsatisfied desires. I would simply talk to those dear sisters who actually do their own work, not to those who only *tell others* how to do theirs. A well stored mind is worth more to an isolated country woman than all the over strained decorations and elaborately cooked meals, or worrying because you can't have them—for let me tell you the most of it looks better on paper than any where else—let it stay there.

I know one dear, good soul who does all her own work, reads all the *best* things she possibly can, and keeps up a regular newspaper correspondence. And she has just the nicest, lightest, wholesome food—but they eat to live at her house, though occasionally she has a royal gathering of friends, and feasts them right sumptuously. When asked how on earth she finds time for so much, she says, oh, it is simply habit, one does not require so much time. Yes, we answer, when one is a genius. There you mistake, she replies, one does not need to be a genius, simply read abundantly of all the best, purest, noblest thoughts, and soon you will find your own mind so bubbling, flashing, and over-flowing with beautiful thoughts that they leap forth as unconfined water over rugged rocks, and your hands fly throu . the roughest work with nimble deftness that they may catch the brightest thoughts on the point of an only too willing pen. Country people are proverbially ignorant.

This need not be. The country is netted by railroads, even the most isolated points have their mail carriers. The very best of books are now published at prices that two decades ago the most wildly imaginative never dreamed of A well read woman even in the humblest stations of life is no longer looked on as a "Blue," and treated with quiet derision if not open scorn.

We have no *caste* on society South—intelligence, refinement, and good manners, are the only tests, and it is in the hand of every man and woman to stand it that will.

MISSISSIPPI.

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DOMESTIC JOURNALISMS.

HINTS FOR HOUSEKEEPERS, CONTRIBUTED BY JOURNAL SISTERS.

"Subscriber:"—Gelatine comes in one ounce and a-half packages.

If any one can give me the recipe, through L. H. J., for marsh mallow drops, such as is sold at the confectioner's I will be much obliged.

I. R.

Will Miss Lincoln, who gave the "recipe for Potato Salad as the Germans make it," please give the German recipe for "Hazen-feffer?" If she is a German she will understand. It is written as pronounced. Oblige,

MISS ETTA SCHUMACHER.

Box 1701, LOS ANGELES, CAL.

Good jellies are made by covering the fruit with cold water, and boiling long enough to extract all the goodness possible. Then have ready a thin, porous cloth, and suspend it over a dish for several hours, with the fruit enclosed in it, that the juice may drain through without it being necessary to squeeze the pulp, as squeezing makes muddy jelly. It is well to drain over night, and in the morning measure the strained juice and boil it twenty minutes by the clock. Then add as much sugar as you had juice, and count ten minutes after that shall have begun to boil. Remove from fire and pour into tumblers or cups, and let cool before covering. Cut thin white paper rounds, size of top of jelly mould, and dip into brandy before laying on the jelly. Then cover the top of tumbler itself with white paper, pasting the edges down on sides of glass to exclude all air.

ED. JOURNAL:—"Alice" enquires for recipes for hard or soft soap. I send mine, which she may use without fear of failure.

For hard soap, get at your druggists a can of B. T. Babbitt pure potash or lye, on which you will find full directions.

For soft soap, to one pound of solid grease, use one pound of potash, (buy in bulk.)

First dissolve potash in water, (hot water is better as it takes some time). Melt the grease and put into the vessel you intend to keep your soap in. When the lye is ready, pour on to the grease, stirring well; add cold soft water until it is the desired thickness. Stir often.

Whatever fat meat I have left after a meal I put in a tin basin and set in the oven to try out the grease, and pour in a stone jar. In that way your grease is ready when you want to make your soap, which you can do in a few minutes, as no boiling is required.

MRS. JOHNSON.

DEAR MRS. KNAPP:—I noticed in the August number of the JOURNAL, a request for a good recipe for Cocoanut Cake, and as I have a very good one I send it.

COCOANUT CAKE:—One cup of sugar, one-half cup of butter, one-half cup of milk, in which a cupful of dessicated cocoanut has been soaked an hour, two eggs, one scant teaspoonful of soda, and two scant teaspoonfuls of cream tartar, and two cups of flour.

For my own part, I think the cocoanut is better for filling Washington pies (so called), or for

COCOANUT PIE:—Half a cup of butter, one and a-half cups of sugar, half a cup of milk, two and a-half cupfuls flour, yolks of four eggs and one whole egg, half a teaspoonful of cream tartar and a fourth teaspoonful of soda. Bake in four layers. Beat the whites of the eggs to a froth, and make stiff with powdered sugar and a little flour. Put between each layer of cake the frosting, then the dessicated cocoanut, and frost the top.

CHOCOLATE CAKE OR PIE:—Two cups of sugar, one cup butter, four eggs, four cups of flour, two teaspoonfuls cream tartar, one teaspoonful soda, one cup of milk, one teaspoonful lemon. This will do for six pies.

Filling:—Two cups of sweet chocolate, grated, one cup sugar, one cup of milk; boil until thick. For frosting, take the whites of two eggs, two cups of sugar and a little elmon.

ELLIOT, MAINE.

HOME COOKING.

ORIGINAL RECIPES, CONTRIBUTED BY JOURNAL SISTERS.

GOOD PIE-CRUST:—Allow one-quarter of a cup of lard to each cup of flour, rubbing it well into the flour; a little salt should of course be added. Mix all well together with very cold water to the proper consistency, being careful not to get it too wet. This makes a crust plenty rich enough for either lemon or custard pie. For one custard pie mix following ingredients in a bowl.

CUSTARD:—3 eggs well beaten, 1 pint sweet milk, salt and sugar to taste, and a little grated nutmeg.

LEMON PIE:—Line plate with crust, and put a strip also round the outside edge to prevent contents of pie running over while baking. For filling mix the following: One cup sugar, one cup milk or boiling hot water, one lemon, one egg, one tablespoonful cornstarch, one tablespoonful butter. Use upper and under crust.

CHOCOLATE CARAMELS:—Boil together for twenty minutes, one cup of molasses, one of sugar, one of chocolate, and half a cup of milk. When nearly done, add a piece of butter large as an egg, and flavor with vanilla. Drop a little in water to ascertain if it is done. Stir a few minutes, and then pour upon buttered dishes. When not quite cold, mark the candy in little squares with the back of a knife.

ORANGE CAKE:—Two even cups sifted flour, two cups sugar, one-half cup water, yolks of five eggs, whites of four eggs, one-half teaspoonfu soda, one teaspoonful cream tartar, juice an grated rind (outside) of one sour orange or lemon. Bake in layers, and spread with the following: Juice and grated rind of one large orange, mixed with the beaten white of an egg, and powdered sugar enough to spread thinly. Make a little stiffer for the top of cake. Lemon cake is very nice made the same way, substituting lemons for oranges.

CHOCOLATE CAKE:—Five eggs, yolks of all and whites of two, two cups sugar, one-half cup butter (scant), one cup milk, three cups flour, one teaspoon soda, two teaspoons cream tartar; flavor with vanilla. Bake in layers and spread with whites of three eggs beaten stiff, one cup powdered sugar, two oz. Baker's chocolate. Heat till the chocolate is melted, and spread between layers and on top of cake.

I. R.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

1. "The May number of the JOURNAL contained a recipe by Christine Terhune Herrick for "Potatoes *au Maître d'Hotel*." Among the ingredients was mentioned butter rolled in flour. Can you tell me how the butter is to be rolled in flour and how added to the potatoes? Also the quantity of flour to be used?"

MARGARET CANDOUR.

The term "rolling butter in flour" is a technical one and signifies rubbing the butter and flour together into a smooth paste, in the same manner that butter and sugar are "creamed" for cake. The quantity of flour used should be as much as the butter will "take up,"—in other words, that will blend smoothly with it. The paste thus made is to be stirred into the milk in which the potatoes have been heated.

2. "How shall I make good rich biscuit dumplings, to be cooked in the broth in which fowls have been boiled?"

MARGARET CANDOUR.

DUMPLINGS FOR STEWS.

Two cups milk.
One egg.
One tablespoonful butter.
Pinch of salt.
One quart prepared flour, or sufficient to make a dough stiff enough to roll out.

Beat the egg light, stir it into the milk and add the butter, melted. Mix in the salted flour, roll into a sheet about an inch thick, handling the dough as little as possible and cut into rounds with a biscuit cutter. Have the broth,—from which the fowls should have been taken,—boiling hot, drop in the dumplings and cook twenty minutes. When properly made, this is a delicious dumpling. If prepared flour in packages cannot be procured, the same result may be attained by sifting one even teaspoonful of soda and two of cream of tartar three times with a quart of flour.

3. "Can you give directions for making nice smooth gravy?"

MARGARET CANDOUR.

The smoothness of gravy depends almost entirely upon the way in which the thickening is added. The broth or meat dripping which is to be the foundation of the gravy should be strained and skimmed clear of fat. It should then be returned to the stove and brought to a boil. Browned flour should *always* be used for gravy, except when a white sauce for fricasseed chicken, sweetbreads or something of that kind is desired. The flour should be wet up with cold water to a paste, the water being added little by little, until the mixture is about the consistency of very rich cream and *entirely* free from lumps. It should then be poured *slowly* into the boiling broth, stirring all the time. The addition of the cold liquid will, of course, break the boil for a moment or two. The stirring must be kept up until the gravy boils again and for about three minutes afterwards, or until the gravy reaches the requisite thickness. Close attention to these instructions should insure good gravy.

(For the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

A LOAF OF BREAD.

To make good bread, three things are absolutely essential:

The best yeast,
The best flour,
The proper degrees of heat.

Skill in the different processes is an aid in the attainment of excellence, but it will not counteract the effect of inferior materials. I wish that this note could be sounded through all the kitchens in the land, and that some of the illusions which exist on this subject of bread-making might be destroyed. "I did not have any luck to-day with my bread," one will say, and such a person in some forcible way ought to be made to understand that in cookery ill-luck and ignorance are synonymous.

What special recipe should be used is, also, of secondary consideration, provided it has some reliable god-mother to stand sponsor for it. Far be it from me to impale on the point of my pen my particular recipes, and, holding them up to the multitude, exclaim, "Lo, here!" and "Lo, there!" These only are good!" Such as I contribute in this article are given because they have answered my purpose perfectly, and are not intended in any way as criticisms on those of my neighbors.

If the proper conditions for success in bread-making are maintained, success will result as certain as it is that the day followeth the night. Three of the most important conditions I have named, giving yeast the predominance of importance because it forms the spirit, as it were, of the loaf, without which in its best estate, the other constituents, however good in themselves, would remain but a shapeless, inanimate mass.

YEAST.

As to what particular kind of yeast should be used, circumstances should determine, perhaps. If the bread-maker be young and inexperienced, or one to whom time is of moment, and if she lives near a grocer who can supply her with fresh cakes, she cannot do better than provide herself with Fleischman's Compressed Yeast.

There is none superior to this in the market, though there are other varieties, which will make excellent bread. They should all be kept in a cool, dry, dark place, unexposed to the air, as otherwise they will soon spoil. This applies particularly to Fleischman's cakes, which ought, besides, never to be more than a week old, as that length of time is sufficient to test their strength. If they break easily, instead of pulling apart when pressure is applied, it may be concluded they are still fresh enough for use. One-half cake is equal to one cup of yeast.

The dry yeast, made with corn meal, and put up in packages keeps, with proper care, indefinitely.

But, after giving each variety of yeast its due credit, I wish to state emphatically, that in my judgment, no more delicious bread is made by any of them than that made from potato yeast. There is a lightness, a quality about it not found in bread made from other methods. I keep myself supplied with this liquid yeast from one year's to another, and am always able to make rolls, raised doughnuts, loaf cake, etc., at a moment's notice. There is little trouble in making it, and no risk. I send forth the recipe with hearty good-wishes, hoping it may be of such service to others as it has been to me.

POTATO YEAST:—Sift two full tablespoonfuls of flour, three tablespoonfuls of white sugar, and one tablespoonful of salt, into a large pan, or preserving kettle. Have your tea-kettle full of boiling water. Pare four potatoes, and as you pare them throw them into cold water to prevent discoloration. Grate these pared potatoes into the sifted materials, and mix quickly with a silver, or wooden spoon. Pour over it all three quarts of the boiling water slowly, stirring all the time. The mixture should be of the consistency of thin starch; if it is not quite thick enough, it may be cooked a little, caring to see that it does not burn. Strain, and when lukewarm, add one cake of Fleischman's compressed yeast, dissolved in one-half cup tepid water. Do all this early in the day, that the yeast may have time to rise before night. Set the pan in a warm place uncovered, and when well-risen and frothy beat occasionally and vigorously, to make it strong. Before retiring pour into quart cans, and leave uncovered until morning. Then seal, and carry to cellar. Shake well before using. A cupful reserved in a pint can can be used in starting a fresh batch of yeast, but I always use the compressed yeast in preference. The yeast will keep until used up in winter, and two weeks in summer, under cool conditions. Taste of it when you wish to test its sweetness. If sour, do not use it. The yeast question being now settled satisfactorily, I hope, we come next to that of the flour, which is often a little more difficult to solve.

FLOUR.

There are many ways of testing flour, but the most expedient is to have your grocer furnish you with a small quantity of what he considers his best variety. If after a trial baking it proves satisfactory, you can order in larger amounts. Flour should be light, dry and elastic, and when pressed in the hand tightly and thrown back into the barrel, should not retain the form of the pressure.

Of course it goes without saying, that the majority of wise housekeepers buy their flour by the barrel, as being both cheaper and more convenient than to buy in small quantities. In our family of four, we use two barrels a year, and the last is always as good as the first. Whiteness in bread is always desirable, and while the whitest flour does not always presuppose the most nutritious, yet, other things being equal, the whitest brand is to be commended. I have eaten bread of the jaundiced type, which tasted better than it looked, but it was not a bread I should care to put on my own table.

Having made, then, our potato yeast, and purchased our flour, both of which are supposed to be of the best quality, a little knowledge as to mixing the sponge, and the heat necessary to raise, and afterwards to bake it, will give us bread which will satisfy the most fastidious. For small families small bakings are economical, because with a little management, you can always have fresh bread and none old, which will give trouble to dispose of. I always bake three loaves at a time, one of graham or rye, and two of white, with only one sponge at night for both. If your husband is a New England man, he will love to taste again the rye bread of his childhood's days, and if you have children you can educate them so that they will love the brown loaf better than the white, to the benefit of their growing bodies. Very then, your white bread fare, by adding to it an occasional loaf of rye or graham.

DIRECTIONS FOR SPONGE.

Rinse out your bread bowl with hot water just before your hour of retiring for the night. Sift into the bowl one quart and a-half of flour, which has been warmed. Stir into it one-and-a-half pints of milk scalded and cooled, and beat well. Add one cup potato yeast, or one half cake yeast dissolved in one-half cup tepid water. Beat all thoroughly, and add more flour, if necessary to make it about like pancake batter. Set in a temperature of sixty degrees over night. In the morning take out one-third of the sponge for a graham or rye loaf, and add to it one half teaspoonful of salt, one tablespoonful sugar, and graham or rye flour mixed in not quite as thick as you can stir it. Pour into a baking pan, and when well risen, bake in a moderate oven. The oven heat should be less than for white loaves. It will be baked before the latter are ready to go into the oven. The remainder of the sponge will make two white loaves. Add to this one teaspoon salt, one tablespoonful sugar, one-half tablespoonful lard, and flour enough to enable you to knead the dough thoroughly. A few words now about kneading.

KNEADING.

It is a favorite theory with many, that kneading alone makes the bread *fine* grained, but it is not so. The fineness of the grain depends almost wholly upon the liveliness of the yeast, and the quantity used. Kneading makes the bread EVEN grained, regular as to its pores, and spongy in character, and should be well attended to to ensure this result. Both kneadings should be equally thorough, and done with the knuckles and fists, in a way which will mean business. After the first kneading, set away in a warm place free from drafts to rise, which ought to be in two or three hours. When sufficiently light, knead again very thoroughly, and mould into loaves. Caution as to moulding is enjoined. Let the loaves be shapely, with no uneven cracks on the under side when done to betray carelessness. Have them fit into the pans evenly, so that when baked they shall not resemble inclined planes, or miniature toboggan chutes, one end of which shall seem to have risen at the expense of the other. Gash the loaves across on top two or three times, or prick with fork.

BAKING.

When your loaves have risen after putting in the pans, to twice their size, they are ready for the oven, which should not be so hot but that you can hold your hand in it while you count thirty. The fire should have been attended to so that it will give a steady heat for forty-five minutes, the time necessary to bake ordinary-sized loaves. Baking is at best a most delicate operation, and requires a cook's whole attention. I was amused once in hearing a person, a cook only in theory, tell another individual whom it was her purpose to delicately instruct, that various were the op-

(Concluded on page 15.)

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL]

THE NEWEST FASHIONS.

Artistic Millinery, Unique Shapes, and Odd Effects in Ornamentations. Parisian Novelties in Elegant Hats and Dainty Bonnets. High Class Dress Goods. Moire Antique Rejuvenated, Handsome Silks and Wonderful Woolens. New Weaves in Cream and Black.

BY MRS. JAS. H. LAMBERT.

The recent introduction of afternoon dances in fashionable society abroad, led to a demand for special and appropriate complete costumes, hence late in the season, countless charming bonnets were designed for these social re-unions, which embrace all the new features of the incoming styles, but are in light materials, and while they will be en regle for such occasions during October, later on, and even in mid-winter they will prove most acceptable addition to the reception, opera, theatre, or concert toilette.

Such hats and capotes are of tulle, crepe de chine, gauze, and various other airy fabrics in white, cream, or in any hue or shade to match the gown or dress.

An apt illustration of this fancy is realized in a gem of a bonnet, a mere capote, in puffed cream illusion on a gold trellis-work frame, with a tall drapery of tulle, and aigrette of cream flowers with gold centers, standing high in front. This bonnet is worn with a dress of thick cream silk, trimmed with bands of gold embroidery and handsome Point lace.

Some ladies are still more expensive in their ambitions, and the chosen hat or bonnet is in perfect harmony with the toilette in trimming and materials. If the dress has panel or tablier, with other trimmings of Mechlin, Valenciennes, Flemish Guipure, Alencon, Antique Point, Point de Venice, or Point Duchess lace, it naturally follows that the bonnet is decorated with similar lace, secured, perhaps with a diamond pin, or an ornament formed of shaded gold, glittering with brilliant variously colored gems, in addition to the graceful plumage of some rare and beautiful tropical bird.

Very few birds entire are now used upon elegant hats, but alas, the work of the humane societies appears to have been of but little avail, if one may judge by the beautiful feathers and rare breast and neck plumage of slaughtered innocents, which are used this season, on crown and brim of stylish hats and bonnets.

VELVET AND FELT HEAD COVERING.

The prediction that straw hats and bonnets would be worn until after the first fall of snow, has been thus far verified, for among the novelties exhibited at recent openings are handsome specimens in straw, however, it must be admitted that in any of the new hats, but little of the real material is seen, for the brim is faced or lined with velvet, and the crown is hidden with feathers or ostrich plumes, and elaborate loop bows, above folds of ribbon, or bands of the rich new bonnet trimming, which is embroidered or woven in raised effects, with or without the jet, steel, or colored beads that just now are complemental decorations, used on every outside article of dress.

Virots bonnets are always charming, and Linn Faulkner's hats are noticeable for high styles and originality in ornamentation. In one hat, the crown is round, and is covered with velvet in an odd shade, as is also the narrow rolled brim, save at the left side, where the brim rises in a deeply pointed vandyke covered with luminous feathers and edged with a trimming of beads in the colors of the breast plumage on the vandyke. Loops of fluorescent ribbons pat on the crown of this stylish hat, and are secured with a handsome ornament in shaded gold.

Another hat from the same noted artist has about the top edge of crown, a border consisting of loops of bois ribbon, forming a drooping wreath, and falling down over edge of plush flowered band encircling body of crown. A third hat has the crown completely covered with rosettes and bows of cream ribbon, made without cutting the expensive ribbon which is passed from one bow to the next in a kind of carelessly folded strap, creating graceful effect.

A few plain felts are shown, but in most instances the bonnets are formed of the felt cut in strips, pinked out, and then sewed into desired shape like straw or fancy braids, with the lace edge over-lapping the plain part of the row beneath.

Very pretty specimens are in cream, trimmed with rich colored ribbons and feathers. A handsome bonnet for a matron is in black felt, pinked in lace design, and embroidered with cut jet and steel beads, and trimmed with a full cluster of curled cock's plumes, while a jet and steel gimp borders the velvet coronet forming the brim.

The new ribbons are very handsome. Shaded moire ribbons are in all the fashionable colors, and so are the thick self colored ribbons in which the edges show they are entirely new.

For early information about hats and bonnets thanks are due Sharpless Brothers, and J. Rothschild & Co., Phila.

SUBERB SILKS.

A pleasant feature in the fashion of to-day, is the revival of the Moire Antique of which the "stand alone" gowns of our grandmother's were made; the new specimens are not, however, in the simple watered or wave effects of real moire antique, but regardless of the irregular curls, are odd designs in woven in leaves, and other figures, and over and above the waves are stripes, plaids, and checks of satin or velvet, in darker shades of the body color, or in bright contrasting hues.

Another style shows the lines or stripes of moire alternating with those of brocade in guipure figures. One specimen is in blue, with unbleached or ecru lace designs, and another shows two shades of bois.

Fancy Cordonet is entirely new, and is very elegant. It comes only in such odd colors as cendre-de-rose, bois de violette, Russe, and Loutre, and shows heavy body adorned with circles of plush, arranged in stripes, and forming alternating lines with bands of cut and uncut plush flowers in various colors.

Fluorescent silks and velvets are among the novelties, and come in colors for day and evening wear, made up with rich laces, and trimmed with beaded ornaments, the dresses made of these curious silks and velvets are exceedingly beautiful. Some of the new ribbons for trimming hats, bonnets, and dresses, show the same lustres as these rich dress materials.

In rich hues suitable for visiting and church wear, are silks with moire or plain surface, showing inwoven or raised spots in the same color as the body of the silk, but in a lighter or darker shade.

That the silks above described are all expensive, need not discourage ladies who want durable, and handsome silks that cost less, for such desirable fabrics are to be found in our city stores, in countless varieties, varying in prices from $1.00 to $2.50 a yard, with velvets and plushes at the same range of prices, for trimming or combinations.

New Rhadames are in all shades of all colors, for day and evening' and so are the faille Francaise novelties, and then there is a rich stamped brocade with floral designs on a faille ground in all evening colors, which is sold at only $1.00 a yard. This brocade is also largely used for fancy work, with splendid result, as the flowers look exactly as if they were hand painted.

In black silks the Perfection and drap de Suede, are among the the new weaves of the celebrated Bonnet black silks, which are most beautiful to look at, and better still are like the new specimens in Gainet black silks, warranted to retain their beauty and to wear better than higher priced silks of other brands.

Dresses of these silks are made up alone, or trimmed with black lace, or handsome jet passementerie, and ornaments, and again they are formed of the silk with various parts of the plain, embossed or checked velvet.

CURIOUS WOOLEN STUFFS.

The new fabrics in all wool, show decidedly striking features, as in a cloth with plain stripe, intersected with figures in embroidery effects, which combines in palme, blouse, grey, terre d' Alsace, loutre, myrtle, and marron, and then there are serge surface goods in green and blue, red and drab, with stripes showing raised figures, as if they were embroidered in Persian colors; and in the same class of goods are those with satin stripes, which add to the lustre of the fabric.

Perhaps the most expensive suitings brought out this season, are those in rich dark colors, showing irregular plaids, stripes, and checks, with hair stripes, which look as if bands of fur were sewed to the material, instead of being woven in to the body of the goods. Plain cloths in the leading color of the plaids come to make up with these curious hair striped stuffs.

Velour de Rhodes, is the name of an exceedingly rich material with cloth stripe alternating with frieze stripe, showing odd designs. This is formed into costumes with cloth in the shade of the plain stripe, and is only seen in the newest colors.

A new fancy woolen is woven in checks, and shows over effects in velvet stripes and bars in cut and uncut velvet, together with diagonal lines in satin, and still another specimen of new materials has stripes decorated with circles formed of silken cord, and is further adorned with tufts of chenille,

Some of this season's goods which cannot be classed among the novelties in weave, are certainly in new and beautiful colors; among such are the charming silk warp Henriettas which are as rich as any silk, and drape far more gracefully than an all silk material possibly can; and then there are extra fine cashmeres in the same line of colors, which make up into beautiful and useful dresses for misses and young ladies.

CREAM AND BLACK FABRICS.

Cream is quite as popular this season as it was in the spring, and is used more particularly just now for morning robes, for matrons, and for evening dresses for their younger sisters and fair daughters.

Among the cheaper fabrics in cream are the veilings, the cashmeres and the serges, while richer and rather more expensive are the silk-warp novelties with the varnished board brand of Henrietta at their head, and including the convent cloth with its crapy weave, the Feather cloth, and the Gipsy cloth, which one and all form as dainty dresses as any lady or miss can possibly desire. The stately robes of cream Henrietta, can be most elaborately garnished with pearl and crystal bead trimmings, or made up with plain velvet. From cream silk-warp fabrics attention wanders to black goods woven of similar threads, in the same weaves, and this list is supplemented by cloaking materials in heavy Henrietta, Imperial serge, Diagonal cords, and surah twills, with still other weights in these and other weaves, suitable for entire costumes all form the same celebrated Bradford Mills, and hence in the perfect black for which these goods are noted.

When speaking of favored weaves in woolen goods, a Philadelphia specialty demands recognition and approval, it is the elastic material, known as Jersey cloth. These fabrics are now woven not only in black and all solid colors, but also in the fanciful designs, stripes, checks, and mixtures of other dress stuffs, and some of them show the

(Concluded on page 13.)

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Same fabric and price, checks instead of plaids.
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[For the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

MISS CYNTHY'S VALENTINES.

BY KATHARINE B. FOOT.

It was the second week in February, and cold and dismal weather; very cloudy and with a dampness in the cold that struck to the very marrow of her bones, Miss Cynthy said. Miss Cynthy was talking with Kitty's mother, Mrs. Nichols, and Kitty was sitting with her Saturday morning stocking darning in the bay window, where Miss Cynthy hadn't discovered her for she was behind the curtain, but her mother knew she was there and Kitty didn't feel like coming out to speak to Miss Cynthy for she was never particularly pleasant and was often particularly cross. So Kitty sat still, darning her stockings and listening to what they were saying.

"Oh dear," said Miss Cynthy, "that dreadful Valentine's Day is coming. I just dread it most to pieces—it does seem as if all the children round here set themselves to work to plague me on days like that."

Mrs. Nichols wisely said nothing for she knew Miss Cynthy had hit on the truth.

"Yes," Miss Cynthy went on, "'tain't a good place at all for 'em to fire cannon under my windows all night but they plant themselves there just as soon as the clock strikes twelve every 4th of July, and they never stop till their clean beat out, and sence year before last, when I was most dead with sick headache and emptied a bucket of water on 'em out o' the winder—it seems as if they're worse than ever. They've marked up all my fence with charcoal and last year I was so sick and beat out with the noise—I lost all my currant jelly—'twouldn't jell a mite—I suppose I was tired out and made a mistake. Then the boys threw stones at the cat until they broke her leg and I had to have her killed and then my dog died."

"But the children had nothing to do with that, Miss Cynthy—poor old Daisy was very old."

"Yes," said Miss Cynthy with a sigh, "and I'm growing old and I love young things about me—but somehow the children have got a spite against me and my pets are all dead and it's dreadful lonely," and the poor woman sighed.

"How are your flowers doing this year?" asked Mrs. Nichols cheerfully.

"Oh, they're as bad as all the rest; they don't bloom at all—p'raps they will though soon."

"I hope so," said Mrs. Nichols.

"Well," said Miss Cynthy, "I guess I'll be going. I'll be glad when day after to-morrow's over—for I expect they'll ring my bell all the time soon as dark, with horrid old valentines of old maids with all kinds of noses. I just dread goin' to the door and last year I didn't go and they rang and *rang* and RANG till I was all worn out and then when the next ring came I just flew out with a broom kind of sudden, and brought it smack down on John Lord's head. That was a pretty way to meet a man—my own cousin too, who'd just stopped over a train on purpose to see me."

Mrs. Nichols laughed heartily.

"Well, I can't help laughing, Miss Cynthy, but it was too bad—and it's too bad of the children too—and I'm afraid I must take my share of the blame for Tom and Kitty are just as full of mischief as the rest of them up here—but it is too bad."

Kitty felt very guilty, for the very last year she had helped Tom to pick out a hateful valentine, and watched for him to get a good chance to put it under Miss Cynthy's door and to give the bell a startling peal and run away without being caught.

"It was the meanest one we could pick out," she thought to herself. And Kitty dropped her work and sat still, running her needle in and out of her stocking in an absent way and thinking, "Why, I didn't suppose she really cared, and it was an awfully hateful one."

Presently Miss Cynthy went out and Mrs. Nichols went to the door with her and didn't come back, and a few minutes after Tom burst into the room calling, "Kit, Kit, where are you? I want you to go right down street with me to get some valentines."

"Oh Tom, that's what I was just thinking of," said Kitty, beginning to roll up her work in a great hurry.

"Come on, then," he said, and made a rush out, "I'll be out by the chicken coop,—time you get your things on."

"Oh, but Tom, wait, wait!" said Kitty. "Now see here," as he turned back, "sit down here a minute."

"What's the row?" inquired Tom as he sat down and flapped his hat uneasily from one hand to the other.

"Well, I've been thinking it's real mean to plague Miss Cynthy so—every day we get a chance and it makes her feel real bad."

"Hullo!" said Tom, "how'd you know?"

"Because she was just in here talking to mother," and Kitty repeated what she had heard.

"Well, what of it?" said Tom; "boys have got to have some fun."

"I think we'd get lots more fun just to surprise her——"

"How? By not going near her?"

"Lots better," said Kitty; "it just came into my head, couldn't we get a cat or something and leave it at the door for a valentine?"

"Jerwhickety!" said Tom, "that would be a great valentine!" and he went off into an explosion of laughter.

"She'd like it, I know she would."

"Old pickles!" said Tom half wrathfully; "p'raps a cat—a real scratchy one would be a kind of valentine better'n any we can get."

"Tom! to call Miss Cynthy 'old pickles!'"

"That's what she called me, anyhow—a pickle of a boy—she's another."

"But, Tom," said Kitty artfully, "I'm sure it would be lots of fun to leave things at her door and see her come out to get them—and if she took 'em in, we can see right into her hall through the window on the side there on the corner,—and we could see her look into 'em."

Tom looked down at the floor in a brown study. After a while he said slowly, "Well, I don't mind—I don't know as I was going to send her any real hateful ones this year—now don't you go and tell—'cause I found out yesterday that she was mighty kind to that Lewis boy. He didn't have any sled and Christmas there was just a stunner of a pig sticker left at their front door by an expressman and he wouldn't tell where he got it and just day before yesterday his mother found out somehow that Miss Cynthy sent it."

"Wasn't that nice and kind?" said Kitty.

"I tell you it was," said Tom, "and Bill Lewis is going to give her a valentine—he shoveled snow all day yesterday 'most all the time he was out of school to get some money, and he says he's going to get her a nice one."

"Isn't that splendid—well, let's join in and do something too—and I can write some poetry to put on things."

"Can you, though," said Tom; "good enough."

"I should think so," said Kitty loftily, "just as good as those valentine rhymes. And Tom, you know Aunt Ellen wants to give away one of her black kittens."

"That's so—then we've got the cat. But look here, Kit—don't you tell any of the boys, will you?—and I'm going to have one joke on her anyway."

"Oh, Tom, don't!" Kitty pleaded, "don't go and send her one of those horrid valentines—that'll just spoil everything."

"Oh, I won't send her a valentine, I promise you—but I must have one joke on her."

"It won't hurt, will it?" said Kitty doubtfully.

"Law no, not a bit," shouted Tom as he dashed up stairs.

Kitty went to find her mother and told her plan and they had a long talk, and the plans grew a good deal larger for Mrs. Nichols was glad to help and still more glad to have the long raid on Miss Cynthy's peace of mind come to an end.

Tom came tearing in as they were talking. "Mother," he said, "can I sell my bantams to Jim Foster for fifty cents?"

"Why Tom, they cost three dollars."

"I know it, but the fellows ain't going to keep bantams any more and I can't sell mine and I don't want 'em any longer."

Kitty had another idea. "I'll give you a dollar for 'em, Tom," she said.

"Will you—honest Injun?"

"Yes, honest."

"All right,—they're yours," and off he went.

"What do you——" Mrs. Nichols began.

"Oh mother," said Kitty, "I'm goin' to give 'em to Miss Cynthy for a valentine and I've got my two dollars I had Christmas," and her eyes sparkled and she looked elated.

Mrs. Nichols thought a minute and said, "Do you think she'd like them?"

"I'm sure of it, because last summer she asked me if I thought Tom would sell her a setting of his Bantam eggs—but he wanted to give all his to the boys and he wouldn't. That's two valentines," said Kitty.

"A dog would be the best valentine she could have," said Mrs. Nichols; "she is timid about being alone so much at night."

"I'm afraid we can't get a dog," said Kitty mournfully, "but do you suppose, mother, Aunt Ellen would give me one of her hyacinths—they're just ready to bloom?"

"You might ask her."

Kitty was soon on her way and as she passed Miss Cynthy's house she gave a little skip, and a little giggle, she felt so happy to think how Miss Cynthia was going to be surprised. "I suppose" she thought to herself "that is what people mean by being pleasantly disappointed."

Kitty's aunt heard the plan and gladly gave her the hyacinth and when she had heard all the story, she said:

"Why, I know the very dog she wants, and Mrs. Banks will be so glad to get such a home for her Benny."

"Benny Banks!" exclaimed Kitty, "why-ee! he's the most beautiful little dog I ever saw—but what does Mrs. Banks want to give him away for?"

"Because she is going West to live with her daughter and she don't like dogs,—so she must give Benny away. I'll go right over there this morning."

"But, Aunt Ellen, we don't want him until Monday evening, and don't please tell about it."

"No indeed, I wouldn't spoil such a pleasant plan for anything," said her aunt. "Wait a minute or two, Kitty, and I'll go over now."

So Kitty waited and played with the baby who woke up just then, and soon Mrs. Somers was back again.

"Mrs. Banks is so pleased," she said, "and will have Benny all ready for you just as soon as it's dark on Monday."

Kitty started home and met Tom on the way and she told all her news, and Tom was secretly just as glad as he could be—but he wouldn't say so—and all he did say was, "Well, I'm going to have one joke."

He asked his mother that afternoon if he might have an old hoop-skirt that was hanging up in the garret.

"What do you want it for?" she asked.

"That's telling," said Tom in a mysterious way.

"I don't know that I've any objection," said Mrs. Nichols. "I was keeping it for a curiosity; but it isn't any use. But what *are* you going to do with it, Tom?"

Tom put on his coaxing face and said, "Oh now, mother! now don't make me tell—it's a joke."

"A joke!" said his mother doubtfully, "I don't like practical jokes, Tom—they're dangerous things. They're something like curses and chickens, they sometimes fly back in the joker's face."

"Fly back! oh cricky! that's a good one," and Tom doubled up with laughter. When he could speak he said, "Well, this isn't a bit dangerous, now honest, mother, it isn't."

And finally his mother said "yes." Tom was shut up somewhere all that afternoon—he rushed in once for a basket with a cover. "It's got to have a cover," he said "I won't hurt it. I only want to borrow it for a day or two." And he got the basket.

Kitty too was shut up but her work was very different from Tom's for she was trying to write her poetry. Finally Kitty brought her pencil and paper into the room where her mother was and said, "Oh dear, I can't make anything rhyme to anything else. I've got to have a piece for the cat and the dog and the chickens and the flowers and—let's see—that's all. I wish I had something to give her to eat—some sweet things—Miss Cynthy likes 'em."

"I'll give you some glasses of jelly,—nice currant jelly," said her mother.

"Oh Mammy, will you?—that's just splendid,—but dear, dear, there's another rhyme."

Then she scribbled away for a while. "Mother," she said, suddenly, "what does rhyme with green?"

"Sheen," said her mother.

"Oh what does rhyme with mice?" she wailed after a few minutes. "nice—rice—oh, rice'll do. There!" she said, triumphantly, "I've done the cat's piece." (*To be continued*).

WHEN SHALL OUR YOUNG WOMEN MARRY?

My reply to the important question, "When Shall our Young Women Marry?" is from twenty-three to twenty-five, as few girls are ready for the duties of married life before then, either physically or mentally. Many are never fit owing to the serious defects in our modern education and inherited ills.

"When Shall our Young Men Marry?" is a still more important question to my mind, because the sins of the father visited upon the children are too often the cause or that feebleness which is usually attributed to the mothers. When young people are wisely prepared for marriage, and taught its sanctity, it will cease to be the leap in the dark it now is to both parties, and the beauty and vigor of youth will make it what it should be, safe and happy. As teacher, nurse, author and confidant to young and old, I have had many opportunities of looking behind the curtain, and am convinced that books on the health of our boys are much more needed than any additions to the library of advice our poor girls are supplied with. Begin at the right end, gentlemen, and do not visit upon Eve's daughters the sins of Adam,s son's making it unsafe to marry at all.—*Louisa M. Alcott.*

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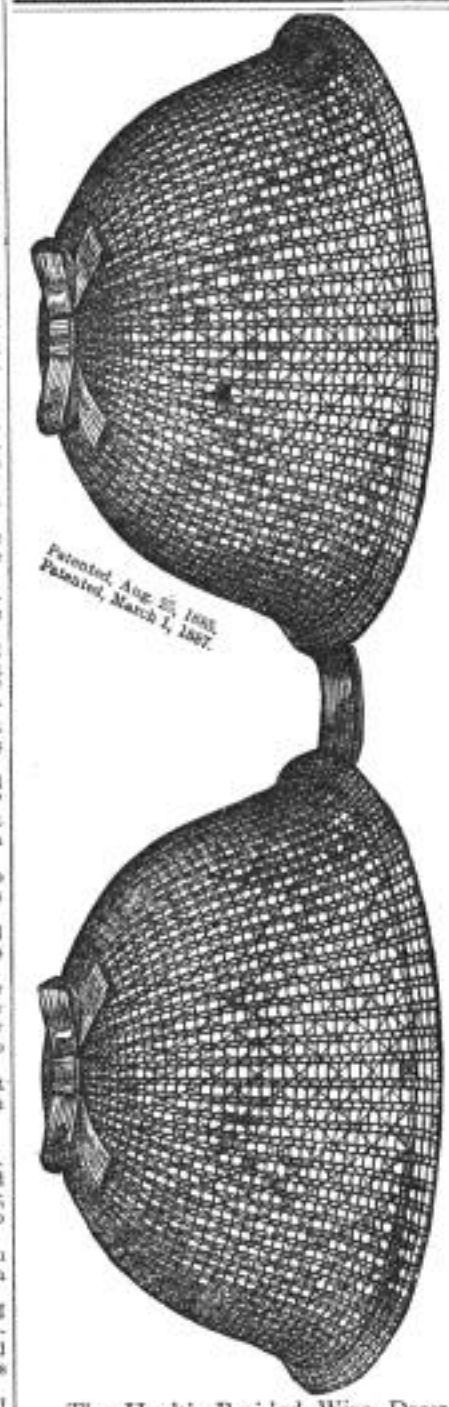

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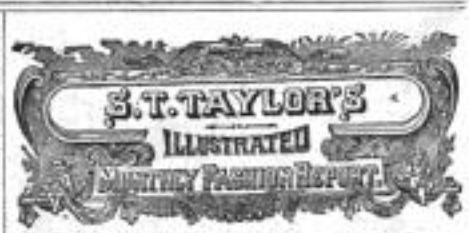

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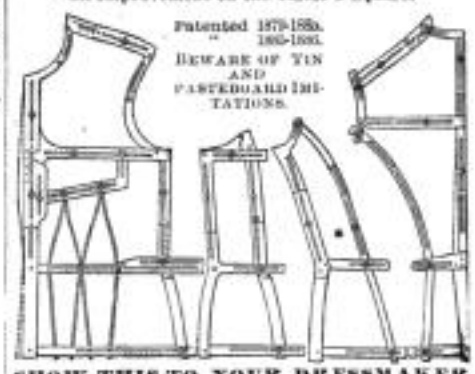

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

BY ERNA R. REXFORD.

TO CORRESPONDENTS:—All inquiries about flowers and their culture will be cheerfully answered to the best of my ability in the columns of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL when they are of general interest. Those of a personal character, and not of general interest, will be answered by mail,—provided a stamped envelope is sent for reply; and not otherwise. If an immediate reply is desired, it can only be obtained by mail, as the matter for the paper is made up several weeks in advance of date, and any reply which comes through the paper will necessarily be delayed. In asking questions about plants which you have failed to grow successfully, tell what kind of culture you have given them, and this will often enable the editor to get at the difficulty, and give you the information you require.

Send all letters directly to the address given below, and not to the office of publication.

SHEBOYGAN WIS. ERNA R. REXFORD.

Ferns for the House.

I am often asked what varieties of Fern to cultivate in the house. In reply I have to say that I would not advise the cultivation of any variety in the ordinary living-room under conditions usually existing there, for it is seldom that they can be grown well in a room heated with coal or furnace, for the air is too full of gas, and is too dry. But if they can be given a case or cabinet in which the moisture can be regulated to some extent, there are few more satisfactory plants than the hardier and more robust varieties of Fern.

ADIANTUM GRACILLIMUM.

By case or cabinet I do not mean the ordinary fernery. That is not satisfactory to those who would like to develope large plants, because there is generally but little room in one, and almost always it will be crowded to such an extent that no plant has an opportunity to show its individuality. By cabinet, I mean something like a case made to fit a window,—preferably an east one,—with a door to shut it off from the room, filled with glass. This will admit light into the room, and will enable the occupants of the room to observe the plants within, and the gas is kept out, to a great extent, while the necessary amount of moisture can be secured and regulated to suit the requirements of the plants. In such a case, which can be made by almost any one, and which will cost but little, a dozen or more plants can be grown without crowding, and they can be kept until they become fine specimens, which you can never have in the ordinary fernery, if you attempt to grow many plants in it.

Perhaps the finest of all Ferns for this purpose is the Adiantum gracillimum. It belongs to the Maiden Hair family,—one of the most popular of our native Ferns,—but its fronds are more finely divided, and more delicate. It has an airy grace which reminds one of lace, and nothing more beautiful can be imagined than a pot of it in which the delicate fronds droop over the sides, and make a veritable fountain of filmy green verdure. It is easily grown. It likes, as does any Fern, a soil made up of woods earth, loam, and sand, the woods earth or leaf-mold making up the bulk of the compost. The more fine roots there are in the soil the better it will suit the Ferns. They should be kept moist at the roots, but not wet, and the foliage should be syringed daily. They like some sunshine if it can be given in the early morning, but mid-day sunshine is too strong for them.

Another fine variety of a different habit of growth, is Pteris Argenta. This has a heavier frond, and more upright growth, and the center of the leaf is marked with white. In a case, Begonias and other shade and moisture-loving plants can be grown along with the ferns. A window full of these exquisite plants will furnish a vast amount of pleasure to any one who cares for such things, and the cost of it will be slight.

THE SCARLET SALVIA.

One of the finest plants that I have had in my garden the past season has been the scarlet Salvia, S. splendens of the catalogues.

It makes a strong growth, reaching, in good soil, a height of four or five feet, and it puts out a great many branches, so that it becomes a mass of green before it gets ready to blossom, and is quite ornamental enough without flowers to be well worth cultivating. In August it begins to bloom. Its flowers are born in long spikes at the end of the branches, and are of the most intense scarlet imaginable. They rival the Lobelia cardinalis in color, but have a richer and more velvety texture. Each flower is thrown out from a sort of bract which is quite as bright as the flower itself, so that the plant appears to be in bloom before the flowers have made their appearance. It is a most profuse bloomer, and a clump of it brightens up the garden as nothing else I know of can. It continues to bloom till frost cuts it down. It is very tender, and will succumb to a slight frost. By covering it with a sheet on nights when frost is anticipated, its season may be prolonged.

It makes a fine plant for the house, if care is taken to shower its foliage often, to keep the red spider down. If this is not done the spider will attack it, and in a short time its leaves will turn yellow and fall off, and your plant will be nothing but naked stalks. If kept moist enough to prevent the spider from doing it injury, it will furnish flowers all winter long, and they will give the room a vivid touch of color which will be suggestive of summer and warmth on the coldest day. As a plant for the green house it is hardly excelled by any I know of. I have one now in bloom in mine which is quite a shrub, and its glowing scarlet plumes are like bits of flame as the sun shines on them.

It can be grown from cuttings or from seeds, or young plants can be procured of almost any florist in the spring. If its merit was more generally known, I am sure it would be seen in most gardens. Next season I intend to use it in a circular bed, the center of which will be filled with the stately Hyacinthus candicans. The contrast between the pendant white bells of this plant, and the firey spikes of the Salvia will be striking and harmonious, and the tall habit of both plants will make a bed of them very noticeable.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"H. M. H.:"—Ampelopsis Veitchii is hardy at the north if you can manage to give it shelter from the sun. It is alternate thawing and freezing that injures the plants, instead of a severe cold, in most cases among out-door plants, and the only way in which it can be given the required protection, when trained on walls is by shading with evergreen-boughs which can be fastened on thickly enough to cover it with but little trouble, when the plant is small. I think plants three or four years old will prove strong enough to withstand our northern winters without protection, especially if planted on the north side of a building.

"Mrs. P. A.:"—Honeysuckle Halliana is quite as hardy as any of the Honeysuckles, but, as is the case with most plants considered perfectly hardy, it will do enough better with protection to make it worth while to give it. It is well to keep the vines as they grow in summer, from twining about the trellis in such a way as to make it difficult to take them down in the fall without breaking them. If not woven together in a manner that makes it impossible to untwist them, take them from the trellis, lay them on the ground, and cover with leaves, boughs, or straw.

"Ruby:"—By the time this gets into print it will be too late for you to take advantage of any suggestions I might make regarding the culture of Carnations for winter flowering. Such advice, to be timely, can only be given by mail, when copy for the JOURNAL has to be sent in two months before it gets into print.

The Abution can be wintered safely in the cellar, as can most woody plants, in fact, if care is taken to keep it from the light, and only as much water is given as is necessary to prevent the soil from becoming really dry. It does not matter if the leaves fall off.

"Mrs. J. C.:"—This correspondent asks if Insect Powder will kill aphis. I do not know. The only way to ascertain is by experiment. I do not think it will injure plants, but very likely it might prove destructive to plant-lice. Pansies will not do well in the house in winter because they like a cool air, and plenty of moisture. You should "take no stock" in the advice of any one

THE SCARLET SALVIA.

who tells you that Bouvardias and Violets can be grown together, for every florist who has grown the two plants knows that what would suit one would be death to the other, so far as temperature goes. Neither is it true that the Calla can be grown and flowered well without heat. Whoever gives such advice as this knows nothing about the facts in the case, or tries to mislead. Instead of being guided by advice of this sort, if you have any intention of going into flower-growing, as a business, consult some practical florist who knows what flowers will sell best, and can tell you how to grow them successfully, from his experience, and not from theory. I read the article from which you quote, and it made me indignant to think a woman should advise any other woman who had a living to earn, to invest any money in an undertaking which must prove a failure, if carried on as she advised. If you have any doubts about the matter, take the article to any florist who has made a success of his business, and ask him what he thinks about it.

"L. E. T.:"—I am not able, from your description, to say why your Fuchias shed their leaves. The soil may have been too heavy; or you may have kept them too wet; you may not have provided any drainage; and you may have kept them in hot sunshine, or worms may have been at work at the roots. Or, the red spider may have been at work on the foliage. Quite likely this was the trouble, if you did not shower them at least every day. A Fuchia must be given plenty of water all over its leaves,—and by all over I mean that both upper and under side must be wet alike,—if the red spider would be kept from doing them damage.

"G. W. B.:"—The Violet is one of the hardest plants to manage, as most professional gardeners and florists will tell you, and when they fail to grow it successfully it isn't worth an amateur's time and trouble to bother with it.

"Mrs. J. C.:"—The Camellia is not a very difficult plant to grow if you are careful to see that the soil in the pot is never allowed to get dry, and is never saturated with water. It must be kept moist all the time, and as evenly as possible. The temperature must be kept as low as possible without freezing the plants. It would hardly be worth while to try to grow this plant in the sitting-room, because the air is so very dry there, and the temperature gets to a high pitch, but in a bay-window or a green-house they can be grown easily if, as I have said, care is taken to keep the soil just "about so" all the time. If allowed to get quite dry, and then deluged with water, very likely the buds, which are formed the season before, will drop.

"M. F. H.:"—This correspondent asks about the best manure for Geraniums. Probably the best manure for most, if not for all kinds of house-plants, is that to be obtained from the barn-yard in which cows have been allowed to run. When it has turned black, and is easily broken because it has thoroughly rotted, it is in a proper condition to use. If it were always possible to obtain this, I would never advise any other; but because it cannot be had by all, I advise the use of some of the fertilizers prepared and sold by dealers in manures.

"Mrs. H. J. R.:"—I am unable to say why your Camellia does not bloom. You ought to have told me how you have been treating it. Does it bud? Do the buds drop? What kind of soil is in? What care do you give it during the winter? Does the branches make a healthy growth? Answer these questions and I may be able to tell you where the trouble is.

"A. W.:—Callas may be grown very easily by taking the small plants which form about the old plants and potting them in very small pots at first, shifting only when the soil becomes filled with roots. Pot them on, as they develope, giving the same soil and general treatment as large plants are given.

"Mrs. V.:"—Bulbs can be wintered safely in the cellar if it is not too damp and cold. I prefer to put them in paper bags and hang up along the beams of the floor, where they will be safe from mice. If you have dry sawdust, or buckwheat hulls, you can fill in about the bulbs with these materials. The main thing is, to keep them so dry that they will not mould, and just warm enough to be safe from frost. If you can give them such a place as this, you will have no trouble in wintering Tuberoses, Caladiums, tuberous Begonias, Gloxinias, and such tender bulbs.

This correspondent writes that she used "Insect Powder" such as sold to kill flies, in the window in which her plants were kept, and they have been entirely free from lice and other insects, and she attributes this to the use of the "Powder."

"O. W. W.:"—This correspondent wants me to tell her what the trouble was with her bulbs last winter. She potted them in good soil, and watered them at every appearance of dryness. The Hyacinths blossomed, but some of them failed to get the blossoms above the leaves, and none of the others bloomed, though the Narcissuses sent up flower-stalks whose buds blighted. I think the whole trouble arose from her neglecting just one thing: She potted her bulbs, and did not put them in the cellar to form roots before the top-growth began. This advice is quite frequently neglected by amateurs. They seem to think it is "whimsical," and that it can be safely ignored. The reason of this treatment is simply this: The bulb must have roots by which the top can be nourished if you would have a healthy growth. Of course newly-potted bulbs have no roots. In order to induce a growth of roots, and not of top, they must be put where they will be cool and dark,—conditions precisely similar to those governing bulbs planted in the open ground in the fall. When the roots have formed, which will be in from four to six weeks, it will do to bring the bulbs to the light, for then they have something to depend on. The roots have had an opportunity to get a good start, and there is not a growth of both top and root at the same time, as will be the case where bulbs are potted and placed immediately in the window. Unless this advice is followed, most bulbs will fail to bloom.

There is no "whim" about it. It is following out a law of nature. In reply to the question about the treatment the Bermuda Lily should have after blooming, would say that forced bulbs are comparatively worthless for use a second season in the house. It is better to buy new bulbs each season. Put the bulbs from which flowers have been obtained in the cellar, after the flowers have all developed and there are no indications of a further bloom, as will be shown by the appearance of new stalks, and in the spring put them out in the open ground.

"S. S. D.:"—Pansy seed should be planted as soon as possible after the coming of cool fall weather. Just cover them lightly, as you would other seed of similar size. In November, or when cold winter weather seems likely to set in, throw evergreen branches over them, or straw will do. Leaves are excellent. Do not put on enough to smother them, but just enough to keep the sun from them. Three or four inches of covering are enough.

"M. R.:"—See answer to S. S. D. The black bug which is so destructive to the Aster may be driven away by the application of Tobacco dust. For soil in which to pot Rose-slips, use loam, turfy matter and cow-manure—well-rotted—in equal parts, with a sprinkling of sand added. Have never had any experience with moles in the garden, therefore am unable to tell you how to get rid of them.

"Mrs. Whitmarsh:"—I think you will be rewarded with blossoms from your Lilacs in time, if they are growing healthily. I do not know what you can do to hurry them any. The liquid manure which you speak of having applied to your Roses ought not to have interfered with the opening of the buds, as nothing suits a Rose better than cow-manure. I think there must have been something else the matter with them. But what that "something" was I am not able to say.

"M. C. B.:"—Have never grown the plant you ask about.

"Mrs. W. J. Clark:"—Chinese Primroses do not do very well a second season in the house, and it is best to obtain new plants each season. By sending to a florist this fall you can get good plants for winter blooming. It is too late to give any instructions about the summer-care of the Cyclamen. You can procure bulbs of the Oxalis of almost any dealer. Freesias can be potted any time after the middle of September. Read answer to "Mrs. V.," about potting bulbs for winter-flowering. Azaleas are spring, and not winter, bloomers. Cape Jessamines bloom in the summer. See recent number of JOURNAL for instructions regarding Calla.

"Annie:"—You ought to find the Bermuda or Easter Lily in almost any catalogue. I have scores of them from different dealers, and every one of them includes it. It if sometimes called L. Harrisii.

"Mrs. T. B. W. writes:"—I would like to know what ails my Heliotrope. I repotted it when it came from the florist's, and as fast as the leaves appear they begin to decay. Every leaf is affected. Also, what to do with a Rose Geranium that looks sickly, also an Aster that will not bloom, also a Snowball that has not got a leaf on it, but seems to be alive. I would be glad to answer all the queries of this correspondent, but,—how can I do so without doing as the traditional Yankee is supposed to, and "guessing" at the matter? I must repeat again what I have already said so many times that it seems unnecessary to say it over again,—that in order to get an idea of what the trouble is with a plant that needs a prescription, I must know how it has been cared for. I presume that the Heliotrope is in too large a pot for a small plant. There is more nutriment than the young roots are able to dispose of. But, from lack of more definite information, I am only able to presume. Or possibly the soil is too heavy; or too much water water may be given. If I knew what the soil was, how large the plant was, and the size of the pot, and the amount of water given, I could tell pretty nearly what the trouble was, without "guessing." When you fail to make a plant grow successfully, and want me to give you some advice, tell me just what you have been doing to it, what the soil is in which it is planted, how large it is and the size of the pot, and how you have watered it. You cannot tell me too many particulars. All of them help me to get an idea of what the matter is.

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WHITE'S PIE TURNER [Pat. apl'd for.] No other Pie Lifter so easily used. By moving the wire slide with the thumb, it turns a pie halfway around without removing from the oven. No burnt hands or soiled towels. My agents are coining money. Sample and terms, postpaid, 25 cts. (silver). A. WHITE, Lowell, Mass.

EVERY housewife will appreciate the delicacy and beauty of our Little Gem Basket of Wax Flowers. It adds to the attractiveness and pleasure of the drawing-room and is an approved present for a bride. The basket contains Roses, Forget-me-nots, etc. Carefully packed and sent by mail on receipt of 40 cts. Stamps taken. Ladies Novelty Co., Box A., Charlestown, Mass.

NEW YORK SHOPPING, Established 1876. MRS. H. M. DECKER, 112 East 14th Street, New York. Send for circular.

Christmas Cards, 10 Very Beautiful Christmas Cards, no two alike, by mail, for 25c. They will please you. NEW ENGLAND NOVELTY MF'G CO., 24 Portland St., Boston, Mass.

A. H. ABBOTT & CO., 50 Madison Street, CHICAGO. ARTISTS' MATERIALS.

Artists and Amateurs Supplied with Catalogues.

MA' PA' BABY & I. Twelve full-page photographs of our baby, taken at home. It pays a good 300 Percent. Profit to other sex. For free book write to FRANKLIN PUTNAM, Manufacturer and Dealer in Photo. Apparatus, 483 and 485 Canal St., N. Y.

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The Newest Fashions.

(*Continued from page 10.*)

embroidered conceits which appear now on various plainly woven cloths.

The unprecedented demands for the convenient box elastic suits, with complete waist, and enough material for skirt, created by their general introduction in all sections of the country, through the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, has led to the recent production of new materials and new styles in these convenient corsages, which are cut and made in the most attractive fashions.

For information about dress goods, thanks are due John Wanamaker, Sharpless Brothers, Ridley & Sons, and Le Boutillier Bros. For facts about new Jerseycloths and specimens of fall modes in Box Elastic suits, with made waist, thanks are given to Lewis S. Cox, manufacturer, Phila., Pa.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Mrs. H. T. Purdum," Melrose, Montana:—Utilize your brocade by forming a side panel about a quarter of a yard wide, in skirt, a vest or plastron for corsage, and cuffs for sleeves; the collar should be of the plain blue merveilleux. You are mistaken, your material is still fashionable; handsome goods do not go quickly out of style, and your toilette will be elegant, if you do as you suggest, that is, if you decorate the satin or plain portions of the brocade in lustre paints, and outline the figures with golden threads. You can add to the novelty and good appearance of the dress, by also using a little new trimming in blue and gold beads. Make your bonnet of blue velvet, with brim finish of shaded beads, and trim with loops of velvet and gros-grain ribbon, in the colors used in decorating the plain portions of the brocade. Read fashion article in this number of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, for information about stylish costumes, which can easily be copied in any desired materials.

"Mrs. H. T. P.:"—Wish you had stated about what price you felt able to pay for curtains. In colors suitable to go with your carpet, you can get handsome chenille hangings at $8.50 and $10 a pair. Some ladies use colored cotton flannel for curtains, and border them with contrasting color in the same stuff. Curtain goods cost anywhere from 25c. a yard up to $5.00, and even higher in the high-class novelties, which add so much richness to the fashionable interior decorations to be found in this City of Homes.

"Subscriber and Inquirer:"—If you do not wish to use crape for trimming, you can have your costume formed entirely of mourning cloth or convent cloth. Yes, with deep mourning the veil is always used. It may be either of Courtauld's crape, or of clairette. The near relatives, that is mother or sister, can lighten the mourning in six months. A high-class mourning material is B. Priestley's silk-warp Henrietta, which now comes in white as well as black, and is largely used for dinner, concert and evening dresses for ladies, in and out of mourning. In writing to E. Ridley & Sons, Grand and Allen streets, New York, Sharpless Brothers, Chestnut and Eighth streets, Philadelphia, Pa., and John Wanamaker, Philadelphia, Pa., please state when asking for samples of mourning goods, whether you want all-wool or silk-warp fabrics in the varnished board brands, which are the best black materials made.

"Mrs. D. D.," "Motherless," "Miss Q. O.:"—Crape weaves in black cloths are now fashionable, and goods with fancy effects are also *en regle*. For further information read fashions in this issue, and answer to "Subscriber and Inquirer."

"Patsy E.:"—Why not one of the new pattern dresses, with figured and plain, or serge-surfaced stuff, and trim with *soutache* braid, or embroidery. Let the other be of silk, made up with figured, striped, or checked velvet. A seal-skin cloak can be worn with any and all dresses, so can a wrap of black velvet or plush, with fur trimmings. Many velvet garments are finished with jet *passementerie* and fringe.

"Louise," Flagstaff, Arizona:—The Chantilly lace is used for best evening dresses, but Spanish *guipure* makes up effectively, and is less expensive. As you "usually deal with Sharpless Bros., Philadelphia, Pa.," I looked there to see materials suitable to combine with your grey flannel, and found a striped stuff in three degrees of grey, at $1.25 a yard, which was not high-priced, considering the stuff was very wide. Make draperies and vest, or full corsage front, of the striped fabric, and the rest of the suit of flannel. You can get the lace from the same house.

"Bookworm:"—Sorry not to be able to furnish you with the list you desire. Your best plan is to write to John Wanamaker, Philadelphia, Pa., and subscribe for *Book News*, which is published monthly, at 50c. a year, or is sold at 5c. a copy. *Book News* not only contains information about, and prices of new and standard publications, but it has engravings of leading authors, and sketches of the prominent writers, and keeps you posted upon literary topics of the day.

"Mrs. S. W. A.:"—No. The convenient box elastic suits, with made waist and enough material for skirt, cannot be bought in New York. They cost in new materials, various prices, from $8 to $30, a box or suit, and you must write for them direct to the manufacturer and inventor, Lewis S. Cox, 1220 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, Pa., who is also widely known as the largest manufacturer of jerseys of all kinds, and jersey cloth in America. The novelties in these goods are most attractive.

"Mrs. E. D. Putney," Brentwood, N. Y.:—Cashmere, or fine soft serge, in cream or white, will make dainty dresses for your tiny daughter. You can finish the dress with embroidery, or you can smock it. Lovely dresses, or frocks, can be made for little lassies of tinted Henrietta in any becoming colors, or in scarlet, embroidered in black. Have ordered samples sent you of appropriate goods for your purpose.

"Mrs. C. B. L.:"—Stout ladies are very often troubled by the breaking of bones, or the rolling up of corsets. Did you ever try the "New Kabo Corset," which is warranted not to break, or roll up with one year's wear? If not, you can procure a pair by sending $1.50, with name and address in full, to Chicago Corset Co., No. 402 Broadway, New York. Send there for a corset catalogue, which will show you a number of styles of corsets, at various prices.

"Mrs. Dr. Bedell:"—So many Philadelphia ladies are writing for information about sanitary towels, that we respectfully suggest that those who visit John Wanamaker's store, in Philadelphia, should ask in the ladies furnishing department, to see Southall's Sanitary Towels. If not convenient to do so, send 40c. for small size, or 80c. for large size package, to Canfield Rubber Co., No. 7, Mercer street, New York. We make this request to save time and trouble, as we send all orders that come to us, direct to the Canfield Rubber Co., sole agents for the United States, and when a letter containing an order is one among a mail of 4100 letters, our friends can well infer we are glad to have the letters belonging to our advertisers sent direct to them.

"Florence James," Hutchinson, Kansas:—You can get pattern of a toboggan cap, from Demorest, No. 17, East 14th street, New York. You can make cap of jersey flannel, or any soft woolen cloth.

"Subscriber:"—A tin wash tub would answer your purpose. Yes, the flesh brush has a handle. Have never seen the articles to which you refer.

"Miss C. C.," Jewel City, Kansas:—Your question is not very clear, please explain. What is the material of the dress? Do you want to embroider the frill, or simply cut it out for flounce or ruffle?"

"Mrs. J. E. H.," Bellefonte, Pa., wants to know which silks are most durable—domestic or foreign? The American black silks certainly are more durable than the imported specimens; however, you must be particular when buying, and be sure and get the guaranteed black silks, that will not cut or crock. To procure samples of specialties, in American black silks, gros-grain, and satin Rhadams, write for them to E. Ridley & Sons, Grand and Allen streets, New York. Write to same firm for sample copy of the fashion magazine, for Fall; it is full of useful information and reliable price lists.

"Essie Church:"—You were too early in the season, John Wanamaker's catalogue for fall and winter is just out. Please write direct to John Wanamaker, Philadelphia, Pa., for new catalogue, and please mention you were told to do so, in the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, November No.

"Mamma:"—You can make a pretty dress for your little girl, of cashmere, in red or blue.

Hundreds of families in the city have used Payson's Ink for marking linen for thirty years and will buy no other.

LADIES!

We illustrate a genuine grison warranted

French Kid Boot,

box toe or "common sense" style, all sizes; a shoe selling in the New York retail market every day for $5.00 per pair. We will forward single pairs **postpaid** for the next 30 days @ **$3.39.**

Send for our Fall Catalogue over 1000 illustrations, everything in the dry goods world represented.

EHRICH BROS. New York City.

A 15c. MAGAZINE FOR TWO CENTS!

In order to allow the magazine readers of the U. S. to examine the merits of

CASSELL'S FAMILY MAGAZINE,

(Best Family Magazine), and

THE QUIVER,

(Gem of Religious Monthlies),

We will send to any address on receipt of a 1c. stamp a back number, sample copy of either of them.

CASSELL & COMPANY, Limited,

739 & 741 Broadway, New York.

THE FAMOUS CUSTOM-MADE

PLYMOUTH ROCK $3 PANTS

(Full Suits and Overcoats.)

1. This Company is now doing the largest custom-made clothing business in the United States.

2. We have now upon our books over 110,000 customers, whom we have supplied direct, saving them the enormous profit and expensive rent of the jobber and retailer.

THREE FACTS

3. We never PERMIT any one to be sorry he dealt with us, for we always have and always will REFUND MONEY FOR ANY CAUSE, even the buyer's fault.

ACT NOW, and begin to save ONE-HALF the cost of clothing for the rest of your life; and if you have always worn ready-made, begin NOW to know the LUXURY OF CUSTOM-MADE clothing. Do one of two things:—

(1.) Send 6 cents for package of samples and self-measurement blanks. MENTION THIS PAPER, and we will send a GOOD LINEN TAPE-MEASURE FREE.

(2.) Or, if you cannot wait for samples, let us know what co or you like, give us your WAIST, HIP, and INSIDE LEG measures, together with $3 and 25 cents for postage (or prepaid express) and packing, and we will GUARANTEE to please or refund your money.

To those who do not already KNOW our reputation, the American Express Co. (capital $20,000,000) will cheerfully write, in answer to any inquiries sent to their Boston office.

PLYMOUTH ROCK PANTS CO.
18 Summer Street, Boston, Mass.

ESTABLISHED 1801.

BARRY'S TRICOPHEROUS

FOR THE HAIR

The Oldest and the Best. Prevents the hair from falling off, eradicates scurf, dandruff, etc. Keeps it in the most beautiful condition, and is warranted to cause new hair to grow on bald places.

PHENOMENAL SUCCESS!!

Has attended the introduction of Dr. Scott's Genuine Electric Appliances in the United States. Year after year their popularity grew with unprecedented rapidity, until to-day their merit and reputation are known throughout the whole civilized world. They are simple and agreeable remedies, supremely efficacious, durable and convenient. They do not injure, like medicine, and can be worn with good effect and intense satisfaction by the most feeble as by the robust.

THEY PREVENT AS WELL AS CURE. For this reason they should be worn by all.

The mind becomes active, the nerves and sluggish circulation are stimulated, and all the old-time health and good feeling come back. They are constructed on scientific principles, imparting an exhilarating, health-giving current to the whole system. Professional men assert that there is hardly a disease which Electricity or Magnetism may not benefit or cure, and they daily practice the same, as your own physician will inform you.

The celebrated **Dr. W. A. HAMMOND**, of New York, formerly Surgeon-General of the United States Army, lately lectured upon this subject, and advised all medical men to make trial of these agencies, describing at the same time most remarkable cures he had made, even in cases which would seem hopeless.

Here are a few of the Testimonials which the Mail brings us every day:

Robinson Bank,
Robinson, Ill.
Their quick cures of rheumatism, liver and kidney troubles, and debility are wonderful. It gives me pleasure to recommend them to suffering friends.
A. P. WOODWORTH, Cash'r.

Peoria, Ill.
I have suffered from kidney, liver and nervous troubles for twelve years. Dr. Scott's Electric Belt entirely cured me after all other remedies had failed. His Electric Hair Brush has cured my Neuralgia. C. W. HORNISH.

Baltimore, Md.
Intense nervous debility has been my trouble for years. Physicians and their medicine did not help me. I finally derived great relief from Dr. Scott's Electric Belt. L. H. MILLER.

East Berlin, Pa.
Your Belt has cured me of Insomnia and Nervousness, and has also had wonderful effect on Neuralgic affection of the chest.
H. SELL.

A QUICK CURE

PROMOTES HEALTH STRENGTH & ENERGY.

Streator, Ill.
DR. SCOTT: Your Electric Corsets are beautiful in appearance, wonderful in effect, and elegant in fit and finish.
Mrs. M. J. BIGGS.

Chambersburg, Pa.
I found Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets possessed miraculous power in stimulating and invigorating my enfeebled body, and the Hair Brush had a magic effect on my scalp.
Mrs. T. F. SNYDER,
Fancy Goods Dealer.

Newark, N. Y.
Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets have entirely cured me of Muscular Rheumatism. It has also cured a severe case of Headache and female troubles of eighteen years' standing.
MRS. L. C. SPENCER.

Niles, Mich.
Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets have cured me of Acute Dyspepsia, from which I had suffered for eight years. His Electric Hair Brush cures my Headache every time.
MRS. WM. H. PEAK.

Brooklin, Me.
DR. SCOTT. The corsets I ordered six months ago have worn splendidly, and have given satisfaction every way. They are the best Corset I ever wore, aside from their electric qualities, which are truly marvellous. I suffered greatly from rheumatism in my back and limbs, but your Electric Corsets have entirely cured me. They are better than represented.
MRS. J. B. BABSON.

East Pepperell, Mass.
Here is my experience in wearing Dr. Scott's Electric Corset: I suffered untold pain in my back and sides, so much so that I dreaded lying down at night. I found no relief till wearing your Electric Corset. Since wearing them I have been almost entirely free from those pains. With much gratitude,
ELIZA M. HOBART.

CAUTION.—ASK FOR DR. SCOTT'S ELECTRIC; NONE OTHERS ARE GENUINE.

There are many so-called "Electric" and Magnetic Belts on the market, some of which retail as high as $10.00 to $25.00, but we challenge the whole world to produce so powerful and effective a Belt as our $3 one. Ours is good value for the money; hence we sell fifty to one of any other make. Our prices are as follows:

Regular Standard Belt,	**full power,**	**$3.00**
Extra-fine Red Satin	"	**6.00**
Nerve and Lung Invigorator,	"	**$5 & 10.00**
Chest Protector	"	**3.00**
Throat "	"	**2.50**
Sciatic Appliance	"	**8.00**
Leg "	"	**5.00**
Shoulder "	"	**5.00**
Knee Caps	"	**5.00**
Anklets	"	**3.00**
Wristlets	"	**2.50**
Insoles, all sizes per pair	"	**.50**

Office Cups, $3.00; Sleeping Caps **3.00**
Suspensory, the Genuine Article, full power... **5.00**
Hair Brushes, ... **$1.00, 1.50, 2.00 and 3.00**
Hair Curler, 50 cts. Tooth Brush ..... **.50**

The prices of **Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets** are as follows: **$1, $1.50, $2, and $3** for the Corsets, and **$3** each for the **Belts.** The accompanying cuts represent our No. 2, or $1.50 Corset, and Gents' Belt. We have also a beautiful French-shaped Sateen Corset at $3, a Sateen Abdominal Corset at $3, and a short Sateen Corset at $2. The $1 and $1.50 goods are made of fine Jean, elegant in shape, strong and durable. Nursing Corsets, $1.50; Misses', 75c. All are double-stitched. We have a linen Summer or Ventilating Corset at $1.50. We make all the above from 18 to 30 inches. The Abdominal only are made as large as 36. Gents' and Ladies' Belts, $3 each. We make all these corsets in drab and white only. They are sent out in a handsome box, accompanied by a silver-plated compass, by which the Electro Magnetic influence may be tested. Send for pamphlets.

Ladies' Abdominal Supporter, an invaluable Article, $12.00.

Dr. Scott's Improved Elastic Trusses. Single, $3.00; Double, $5.00.

We have a physician in attendance to select and fix on appliances; also a lady attendant to wait on ladies. Call at our elegant parlors, **842 Broadway.** Even though you do not desire to buy, and examine our goods, you are always welcome. We will send either article to any address, post-paid, on receipt of price, with 20 cts. added for packing or registration, and we guarantee safe delivery into your hands. Remit in Post-office Money Order, Draft, Check, or in currency by Registered Letter at our risk. In ordering, kindly mention this paper, and state exact size of waist when ordering Belt or Corset. Make all remittances payable to

GEO. A. SCOTT, 842 Broadway, New York.

N. B.—Each Corset is stamped with the English coat-of-arms, and the name of the proprietors.
THE PALL MALL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION.

THE WONDER OF THE AGE! A SCIENTIFIC TRIUMPH!!

PIANO OR ORGAN Playing Learned IN ONE DAY.

MASON'S INDICATOR CHART. A child 10 years old can understand it perfectly.

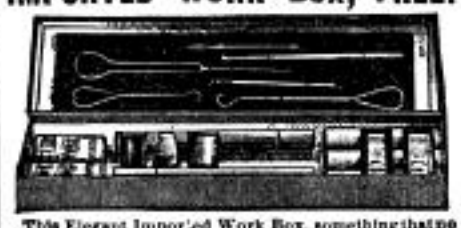
This wonderful invention has been before the public (in its perfected form) less than two years, we have sold over 40,000, which is the surest test of its merits; orders have been received from every country on the globe. **Mason's Indicator Chart is a machine** which fits over the keys of a Piano or Organ, indicating where and how the hands are to be placed, and the proper keys to strike, changing the position, and arrangement to suit the different keys. They are infallible in result. If you can read you can play the Piano or organ in **one day** better than a Teacher could teach you in many lessons. If you have no Piano you can learn at a friend's house and astonish all with your acquirements. DEXTER SMITH, editor of the leading Musical Paper in the world, says, "They should find a place in every home. They are to Music what the Multiplication Table is to Arithmetic." It gives satisfaction in every case. **Music Teachers unhesitatingly endorse it.** The Price is **$1.00** for a complete set 3 forms.

SPECIAL OFFER. To introduce this wonderful invention at once **we give free** to every reader of this paper, who buys Mason's Chart, our **Musical Album,** containing music, which bought separately would cost **$1.75.** If you desire the Album **state that you saw the advertisement in this paper** otherwise we will **not** give the Album free, as it is intended as a present **solely to the readers of this paper.** We send the Chart and Album by mail, **prepaid** for **$1.00. This is positively no humbug.** We have thousands of testimonials from every country on the globe. These Charts are copyrighted and patented.

$1.75 WORTH of Choice Music Given FREE.

Address, G. H. W. BATES & CO., 125 MILK ST., BOSTON, MASS., Sole Agents.

IMPORTED WORK BOX, FREE.



This Elegant Imported Work Box, something that no lady can fail to be delighted with, we had made in Europe specially for us, and only by ordering a very large quantity have we been enabled to procure them at a price which permits us to now give them free to our subscribers. Each box contains 1 Packing Needle, 1 Bodkin, 1 Steel Crochet Hook, 1 Ivory Crochet Hook, 1 Steel Button and Glove Hook, 1 pack Black Hooks & Eye, 1 pack White Hooks & Eyes, 1 Box Toilet Pins, 1 Box Hair Pins, 1 Reel White Cotton, 1 Reel Black Cotton, 50 Best Needles, 1 Box White Pins, 1 Box Black Pins, 1 Box Safety Pins and 1 Silvered Thimble. Remember, we send this splendid Lady's Work Box free to all who send us 56 cents for one year's subscription to **The Home,** a large, 16 page paper, full of stories, household, kitchen, laundry and fancy work notes, an illustrated page of the latest fashions, poetry, fun, wisdom, &c., &c. Five subscriptions and five Work Boxes will be sent for $2.25, so by getting four of your friends to send with you, you will secure your own paper and Work Box free. This great offer is made solely to introduce our paper. Address,

People's Publishing Co., Boston, Mass.

CASKET OF JEWELRY FREE!

This elegant Ladies' Jewel Casket, which is imperfectly shown in our small illustration, is made of fine, polished hard wood, beautifully inlaid, and lined inside with dark blue and silver. In its construction the following handsome woods are most artistically joined in mosaic work: Cherry, Black Walnut, Sumerset, Poplar and Basswood, and the casket, in its finished state, forms one of the most attractive and useful ornaments for a lady's dressing case or bureau that we have ever seen. Wishing to introduce into thousands of new homes our large and attractive 16-page, 64-column Illustrated paper, **The Ladies' World,** which is ever brimful of the most interesting and instructive reading matter for ladies, being devoted to stories, sketches, poetry, fancy work, home decoration, fashions, hygiene, housekeeping, etiquette, reading for the young, etc., we now make the following extraordinary offer: *Upon receipt of only* **Thirty Cents,** *we will send* **The Ladies' World** *for* **Three Months,** *and to every subscriber we will also send* **Free** *and post-paid, the beautiful* **Jewel Casket** *above described, together with the following* **Jewelry** *which each Casket will contain: a handsome imported Pearl Shell Necklace, consisting of a large number of beautiful shells neatly joined together; a pair of handsome Rubber Initial-work Bracelets, good and durable; a pair of Onyx Lever Sleeve Buttons, neat and handsome, and a Composition Floral Breast Pin, very neat and attractive.* Remember, the Casket, together with all the Jewelry, costs you nothing; it is given free with a 3-months' subscription to our paper. Six subscriptions and six caskets of jewelry will be sent for $1.65. You cannot afford to miss this great chance! Take advantage of it at once! We guarantee double value of money sent. As to our reliability, we refer to any publisher in N. Y. Address,

S. H. MOORE & CO., 27 Park Place, New York.

ON 30 DAYS' TRIAL.

THIS NEW **ELASTIC TRUSS** Has a Pad different from all others, is cup shape, with self-adjusting Ball in center, adapts itself to all positions of the body while the ball in the cup **presses back the intestines just as a person does with the finger.** With light pressure the hernia is held securely day and night, and a radical cure certain. It is easy, durable and cheap. Sent by mail. Circulars free. EGGLESTON TRUSS CO., Chicago, Ill.

Paper Flowers.

The best 25-cent Paper Flower outfit Book of Instructions, over sixty samples, imported paper. Samples of Flowers made up. Patterns and material for making one dozen Flowers mailed, on receipt of 25 cts. With this outfit, a person can soon learn the art of making Paper Flowers.

MADISON ART CO., Madison, Conn.

FREE By return mail, MRS. MOODY'S Fashion Journal and description of New Dress Cutting System. J. E. CARROLL & CO., Cin'ti, O.

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL].

SOME HINTS ON MONEY MAKING.

BY ELLA RODMAN CHURCH.

X.

In the last number of these sketches, the experience was given of a literary woman with no encumbrances, whose courage and enterprise put her in possession of a tasteful city home; but there are not many women, it may be urged, situated just as she was and with her opportunities. It is easy, however, to show that there are a great many women open to comfort and competence, and that enterprise and good judgement are not dependent on any particular arrangement of circumstances.

For instance, when a certain couple were married: Jennie aged twenty-six, sprightly and quick-witted, with an average amount of good looks,—and John aged twenty-seven, industrious and plodding, on a salary of $15 a week,—people frankly remarked that they were crazy. In the end though, they proved themselves to be remarkably sane. The end, however, did not spread itself out to John's vision in the beginning; nor was its full gorgeousness revealed even to Jennie, who was the plotter and planner of the firm.

This young person taught in a public school, at a very moderate compensation, which she fully expended on necessary clothing, and the privilege of residing in a tiny room on the third floor of an unattractive boarding-house. Her experience there was not calculated to make her in love with this style of living; and as soon as she had agreed to appropriate John and his $15 a week, she evolved a plan which she laid away in her mind until it was needed.

The opportunity came when John called, one evening, prior to their marriage, earlier than usual, because he wanted her to go and see a room which he had just found in another boarding-house at $10 a week.

"We can't afford it," said Jennie, promptly.

"It is really very cheap, as rooms go," said John, "being quite large, and comfortably furnished, with the advantages of a good situation,—for you see, Jennie, I am not willing to take you *anywhere*."

"But I think two rooms are so much pleasanter than one," remarked Jennie, "and I happen to know a very worthy young woman who would board us at a very low rate."

John was bewildered,—his thinking powers did not flash light upon a subject instantly, as Jennie's did; and this proposition had a sound of extravagance in it. He waited for further developements.

Jennie next made the irrelevant announcement that she had $50 in the bank; John laughingly boasted that he had $25.

"You *ought* to have at least $1000," continued this 'fore-handed' young woman, "with such a magnificient salary, and only a man to support on it,—but we will try to do better for the future. The person I mentioned will give us two rooms and a good plain table, for $7 a week."

Seven dollars a week! Why he paid that now for himself, and had but one small room. He would go at once, if Jennie wished it, and look at this wonderful domain. So, the wise little woman conducted him to a perfectly good, but unfashionable neighborhood, and tripped up the steps of a plain, respectable-looking house. Here they were shown two unfurnished rooms on the third floor,—one hall room and a good-sized double one; but John was dismayed at their bare condition.

"Say nothing until we return," whispered Jennie, "and I will then tell you about all the arrangements. This lady only lets rooms, and you may not like the person I had thought of as our caterer."

"A little inconvenient, isn't it," suggested John, "taking our meals in another place?"

A laughing glance was the only reply; but as they prolonged their walk around the square, Jennie relented and divulged her plan. This was to take her $50 and $30 of John's money to furnish the rooms, and then go to housekeeping in them; and the idea presented such a bold and dashing aspect, holding out, too, such delightful home possibilities, that the young man stopped short in the moonlight, and regarded his eloquent companion in a dazed sort of way. Could she *really* furnish on $100, and keep house on the sum she had mentioned?

"Really and truly," was the confident reply, "and give you far more comfort, too, than you ever had in your boarding-house."

John hesitated no longer, but engaged the rooms at once, purchased a barrel of flour, some coal, and other necessaries, and left Jennie to work her own sweet will about the furnishing. She immediatedly issued a mandate that he was not to see the rooms again until they were ready for occupancy; and then how that little woman did work to build her home nest! A hundred dollars seemed a large sum of money in the mass, but she knew how speedily it would melt in making these rooms habitable; so, she studied every dollar before she spent it, and made it do the work of two.

She had given up her position in the school, as John would not listen to her keeping it; and her time was therefore not too valuable to spend it in going about and getting wonderful bargains. She declared laughingly that she did not buy anything in a thoroughly orthodox way, and that the fun of it was fully equal to the saving. When, after their modest wedding, John was invited to their future home, he was fairly staggered.

It was evening when they returned from their short wedding trip, and although September was not yet out, 'a cold snap' made the fire in the open stove both cheery and comfortable. This with the softly brilliant radiance of the pretty lamp on the centre table, and a large piece of furniture that looked like a handsome cabinet or wardrobe, particularly attracted John's attention.

"I will give you the history of all these rare and curious articles," said Jennie, in showman fashion, "but, first, be good enough to glance at our kitchen and dining-room," as she led the way to the small apartment.

The bridegroom had innocently supposed that to be the bedroom, but he found himself quite mistaken. It was covered with red matting and had red canton-flannel curtains at the window; an old table and three oak chairs with cane seats had been bought at auction for five dollars; and a carpenter had fitted up a number of convenient shelves, which held both dishes and stores, and took the place of a buffet. The paper was cream-color in a very modest little pattern, with a 'frieze' of red roses. The table was laid for tea, with a vase of autumn flowers in the centre, and it did not look like a boarding-house table.

John was delighted, but he still wondered what provision there was for sleeping and dressing. He was unprepared for such an air of elegance, but it was elegance on a very modest scale,—the effect being chiefly produced by the good taste and harmony of everything. There was the glitter of brass in the curtain poles, yet they were not expensive, and they supported draperies that were quite as little open to that imputation. Yet the draperies were beautiful, of gold-colored canton flannel trimmed with bands of brown,—and they rested against a wall-paper of pink honey-suckles, with delicately-tinted green leaves on a ground of ashes of roses. It was a lovely paper, and as cheap as it was pretty. A charming divan had been manufactured from a spring-cot, and this was somewhat extravagantly covered with old red sateen. Two nicely made barrel-chairs were covered in the same way; one large arm-chair had been bought 'for a song,' at auction, and treated to a cover in stripes of a composite order that had a very nice effect. The history of that chair cover was a profound secret.

The centre table was made of a board fastened to a barrel, and covered with old red sateen bordered with velveteen and lined with cambric. The pretty lamp had an amber colored shade, and there were papers and magazines on the table. The floor had one width of brown matting all around the room; and coming just over the edge of this was a very pretty Kensington rug in pink, brown, and green. The mantel piece was covered to match the curtains, and had quite an elegant air.

The mysterious cabinet of walnut was let down by Jennie, on touching a spring, and disclosed a very comfortable looking bed. It had been bought of a friend, after a few months' use, at the low price of $30; and it was a handsome piece of furniture, which harmonized with the brown and other coloring in the room. The pretty open stove with its tiled hearth, was bought of the same friend, who was about leaving the city, for $5. Such bargains are nearly always to be had by those who watch for them.

Two or three light, pretty chairs, a low rocker, a footstool, a little table or two, some pretty portieres and panels, with engravings, etchings, and knick-nacks, gathered by husband and wife, during their boarding-house days, completed a really charming room; and John was more than satisfied. In the dining room and kitchen, two small kerosene stoves, one having an oven attached, were in readiness for any reasonable amount of cooking; and Jennie laughingly told her husband that, if he had high notions in regard to this, she should charge him $7.50 a week instead of $7.

When John brought home his first week's salary, he handed Jennie $10 for housekeeping and to do what she thought best with the remainder; at her urgent request, he kept $4 for his own expenses, and gave her the additional $1 for her's. The young housekeeper felt that she was making money when she laid by nearly two dollars every week—although she paid an extra fifty cents for washing; doing the ironing herself; and her one boarder was enthusiastic over his meals and his lodging. He asked somewhat anxiously if she really could do it all on what he gave her; and Jennie smiled, as she assured him that she could. But she said to herself, as she glanced around her pretty domain, 'This is only a beginning.'

Feeling the need of a dark calico dress, which she did not happen to possess, to wear when engaged in cooking and other work, she resolved to make it herself; and buying a pattern and the prettiest material she could find at ten cents a yard, she went to work with considerable enthusiasm,—for by this time, her ideas had gone quite beyond that calico dress. The task was quite an easy one, because the pattern was remarkably good, and also because the figure to be fitted was unusually straight and well proportioned; and the dress was finished and put on in an incredibly short space of time.

It was a very pretty shade of dark blue, with little polka dots of white; and when John saw his wife in it, he declared it was the prettiest dress she ever had on, and supposed it to be something quite rich and rare. The fit was admirable, and Mrs. Jennie's active brain was busy scheming. She went down stairs to talk to her landlady, a person of comfortable means, who was fond of dress and liked to indulge this propensity in an economical manner. Her pretty daughter, too, had a similar weakness; and the amateur dressmaker was at once given an opportunity of trying her skill upon them at a very reasonable price. She liked the work much better than school teaching, and she felt that it was a duty as well as a pleasure to help her husband in all possible ways. Besides it would be such an enjoyment, some day, to surprise him.

The customers were very much pleased with their dresses, and showed them to friends, from whom Jennie received more orders; and she was perfectly delighted with the success of her experiment. She was getting, by degrees, a very nice little bank account, of which John knew nothing, for he, unsuspecting man, supposed that she had plenty of uses for that extra two dollars. Having always had a turn for millinery, she took a few lessons in the art; and then made herself a bonnet which she showed to some of her patrons.

She had no less than six orders in two days; and this branch was even more attractive and remunerative than dressmaking. But like a wise woman, Jennie did not drop the latter: she merely dropped the ironing and housework, with the exception of cooking, which she rather enjoyed, and which no one whom she could get would do as satisfactorily as herself. Meanwhile, their home was enjoyed to the fullest extent; and having rented at a very low rate an adjoining room, for which her landlady had found no tenant, there were never any signs of litter in the pleasant apartments which seemed to John the most attractive spot on earth.

But Jennie was ambitious, and meant to have something more imposing on the first opportunity. When May arrived, she had made and saved over $200,—besides purchasing an ornamental chest of drawers, which she had found to be a greatly needed convenience, and presenting John at Christmas, with a very nice dressing-stand. There were many things which both wanted, but which they did not get; and self-denial was not always easy. John's salary was raised in the spring to $20 a week, for he had made himself very valuable to his employers, who also knew of his marriage; but when he asked Jennie if she would not like to move to a more attractive part of the city, that shrewd financier requested him to engage the rooms for another twelve months.

At the end of that time, Mrs. Jennie found herself the proprietress of a pretty 'apartment' uptown, with a nice maid to keep it in order, a bank deposit of $800, and a dear little baby girl. The salary had again been raised, and was now $1500; but the house-mistress and manager was as careful as ever, and did quite a flourishing business in a private way, with the tasteful bonnet which were considered quite unique. The dressmaking had been given up, as requiring more space and making greater demands upon her time and attention; but for millinery, she had a sort of affection.

Jennie had also discovered, by degrees, that there were other things which she could do, and enjoy in the doing,—and among them was a perfect talent for dressing dolls. She did this beautifully; and the dresses, caps, and bonnets or hats, were perfect *fac similes* of fashion plates. She bought dolls of different sizes at a very cheap rate, dressed them in various styles, and disposed of them readily at a handsome profit. Her husband knew something of this now; and he thought it exceedingly clever of Jennie, with all her cares, to earn a little extra pocket money.

For some little time past, that industrious personage had kept her eye on a certain house that was very attractive to her. It was an 'English basement' and quite narrow; but it was four stories high, and stood on a very desirable street. Quite unexpectedly, it was for sale on very advantageous terms; and now came Jennie's hour of triumph.

"How pleasant it would be," she said one evening, "to own our home! I have fallen in love with a house, John, and I want you to see it. Let us go there now, for our evening walk,—it is only a few blocks from here."

John knew that his wife had a particularly well balanced mind, yet he rather wondered if she had not taken leave of it. But he was a man of few words, and it made no difference to him in what direction they walked. It would have been very pleasant to him to say, "If you like it, Jennie, I will buy the house,"—but how *could* he say anything so rash! Mistress Jennie, however, was not at all disturbed; but marched him direct to the house, and was even shown through it.

"It is nice indeed," said John, "just such a house as I like; and if I were able to buy any house, Jennie, I would take this one and present it to you."

"You really like it, then?" asked his wife.

"Yes, but what does that matter?"

"It matters a great deal to me," replied the arch-conspirator, "because it has decided me to buy it."

This conversation took place after their return; and Jennie displayed her bank book to the amazed John, and told him of her plan of renting out all the rooms that they could spare, until the money that was allowed to remain on the house could be paid off. As the property would increase in value, there was no risk in buying it; and when John had collected his scattered senses, he thought, as he had often thought before, that he had a wonderful woman for a wife.

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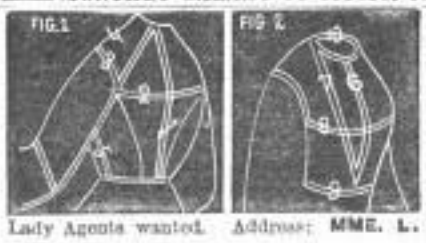

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A Loaf of Bread.

(*Continued from page 3.*)

erations that might be performed on washing day to save fuel. "A woman could attend to her laundry work, put over her boiled dinner with pudding, make and bake bread, and see that the usual work of the day was accomplished at the same time." Intelligent housekeepers know that such a program is not practicable. Some one thing would suffer. Quite likely the bread would burn while "the maid was in the garden hanging out her clothes," or the pot would boil dry, or some other equally dire catastrophe happen.

On baking day then, arrange it so that that shall be your chief work until the bread is out of the oven. Carelessness as to the management of oven, will easily ruin the best loaf that can be made. Practice in this as in anything will alone bring perfection. Rules will help, but the cook must gain experience herself. For the first twenty minutes bread should rise in the oven but not brown. Change to a less hot place in the oven if you find the heat too great, or cover loaves with paper, or the oven door may be left open if the baking is nearly done. When baked the bread should not have a suspicion of a brown shade about it, but only a delicate *café au lait* color. Under those conditions there will be no crusts to be thrown away, or to set the children's teeth on edge. After the bread has been five minutes out of the oven, rub the tops and sides with a little butter, to soften it and give a glossy surface. I much prefer the round, small sized pans for baking bread. I have a fancy that bread baked in them is better than that baked in the long, oblong pans. If loaves are ever burned apply the grater, and rub off the burned portion, and envelop in wet napkin. Keep bread in a tin box, or earthen jar covered with towel, away from the air. If exposed it dries rapidly, and loses its flavor.

Some housekeepers may not know that bread dough will keep for some time without spoiling, in an ice chest, or in a temperature which will arrest fermentation. Such an arrangement is a convenience where much company is entertained, and raised bread stuffs are desired at short notice. Observing readers of *The Atlantic*, during the past year will recall, perhaps, a story in which the heroine at night, accompanied by her lover, goes down into the kitchen late at night to put her cakes which are rising too rapidly, into the ice-chest to remain till morning!

I, myself, took dinner with a friend one day who asked me what I thought of her bread. I replied that it seemed very nice, as usual. Then she explained how it had spent the night in her ice-box, before being baked. Interruptions had prevented the baking of the bread at the proper time, and nine o'clock at night came, and the loaves were still out of the oven, and the oven was cold. Weary, and disgusted, she determined there should be no baking that night, even if the bread should spoil. She thrust it into the ice-chest to wait till morning, supposing of course, it would be ruined. Imagine her relief to find it was uninjured, and rather improved by its sojourn in a cold climate.

Sponge may be set at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, kneaded the last thing before retiring, made up into loaves the first thing in the morning, and be all out all the way before 10 o'clock. Care, however, must be taken that it rise slowly during the night.

(It may be that there are some readers of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, who would like Fleischman & Co.'s recipes, which they give out to their patrons, and for their benefit I add them.

WHITE BREAD—For use in the morning. Dissolve thoroughly one cake compressed yeast, in a quart of lukewarm water, and stir in sifted flour until the mixture is a little thicker than griddle-cake batter. Set in a warm place, free from draft, until it rises and begins to go back. The sponge is then complete. Add to the sponge one pint of lukewarm water, one tablespoonful salt, two of sugar, and same of butter; add sifted flour enough to make a dough as soft as can be handled. Knead well. When thoroughly light, knead, make into loaves, and place in well-greased pans for final rising. This last kneading should be very thorough. When light, bake, remembering that it will "spring" still more in the oven. When baked lean it against something, throw a cloth over it, and cool by contact with the air on all sides. Make four loaves.

BOSTON BROWN BREAD:—Dissolve one cake yeast in three-quarters pint of water, and stir in one cup of wheat flour. Let it rise five hours, and stir in one quart water, one-half teaspoonful soda, one teaspoon salt, two-and-a-half tablespoonfuls of molasses, one large quart Indian meal, one large pint rye meal, and raisins if desired. Put in pan and steam or bake five hours. Makes one large loaf. Can bake all night with slow fire).

Bread in some form or other comes to our table three times a day, for three-hundred and sixty-five days in the year, or over a thousand times, the only article of food which enjoys this distinction. Ought it not to be as good as we can make it, my dear sisters?

MRS. S. O. ALLEN.

BLANDFORD, MASS.

GRANDMOTHER'S DOUGHNUTS.

(*Continued from page 4.*)

had been opened, mixed with fresh mashed potatoes, and formed into delicious cone-shaped croquets.

"Tu give these balls a fust rate flavor, they've got tu be dipped in egg that's beat to a froth, then rolled in fine bread crumbs, and fried a light brown," said Aunt Hetty, pointing towards the croquets. "Them Mar'land biskits," she continued, breaking open one of the circles and exposing the white, flaky interior, is easy 'nough tu make—*when you know how*. I took two pounds o' flour, half a cup o' lard an' butter, mixed a teaspoon ul o' bakin' powder, a *leetle* salt, an' a little over half a pint o' milk. I beat the dough with the rollin' pin for 'bout half an hour, then cut out the cakes an' bake 'em in a brisk oven. After the oven cooled off a bit, I beat the whites and yolks of four eggs by themselves, one cup 'o sugar, the same o' flour, and a teaspoonful o' vinegar, made a fust rate sponge cake."

William'll be sure to be hungry when he gets home—men usually are— so we'll take the yolks and whites o' these three eggs, beat 'em separate an' make omlet for supper—but if I'd happen tu forgit a tablespoonful o' corn starch, half a cup o' milk, an' a leetle salt—I calk'late the mess would be about spiled. I always run a knife around the side o' the omlet while it's cookin' so that it will be a nice brown all over."

"There!" exclaimed Aunt Hetty as she heard the latch of the garden gate click, "William is comin'! Run out, Helen, an' keep him about five minutes 'till I git these fixin's on the table."

Days and weeks passed quickly away, and before Aunt Hetty returned to her pretty little farm house that nestled among the green hills of the "old Granite State," I had reason to bless the day when Nora, influenced by the advice of "me cousin, Mickey Flanulgan," left my domicile forever.

The incidents narrated happened many years ago, and I have long since gained the reputation of being a "model housekeeper." With sound advice and practical assistance, Aunt Hetty led me through the intricate labyrinth of culinary achievements, but notwithstanding my own triumphs, I can still sympathize with the young, inexperienced housekeeper who, eager to rise to the highest pinnacle of culinary success, piles around the base of the pedestal a crumbling heap of—"Grandmother's Doughnuts."

FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

HI. TS UPON ETIQUETTE AND GOOD MANNERS.

BY MRS. S. O. JOHNSON.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

"Quidam:"—1st. On receiving invitations to a wedding, you should send your gift with your card attached to it. But if you are on intimate terms with the family, you can carry it to the lady.

2d. The bridesmaid can offer the first congratulations if she pleases to do so, after the officiating minister has shaken hands with the bride and groom.

3d. It is the usual custom for all to shake hands with both bride and groom.

4th. A bridesmaid takes her escort's arm at a church wedding.

5th. A gold watch and chain are not usually worn at an evening party or a wedding by ladies. Gentlemen of course, wear them.

6th. If a gentleman is elderly you can assist him in putting on his overcoat. If young, he needs no assistance. A gentleman always offers his assistance to a lady in putting on her wraps.

7th. In a house where there is no hall, a lady should ask a gentleman to take off his top coat, and place it upon a chair, but let him hold his hat in his hand.

8th. In accepting an invitation you should say, "Thank you, I shall be pleased to have your escort." In declining say, "Thank you, but I have a prior engagement." For written invitations, formulas have been given in a back number of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. You did not state which you desired.

9th. When asked to play at an evening entertainment, you should always do so, if you can play well enough to be sure that you will entertain your listeners. Play but one piece, unless much urged to play another. But let two pieces suffice. No lady will play until her listeners' patience is quite exhausted.

10th. When thanked for your music you can say, "Thank you, you are very kind;" or, "You are highly appreciative." Yes, it is but courteous to thank a person who has played or sung, at your request.

11th. A gentleman usually stands at the right side of a lady who is playing, so he can turn the music sheets for her.

"Miss Ery:"—We know of no way by which a gentleman can be asked to discontinue his visits upon a lady, without giving offence to him. If his calls have never assumed more than a friendly character, and you do not think they will do so, and yet do not wish to be bored with them, you can be engaged when he calls, and after being refused admittance several times, if he is not very obtuse, he will see that his visits are not agreeable. You can "turn the cold shoulder" upon your acquaintances, without speaking cold words.

"Dollie D.:"—1st. When cards are used for "at home" evenings, one should be sent to the heads of the families you desire to invite, thus: "Mr. and Mrs. Jones," and one to "Misses Jones," if there is more than one young lady in the family; also one to each young gentleman. A separate card can be sent to the young ladies, if preferred.

2d. The cards now used are about four inches long, and two-and-a-half in width.

3d. Cards that are sent out to friends after a marriage are called "after cards," and are engraved thus: "Mr. and Mrs. So and So." When the bride returns visits, she leaves her card with her married name engraved upon it, thus: "Mrs. Charles E. smith." Her husband's card should be separate from hers.

"M. T. T.:"—1st. A gentleman will always offer his arm to a young lady, whom he escorts home from an evening entertainment. But it is not proper for her to take his arm, if it is not offered.

2d. Unless you are on most intimate terms of friendship, it is not proper to send your picture to a gentleman, until he has asked for it, and offered to exchange with his own.

3d. Yes, it is quite the correct thing to give some little token of remembrance to a gentleman friend, *after* he has sent you a gift, *if* you desire to stand high in his estimation.

"S. C. W.:"—When an intimate friend leaves home for a collegiate course, it would be perfectly proper for you to say, when bidding him farewell, "I should be glad to hear from you, and will promise you a prompt reply." But the correspondence should be carried on with the permission of your parents.

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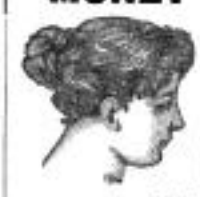

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]

SCRIBBLER'S LETTERS TO GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS AND JULIA, HIS WIFE.

SECOND SERIES.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

Yes, Gustavus, you were right, the night of the party. Neither did *I* "ever see Julia look better." She certainly did, as you said, "look almost like a young girl." It did my heart good, Gustavus, to hear you praise Julia as you did. But it occurred to me afterwards that you had not told Julia all you told me. Of course you didn't! Why, "of course" pray. She knew she looked well? I dare say she did. It is hardly to be supposed that a woman who has spent several hours in getting herself up in "purple and fine linen," for some specially grand occasion, and has selected the colors and articles and general arrangements which she considers most becoming to her peculiar cast of countenance (considering likewise her pocket-book)—it is not to be supposed, I say, that under such circumstances a woman can be absolutely ignorant as to the result of her efforts.

"What was the use of telling her anyway," you say, "Julia always looks pretty nice, and if you didn't find any fault, she ought to know you were pleased." Now, Gustavus, I have you. Isn't that a *beautiful* sentiment to express! Isn't that a fine state of affairs to own up to, Gustavus! Just think of it, Gustavus! If you didn't *express displeasure*, your wife might *infer* that your lordship was pleased. I heard another man say that once, but *he* added, "I always tell her quick enough when anything is unbecoming." I'll be bound he did.

There is nothing a married woman so desires as to look well in the eyes of her husband, and how, pray, is she to know when she has accomplished this, if he doesn't tell her! *I* told her what you said, Gustavus, and I couldn't help saying to myself, as I saw the peculiar look of pleasure on the dear girl's face (a look that is never called up upon a woman's face except by words of praise from her husband,) "if Gustavus could have seen that, it would have paid him to take the trouble to tell her himself."

It wasn't any *trouble* only you didn't think of it!

Precisely so. There are lots of little kindnesses a man would do for his wife, doubtless, only he "doesn't think" of them.

Ah Gustavus! it is the "not thinking" which cuts. It isn't the lack of the thing forgotten, very often, but it is the fact that it *is not thought of*.

Suppose it is a little thing like candy or fruit, for instance. If you say to Julia, "I saw some beautiful pears in the city, Julia. I would have brought you some home but I really couldn't carry them," Julia will be just as grateful as if you had done it and, (but let me whisper this in your ear) *the chances are ten to one she will have your favorite dish for supper when you come home the next evening*, (for these things are not forgotten, believe me, but go very far towards preserving harmony in the household and making up the sum of its happiness.) If on the contrary, you make the same remark and supplement it with "only I didn't think of it," Julia will be filled with a vague discomfort, for which she can hardly find adequate cause, if she tries to analyze her feelings. She will tell herself it is nonsense, that *that* isn't anything—she'll persuade herself she doesn't feel quite well, or something else equally fallacious, but all the while, it is the tiny sting of the want of *thought*, that is rankling unwittingly.

Don't I think that's rather a trifle to be unhappy over? Well yes! perhaps I do. But then you know the sum of human happiness or misery is composed of trifles. Besides, I didn't say she'd be *unhappy*. Bless your heart, no! but she'd certainly be uncomfortable, and probably cross without knowing why. And the chances are *more* than ten to one that you would *not* find your favorite dish the next evening. She'll not say to herself, "I won't do this because Gustavus forgot the pears," but she'll not *think of it*, that's all. Let me plant a little truth in your mind for meditation. There's nothing in this world that engenders thoughtfulness *like* thoughtfulness. Ought you to do it all? Not by any means. It is just as much Julia's duty as yours, and it should be a pleasure to both of you. In fact the whole thing is robbed of all beauty, if actuated only by a sense of duty.

One more thing. If you are inwardly pleased with any special dishes Julia prepares for your delectation—says so. It will please *her*, and you'll be sure to get more of them.

Let me tell you what I overheard one of your children say behind your back the other day, Bessie said to Georgie, "I heard Papa tell Mama how pretty Miss Thomas was at the party. She isn't half as pretty as Mama. I saw her myself." And what does my lord George do but reply contemptuously, "Ho! well, that's all right; men don't talk about their sisses that way," and he strutted around, in a way wonderful to behold, with his hands in his pockets, and an air calculated to impress the beholder with the idea that he "knew all about it."

"Alas," thought I to myself, "that infant has stumbled upon a heavy truth. 'Men *don't* talk about their sisses that way' half often enough."

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